



HIGHLIGHTS

2nd year anniversary of Abidjan Declaration marked with awareness-raising activities including a Media Forum on Statelessness for journalists and student volunteer clubs from three Universities

Children from KG to Class 6 receive a hot meal per day as Government School Feeding Programme commences in Fetentaa Camp

UNHCR hands over of registration and asylum case management system to the Ghana Refugee Board as part of efforts at empowering government to take over registration of PoC

UNHCR participates in meeting with consular sections of Pacific Alliance member to provide an overview of the work of UNHCR in Ghana

Population of concern

A total of **13,236** people of concern

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Côte d'Ivoire	6,957
Togo	3,386
Others	2,893
Total	13,236

Funding

USD 8,878,867 requested

0% funded

UNHCR Presence

Staffing:

36 national staff; 03 UNOPS
03 international staff; 01 IUNV

Offices:

01 Country Office in Accra, 02 Field Offices located in Takoradi and Sunyani

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works with the Government of Ghana through the Ministry of the Interior, the Ghana Refugee Board (GRB), the Ghana Immigration Services (GIS), and other relevant government departments and ministries in ensuring asylum seekers and refugees have full access to international protection and basic services. UNHCR cooperates with other State agencies such as the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Legal Aid Services, Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice, the Births and Deaths Registry in the provision of services to refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR Ghana works with partners including the Christian Council of Ghana (CCG), the National Catholic Secretariat (NCS), and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Operational support is provided by UNFPA, IOM and UNAIDS.



MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection & Solutions

- Handover of ProGres V4 to Government of Ghana:** A UNHCR support team based in Copenhagen were in Ghana from 18 January to 3 February 2017 to complete the handover of proGres in Partnership (proGres v4), a web-based registration and asylum case management system to the Ghana Refugee Board. During their time here, the team completed the migration of data from the old version proGres v3 to the current version v4, and providing training to staff. Modules covered included Registration, Refugee Status Determination, Resettlement and Voluntary Repatriation. With the handover completed, the GRB has been empowered to take over the registration of PoC and the responsibility to issue all individual documentation to asylum-seekers and refugees in Ghana.
- Ongoing dialogue with Ivorian Refugees on intentions for solutions:** As part of ongoing dialogue with refugees on their intentions for solutions, the Representative met with refugees in the Egyekrom Refugee Camp to communicate to them the operation's durable solutions strategy for the year, with specific emphasis on Voluntary Repatriation for Ivorian refugees who feel that the conditions in their country was favorable for return. The details of the return package as well as re-integration activities were shared with the gathering. Similar meetings will be conducted in all other locations hosting Ivorian Refugees to ensure that a consistent message is sent to PoC.

Programme

- Country Operational Planning Workshop (COP):** UNHCR Ghana held its 2018/2019 Country Operation Planning Session from 9 to 16 February, 2017. The purpose of the planning session was to convene relevant stakeholders to brainstorm and devise a credible and implementable program for 2018/2019, taking into account the priorities of the PoC. With a multi-year and multi partner protection and solutions strategy as the vision, the program seeks to respond to the critical identified gaps in the refugee program, which UNHCR has the responsibility and capacity to address.

Education

- Government School Feeding Commences in Fetentaa Camp:** The Fetentaa Camp School has been successfully integrated into the Ghana National School Feeding Program (GNSFP) with children from kindergarten to class six (6) receiving one meal per day. This replaces the privately sponsored school feeding program which was previously run by the Catholic Diocese of Sunyani since 2015. UNHCR continues to advocate for the GNSFP to be rolled out in the other refugee camp schools, as promised by the Government.

Public Information

- Ghana celebrates 2nd year anniversary of Abidjan Declaration:** UNHCR Ghana organized a number of awareness-raising activities to mark the 2nd year anniversary of the Abidjan Declaration marked on 25, February 2017. These included a media forum for journalists, and *Friends of UNHCR* student volunteers from three major universities in Ghana. Participants were educated on the prevention and causes of statelessness, as well as Ghana's achievements in the fight against statelessness. UNHCR granted interviews on some national radio stations and appeared on BBCs Focus on Africa show. Other media engagements include the screening of a short film clip on statelessness on television, as well as the publication of a UNHCR authored opinion editorial on how the issuance of national identity documentation can assist in the prevention of statelessness. Other planned activities include a debate on statelessness, spoken word events and media appearances by the Friends of UNHCR on their various campuses.

Meeting with Embassy Officials of Pacific Alliance Member States in Ghana: UNHCR was invited to participate in the *IX Meeting of the Coordination Mechanisms for the Consular Sections of the Member countries of the Pacific Alliance* in order to explain to participants the work of UNHCR in Ghana as well as matters affecting the population of concern in Ghana. Participants showed a lot of interest in UNHCR and refugee issues in Ghana, and as a direct outcome, requested to visit a refugee camp in Ghana.

Identified needs and remaining gaps

- Limited support for socio-economically poor refugee households, including those in Ivorian camps affected by the cessation of food rations since Sept-2015, for ensuring access to social safety nets and meeting certain basic needs.
- Challenges to secure sustainable livelihoods due to lack of employment, business opportunities, start-up capital, and difficulties for PoC to access markets and financial services at a level similar to nationals.
- Low quality of shelter in the Ivorian camps (over 50% of refugees still reside in emergency plastic sheet tents since 2011).

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked funding to UNHCR worldwide as well as donors who have contributed directly to UNHCR's programmes in West Africa in 2017:

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