



Côte d’Ivoire – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #9, Fiscal Year (FY) 2011

June 3, 2011

Note: The last fact sheet was dated May 31, 2011.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As the overall security situation in Côte d’Ivoire improves, humanitarian actors are gaining access to conduct needs assessments, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Security in Abidjan remains stable, despite recent incidents of violence and crime. Access to the conflict-affected Abidjan neighborhoods of Yopougon and Abobo has also improved. However, in western Côte d’Ivoire, armed groups are limiting humanitarian workers’ access to areas where interventions are underway and deterring conflict-affected populations from seeking humanitarian assistance, OCHA reports.
- Some Ivoirians continue to seek refuge in neighboring countries, primarily in Grand Gedeh County, Liberia, where there were approximately 285 new arrivals daily between May 22 and 29, with limited arrivals to other counties, according to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Reports from Nimba County, Liberia, also indicate that some refugee families are returning to Côte d’Ivoire. A UNHCR refugee registration verification process in Liberia remains ongoing to confirm the total number of refugees.
- USAID and the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) have committed approximately \$44 million in humanitarian assistance for affected populations in Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia to date.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
IDPs in Côte d’Ivoire	~332,556 ¹	U.N. agencies ¹ – May 26, 2011
People Displaced from Côte d’Ivoire to Liberia	188,021 ²	UNHCR – June 3, 2011
People Displaced from Côte d’Ivoire to Other Countries	24,093	UNHCR – May 26, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia	\$6,505,502
USAID/FFP³ Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia	\$16,400,000
State/PRM⁴ Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, and Other Neighboring Countries	\$21,100,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia, and Other Neighboring Countries.....	\$44,005,502

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. Despite former president Gbagbo’s capture on April 11, unresolved land tenure conflicts, longstanding ethnic tensions, and fear of potential retaliation by forces loyal to Gbagbo or Ouattara continue to contribute to an uncertain security situation in Côte d’Ivoire. President Ouattara was formally inaugurated on May 21.
- 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 extensive displacement.

¹ Due to frequent population movements, estimates of IDP figures are subject to change. Approximately 154,600 IDPs are in western Côte d’Ivoire, approximately 108,500 IDPs are in northern Côte d’Ivoire, and more than 12,600 IDPs are in central Côte d’Ivoire, according to tabulation of figures from OCHA, UNHCR, and UNICEF. An estimated 56,800 IDPs are in Abidjan; however, earlier reports indicated that as many as 700,000 people may have been displaced in and around the city. Identification and registration of IDPs continue.

² This figure remains fluid due to ongoing UNHCR verifications and may not reflect the number of returnees to Côte d’Ivoire. More than 100,000 refugees are in Nimba County, more than 71,700 refugees are in Grand Gedeh County, and approximately 16,500 refugees are in Maryland County, with the remainder in River Gee and Montserrado counties.

³ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁴ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

Côte d'Ivoire: Displaced Populations

- The relocation of more than 7,200 internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the overcrowded Catholic Mission IDP camp in Duékoué, western Côte d'Ivoire, to nearby Nahibly camp is scheduled to begin on June 6, according to OCHA. UNHCR implementing partner Afrique Secours et Assistance will manage the site and relief agencies will complete construction of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure by the weekend of June 4 to accommodate the first group arriving to the site.
- UNHCR reports that IDPs in Zouan-Hounien, Guiglo, and Bangolo towns in western Côte d'Ivoire have expressed a willingness to return home. However, the Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities—has noted concerns about security, particularly related to political affiliation, extortion at military barricades, and lack of documentation.

Côte d'Ivoire: Health and WASH

- From May 4 to 23, USAID/OFDA partner Save the Children (SC) conducted a multi-sector rapid needs assessment in and around Abidjan. SC found that more than half of area health centers were open, with the majority of technical staff present.
- As a result of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire declaration that health services and medicines were free of charge through May 31, the frequency of consultations had significantly increased and strained the capacity of hospital staff. In the main Yopougon neighborhood hospital, Médecins Sans Frontières is providing basic health services.
- Population influxes due to displacement have increased pressure on water sources, creating significant waiting periods at peak times and increasing breakages and repair needs at overused water points. Between May 1 and 9, the NGO Solidarités conducted a rapid WASH assessment in and around Daloa and Duékoué towns in western Côte d'Ivoire and found that conflict had damaged few water sources and water points in these areas. However, untrained operators, limited cases of vandalism, and increased use had contaminated or otherwise affected water sources.
- USAID/OFDA is providing \$1 million to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) for health and WASH support to IDPs, host communities, and vulnerable populations in Côte d'Ivoire—including the maintenance of water infrastructure and the distribution of vaccines.

Liberia: Access and Assistance to Host Communities and Refugees

- Increasing seasonal rains are likely to hinder access to Ivorian refugees in Nimba County as already challenging road conditions worsen. The Government of Liberia (GoL) Ministry of Public Works and NGOs are currently negotiating how to conduct repairs on the Zorgowee Bridge, which links Côte d'Ivoire to the majority of the refugee-hosting areas in Liberia. The Danish Refugee Council is currently repairing five bridges along the Bahn–Butuo axis.
- U.N. World Food Program (WFP) food ration distribution in Liberia had reached a total of 53,339 people in Nimba, Grand Gedeh, and Maryland counties—including more than 38,000 Ivorian refugees and nearly 15,000 Liberian host community members—as of May 31. With support from USAID/FFP, WFP plans to use additional distribution methods, including food-for-work activities, to support cost communities in need, following the single 30-day ration distribution.
- On May 23, USAID/OFDA partner CRS began the distribution of seed vouchers in Nimba County to support more than 980 host families and refugees with rice seed and tools.

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/USA (SC/US)	Health, Nutrition	Western Côte d'Ivoire: Moyen Cavally District	\$1,025,077
UNICEF	Health, WASH	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$1,000,000

WFP	Logistics	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$500,000
<i>Subtotal of USAID/OFDA Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire</i>			<i>\$3,025,077</i>
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>			<i>\$3,480,425</i>
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$6,505,502
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>			<i>\$4,700,000</i>
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>			<i>\$11,700,000</i>
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	\$1,300,000
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	\$5,000,000
<i>Subtotal of State/PRM Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire and non-Liberia neighboring countries</i>			<i>\$7,000,000</i>
ICRC	Livelihoods, WASH, Family Reunification	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$700,000
UNHCR	Protection, Refugee Assistance	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$11,800,000
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>\$14,100,000</i>
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$21,100,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2011			\$44,005,502

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 3, 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