



## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Last week, 813 Ivorian refugees were relocated to PTP, Little Wlebo and Bahn camps. This includes 588 refugees to PTP, 31 individuals to Bahn camp and 194 refugees to Little Wlebo. Among those who relocated to Little Wlebo following an awareness campaign included 125 refugees from River Gee County most of whom had earlier refused to relocate following the introduction of new services in host communities by some partners.
- The Ghana Refugee Board, UNHCR (Ghana and Liberia) and the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) signed a joint communiqué on 20 September in Monrovia following deliberations concerning Liberian refugees and Ivorian ex-combatants. The Ghanaian delegation which constituted a seven-man National Task Force on ex-combatants visited Liberia from 16-20 September in an effort to learn from the Liberian experience on the establishment of an Internment Camp as well as familiarize themselves with Liberia's Local Integration programme.
- The general security situation remained calm and peaceful as political campaigning continues.
- Food distribution on 21 September in Dougee camp was interrupted by some refugee youths who were reportedly against bulgur wheat being distributed. The distribution was discontinued and the Liberian National Police was contacted.

### Refugee Statistics in Counties as of September 23, 2011

County	Last week	Increase	This week
Nimba	53,714	-	53,714
Grand Gedeh	76,093	+ 238	76,331
River Gee	11,560	-30	11,530
Mary Land	34,714	+1,529	36,103
Montserado	352	+5	357
Total	176,293	+1,742	178,035

## REFUGEE RESPONSE AND COORDINATION

### PROTECTION (this includes Child Protection and SGBV sub sector)

- In River Gee County, the Protection Unit facilitated transportation of a refugee from Freetown, Glaro District, to Fish-Town for medical treatment. The refugee, a mother of two, had been ill for two weeks but had had no means of travelling to Fish-Town due to bad road conditions.
- Counseling services for refugees in the Bahn camp began this week. The services will be held every Thursday in the camp while that of Saclepea camp for "old caseload" of Ivorian refugees is every Wednesday.
- The child protection sub-cluster has reached 47 per cent of its overall target of providing child friendly services to 20,000 affected children.
- A total of 1,324 separated children (SC) and unaccompanied minors (UAM) cases have been identified so far among Ivorian refugees, 117 SC and UAM cases received active case management support this week, 193 foster families have been identified.
- 5 youth groups (13-18 years) have finalized a leadership structure by identifying presidents and vice presidents to conduct the activities, 400 youths from Bahn camp in Nimba and 100 from host communities have been recruited in the Cash for Work activities.
- 80 adolescents and youths are attending three-month life skills training in Nimba on child protection and health related issues.
- UNICEF and ICRC are working on gathering additional data for existing UAM cases to facilitate FTR process.

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- During this meeting, ICRC discussed procedures for). UNHCR partners and UNICEF focal points will use family tracing and reunification (FTR) form developed by ICRC to complete information of SC/UAM cases. ICRC will be setting up a FTR booth in Little Wlebo soon to give information and to assist directly from the camp level.
- A gang rape was reported in Dougee camp. The survivor was taken to the hospital, one perpetrator was arrested, and the three are at large. Further investigation is ongoing.
- Twenty-two survivors were provided with psychosocial support in Grand Gedeh. The cases reported were domestic violence (9), rape (2), sexual exploitation & abuse (1), denial of resources (1), physical assault (1), and other GBV (8).

## HEALTH

### In Grand Gedeh

- A total of 1,305 consultations were conducted during the week. 638 of them were refugees and the remaining 667 from the host communities. 552 of the cases were children under five years of age.
- Children under the age of 5 years accounted for 42.3% of the total consultations made (552 consultations; 257 refugees and 295 Liberians). The leading causes of morbidity in children under 5 years were Malaria 233 cases (42.2%); ARI 144 cases (26.1%); Malnutrition 35 cases (6.3%) and Diarrheal diseases 22 cases (4.0%).

### In Nimba

- Due to high prevalence of malaria cases reported on weekly basis in Nimba, MENTOR and the County Health Team trained 123 registered nurses, 1 physician assistant, 5 certified midwife and 3 dispensers in malaria case management during the week.
- UNICEF and MENTOR entered into a joint project on public health education and awareness on malaria including bed net utilization. The project will be launched next week and will target children under 5 and pregnant women. CHES, CHV's and teachers will be trained to deliver malaria education to communities.
- A total of 1,300 Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) were distributed by MENTOR in refugee's relocation town of Gblah and 256 LLINs distributed at Bahn camp for new arrivals. It also conducted indoor residual spraying in Bahn and Saclepea.
- A total of 844 refugee and Liberian patients, including children under 5 were treated by the two IRC operated mobile clinics. The major cause of morbidity is malaria followed by STI and watery diarrhea.
- IRC conducted a total of 47 antenatal care visits of which 51% of the attendants were refugees, while 49% were from the host communities. IRC conducted an outreach vaccination for 416 children against vaccine preventable diseases and 60 under five children completed their measles and yellow fever vaccination. The mobile clinic recorded a total of 344 pregnant and women of child bearing age were vaccinated against tetanus.

### In Maryland

- MERLIN mobile outreach in hard-to-reach refugee affected areas reported 987 patients were screened and treated this week. 141 of the reported patients screened were refugees. The number of children under 5 screened this week was 333 for both Liberians and refugees.
- Malaria continues to top the causes of morbidity in the county with 256 reported new cases, ARI 164 cases and 39 STI new reported cases.
- MERCI conducted 771 medical consultations during the week. 296 of the patients treated were refugees and 415 from the host communities.
- UNICEF supported a training of trainers conducted by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare for the CHT, Community Health Department Director, Child Survival Focal Persons, and health partners. The training covered RED (Reaching every District) and REP (Reaching every pregnant woman) approach. The course included modules of EPI, ANC, cold chain, polio immunization sessions, micro planning, and childhood priority diseases and data tools. A second training will be conducted for EPI and health facility level staff.

### In River Gee

- The UNICEF cold-chain consultant conducted an assessment of the county's vaccination facilities. An inventory of vaccine storage capacity was carried out and additional equipment needs for the next five years were also assessed.
- UNICEF continues to support counterparts and partners in all emergency-affected counties to ensure the continued delivery of quality primary healthcare services to host and refugee population.

## WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

- UNICEF and its partners are supporting CHTs on water quality monitoring and promotion of household water treatment which has also recently been introduced in camp settings. Further coordination is being done in preparation for the Global Hand Washing Day on 15 October. UNICEF is providing technical and materials support for this global event.

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- In Nimba, UNICEF is supporting the WASH activities of partner NGOs ACF, CIPORD, EQUIP, & MC for implementation in 42 communities. Following the field assessment conducted by CIPORD in the Gborplay and Loguatou axis it will implement WASH improvement activities in 10 communities which will focus on WASH in school and promotion of child-to-child sessions for in-school and out-of-school children.
- In River Gee, UNICEF is supporting NGO (DRC) to conduct WASH activities in 17 communities, including the operation of a water system in Freetown. UNICEF is also coordinating the conduct of WASH working group meetings.
- In Maryland, UNICEF continues supporting four NGOs (APA, ERS, PSI and SI) WASH interventions in 30 communities and 10 targeted schools. APA has so far completed the rehabilitation of WASH facilities in 6 schools. Field monitoring by UNICEF WASH specialist to project implementation sites is on-going to ensure adequate and timely delivery of services. NGO ERS is intensifying hygiene promotion through health talks and children groups for increased uptake of hand washing and use of household level water treatment products. The County Health Team is working with PSI on social marketing of WaterGuard in Harper.

### EDUCATION:

- Over 35,000 Ivorian children are accessing Primary Education and Early Childhood Development (ECD) services supported by UNICEF and partners in Nimba, Grand Gedeh and Maryland Counties. The families are being encouraged send children to school.

#### **Nimba:**

- Over 17,000 children (38% Ivoirians and 62% Liberians) are now in primary school with 147 teachers. The Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) has not been satisfactory enough as average number of children per teacher is currently 115. UNICEF is working with partners to accelerate teacher training activities to secure the needed number of qualified teachers for primary education.
- In addition to Ivorian textbooks, over 50 Ivorian curriculum sets, 125 School-in-a-Box, 53 ECD kits, 5,000 learners' kits, and 66 Recreational Kits have been distributed to communities including border areas.
- In Bahn Camp, 12 newly recruited primary teachers and 6 caregivers started their work in ECD centres and 2 camp schools.
- In Butuo Axis, registration of children especially in border communities has been continuing to ensure that all children have access to education services regardless of their location. Delivery of educational supplies to the most unreached children in the border communities is on-going.
- In Loguatou Axis, more than 1,400 Liberian and Ivorian children participated in series of events of the Back-to-School campaign in 12 communities including relocation and border communities. Theatre-play, songs, dances, and variety of sports activities were organized to give children the opportunity to express themselves, especially those who had witnessed the violence and destruction in their home villages and towns.
- In Gborplay Axis, UNICEF partner in collaboration with local MOE authorities is expanding the Education in Emergencies activities to 5 border communities. Selection of caregivers for ECD centres and teachers for primary education in those 5 border communities is underway.

#### **Grand Gedeh**

- To date, 47 caregivers and 139 Ivorian primary school teachers are now on duty. 60% of them have been trained by UNICEF partners on the pedagogical and management skills such as interactive teaching, child psychology and development, and the leadership of classroom activities.
- Over 11,000 primary aged children (65% Ivorian, 35% Liberian) have access to primary education service with 139 teachers.
- Distribution of Ivorian textbook of all grades is on-going. Additionally, 125 school-in-a-Box, 107 ECD Kits, 6,000 learner's kits, 146 Recreational Kits have been distributed so far in Grand Gedeh.

#### **Maryland**

- More than 150 upper primary aged Ivorian children have been benefitting from the distribution of educational supplies by UNICEF.
- To date, 9 tents (1 for Youth) erected/ 30 School-in-a-Box, 1 Recreational Kit, 4,000 learner's Kits, over 8,000 Ivorian textbooks have been distributed through UNICEF partner.
- Total 63 caregivers and primary teachers are currently on duty at 9 locations including 2 camp schools.
- 7 public schools have been providing learning space for Ivorian children through double shift arrangement.

#### **River Gee**

- One school in Fish-Town has started to accommodate Ivorian children in double shift arrangement. Education supplies have not been distributed yet pending analysis of the outcome of on-going relocation exercise from community shelters to camps.

### FOOD SECURITY:

- Food distribution on 21 September in Dougee camp was interrupted by some refugee youths who were reportedly against bulgur wheat being distributed. The distribution was discontinued and the Liberian National Police was contacted.

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- Since the beginning of September, UNHCR and partners facilitated the distribution of 2,079 MT of WFP-provided assorted food commodities to 125,100 beneficiaries, including 93,226 refugees in Nimba, Grand Gedeh, River Gee and Maryland counties.
- More rains in September led to further deterioration of roads and bridges in refugee hosting counties. This is hampering food distributions and the timely delivery of food commodities to beneficiaries.
- WFP led inter-agency assessment mission is currently underway in Nimba to assess the current status and situation of refugees in border villages. The mission aims to provide a comprehensive report with recommendations based on its assessment.

### NUTRITION:

- A total of 1,110 under five children were screened for acute malnutrition during the week. 28% were refugees and 72% Liberians. 35% were from Grand Gedeh, 34% were from Nimba and 31% from Maryland. 12% of all the children screened had moderate to severe acute malnutrition. The host population were more malnourished than their Ivorian counterparts, with 62% of the malnourished children being Liberians and 38% Ivoirians.
- At the Outpatient Therapeutic Feeding Centres, there were 743 children in-charge at the beginning of the week, 56 were newly admitted, 50 were cured, 31 defaulted, no death, while 718 children are still undergoing treatment.
- At the Inpatient Therapeutic Feeding Centres, there were 13 children in-charge at the beginning of the week, 1 was newly admitted, 4 were cured, 2 defaulted, 1 died, while 7 children are still undergoing treatment.
- Around 923 moderately malnourished children were enrolled for supplementary feeding at the beginning of the week, 101 new admissions, 69 cured, 10 defaulted, no death while 945 are still undergoing treatment.

### LOGISTICS:

- Due to bad road conditions, the convoy movement from New Yourplea to Bahn in Nimba County was suspended as the road was muddy and impassable. The refugees will continue be relocated in the coming days.
- The Bahn-Buutuo 62-km road project which is funded by UNHCR and implemented by the Danish Refugee Council is ongoing. One of the detour bridges constructed to keep the road passable while the project is being implemented by DRC was swept away by flood as a result of a heavy downpour during the reporting week.

### HIV AIDS:

- As part of HIV/AIDS prevention and response, 3,250 pieces of male condoms were distributed during mini awareness; two Persons Living with AIDS (PLWAs) were sent to Saclepea Comprehensive Health Care for replenishment of their drugs, and six persons were sent to MSF-B for various medical reasons including Sexual Transmitted Infections (STI) in Bahn camp.
- In Nimba, Peer educators trained by UNICEF and the Ministry of Youth and Sports have been conducting educational sessions for Ivorian refugees and Liberian hosting communities across the county. 1,769 persons, including 1, 105 young people, at seven communities were provided with HIV/AIDS, life skills and peace building messages.
- In Grand Gedeh, UNICEF and HIV/AIDS partners conducted a rapid assessment of PMTCT services in the county for the period Jan to July 2011. The assessment indicated that 11 out of 18 health facilities are currently providing PMTCT services and the total number of women have been benefiting from the services so far is 2,770. 88 of which tested HIV-positive and 61 HIV+ pregnant women have received ARV.

### SHELTER AND NFI:

- The new area within Little Wlebo camp was allocated by LRRRC for new camp expansion. The site Planner is expected in Harper in the coming days.
- In Dougee camp, final clearing in the last block for the pitching of tents has been completed.
- A total of 3, 679 pieces of soap and 780 plastic cups were distributed by Oxfam to refugees in the Little Wlebo camp

### LOCAL INTEGRATION

- Construction work in the fifth local integration location started Thursday 22 September in Sass Town, Bomi County, of 100 low cost housing units for former Sierra Leonean refugees who have decided to locally integrate in Liberia. The groundbreaking ceremony was witnessed by Liberian government officials, local authorities, UN personnel, implementing partners and beneficiaries. Since the large-scale voluntary repatriation in 2004 a total of 3,500 Sierra Leoneans still remain in Liberia, including 2,100 that have opted for local integration, including naturalization.
- A total of 530 housing units had been funded by the UN refugee agency through the LRRRC and partners at Bensonville (82) and Blamacee (150) in Montserrado County, and Sinje (223) and Tienni (75) in Grand Cape Mount County. Twenty percent of the houses were allocated to host communities in addition to the improvement of existing social facilities and the provision of new ones. Similarly about 8000 Liberian refugees are being locally reintegrated in Sierra Leone.

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- From 20 - 21 September, 211 male refugees residing in Janzon Town headed by their chairman carried out rehabilitation work on the road leading from Zwedru to Janzon in Grand Gedeh. The refugees cleared the mud and stagnant water that was making it difficult for vehicles to pass through and brushed the sides of the road as well. The refugees said they undertook the task in order for trucks to have access to Janzon Axis for them to be relocated to camp.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES:

- CHESSE distributed sanitary kits to girls and women between the ages of 12-49 at the Bahn and Saclapea camps. Around 500 women and girls from both camps participated in an awareness raising session on how to use the kits.
- UNHCR Sub Office Saclapea has commenced distribution of used clothes to persons with specific needs in relocation communities; 75 women, 22 girls, 18 boys and six men with specific needs have so far benefited from the distribution in Loguatu Axis. The distribution package include: assorted clothes and foot wear.

### 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 in Monrovia	Weekly			Sector leads

**For submission of weekly inputs to sitrep contact the following 1 & 2 and for other issues 3-7.:**

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