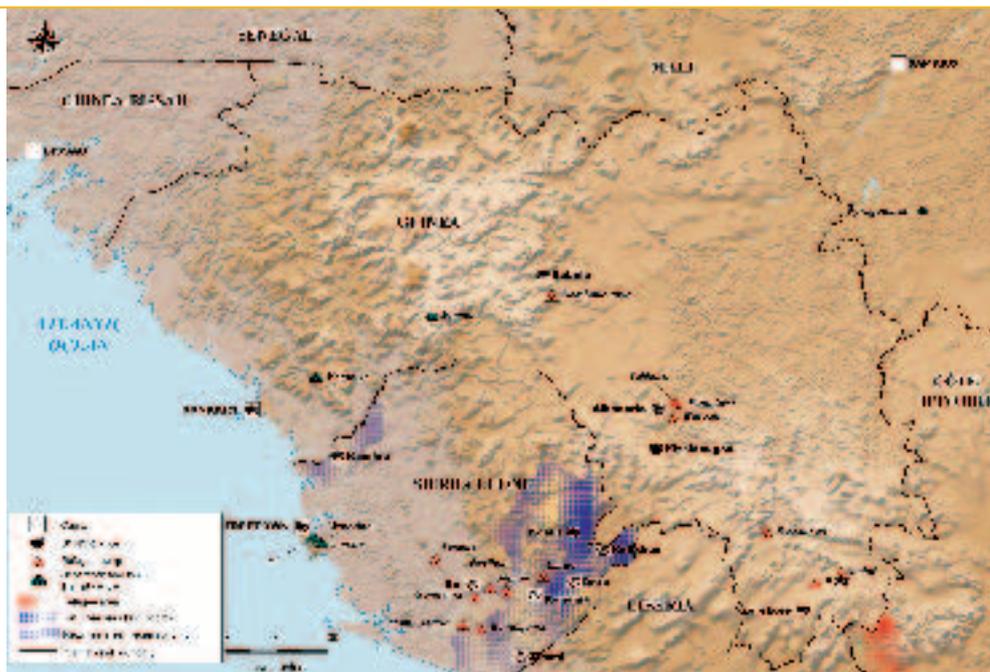


Guinea

Main objectives

Provide international protection and assistance to all refugees living in Guinea; continue to combat sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV); adapt existing strategies and programmes to respond effectively to the continuing influx of Liberian refugees; facilitate the voluntary repatriation of 38,000 Sierra Leonean refugees; explore long-term solutions to the problems of some 1,500 refugees through resettlement to a third country.



Impact

- A total of 182,034 refugees benefited from UNHCR's protection and assistance activities in Guinea. Basic assistance (food, shelter, water, sanitation, medical care, education, SGBV activities and other social services) was provided to 96,144 refugees in various camps and transit centres.
- A total of 46,658 refugees were registered in various camps and transit centres. Temporary ration cards were issued to all families.
- Nearly 31,000 new arrivals (28,834 Liberians and 2,115 Ivorians) were transferred from the

Persons of Concern				
Main Origin / Type of Population	Total In Country	Of whom UNHCR assisted	Per cent Female	Per cent under 18
Liberia (Refugees)	119,300	55,600	50	57
Sierra Leone (Refugees)	60,600	40,600	51	51
Côte d'Ivoire (Refugees)	2,190	2,190	41	56
Asylum-seekers	370	370	52	-

Income and Expenditure (USD) Annual Programme and Supplementary Programme Budgets					
	Revised Budget	Income from Contributions ¹	Other Funds Available ²	Total Funds Available	Total Expenditure
AB	23,884,621	9,775,587	13,833,528	23,609,115	23,568,224
SB	4,196,175	571,420	2,848,801	3,420,221	3,418,580
Total	28,080,796	10,347,007	16,682,329	27,029,336	26,986,804

¹ Includes income from contributions restricted at the country level.

² Includes allocations by UNHCR from unearmarked or broadly earmarked contributions, opening balance and adjustments. The above figures do not include costs at Headquarters.

entry points to established camps, and 20,918 Sierra Leonean refugees were assisted to return home. Of 239 resettlement applications (representing 782 persons), 99 cases comprising 311 persons were resettled to Australia, Norway and the USA. 126 cases comprising 391 persons were submitted and by the end of the year were at an advanced stage of processing.

Working environment

The context

During the early months of 2002, fighting between the rebel and government forces in Liberia spread towards the Guinean border, forcing thousands of refugees to seek safety in Guinea. By the end of the year, in the Nzérékoré region there were four settlements hosting 1,346 refugees from Côte d'Ivoire, 47,256 from Liberia and 312 from Sierra Leone. In the aftermath of the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, an estimated 3,500 Ivorian and Liberian refugees also fled to Guinea, and were accorded *prima facie* recognition by the authorities. All Liberian refugees fleeing Côte d'Ivoire were moved to the Lainé camp while Ivorian refugees were transferred to the transit camp at Nonah.

Favourable security conditions in Sierra Leone allowed UNHCR to conduct repatriation operations to that country. Information campaigns about prevailing security conditions in Sierra Leone were organised throughout the refugee camps, enabling the refugees to make an informed decision about returning home.

Constraints

Initially, authorities were reluctant to authorise UNHCR to build new sites or expand existing ones for new arrivals. The presence of armed elements in Kouankan camp made it difficult for UNHCR to maintain the civilian and humanitarian character of the camp. A few national roads were in reasonably good condition, but the access roads to refugee camps were generally very poor. Key roads to camps need regular rehabilitation and maintenance due to the impact on the surface created by heavy vehicles transporting refugees and material assistance. During the rainy season, many roads effectively

disappear, including several access roads to border points used by refugees.

Achievements and impact

Protection and solutions

Liberian, Sierra Leonean, and Ivorian refugees were granted refugee status on a *prima facie* basis. UNHCR's strategy was to relocate refugees from unsafe areas to camps. 57,000 refugees were relocated to the Albadariah refugee camps, and 6,000 to the Kola camp. UNHCR negotiated with the Guinean authorities to relocate refugees from Kouankan camp following reports of infiltration of armed elements and forced recruitment. To address camp security needs, a so-called *brigade mixte* was established, composed of police and *gendarmes*. Human rights training workshops were conducted throughout 2002 for all camp security officials.

A new camp was constructed in Lainé (Nzérékoré) for Liberian refugees, while a transit centre in Nonah (Nzérékoré) was reopened to house Ivorian refugees. UNHCR completed the registration of Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees in the camps. Following Government approval in November, UNHCR began to issue refugee identity cards in Sembakounya camp (Dabola). 21,004 Sierra Leonean refugees were assisted to return to their country through the facilitated voluntary repatriation operation. A further 22,500 Sierra Leonean refugees are estimated to have repatriated spontaneously without UNHCR's assistance.

UNHCR adopted a plan of action to respond to and prevent sexual abuse and exploitation of refugee women and children. Efforts to strengthen the existing SGBV programme put emphasis on improving the overall awareness of refugees and humanitarian workers, strengthening referral mechanisms, meeting the needs of survivors, and endeavouring to arrest and prosecute perpetrators.

A total of 4,500 urban refugees residing in Conakry were given access to individual refugee status determination procedures. The National Eligibility Committee held 66 sessions (with UNHCR acting as observer and advisor). The Committee officially recognised the refugee status of 2,029 applicants

for asylum. At the year's end, 367 individuals were awaiting a decision on their cases. Local integration of refugees in Guinea remained difficult, due to the overall security situation, and resettlement was actively pursued as a durable solution. Liberian refugees in particular were accorded high priority for resettlement. 99 out of 311 candidates were resettled.

Activities and assistance

Community services: In the various camps, women participated in the daily activities of the community at every level. Women represented 50 per cent of the refugee committees and were involved in distribution of food and non-food items. Through camp committees, participation of all members of the community, including the most vulnerable was ensured. A group of elders (men and women) was established in each camp to assist in conflict resolution within the camps and with the local population.

Crop production: More than 2,000 hectares of land were cultivated with rice, maize, groundnuts and cassava; and 56 hectares of swamp rice fields were developed. In Kissidougou 1,470 beneficiaries received per person 25 kg of rice, 5 kg of maize and 5 kg of groundnuts as seeds for sowing. Some 125 hectares of marshland was converted into agricultural land.

Domestic needs/household support: The following items were distributed to refugees in camps: some 9,000 tarpaulins, 300 rolls of plastic, 77,000 blankets, 6,000 items of second-hand clothing, 10,700 kitchen utensils, 1,000 pots, 68,000 mats, 68,000 ten-litre water containers, 8,200 buckets, 1,700 lamps, 21,000 sets of eating utensils, and 1,700 mosquito nets. 13,500 hygienic kits were distributed to women and girls aged 12 and over.

Education: Within the framework of the SGBV programme, 470 women were recruited as school assistants who would at the same time serve as role models to schoolgirls. In Nzérékoré camps some 12,500 refugee children (25 per cent of the camp population) attended primary and secondary education (42 per cent of them girls). In addition to basic education offered to refugee children, adult refugees had the opportunity to acquire formal basic education, vocational training and adult literacy financed by international NGOs. In Albadariah and Dabola

camps, the education programme for refugee children continued with a total enrolment in 2002 of over 15,600 (more than 47 per cent girls). Of that number, some 14,700 regularly attended classes throughout the year.

Food: WFP distributed regular monthly food rations (equivalent to 2,100 kilocalories per day) to 96,870 refugees in the eight camps. Foodstuffs were also distributed in the camps during repatriation operations (to almost 21,000 refugees) and when new refugees were received in the camps (more than 4,800 refugees). The majority of the refugee population remained healthy; malnutrition and death rates fell, and there was no food-related conflict.

Forestry: The main goal in this sector was the protection and the rehabilitation of the environment through a number of activities: the marking of 380 hectares of trees, and the planting of a total of 46,000 nursery plants and 8,400 fruit trees. A total of 35 hectares fruit trees planted during 2000-2001 were pruned for protection from bush fires. The production and distribution of over 9,000 improved cooking stoves helped to reduce the quantity of firewood consumed. 102 hectares of wild forest and 43 hectares of fruit plantations established in previous years by UNHCR were formally handed over to the local authorities.

Health/nutrition: The overall mortality rate was less than one death per thousand persons per month. Health care offered in the camps consisted primarily of basic curative and preventive care, reproductive health care, nutrition, and health promotion. A programme for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases was put in place.

Income Generation: In Nzérékoré, over 1,100 families received interest-free loans to enable them to develop income-generating activities. The results were highly encouraging, and by the end of December, 49 per cent of these had been paid back in full. 73 new micro-projects were financed in Sembakounya camp. Of the 173 beneficiaries of these projects in Dabola, more than 55 per cent were women. In 2002, UNHCR promoted various income-generating activities in Conakry in the context of the integration of urban refugees (Liberians, Sierra Leoneans and others). In place of the monthly financial assistance formerly disbursed by UNHCR, 45

heads of families (more than half of them women) representing over 250 refugees, were enabled to benefit from micro-projects.

Legal assistance: UNHCR issued travel documentation to those refugees wishing to travel within the country for reasons such as medical treatment, family reunification, and transfer to camps. Pending the issuance of identity cards, refugees in Kissidougou and Nzérékoré regions continued to use their ration cards as a means of identification. UNHCR conducted regular visits to refugees detained in prisons and other detention centres and often succeeded in obtaining their release. The SGBV action plan sought to ensure access to legal counsel for all survivors of sexual violence amongst the refugee population (in the camps and elsewhere). The action plan also called for a special session of the Kankan Court to be held in Kissidougou to reduce the amount of time required for cases to be adjudicated. The Appeals court is in Kankan, a town which is located in Kissidougou region.

Operational support (to agencies): Implementing partners were provided with the necessary resources and equipment and were well established in the two sub-offices. Partners in the field had headquarters in Conakry. Material assistance was given to government counterparts but further capacity building was needed.

Sanitation: In Nzérékoré, over 1,000 emergency communal latrines were constructed. In addition, some 500 family latrines and 2,000 latrines for vulnerable groups were built. 2,000 latrine slabs were manufactured for individual families. Several factors, including the long rainy season (May to October) impeded the digging of latrine pits. Over 100 dumping pits were dug and 7,350 waste bins distributed to heads of families for domestic waste collection. Communal clean-up campaigns were organised once a week (in addition to families cleaning their surroundings).

Shelter/other infrastructure: In the Nzérékoré area, almost 31,000 new arrivals were sheltered in some 500 large communal structures and 380 temporary family shelters, while 719 permanent family shelters were built for 719 vulnerable groups, and 932 families built their own shelters. Under the voluntary repatriation plan, four departure centres were con-

structed in Kissidougou region with a capacity of 500 persons each (in Kountaya, Telikoro, Boreah and Sembakounya). A reception centre for new Liberian refugees was set up at Tekoulo with a capacity of 500 persons. 230 shelters were constructed for vulnerable families in Albadariah, while over 1,100 shelters were rehabilitated. In Dabola, 109 shelters were rehabilitated while 53 shelters were constructed for vulnerable families.

Transport/logistics: UNHCR vehicles enabled the timely transportation of refugees, construction materials and relief items to new sites. Additional trucks and light vehicles were hired at considerable cost on the local market, but due to the extremely poor road conditions, delays were incurred. 20,918 people were transported from various camps and transit centres to Sierra Leone. Rehabilitation works were carried out on some 85 km of road in various parts of the country.

Water: In Nzérékoré, 24 wells were drilled, including one in Kouankan village for the local population. Furthermore, four deep wells were rehabilitated, 14 new improved traditional wells were built, of which three were financed by UNICEF. Out of the 29 existing traditional wells in 2001, 10 were rehabilitated at Nonah transit camp. Five pumping stations were linked to reservoirs. An average of 19 litres of water was made available to each refugee per day. In Albadariah area, each refugee was given 20 to 25 litres of water daily. The quality and quantity of this water is satisfactory and no water-borne diseases were recorded.

Organisation and implementation

Management

A total of 230 staff served UNHCR in the Guinea operation in 2002. There were 49 international and 181 national staff.

Working with others

20 international NGOs and four national NGOs assisted UNHCR in the planning and implementation of its activities. UNHCR also collaborated with four governmental bodies, five UN agencies and IOM.

Overall assessment

Overall efficiency suffered both from lack of continuity in staffing and the limited presence of sufficiently experienced implementing partners. Nevertheless, there was a notable reduction in malnutrition and death rates, and an absence of food-related conflict thanks to the regular supply of foodstuffs. Adequate water distribution systems reduced the incidence of conflict among refugees and the local population and contributed to the maintenance of good hygiene in all the camps and the surrounding environment. With the creation of numerous associations, refugees became increasingly involved in the management and organisation of the camps. The adoption of a code of conduct also contributed to respect for recognised standards. Community services support strengthened the morale of refugees, helped them cope with war-related trauma, gave them the opportunity to rebuild their family lives, and reduced juvenile delinquency. Increased numbers of refugees showed an interest in participating in environmental protection. Income-generating activities enabled beneficiaries to cover needs left unmet by UNHCR and other agencies. It is believed that these activities helped to stabilise the refugee population in the camps (i.e. reduce the volume of migration in and out) and may have contributed to reducing the risk of prostitution, theft and drug abuse.

Refugees from Sierra Leone and Liberia. Registration of separated children in Katkama camp. *UNHCR / L. Taylor*



Offices
Conakry
Dabola
Kissidougou
Nzérékoré

Partners
Government Agencies
<i>Bureau national de co-ordination des réfugiés</i>
<i>Bureau technique du génie rural</i>
<i>Projet recensement</i>
<i>Radio rurale</i>
NGOs
Action by Churches Together
<i>Action Contre la Faim</i>
American Refugee Committee
ASPIR
<i>Association pour le développement de la riziculture intensive et du palmier</i>
<i>Centre canadien d'études et de la coopération internationale</i>
Concern Universal
<i>Enfants réfugiés du monde</i>
Handicap International
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
International Rescue Committee
Jesuit Relief Services
<i>Médecins du Monde</i>
Médecins Sans Frontières (Belgium, France, Switzerland)
Olympic Aid
<i>Organisation catholique pour la promotion humaine</i>
<i>Organisation pour le développement intégré et communautaire</i>
<i>Première Urgence</i>
Save the Children Federation (US)
Search for Common Ground/Talking Drum Studio
Others
<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit</i>
FAO
IOM
OCHA
UNICEF
WFP
WHO

Financial Report (USD)						
Expenditure Breakdown	Current Year's Projects			Prior Years' Projects		
	Annual Programme Budget	Supplementary Programme Budget	Total	Notes	Annual Programme and Supplementary Programme Budgets	Notes
Protection, Monitoring and Co-ordination	6,189,277	135,033	6,324,311		19,438	
Community Services	542,729	21,166	563,895		241,443	
Crop Production	101,923	0	101,923		53,975	
Domestic Needs/Household Support	140,308	185,614	325,922		131	
Education	832,468	6,639	839,107		94,648	
Food	61,635	8,833	70,467		56,596	
Forestry	109,776	0	109,776		25,174	
Health/Nutrition	445,664	123,241	568,905		200,941	
Income Generation	188,981	0	188,981		96,510	
Legal Assistance	580,449	42,354	622,803		785,615	
Operational Support (to Agencies)	2,409,175	125,874	2,535,049		836,534	
Sanitation	92,218	94,818	187,036		136,191	
Shelter/Other Infrastructure	444,369	464,077	908,446		379,452	
Transport/Logistics	4,237,068	416,645	4,653,713		2,454,812	
Water	110,208	7,534	117,742		234,269	
Transit Accounts	3,175	0	3,175		(33,013)	
Instalments with Implementing Partners	2,772,764	835,219	3,607,983		(2,500,720)	
Sub-total Operational	19,262,185	2,467,047	21,729,232		3,081,997	
Programme Support	3,136,989	0	3,136,989		78,543	
Sub-total Disbursements / Deliveries	22,399,174	2,467,047	24,866,221	(3)	3,160,540	(5)
Unliquidated Obligations	1,169,050	951,533	2,120,583	(3)	0	(5)
Total	23,568,224	3,418,580	26,986,804	(1) (3)	3,160,540	
Instalments with Implementing Partners						
Payments Made	10,241,289	1,489,114	11,730,403		1,482,936	
Reporting Received	7,468,525	653,895	8,122,420		3,983,656	
Balance	2,772,764	835,219	3,607,983		(2,500,720)	
Outstanding 1st January	0	0	0		3,553,264	
Refunded to UNHCR	0	0	0		989,224	
Currency Adjustment	0	0	0		(21,865)	
Outstanding 31 December	2,772,764	835,219	3,607,983		41,455	
Unliquidated Obligations						
Outstanding 1st January	0	0	0		3,670,765	(5)
New Obligations	23,568,224	3,418,580	26,986,804	(1)	0	
Disbursements	22,399,174	2,467,047	24,866,221	(3)	3,160,540	(5)
Cancellations	0	0	0			(5)
Outstanding 31 December	1,169,050	951,533	2,120,583	(3)	510,225	(5)
Figures which cross-reference to Accounts:						
(1) Annex to Statement 1						
(3) Schedule 3						
(5) Schedule 5						