

Liberia

December 2018

953 Ivorian refugees voluntarily repatriated to Cote d'Ivoire in 2018	16 Days of Activism is celebrated in all locations	9,051 Total number of refugees remaining in Liberia
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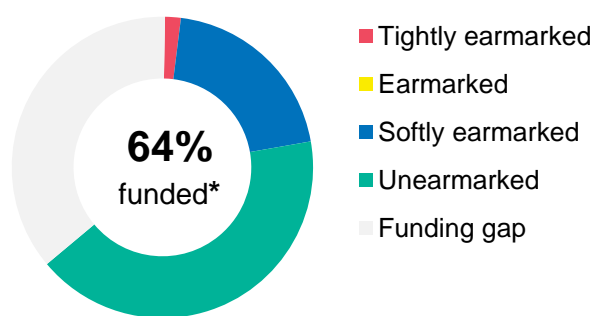
POPULATION OF CONCERN: 9,531

By country of origin

Cote d'Ivoire refugees	9,051
Various nationality refugees	71
Asylum seekers	38
Others of Concern (protracted Sierra Leonean refugees)	371
TOTAL:	9,531

FUNDING (AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2018)

\$11.6 million requested for the Liberia Operation



*See attached funding update for more details

UNHCR PRESENCE



Offices

- 1 Branch Office in Monrovia
- 1 Sub Office in Zwedru
- 1 Field Unit in Harper
- 1 Field Unit in Bahn

Staff

- 53 National Staff
- 7 International Staff

OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS USD

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MAJOR DONORS OF OTHER SOFTLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

United States of America 152.3 million | Private donors Australia 16.4 million | Canada 3.3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2.9 million | Private donors USA 2.7 million | Private donors Sweden 2.4 million

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS USD

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE MAJOR DONORS OF UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS

Sweden 98.2 million | Private donors Spain 82 million | Netherlands 47.1 million | United Kingdom 45.3 million | Norway 42.5 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 38.7 million | Japan 26.5 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Private donors Japan 24.2 million | Private donors Italy 21.2 million | Private donors Sweden 17.3 million | Switzerland 15.8 million | Private donors USA 14.9 million | France 14 million | Germany 13.7 million | Italy 11.2 million

Algeria | Argentina | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Bulgaria | Canada | Chile | China | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Estonia | Finland | Holy See | Iceland | India | Indonesia | Ireland | Israel | Kuwait | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | New Zealand | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

CONTACTS

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WORKING WITH PARTNERS

UNHCR works with the Government of Liberia through the **Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC)** and provides funding to **African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD)** and **Special Emergency to Restore Children's Hope (SEARCH)**.

These two NGOs provide protection and assistance to refugees and asylum seekers, including; education; infrastructure/ shelter, WASH; and livelihood activities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

Monrovia (Montserrado)

- On 14 December 2018, UNHCR and LRRRC began the distribution of renewed ID cards.
 - The distribution started in Monrovia and will continue in other locations.



(Top L) Mr Algassimou Bah and LRRRC Protection Officer, Mr Joseph Cooper, give Ivorian refugee Mr Gongli Patrice Gounaout his renewed ID card. (Top R) Some Ivorian refugees with their renewed ID cards. (L) LRRRC, with the support of UNHCR, led the distribution of ID documents. © UNHCR



VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

All locations

- In December 2018, 104 Ivorian refugees returned home voluntarily.
 - On 6 December, 45 Ivorian refugees left from PTP Camp (Grand Gedeh); on 12 December, 23 Ivorian refugees left from Little Wlebo Camp (LWC) and 24 refugees left from Maryland communities. On 27 and 31 December, 15 and 7 Ivorian refugees left from Bahn Camp and LWC, respectively.
- In 2018, a total of 953 refugees returned home voluntarily.
- Since the voluntary return process resumed post-Ebola in December 2015, 28,434 Ivorian refugees have voluntarily repatriated with support from UNCHR, including 41 Unaccompanied Minors and Separated Children who were reunited with their families in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).



Community services

All locations: 16 Days of Activism (25 November – 10 December), under the theme: “End Gender-Based Violence in the World of Work”

UNHCR, LRRRC, partners, refugees and members of the host communities led and joined several activities surrounding the celebration of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. Activities included awareness sessions on SGBV and reporting mechanisms. The global campaign culminated on 10 December 2018, Human Rights Day.

- In **Monrovia** (Montserrado), urban refugees attended the national launching programme, attended by H. E. President George Weah and government officials.
- In **PTP Camp** (Grand Gedeh), all celebrations were carried out in direct collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP) and partners, including the government through LRRRC, SEARCH and county authorities. The closure of the campaign celebrations included an indoor programme and a football match. The Assistant Superintendent for Development, Betty Breeze Doh, was the Keynote Speaker.



(L) UNHCR joined celebrations in One UN House in Monrovia, along with other UN Agencies and the Resident Coordinator; (R) Participants of the parade in PTP Camp.

- In **Little Wiebo Camp** (Maryland), the County MGCSP, in collaboration with UNHCR, LRRRC and others, led the launch the campaign with the participation of refugees and members of the host communities. A parade, an indoor programme and radio talk shows took place in the camp and host communities. Government officials, the Justice & Peace Commission (JPC) and Tubman University participated in the closure of the activities.
- In **Bahn Camp** (Nimba) refugees and community members launched the campaign with a parade through the camp and an indoor programme with keynote speakers and debates.



(L) In Little Wiebo Camp, the campaign was launched with a parade, an indoor programme which brought together representatives from Toffee and Yuwar Towns from the host communities. (R) Participants of the parade in Bahn Camp carried banners, posters and t-shirts with educative messages advocating towards the end of SGBV against women and encouraging reporting of attacks.

Zwedru (Grand Gedeh)

- On 1 December 2018, World AIDS Day was celebrated at PTP Camp under the theme “Know Your Status”. Refugees were advised to test themselves to know their status and support their relatives who are affected by the condition.



Celebration of World AIDS Day in PTP Camp under the theme “Know Your Status”. © UNHCR

Monrovia (Montserrado) and Bahn Camp (Nimba)

- A distribution of cash grants took place in Monrovia and Bahn Camp to support Persons with Specific Needs (PSNs) to increase their nutrition and living conditions.
 - In Monrovia, 5 PSNs received the grant and two of them received an additional USD80 to purchase mattresses.
 - In Bahn Camp, 33 PSNs received cash grants ranging from USD90 to USD295. Out of this number, 24 PSNs received additional USD80 to purchase mattresses. Those with chronic illnesses that could not come to the distribution will receive their grants at their shelters.
- UNHCR handed over six new vehicles to LRRRC. The handover was done in the presence of the Minister of Internal Affairs



The Minister of Internal Affairs (in orange) and UNHCR Protection Officer (R) address journalists during the handover ceremony. © UNHCR



Local integration - Livelihoods

Zwedru (Grand Gedeh)

- **In kind support:** In PTP Community and Youbor Town (Grand Gedeh), in an effort to improve peaceful coexistence as well as sustainable livelihoods for some host community members, UNHCR supported implementing partner SEARCH in the distribution of seeds and tools. The exercise took place on 5 December 2018 and targeted 60 beneficiaries.
 - UNHCR also provided in-kind support to PTP Camp Tailoring Association in the form of 6 sewing machines for locally integrated refugee professionals and apprentices.

- **Monitoring:** UNHCR carried out a monitoring visit to the Julia Taft Project, implemented by Community Based Organization (CBO) LARO (Liberia Agriculture & Relief Organization). This NGO is implementing a Julia Taft project, financed by the US Embassy, which involves 40 refugees in a Chicken Poultry Production Project in PTP Camp.



The project began in September 2018. Participants to the project include female-headed households and vulnerable households. © UNHCR

Saclepea (Nimba)

- UNHCR, partners and the GoL have been working on scaling up the implementation of livelihoods activities and ensuring alignment with the government's five-year Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD). 50 new individuals (40 refugees, 10 from the host community) participated in a 2-days training in small business management, carried out by UNHCR livelihoods Implementing Partner AIRD.
 - The training provides participants with the basic knowledge to identify a business idea and create a business plan. All participants are currently working on their business plan.
 - To guarantee sustainability of livelihoods activities, the saving component is paramount from the second half of the 12-month intervention onwards. AIRD is monitoring and tracking the saving habits of the 44 cases and the associations that have been involved in the process since the beginning of the pilot project in July 2018.



LOCAL INTEGRATION - SHELTER

■ Saclepea (Nimba)

Progress continues at the construction site of the 12 durable housing units, all of which are at the roofing stage, timber trusses fabricated and fixed, to receive roofing sheets. On 14 December 2018, door frames and plastering works were installed on both the interior and exterior of one of the durable shelters.



(L) UNHCR, AIRD & LRRRC joint site visit. (R) One of the 12 durable shelters. © UNHCR