



CÔTE D'IVOIRE – COMPLEX EMERGENCY

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Due to improved security and availability of humanitarian assistance in areas of return, more than 242,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Côte d'Ivoire and Ivorian refugees in eastern Liberia have returned home in total, according to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In western Côte d'Ivoire, approximately 90 percent of IDPs from Haut-Sassandra Region and more than 60 percent of IDPs from Moyen-Cavally and Dix-Huit Montagnes regions have returned home, according to a U.N. World Food Program (WFP) assessment conducted between July 24 and August 5. More than 155,000 displaced Ivorians returned home during the month of August alone, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- On August 4 and 5, USAID staff accompanied U.S. Representative to the U.N. Agencies for Food and Agriculture Ertharin Cousin and U.S. Ambassador to Liberia Linda Thomas-Greenfield to Nimba County in eastern Liberia. The delegation visited refugee camps and host communities, observing food security and infrastructure rehabilitation projects managed by WFP and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). To improve humanitarian access to border-area villages, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) provided \$500,000 to WFP earlier this year to rehabilitate roads in eastern Liberia.
- To address ongoing humanitarian needs in Côte d'Ivoire, USAID/OFDA recently provided more than \$1.6 million in additional funding for water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and protection interventions for approximately 90,000 conflict-affected people. In addition, USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) recently provided more than \$8.6 million in additional funding for food security and livelihoods activities benefiting 448,000 IDPs and host community members in Côte d'Ivoire. To date in FY 2011, the U.S. Government has provided more than \$70 million for humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected areas in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, and neighboring countries.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		Source
IDPs in Côte d'Ivoire	204,417 ¹	UNHCR – July 22, 2011
Ivorian Refugees in Liberia	172,969 ²	UNHCR – August 27, 2011
Ivorian Refugees in Other Countries	24,910	UNHCR – July 28, 2011

FY 2011 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	
USAID/OFDA Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia	\$11,940,965
USAID/FFP Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia	\$26,780,956
State/PRM ³ Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, and Neighboring Countries	\$31,500,000
Total USAID and State Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, and Neighboring Countries	\$70,221,921

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 Ouattara—now president—continue to contribute to an uncertain security situation in western Côte d'Ivoire.

¹ Due to frequent population movements, estimates of IDP figures are subject to change. As of August 22, approximately 30,000 IDPs reside at 37 organized sites in Côte d'Ivoire.

² The total includes more than 75,000 refugees in Grand Gedeh County, more than 52,000 refugees in Nimba County, nearly 33,000 refugees in Maryland County, and more than 11,000 refugees in River Gee County. The total figure remains fluid due to ongoing UNHCR verification 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)

- 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.

Returns and Relocations

- IDP populations in Côte d'Ivoire, particularly in the west, remain in flux. Despite large numbers of overall returns, the IDP population living at organized sites in Moyen-Cavally and Dix-Huit Montagnes regions has increased, with more than 22,600 IDPs now living at 15 sites. OCHA reported that the reasons for the increase include International Organization for Migration (IOM) revisions to registration data, relocations of IDPs, and reunification of families.
- Due to recent evictions, the number of IDPs living at organized sites in Abidjan has decreased by 28 percent to approximately 5,000 IDPs living at 17 sites in the city, according to OCHA. In Abidjan, five sites recently closed, resulting in the eviction of more than 2,600 IDPs. The majority of the evicted families had fled from Abobo and Yopougon neighborhoods to other neighborhoods in the city and cannot return due to perceived insecurity and looting of homes. Many evicted persons have relocated to other sites or chosen to live with host families, while others continue to live in unoccupied buildings in Abidjan. Camp managers in Abidjan have identified water, sanitation services, and food as ongoing humanitarian needs at IDP sites.
- USAID/OFDA recently provided more than \$1.4 million in additional funding to Première Urgence for programs benefiting approximately 90,000 vulnerable people in Abidjan and in Moyen-Cavally Region, western Côte d'Ivoire. Program activities include economic recovery and market systems, such as cash-for-work activities; distribution of emergency relief commodities; and water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.

Protection

- A U.N. assessment conducted between August 8 and 12 indicates that the number of incidents of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in Bas-Sassandra and Haut-Sassandra regions in Côte d'Ivoire is increasing, according to OCHA. Between January and July, nearly 1,000 victims of sexual assault—or only 40 percent of individuals reporting incidents—accessed specialized medical services. In response to the needs of SGBV victims, USAID/OFDA recently provided nearly \$200,000 to the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) for re-establishment of health and psychosocial services in Abidjan, benefiting as many as 1,000 vulnerable women and 100 direct survivors of assault, including both IDPs and returnees.
- Security concerns, particularly in western Côte d'Ivoire, remain a significant factor that inhibits the permanent return of some Ivorian refugees and IDPs, according to OCHA. On August 16, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire (GoCI) announced plans to disarm and demobilize approximately 10,000 armed combatants by the end of 2011, including 5,000 soldiers, 300 gendarmes, and 3,400 other armed individuals.
- On August 18, the Government of Liberia, GoCI, and UNHCR signed a tripartite agreement for the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees. Under this agreement, Ivorian refugees who do not wish to return to Côte d'Ivoire will maintain protected status in Liberia.

Food Security and Livelihoods

- Despite ongoing bank and market reopenings, lack of cash prevents many vulnerable returnees from reestablishing sources of income, relief agencies report. In response, USAID/FFP recently provided \$2.9 million to Save the Children for a cash transfer program benefiting 48,000 IDPs and host community members in Côte d'Ivoire. USAID/FFP also recently provided \$5.7 million to WFP for cash transfer programs and direct distribution of regionally procured food in Abidjan and western Côte d'Ivoire. In addition, USAID/FFP recently provided nearly \$1.8 million in funding to WFP for regional procurement of 990 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance for distribution in Liberia, benefiting approximately 185,000 people. To date, USAID/FFP has provided more than \$26.7 million in assistance to conflict-affected communities in Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia.
- In response to persistent food insecurity in Côte d'Ivoire, USAID/FFP continues to provide P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance through WFP to conflict-affected populations. WFP recently received a shipment of 1,900 MT of USAID/FFP-funded food, which will benefit approximately 150,000 people for 30 days. The recent shipment represents a majority of the 2,620 total MT provided by USAID/FFP in P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance for Côte d'Ivoire, valued at a total of \$4.7 million.

**FY 2011 USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO
CÔTE D'IVOIRE, LIBERIA, AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES**

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Protection, WASH	Côte d'Ivoire: Moyen-Cavally and Dix-Huit Montagnes regions	\$1,479,001
Première Urgence	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, WASH, Logistics	Côte d'Ivoire: Abidjan and Moyen-Cavally Region	\$1,998,050
Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)	Health, Nutrition	Côte d'Ivoire: Moyen-Cavally Region	\$1,025,077
U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Health, WASH, Protection	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$1,800,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$500,000
UNFPA	Protection	Côte d'Ivoire: Abidjan	\$199,230
WFP	Logistics, U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$825,744
	Program Support Costs	Côte d'Ivoire: Countrywide	\$133,775
<i>Subtotal of USAID/OFDA Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire</i>			\$7,960,877
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
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Protection, WASH	Maryland County, Liberia	\$499,941
Equip Liberia	Health, Protection	Nimba County, Liberia	\$599,990
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	\$99,722
WFP	Logistics	Countrywide	\$250,000
<i>Subtotal of USAID/OFDA Assistance to Liberia</i>			\$3,980,088
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$11,940,965

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	2,620 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$4,700,000
WFP	Cash Transfers and Regional Food Procurement	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$5,673,734
SC	Cash Transfers	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$2,930,806
<i>Subtotal of USAID/FFP Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire</i>			\$13,304,540
WFP	7,590 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$11,700,000
WFP	Regional Food Procurement	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$1,776,416
<i>Subtotal of USAID/FFP Assistance to Liberia</i>			\$13,476,416
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$26,780,956
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Food Security, Health, WASH, Family Reunification	Côte d'Ivoire: Affected Areas	\$3,550,000
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>			\$11,750,000
ICRC	Livelihoods, WASH, Family Reunification	Liberia: Affected Areas	\$2,350,000
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>			\$19,750,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$31,500,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CÔTE D'IVOIRE, LIBERIA, AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN FY 2011			\$70,221,921

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 30, 2011.

² 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 +1.202.821.1999.
Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.