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## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OVERVIEW

- The refugee figure has decreased by 37,070 due to increase in spontaneous return (36,648), especially from Maryland, and Grand Gedeh. The UNHCR and partners facilitated the voluntary repatriation of 422 refugees to CDI. The refugee number stands at 138,152.
- During the reporting period 3,266 refugees were relocated to the camps. The total current population of the camp is 43,761 refugees.
- UNHCR held a meeting with implementing partners in Monrovia to discuss the 2012 implementation plan. Among other things, the strategy and framework of delivering protection and assistance to persons of concern in line with Government policy was discussed.
- Food distribution to refugees is ongoing in all four counties with so far 22,450 refugees receiving assorted food commodities in November.
- Over 36,600 Ivorian children have access to Primary Education, Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Vocational Skills Training services in Nimba, Grand Gedeh and Maryland Counties.
- The 7th national polio campaign supported by UNICEF and WHO in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare was conducted from October 28 to November 2nd in all 15 counties where 968,830 children including 16,980 refugees were vaccinated.
- A total of 1,207 under five children were screened for acute malnutrition during the week. 27% refugees and 73% Liberians. 19% was from Grand Gedeh, 71% was from Nimba and 10% from Maryland. 13.2% of all the children screened had moderate to severe acute malnutrition.

Refugee Statistics in Counties as of November 10, 2011			
County	Last week	Change	This week
Grand Gedeh	66,844	-4,302	62,542
Maryland	36,061	-21,003	15,058
Montserrado	377	0	377
Nimba	53,891	-11,765	42,126
River Gee	11,530	0	11,530
Old Case load	6,519	0	6,519
<b>Total</b>	175,222	<b>- 37,070</b>	<b>138,152</b>

## REFUGEE RESPONSE AND COORDINATION

### PROTECTION (including child protection and GBV)

- On 26 October, Protection and Field staff participated in a one-day Internal VolRep meeting in Monrovia to discuss strategies, practical modalities and challenges for the voluntary repatriation exercise of Ivorian refugees.
- Field and Protection Units on 26 October relocated six separated and unaccompanied children to Bahn Camp from the relocation community of Gbeivonwea and turned them over to Save the Children. The children, from 3 to 11 years and who had been residing at the border since February 2011, are headed by their 17-year-old sister who is also a lactating mother of a four-month-old baby. She was doing farming contracts to feed her siblings. Their parents were not reportedly at home when fighting broke out in their village in Côte d' Ivoire so they joined other people and fled to Liberia and have not found their parents since then.

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- A total number of 1,672 cases of separated and unaccompanied children (574 unaccompanied children and 1,098 separated children) among the refugee population have been identified to date and are benefiting from case management services with 131 cases receiving follow-up this week
- 30 new foster families were identified this week with 28 families receiving training
- More than 11,150 refugee children (45% girls) are registered for safe learning and recreational activities in 38 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) throughout Grand Gedeh, Nimba and Maryland counties; average attendance for this week was 3,636 (47% girls)
- 4,183 children (52% girls) in vulnerable situations received clothing, shoes, blankets, and sleeping mats this week
- 860 youth (55% girls) participated in sporting events promoting children's rights as well as in Life Skills Training focused on prevention of sexually transmitted infections
- 652 adults and service providers, including Child Welfare Committee members and foster families, participated in workshops and awareness sessions related to child development, sexual exploitation and abuse, and how to prevent and/or report child abuse.
- On 4 November, an allegation of sexual exploitation and abuse was made against a staff of an implementing partner in Duogee Camp. The staff member has been immediately removed from the camp pending a formal investigation.

### HEALTH

- WHO in collaboration with UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to successfully conduct round VII nationwide polio immunization campaign targeting over 980,000 children less than five years of age. Refugee children are expected to benefit from the immunization campaign. Data from the campaign is being compiled.
- As part of the Minimum Initial Services package (MISP) to improve reproductive health services, four delivery kits were distributed to benefit 250 women (refugees and nationals) in Grand Gedeh County.
- A total of 1084 children < 5 yrs of age were vaccinated as protection to vaccine preventable diseases during routine immunization and outreaches immunization services in all Counties hosting refugees. Despite the regular immunization services, 6 suspected cases of measles reported from Grand Gedeh County.
- 445 condoms distributed to refugees and nationals to promote family planning services and prevent STIs and HIV/AIDS
- 3,261 refugees and nationals in Grand Gedeh County benefited from community psychosocial sensitization/ awareness campaign. The campaign aims at raising awareness and reducing/preventing stigma among people with mental health related ailments.
- 32 patients (47% nationals) were referred for secondary care in all counties hosting refugees. One death (national) was reported from Teahplay community in Nimba County
- The 7th national polio campaign supported by UNICEF and WHO in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare was conducted from October 28- November 2nd in all 15 counties where 968,830 children including 16,980 refugees were vaccinated. The campaign targeted 631,301 children under 5 years and vaccinated a total of 968,830 children including 16,980 refugees. Coverage as assessed through independent monitors was found to be 94%.
- UNHCR has procured and donated various drugs and medical supplies worth more than US\$150,000 that will suffice for six months for health facilities in Grand Gedeh and Maryland counties, including some for the referral hospital (Martha Tubman Hospital in Grand Gedeh, and JJ Dossen Hospital in Harper). The items have been handed over to UNHCR's implementing partners, Merlin and Merci.
- MSF-B and MSF-H have started the process of handing over to Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA) and to IRC and MERLIN in Nimba and in Grand Gedeh in anticipation of pull outs on 31 December and 30 November. It is expected that AHA will take over Bahn camp from MSF-B on 1 January 2012, while IRC will take over Dougee and PTP, and Merlin will take over from Solo and Ziah camps from MSF-H on 1 December 2011.
- UNHCR, partners and refugees celebrated the World Mental Health Day in three refugee camps in Grand Gedeh ( Dougee, Solo and PTP).
- UNHCR has conducted mapping of the HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis, and Leprosy diagnostic and treatment centres in Liberia.

### WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

- Finalized PCA with NGO Samaritans Purse International Relief (SPIR) for implementation of WASH improvement activities in River Gbeh and Ubor axis of River Gee. Activities will be focused on promotion of community level participation in operation and maintenance of WASH facilities. Partner SPIR will implement activities in 6 extended communities working with communities for provision of 10 new/rehabilitated water points, 200 family latrines.
- NGO ACF has received an authorization "in principle" to continue implementation of WASH activities in the Bahn camp where agency is currently serving up to about 6,700 persons with water and sanitation facilities. .
- WASH working Group in Maryland called a meeting with the County Mayor on issues of indiscriminate excreta disposal on Harper beaches and cholera preparedness activities in the county.

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- PCA with NGO Solidarities International for implementing WASH activities in Janzon and Zwedru axis of county expired on October 31st. Agency reached up to 23,409 refugees and host community persons with water and sanitation facilities.
- NGO ERS has also completed construction of 90 shared family latrines in the Cavalla-Kablaken reaching up to 450 persons (refugees and hosts)
- UNICEF continues to work with partners to strengthen hygiene promotion and putting systems in place for community level O&M of WASH facilities especially in host communities.
- The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) started constructing four new garbage pits (10ft by 10ft by 15ft deep) in Ziah camp.
- An international WASH Team from Norway, the Norwegian Church Aid, was on a two-day mission in the field with the intention of submitting a comprehensive WASH proposal for 2012. Upon completion of the assessment, the team briefed UNHCR on the process and the way forward.

### EDUCATION:

- Over 36,600 Ivorian children have access to Primary Education, Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Vocational Skills Training services in Nimba, Grand Gedeh and Maryland Counties.
- Currently 428 primary school teachers are on duty though absolute number of teachers is still insufficient in addition to the low percentage of trained teachers (less than 60%).
- The attendance figures of children in ECD centres and primary schools has been continuously fluid as some refugee families are moving one place to another that affects children's regular attendance for long-period.
- In order to support children transferring from one school to another school, quality control of teaching forces as well as an application of standard teaching and learning materials in all schools is the one of key challenges for Education sector.
- UNICEF, Save the Children, IRC, PLAN and VIA are providing basic education services for Ivorian and Liberian children, organizing teacher trainings, supporting Parents-Teachers Associations (PTAs) for better school management, maintenance of camp schools and school buildings.

### FOOD SECURITY:

- WFP and implementing partners (IPs) scaled down critical operations during week of run-off election due to security advisory on movement from UNDSS.
- Food distributions to refugees are ongoing in all four counties with so far 22,450 refugees receiving assorted food commodities in November.
- Targeted Food distributions to vulnerable host population are also ongoing in Nimba and Grand Gedeh and so far 6,939 beneficiaries have received food support.
- Upland rice farmers benefitting from FAO and partners' agricultural support in refugee affected areas are now completing their harvest.
- A substantial delay in rainfall in May and July is negatively affecting upland farmers rice yield. FAO is estimating an up to 20 percent decrease in the expected yield. Lowland rice, which is planted later in the year, will be less affected by the irregular and poor rainfalls.
- Vegetable production inputs are currently being distributed to refugees and host families in communities on the Harper axis (Maryland), the Janzon axis (Grand Gedeh) and in the Bahn refugee camp (Nimba). Inputs include a variety of vegetable, legume and corn seeds, tools and – in some cases – compost. Beneficiaries also received training on improved vegetable production. A total of 14,865 HHs are benefitting from the agriculture sector's vegetable and cassava production programmes.
- Agricultural partners have finalized the needs assessment for the upcoming CAP. A workshop will be hosted at FAO on 17 October to finalize the coordination of CAP activities planned for 2012.

### Nutrition:

- A total of 1,207 under five children were screened for acute malnutrition during the week. 27% were refugees and 73% Liberians. 19% were from Grand Gedeh, 71% were from Nimba and 10% from Maryland. 13.2% of all the children screened had moderate to severe acute malnutrition. The host population was more malnourished than their Ivorian counterparts, with 69% of the malnourished children being Liberians and 31% Ivoirians.
- At the Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Centres, 72 newly severely malnourished children were admitted, 34 were cured, 8 defaulted and no death, while 882 children are still undergoing treatment.
- At the Inpatient Therapeutic Feeding Centres, none child was admitted, 0 cured, 0 defaulted, and 0 died, while 5 children are still undergoing treatment.
- At the Supplementary Feeding Centres, 87 newly moderately malnourished were admitted, 23 cured, 3 defaulted and no death while 1,395 are still undergoing treatment.

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## Shelter and NFI:

- Refugee families staying in the transit areas in Little Wlebo camp started the construction of their family shelters in the extended area of the camp.
- As a result of the ongoing voluntary repatriation, 110 shelters were vacant. There is no refugee now at the transit centre as those refugees hosted there earlier have all been assigned shelters.
- During the reporting period there were two repatriation convoy movements from Bahn Camp in Nimba County. The refugees received 332 pieces of plastics mats and 161 pieces of blankets.
- UNHCR Saclepea Supply Unit released from the warehouse 8,000 pieces of mosquito nets to Community Health Education and Social Services (CHESS) for distribution to Ivorian refugees on the Loguatuo Axis, Nimba County.

## KEY COORDINATION MEETINGS:

SN	Key coordination meetings in Monrovia	Day	Time	Venue	Contact
1	Humanitarian Action Committee (HAC) meeting	Every Thursday	10.30 am	Jordan Ryan Conference Room, UNDP, Monrovia	Manzoor Khoso <a href="mailto:Khoso@un.org">Khoso@un.org</a> 05319901
2	Operations Coordination Meeting	Every Friday	09.00 am	UNHCR, Monrovia	Dokie Nah <a href="mailto:nahd@unhcr.org">nahd@unhcr.org</a> 06870817
3	Regular Sectoral meetings Monrovia level	Weekly			Sector leads

For submission of weekly inputs to Sitrep contact the following 1 & 2:

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