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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Côte d’Ivoire – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #12, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

June 27, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated June 17, 2011.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On June 16, the USAID humanitarian assessment team—consisting of representatives from USAID/OFDA and USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)—visited northern Côte d’Ivoire. Host communities with whom the USAID team met reported that many internally displaced persons (IDPs) remain in the north due to inadequate funds for travel home or uncertainty if security in home areas has improved sufficiently; however, some IDPs have begun travelling home from the north to assess security conditions, while others are returning home due to difficult living conditions in the north as a result of limited food stocks and lack of livelihood opportunities.
- From June 17 to 20, the USAID team visited areas of Abidjan heavily affected by the conflict, including Abobo and Yopougon, home to approximately 1.7 million of Abidjan’s estimated 4.2 million residents. Economic activity is resuming more quickly in Abobo, where relief agencies report that public authorities have returned to work, than in Yopougon. Residents of Abobo reported better security conditions and greater neighborhood solidarity—despite ethnic and political divisions—than residents of Yopougon, who expressed continued apprehension about violence and social tensions.
- While spontaneous returns of Ivorian refugees from Liberia to Côte d’Ivoire are occurring, the situation remains highly fluid. As of June 17, the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other U.N. agencies reported an increase of more than 8,600 total refugees in Liberia from the figure reported on June 9. According to U.N. agencies, refugees likely continue to enter Liberia due to ongoing insecurity, including reprisals, in southern Côte d’Ivoire.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
IDPs in Côte d’Ivoire	322,277 ¹	UNHCR – June 15, 2011
People Displaced from Côte d’Ivoire to Liberia	142,331 ²	UNHCR and U.N. agencies – June 17, 2011
People Displaced from Côte d’Ivoire to Other Countries	27,257	UNHCR – June 16, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia \$6,601,231
USAID/FFP Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia \$16,400,000
State/PRM³ Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, and Other Neighboring Countries \$28,600,000
**Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, and Other
Neighboring Countries..... \$51,601,231**

CONTEXT

- Following the disputed presidential election in November 2010 between Alassane Ouattara and then-incumbent Laurent Gbagbo, increasingly intense fighting between forces loyal to the two sides resulted in extensive displacement throughout Côte d’Ivoire and into neighboring countries, primarily Liberia. Unresolved land tenure disputes, longstanding ethnic tensions, and fear of potential retaliation by forces loyal to Gbagbo or President Ouattara continue to contribute to an uncertain security situation in parts of Côte d’Ivoire.
- On January 4, 2011, U.S. Ambassador to Liberia Linda Thomas-Greenfield issued a disaster declaration for Liberia due to the increasing humanitarian needs of communities hosting Ivorian refugees and citizens of other countries also fleeing Côte d’Ivoire. On March 13, U.S. Ambassador to Côte d’Ivoire Phillip Carter III issued a disaster declaration for Côte d’Ivoire due to the humanitarian impact of the increasing violence and displacement.

¹ Due to frequent population movements, estimates of IDP figures are subject to change. The total current figure includes 132,188 IDPs in western Côte d’Ivoire, 62,676 IDPs in northern Côte d’Ivoire, and 55,912 IDPs in Abidjan. Identification and registration of IDPs continue.

² The total includes more than 73,600 refugees in Grand Gedeh County, an estimated 45,000 refugees in Maryland County, more than 20,500 refugees in Maryland County, and nearly 3,200 refugees in River Gee County. The total figure remains fluid due to ongoing UNHCR verifications and may not reflect the number of returnees to Côte d’Ivoire.

³ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

Côte d'Ivoire: Humanitarian Conditions in the North

- According to U.N. agencies, ongoing humanitarian needs in northern Côte d'Ivoire include emergency food assistance, hygiene supplies, treatment for victims of violence, and activities to rebuild livelihoods. Relief agencies reported to the USAID team that the conflict had strained local resources and disrupted economic activity in northern Côte d'Ivoire, though the conflict did not affect northern areas directly. Displacement to the north from Abidjan and from western Côte d'Ivoire increased pressure on limited local resources, as high poverty and acute malnutrition rates in northern areas predated the conflict, while lack of liquidity due to bank closures, disruptions to transport links to the south, and irregular access to electricity hindered local manufacturing and caused prices of goods to rise.
- Host communities with whom the USAID team met in Korhogo town and in villages near Korhogo reported that the influx of IDPs in recent months had negatively impacted household food stocks and prospects for the current planting season, as villagers had been forced to consume their seeds. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization is distributing seeds to approximately 1,000 households in the area that consumed seed stocks.
- To date, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has provided food rations to approximately 42,500 of the roughly 60,000 IDPs in the north's Savanes Region, which includes Korhogo. IDPs with whom the USAID team spoke reported having shared their rations with host families. Through the ration distribution process, WFP and relief agency Caritas, WFP's distribution partner, are monitoring returns from Savanes Region. While WFP initially registered heads of household to receive food distributions, other family members have often arrived to receive the food distributions instead, reporting that many heads of households have returned to areas of origin to survey conditions for returns but that most family members—primarily women and children—have remained in northern Côte d'Ivoire.

Côte d'Ivoire: Humanitarian Activities in Abidjan

- To help conflict-affected populations purchase food and begin rebuilding livelihoods in Abobo and Yopougon, several relief agencies, including WFP, are organizing cash assistance programs, including cash-for-work activities and unconditional cash transfers for particularly vulnerable beneficiaries such as households headed by women or widowers, households with many young children, or households with no sources of income. Beneficiaries in a cash-for-work program that the USAID team observed in Abobo earn 20,000 to 30,000 West African francs (CFA) for two weeks of work; WFP estimates that one month of food for a five-person household in the neighborhood costs 33,000 CFA. Some programs distribute food vouchers via mobile phone, redeemable at local vendors pre-financed by the programs to ensure adequate supplies.

Liberia: Arrivals and Returns of Displaced People

- As of June 18, U.N. agencies reported that 2,000 new refugees continued to enter Grand Gedeh County from Côte d'Ivoire per week, with smaller numbers entering Maryland, Nimba, and River Gee counties. According to UNHCR, approximately 15 percent of refugees in Liberia are currently living in refugee camps or transit centers; the rest are sheltering in host communities.
- Relief agencies continue to receive anecdotal accounts of spontaneous returns from Liberia to Côte d'Ivoire; as of June 18, U.N. agencies reported that approximately 130 Ivorian refugees along Nimba County's Loguatu axis had recently returned home. U.N. agencies also noted recent spontaneous returns from Toe Town, Zai, and Tuzon in Grand Gedeh County. Due to ongoing security concerns in areas of origin, the Government of Liberia's Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission and UNHCR do not promote or organize returns.

Liberia: Assistance to Host Communities and Refugees

- According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), WFP and partners have distributed food rations in June to date benefiting more than 40,000 members of Liberian communities hosting refugees. In June to date, WFP and partners have also distributed emergency food assistance to more than 57,000 refugees. To prevent consumption of seeds, relief agencies also continue to distribute food rations to host communities and refugees in Nimba and Grand Gedeh counties who have received seeds for planting.
- According to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), a measles vaccination campaign in Maryland County from June 10 to 14 successfully vaccinated nearly 29,000 Liberian and refugee children, or approximately 89 percent of the planned total. UNICEF organized the vaccination campaign in response to an outbreak in the county that killed five children. UNICEF is planning a measles vaccination campaign in Grand Gedeh County, targeting approximately 30,000 children, in July.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE AND LIBERIA

FY 2011			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$500,000
Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)	Health, Nutrition	Western Côte d'Ivoire: Moyen-Cavally Region	\$1,025,077
UNICEF	Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
WFP	Logistics	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$500,000
	Administrative Support and Travel	Côte d'Ivoire: Countrywide	\$95,729
<i>Subtotal of USAID/OFDA Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire</i>			\$3,120,806
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Shelter and Settlements	Nimba County, Liberia	\$339,956
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems	Nimba County, Liberia	\$995,792
Equip Liberia	Health, Protection	Nimba County, Liberia	\$599,990
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection	Nimba County, Liberia	\$394,687
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Nimba County, Liberia	\$800,000
USAID/Liberia ²	Health, Protection, WASH	Nimba County, Liberia	\$100,000
WFP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$250,000
<i>Subtotal of USAID/OFDA Assistance to Liberia</i>			\$3,480,425
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$6,601,231
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE³			
WFP	2,620 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$4,700,000
<i>Subtotal of USAID/FFP Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire</i>			\$4,700,000
WFP	7,590 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$11,700,000
<i>Subtotal of USAID/FFP Assistance to Liberia</i>			\$11,700,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$16,400,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Health, WASH, Family Reunification	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$2,050,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	IDP Camp Coordination and Emergency Transport	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$700,000
UNHCR	Protection, IDP Camp Coordination, Contingency Planning	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas, Neighboring Countries	\$7,500,000
<i>Subtotal of State/PRM Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire and non-Liberia neighboring countries</i>			\$10,250,000

ICRC	Livelihoods, WASH, Family Reunification	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$950,000
UNHCR	Protection, Refugee Assistance	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$15,800,000
WFP	Logistics	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$600,000
Various	Refugee Assistance	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
<i>Subtotal of State/PRM Assistance to Liberia</i>			<i>\$18,350,000</i>
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$28,600,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2011			\$51,601,231

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 27, 2011.

² USAID/Liberia used this funding to support humanitarian response activities implemented by Equip Liberia and IRC.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for response efforts in Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int