

UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire Situation Report #35
16 January 2012

Reporting Period: December 2011



Highlights

- The legislative elections were held without major incidents on 11 December 2011. Prior to the elections, the Clusters took part in the development of the inter-agency contingency plan in preparation of possible deterioration of the security situation, and UNICEF also developed its country office contingency plan.
- The Education Cluster conducted an evaluation of the 2011/2012 school year, which showed that 80% of schools assessed reported having starting classes on 24 October, while 20% of schools assessed had started after the official date, mostly around mid-November.
- UNICEF officially launched the Back to School campaign on 26 November during a ceremony in San Pedro. On this occasion, 8,500 school kits were distributed to students, 26 schools received recreational materials, 56 teachers received teacher kits, and 82 preschools classrooms were equipped with ECD kits and mats which will benefit to 2,500 children aged 3-5 years old.
- Of around 569,408 children screened between April and October 2011, 6,480 were found to be suffering from severe acute malnutrition and were referred to nutrition centres for appropriate care through therapeutic products provided by UNICEF. In 2011, UNICEF in collaboration with partner NGOs supported the treatment of 10,258 SAM children in total with cure rate of 80%.
- UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire received almost US\$ 22.5 million (excluding recovery cost) in funds for emergency activities in 2011. Contributions were received from the Government of Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, Sweden, Australia, Republic of Korea, Belgium, the US, Estonia, and Canada, and UNICEF National Committees for France, the United States, the Netherlands, Spain and Italy, and the UK, as well as ECHO, CERF and the Global Thematic Humanitarian Funds.

- The legislative elections were held without major incidents on 11 December 2011. A total of 25,000 National Security Forces troops were deployed as a preventive measure in all major locations, supported by UNOCI and the French Licorne Forces. The definitive results of the elections are expected to be published in the beginning of January 2012.
- Several criminal acts, sometimes violent and with the use of firearms, were reported in December.
- Other security issues are related to the difficulties met in the reorganization of the security forces and the control of former militia armed groups. Such incidents occurred, provoked by misconduct of army elements, in Vavoua on 18 December 2011 resulting in 5 deaths and several injuries and in Sikensi on 26 December 2011 resulting in 4 deaths and 13 injuries. The last incident had started as a dispute between FRCI and civilians, although it was found to be due to ethnical tensions. As a consequence, regular army units were ordered to quit the main cities and join their barracks. A Military Police Unit is also under creation. Those measures helped to stabilize the security situation in Abidjan and other main cities during the end of the year celebrations.
- Criminality is expected to remain a major concern, particularly in the western areas bordering Liberia, but also elsewhere due to the reorganization of the FRCI and the demobilization of former militias.

Humanitarian Needs

Official figures about IDPs in official sites around the country:

- Around 13,000 Individuals (numbers are continuously fluctuating since IDPs are currently going in and out from the sites, mostly in order to get relocated elsewhere.)
- 31 IDP sites around the country are still open.

The closure process is ongoing, since most IDPs had clearly stated their intention to return to their areas of origin in the shortest timeframe, pending support from national institutions and humanitarian community.

Inter-Agency Collaboration, Coordination, Cluster Leadership and Key Partnerships

WASH Cluster (UNICEF lead)

- IRC continued to provide assistance the villages in Séguéla, Mankono and Biankouma with ECHO support, and provide WASH kits to the villages in Bangolo with OFDA support. The French Red Cross continued their WASH project financed by ECHO, by disinfecting 54 wells and assessing water pumps in need of repair in the Toulepleu, Tiobly, and Bakoubli areas.
- Save the Children shared with the Cluster members the results of the initial KAP survey, supported by ECHO, in 30 villages in the Danané and Zouan-Hounien areas. The survey showed that 22% of the target population drinks potable water, whilst 84% of the population defecate in open air, and only 2% of those surveyed were found to practice handwashing at critical moments.
- Oxfam shared their report on their emergency intervention in Cote d'Ivoire with other Cluster members, which came to an end on 11 November. The report documents their key interventions and experiences, lessons learned, and indicators.
- CARE has initiated a WASH needs evaluation for 36,000 beneficiaries for their interventions in Bolequin and Doké.
- ACF disinfected and rehabilitated latrines at the Catholic Mision in Duékoué.

NUTRITION Cluster (UNICEF lead)

- Nutrition screenings were stepped up in December in areas of returnees in the west of Côte d'Ivoire. Caritas and ACF collaborated in the screening and referral of cases of acute malnutrition in the Toulepleu transit camp and OIDS increased their community sensitization and screening activities in the districts of Guiglo and Duekoue. Admissions to therapeutic feeding programmes remained relatively stable however WFP noted a slight decrease in the number of admissions to supplementary feeding programmes.

- Community management of acute malnutrition programmes were extended in the western regions of Montagnes and Moyen Cavally with the support of ACF and Save the Children. In line with the Cluster strategy, emphasis is placed on enhancing integration into existing health services and building capacity of community, health and district-level personnel through training, supervision and coordination.
- During a WHO-led workshop, Cluster partners developed an action plan for the implementation of a nutritional surveillance system in Côte d'Ivoire and defined a number of key indicators to be included in the system. The National Nutrition Programme (PNN), with support from UNICEF and WHO, evaluated five hospitals in Abidjan in the context of the Baby Friendly Initiative, a programme established to encourage successful breastfeeding in maternity hospitals. Two hospitals were accredited with Baby Friendly status. The PNN, with support from WHO, revised its training modules for the management of acute malnutrition and integrated a new module on food hygiene.
- The PNN and Helen Keller International carried out a nutrition assessment, based on SMART methodology, in the Zanzan region from 30 November-10 December. Preliminary results from the assessment indicate a global acute malnutrition prevalence of 7,4% (5,2-10,3 95% C.I.), a chronic malnutrition prevalence of 42,2% (36,5-48,2 95% C.I.) and an underweight prevalence of 27,3% (22,7-32,5 95% C.I.) for the assessed area. The prevalence of chronic malnutrition is above the threshold deemed critical and the prevalence of underweight is above the threshold deemed serious according to WHO standards.
- The Cluster partners collaborated on a number of advocacy activities, including the drafting of a common advocacy document on the nutrition situation in Côte d'Ivoire and advocating for better availability of systematic treatment for acute malnutrition at the Public Health Pharmacy level.

CHILD PROTECTION Sub-Cluster (UNICEF lead)

- A new coordinator joined the Sub-Cluster and the 2012 Sub-Cluster strategy has been developed. The main areas of intervention will focus on strengthening the coordination, capacity building of members, analysis and needs assessment in child protection, emergency preparedness, application of child protection standards, monitoring and communication, advocacy and resource mobilization. These areas of intervention will be developed in collaboration with other Clusters, including Education, Health, HIV and AIDS, WASH and GBV.

EDUCATION Cluster (UNICEF co-lead with Save the Children)

- The Cluster conducted an evaluation of the 2011/2012 school year which officially started at the end of October. Data was collected from a total of 5,217 schools (50%), and full or partial data was received for a total of 23 out of 27 DREN (85%). The report shows that 80% of schools assessed reported starting classes on 24 October, while 20% of schools assessed started after the official date, mostly around mid-November. Around 50% of DREN saw a slight decrease in the average number of teachers per school in November 2011. Most notably in the South: Abidjan and Divo, in the East: Abengourou and Bondoukou and in the West: Daloa and Guiglo.
- The Cluster continued to monitor attacks on education and to share reported information with the Child Protection Sub-Cluster, in charge of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism on the six grave violations on children's rights during armed conflict. While all schools occupied by armed forces seem to have been liberated to date, there are still approximately 10 schools in the West which are negatively affected by the presence of military checkpoints at the entrance of the schools. In addition, the past few weeks have seen a rise in physical attacks perpetrated against teachers, on their way to school, at school, or at their homes, by armed men. The Cluster liaised with UNOCI so that verification visits could be carried out and negotiations started with the FRCI so as to protect school grounds, education personnel and students. Coordination was carried out with the Shelter Cluster to identify a solution for the primary school of Niambly in the West, which has been occupied by 200 returnees since August 2011.
- Coordination with the Education Sector Group in Liberia was maintained. Following the joint MoE-UNICEF-Save the Children mission to Liberia in September, the Cluster recently shared the curriculum for the Ivorian accelerated learning programme and the volunteer teacher training guide with the Education Sector Group in Liberia for adaptation and implementation with refugee children and teachers. In addition, the Ministry of Education has requested the support of the

Education Cluster with the identification of secondary school students who have returned from Liberia and are ready to re-enroll in Cote d'Ivoire. Following advocacy efforts, the Minister of Education accepted to lift school fees for repatriated secondary school students.

- The Cluster also took part in the development of the inter-agency contingency plan related to the legislative elections which took place mid-December.

UNICEF Response

UNICEF emergency response: List of indicators and updated numbers (as of 18 December 2011)

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners			Sector / Cluster		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results	Change since last report	Cluster Target	Cumulative results	Change since last report
NUTRITION						
Children <5 with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in Therapeutic Feeding programmes (WP# 1.4.1)	5,000	6,977	0▲▼	N/A	12,232	418▲
		140% of target			N/A	
Children <5 with Moderate Acute Malnutrition in supplementary feeding programmes (Cluster)				N/A	16,694	5,799▲
					N/A	
% Children with SAM under treatment recovered (WP# 1.4.3)	80%	5372	0▲▼	80 %	8,918	345▲
		96% of target			91% of target	
HEALTH						
Children <5 receiving measles vaccination (WP# 1.1.2)	6,157,776	# 5,820,653	0▲▼			
		94% of target				
Children 6-59 months receiving vitamin A supplements (WP#1.1.4)	6,133,990	# 6,591,331	396,001▲			
		107% of target				
Children 12-59 months receiving de-worming treatment (WP#1.1.3)	5,377,164	# 6,011,557	526,849▲			
		117% of target				
Comments: Date sources for the figures above come from the national measles vaccination campaign of 24-30 November and the polio campaign with vitamin A supplementation and deworming of 28-31 October						
WASH						
Emergency affected population (IDP in camps and host community) provided with access to improved water (WP# 1.7.1, 1.7.2)	145,000	# 656,292	19,020▲	450,000	# 1,411,947	38,870▲
		453% of target			312% of target	
Persons at risk of cholera receiving WASH kits (WP#1.7.3)	300,000	# 300,000	0▲▼	N/A	# 540,443	0▲▼
		100 % of target			N/A	
Emergency affected population (IDP in camps and host community) with access to hygienic latrines (WP# 1.7.1, 1.7.2)	145,000	# 47,860	5,750▲	450,000	# 77,410	8,220▲
		33% of target			17% of target	
CHILD PROTECTION						
Total number of victims of GBV who received assistance from UNICEF and partners and the percentage that are children (WP# 3.2.3)	N/A	# 977	0▲▼			
		% target -				
Separated or unaccompanied	N/A	# 649	0▲▼			

Estimated #/% coverage	UNICEF & operational partners			Sector / Cluster		
	UNICEF Target	Cumulative results	Change since last report	Cluster Target	Cumulative results	Change since last report
children identified (WP# 3.2.1)		% target -				
Emergency affected population reached by efforts to mobilize communities to prevent and address violence, abuse and exploitation, including GBV (WP#3.3.1)	1,242,000	# 977,000 79% of target	24,506 ▲			
Children enrolled in psychosocial activities (WP# 3.2.4)	20,000	# 17,340 87% of target	3,266 ▲			
EDUCATION						
School- aged children / adolescents reached by re-established school and/or non-formal learning programs (WP# 2.2.1)	500,000	# 460,130 98% of target	0 ▲ ▼	1,678,774	# 1,426,958 85% of target	0 ▲ ▼
School- aged children / adolescents in learning programs in temporary facilities (WP# 2.1.1)	30,000	# 29,481 98% of target	0 ▲ ▼	30,000	# 29,481 98% of target	0 ▲ ▼
Teachers trained on psychosocial support for children (WP# 2.2.3)	4,740	# 4,490 95% of target	990 ▲	4,740	# 4,490 74% of target	990 ▲
HIV and AIDS						
Pregnant IDP initially on ART before the crisis continue to receive them for PMTCT (WP# 4.1.1)	1,844	# 1,970 107% of target:	0 ▲ ▼			
OVC at high risk have access to essential services (WP# 4.3.1)	15,000	# 9,446 63% of target:	0 ▲ ▼			
Number of HIV positive children under ART before the crisis who continue to receive treatment (WP# 4.1.3)	6,000	# 4,000 67% of target	0 ▲ ▼			
Non-Food Items (NFIs)						
Emergency affected households with women and children receiving cooking and eating utensils (WP# 1.5.1)	N/A	# 13,991 N/A	0 ▲ ▼			
Comments: Where relevant, UNICEF, as cluster lead agency, is responsible for information management of the cluster and sharing overall results achieved by the cluster collectively.						

NUTRITION

- Activities were organized to support the promotion of infant and young child feeding practices, including awareness raising sessions for parents, communities and women groups, with a focus on early and exclusive breastfeeding. On the occasion of the World Breastfeeding Week, around 500,000 women benefited from various activities organized across the country.
- UNICEF supported significant increase in the national capacity to identify and manage Severe Acute Malnutrition in collaboration with local NGOs for community nutrition activities in the most vulnerable West, North and North-East regions. A total of 2,142 community health workers were trained on community screening of malnutrition and 462 health workers on severe acute malnutrition management. Of around 569,408 children screened between April and October 2011, 6,480 were suffering from severe acute malnutrition and were referred to nutrition centres

for appropriate care through therapeutic products provided by UNICEF. The treatment of severe acute malnourished children in the most vulnerable region (Zanzan) and in 2 at high risk Health Districts of the West (Danané and Zouan Hounien) was also supported in collaboration with HKI (1,441 SAM children) and ACF (2,337 SAM children) respectively. In 2011, UNICEF in collaboration with partner NGOs supported the treatment of 10,258 SAM children with cure rate of 80%. The death rate among SAM children (inpatient) was 10%.

- Two rounds of Vitamin A supplementation among 6 to 59 months old children and mass administration of deworming tablets (Albendazole) to 1 to 5 year old children were carried out in June and October to address micronutrient deficiencies. Both rounds reached at least 90% coverage rates.
- UNICEF also supported the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene for national nutrition survey. The result showed that some progress has been made towards the reduction of malnutrition rates compared to MICS 2006. Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence (5.4%) was under the threshold of 10%. Yet stunting prevalence was 27.3%, and the highest global chronic malnutrition was detected in the North and North-East at 43.6 and 40.2% respectively. The average global underweight was 15.7. Children between 6-29 months showed the highest prevalence of acute malnutrition, and disaggregation by sex showed a slightly higher malnutrition rates (acute malnutrition, underweight and chronic malnutrition) for boys.

CHILD PROTECTION

- UNICEF participated in the training workshop on tools and mechanisms to verify information collected related MRM/1612. 10 UN agencies and international NGOs participated in the training. 2 violations of child rights, including 1 rape and 1 abduction/kidnapping cases have been identified, referred and received adequate assistance.
- Recreational activities and psychosocial support continued and was intensified in the West through recreational and child-friendly spaces. The recently signing of protocols with COOPI and DRC is expected to allow the expansion in the scope of interventions in the West, particularly Guiglo and Zouan-Hounien whose coverage was previously limited due to the security situation. These activities will cover 25 communities and offer more than 20,000 children adequate psychosocial assistance and basic tools to 10,000 adults in assisting their children.
- The process of family tracing and reunification continued for about 400 children living in foster care. Field trips and periodical meetings were organised to develop joint (UNICEF, IRC and Save the Children) lines of thought to strengthen the functioning of the database, improving pathway of collection and sharing reported data, enhancing the capacities of community workers of Caritas, involving more the Government decentralized structures, and holding regular meetings at both national and regional levels for improved monitoring of the process.
- Due to the recurrent and massive MGF cases in the Central Region, UNICEF and UNFPA in collaboration with administrative and traditional authorities and with the support of the NGOs increased mass and proximity awareness activities in the targeted localities (Bouake, Botro, Brobo, Katiola, Dabakala).
- UNICEF participated in the finalization and validation of the joint UNDP/UNFPA/FAO/UNOCI/ UNICEF/UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) project for enhancing human security through post crisis stabilization in Côte d'Ivoire. This project will be implemented in the West and include improving access to basic social services and justice for vulnerable populations, including children and women. UNICEF also provided technical support to the Direction of Juridical Protection for Children and Youth (DPJJE) on the strategic reform of the system of justice in the Cote d'Ivoire. UNICEF also supported in strategic thinking for the development of the judicial protection policy for children in danger. UNICEF also attended meetings on the Sectorial Committee on Justice with the donors and on the strategies for responding to sexual abuse cases committed by UN staff or related people.

EDUCATION

- UNICEF officially launched the Back to School campaign on 26 November during a ceremony in San Pedro which was presided by the Minister of Education. On this occasion, 8,500 school kits were distributed to students, 26 schools received recreational materials, 56 teachers received

teacher kits, and 82 preschools classrooms were equipped with ECD kits and mats which will benefit to 2,500 children aged 3-5 years old. The BTS campaign is making progress on the ground nation-wide: Over 275,000 students from 813 schools from the education regional districts of Korhogo, Bouake 1, Bouake 2, Katiola, Abidjan 3, Abidjan 4, San Pedro, Man and Guiglo have received school kits.

- 10 Clubs of Mothers of School Girls in Bouna, Boundoukou, Abobo and Man were equipped and trained on the utilization of manual cassava crushing machines, which will help them develop income-generating projects supporting girls' education.
- In terms of early childhood development, 5,250 children aged 3-5 in 182 preschools in the regional education districts of Abidjan, Dabou, Bouaflé, Bouake, and Korhogo benefitted from an improved learning environment through the equipment of their schools with ECD kits and well as playground infrastructure. 5,212 children aged 3-5 years old (including 2,679 girls) from preschools in San Pedro and Man also received play and learning materials.
- UNICEF continued to implement emergency education activities for crisis-affected children. Through a small-scale funding agreement with CARITAS, UNICEF installed 11 semi-temporary learning spaces in the Nahibly IDP sites in Duekoué, Western Cote d'Ivoire, where over 1,000 are attending school. An agreement has been signed with CARITAS for the equipment of this temporary school with 400 desks for students and teachers. In addition, 4 temporary learning spaces have been set-up in Diabily, Ouloto Zrebly, Glakon and Sebly in the education inspection of Toulepleu, Western Cote d'Ivoire, in order to allow 600 primary school students to attend classes despite the fact that their schools have been completely destroyed during the post-electoral crisis. In Dabou, Southern Cote d'Ivoire, UNICEF also set-up and equipped a temporary learning space for 150 children through providing tarpaulins, recreation kits, and ECD kits to allow 150 first grade students to enroll into school. Without this support, the children would not have been able to enroll since the classrooms of the school building were already over-crowded.
- UNICEF and the Ministry of Education conducted a joint monitoring and supervision mission to Bouake and Korhogo to monitor the progress of school rehabilitations and kits distributions in the framework of the project supported by the African Development Bank. Other activities included in the mission included the support to the MoE in building ownership amongst communities of the rehabilitated schools, and monitoring the trained volunteer teachers who will soon be integrated into public service.
- The Ministry of Education was awarded a US\$ 41 million grant for three years from the Global Partnership for Education. This funding comes as the result of a multi-year process supported by UNICEF which started with the diagnosis evaluation of the education sector (2009) and the elaboration of a Mid-Term Action Plan for 2012-2014 for education. UNICEF, as the Education Sector lead, played an instrumental role in gathering support from financial and technical partners to Cote d'Ivoire's request to the Global Partnership for Education.

HEALTH

- Measles immunization campaign took place between 24-30 November.

HIV/AIDS

- UNICEF, in collaboration with partners, provided information sessions on HIV to 70,684 youth and adolescents (29,941 girls and 40,743 boys). Group community dialogue sessions have reached 1,029 young people in Man, Biankouma, Duekoué, Guiglo, Danané, Zouan Hounien, Touba and San Pedro. Information and life skills education were provided to 2,215 new young people and 13 IDPs through interpersonal communication and theatres in the Montagnes and Moyen Cavally regions.
- Awareness raising programmes were broadcast on 2 local radio stations continued under the theme "HIV and young people – why talk about HIV" and "The importance of HIV testing", aiming to prevent new infections in the Montagnes and Moyen Cavally regions.
- UNICEF, in collaboration with partners, continued to provide HIV testing at the voluntary counselling and testing centres: In Danané, Zouan Hounien, Biankouma and Touba areas, 36 STI (21 boys and 15 girls) cases were identified and were provided treatment. 401 female and 15,916 male condoms were provided to young people. In Danané and Zouan Hounien, 642 (348

boys and 294 girls) youth and adolescents aged between 15-24 in IDP sites or with host families in the Montagne and Moyen Cavally regions were tested and 19 (7 boys and 12 girls) were found to be HIV positive. They were referred to Danané and Zouan Hounien hospitals for psychosocial care and support.

- The Technical Group on PMTCT was organised in Moyen Cavally in partnership with Save the Children. In collaboration with COOPI, 23 nurses and midwives were trained on PMTCT in Zouan Hounien. 53 additional nurses and midwives were trained on PMTCT in the Haut Sassandra, Bas Sassandra, Denguélé, Bafing and Worodougou areas.
- 916 pregnant women have benefitted from PMTCT services in Danané and Zouan Hounien. The tracking of children receiving ARVs in IDP camps and surrounding areas continued. 836 spouses of pregnant women were sensitised on PMTCT in Danané and Zouan Hounien.
- 127 women of childbearing age and living with HIV participated in positive prevention activities among the host community of Danané, Guiglo, and Zouan Hounien. Survivors of sexual violence were assisted at the General Hospitals in Danané (6 cases) and Zouan Hounien (2 cases).

COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (C4D)

- A workshop was held to finalize the Cholera Communication Strategy as a response to epidemics. The process was launched with the support of WCARO, during the previous cholera epidemic. For the last month of 2011, a cholera outbreak was declared in the district of Bouaflé while the situation in Abidjan districts remain under control, yet cases noted from time to time. The Communication Strategy defined will not only be a directive for cholera outbreaks, but for all emergency situations occurring.
- Reinforcing the promotion of best practices in term of health, the Essential Family Practices campaign launched in Abidjan in November, 500 cult locations in the country (Muslim, Christian) are promoting the package defined while delivering service.

FUNDING

UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire received almost **US\$ 22.5 million** (excluding recovery cost) in funds for emergency activities in 2011. Contributions were received from the Government of Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, Sweden, Australia, Republic of Korea, Belgium, the US, Estonia, and Canada, and UNICEF National Committees for France, the United States, the Netherlands, Spain and Italy, and the UK, as well as ECHO, CERF and the Global Thematic Humanitarian Funds. There are pledges from CERF and the Government of Japan.

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

- The CO shared a multimedia 'audio-slideshow' and picture collection with DOC-IBIS on the situation of children and women in Northeast Côte d'Ivoire to be disseminated through regular channels.
- The section with support from Man Sub-Office facilitated a mission with OCHA hired reporter to document the impact of CERF funded projects for Child Protection.
- The Representative granted an interview to state radio to do an overview of UNICEF actions in 2011 and present the strategy for 2012.
- The First Lady granted an audience to the UNICEF Representative to discuss areas of collaborations in 2012. The two agreed on a certain number of activities to be carried out jointly.

CONTACTS IN COTE D'IVOIRE

- Hervé Ludovic de Lys, Representative
Tel: +225 20-20-18-13, Email: hdelys@unicef.org
- Christina de Bruin, Deputy Representative
Tel: +225 04-27-83-94, Email: cdebruin@unicef.org
- Louis Vigneault-Dubois, Chief of Communication
Tel: +225 04-03-50-44, Email: lvigneault@unicef.org