This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by the OCHA Regional Office for West and Central Africa. It covers the period from 9 – 15 April. The next report will be issued on or around 22 April.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Former President Laurent Gbagbo arrested on 11 April
- Extensive humanitarian needs in Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia: US$ 300 million needed for response
- WFP and partners provide life-saving food assistance to tens of thousands of internally displaced people in Côte d’Ivoire and Ivorian refugees in Liberia
- UNDAC team deployed to Côte d’Ivoire to strengthen humanitarian coordination and information management processes
- Schools reopen in central, northern and western regions

II. Situation Overview

Former president Laurent Gbagbo was captured by President Alassane Ouattara’s Republican Forces on 11 April, but the situation in Abidjan remains volatile.

According the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, at least 900 deaths have been confirmed in Abidjan and western Côte d’Ivoire as a result of the conflict, including retaliatory attacks. A Commission of Inquiry appointed by OHCHR will investigate the allegations of serious abuses and violations of human rights committed in Côte d’Ivoire.

Humanitarian needs across the country are extensive. The response is ongoing in Côte d’Ivoire and neighboring countries, particularly Liberia which hosts the majority of Ivorian refugees. It is estimated that 800,000 people have been internally displaced inside Côte d’Ivoire, and over 160,000 others have fled to neighboring countries.

A UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team arrived in Côte d’Ivoire on 12 April to strengthen humanitarian assessment, operations and coordination for the ongoing relief effort.

In Abidjan, for the first time in weeks, UNICEF has been able to deliver supplies including medicine, nutritional supplements, soap and blankets. However, the provision of humanitarian assistance in the city remains difficult due to the continuing insecurity and violence which are impeding humanitarian access. Entire neighborhoods have been without electricity and water for weeks, raising concerns that cholera, which is already present in Côte d’Ivoire, could spread further. Many hospitals and health facilities have been unable to operate properly, and those that have stayed open do not have enough doctors, medicines, and other basic equipment to meet all their needs.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is warning about food insecurity in the country, particularly in Abidjan, as food is difficult to find in the markets and prices have risen sharply. FAO has also identified urgent agricultural needs in western Côte d’Ivoire, and is warning that the sanctions and the economic downturn continue to affect the entire population. Of particular concern are the vulnerable households already affected by poverty and food insecurity, particularly in the west and north of the country and in the shantytowns in the larger cities.

On 13 April, the revised emergency action plans for humanitarian response in Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia+4 were launched in Geneva. The two revised documents reflect the increased needs for IDPs, refugees and host families, calling for $146.5 million for Liberia and $160 million for Côte d’Ivoire and its other 4 neighbouring countries. "We need to act now," Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos told the Security
Council on 13 April as she called on nations to donate more money for humanitarian assistance to Côte d'Ivoire. "We must not let the people of Côte d'Ivoire down."

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

CÔTE D’IVOIRE

PROTECTION

Around 200,000 people are now estimated to be displaced in western Côte d’Ivoire after more than four months of post-election unrest. Although the violence appears to have abated, ethnic tensions are high and many people remain in hiding in the bush. Over 27,000 people are currently taking shelter at the overcrowded Catholic mission in the western town of Duekoué, with another 1,000 at the town’s Protestant Mission. IDPs are facing high levels of insecurity. Traumatized displaced populations report having significant fear of ethnic based violence due to threats from youths and other militias. IDP sites need to be secured from potential ethnic violence.

The UNHCR team visited the department of Zouhan-Hounien and one of its sub-prefectures, Bin Houye, near the border with Liberia; they met more than 1,000 displaced people mainly originating from Guiglo, Bistrokou and Toulepleou. Some were staying on the premises of a Catholic church and the Ivorian Red Cross in Zouhan-Hounien; others were found in a youth centre in Bin-Houye. All three IDP sites lack clean water, latrines and electricity. UNHCR is working to increase its presence in western Côte d’Ivoire to effectively respond to these needs. So far, UNHCR has been concentrating on aid distribution, as well as registering and profiling the IDPs in Duékoué to identify their needs and intentions to return.

UNICEF is supporting children who need special care after witnessing violence and possibly seeing family members killed or injured.

HEALTH

On 12 April, UNICEF provided supplies including medicine in Abidjan, where there are critical shortages of essential medicines. UNICEF has warned that there is a high risk of measles and cholera outbreaks due to a lack of safe drinking water; the organization is planning to resume emergency immunizations campaigns to prevent outbreaks, especially amongst children.

In western Côte d’Ivoire, a WHO cargo with 5.5 tons of medical supplies arrived in Bouaké on April 13 from Burkina Faso. The material will be distributed to various locations in the West according to needs. In Duékoué, MSF France has been providing general care at the Catholic Mission.

A WHO team of public health experts conducted an evaluation visit in western Côte d’Ivoire from 10 to 14 April. The objective of the mission was to identify key interventions to improve access to health services and to install early warning system for disease surveillance in the western regions of Moyen Cavally and Montagnes. The WHO team visited key health structures and met partners, and will consolidate its findings and present recommendations to partners and the donor community.

Since February, WHO has provided more than 5 tons of trauma, anti-malaria and basic medical supplies to 15 health facilities in the western regions, including four district pharmacies.

FOOD

WFP has distributed 85mt of food to 27,500 displaced people in Duékoué. General food distributions are scheduled for around 30,000 displaced people in the Danané area. In the northern regions including Bouna, Tiébissou, Bouaké and Korhogo, WFP is distributing one-month food rations to 20,000 displaced people.

FOOD SECURITY

FAO Côte d’Ivoire is preparing the distribution of cereal and vegetable production kits to 9,000 households in areas affected by the crisis. The production kits consist of cereal seeds (upland or lowland rice or maize),

$160 million needed for humanitarian response in Côte d’Ivoire + 4. Funding Coverage: 18%
cowpea, okra seeds, tools and basic fertilizers. Basic training sessions will also be provided. It is expected that the intervention will allow beneficiaries to adequately respond to their own as well as IDP food needs after the next harvest. The project is funded by Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP/4,000 households) and the UN’s Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF/5,000 households). The identification of beneficiaries, partners and preparation of procurement began in March, and transport operations and distribution are planned for April-May 2011.

Due to security constraints during the week of 4-9 April, FAO’s experts were temporarily relocated in the field, in Man and in Korhogo where FAO’s emergency operations sub-Offices restarted their activities. Since most humanitarian actors have been evacuated from Abidjan, the emergency agricultural activities in the west are being operationally coordinated through the Food Security Cluster, with the participation of international and national NGOs and UN agencies.

EDUCATION
Schools in central, northern and western regions of Côte d’Ivoire re-opened this week, but many of them still lack adequate classrooms and basic supplies. Some of the schools had been closed for up to six months due to post electoral violence.

LIBERIA

PROTECTION
As of 15 April, UNHCR reported over 150,000 refugees in Liberia since the post-election crisis started in late December. From 6 to 8 April 2011, an estimated 9,500 Ivorian refugees crossed into Maryland County. This figure includes a total of 6,201 Ivorian refugees currently housed at a transit centre.

In Nimba County, the Red Cross Movement restored contacts between refugees and their family members in Ivory Coast through 251 free phone calls, and collected 24 Red Cross messages in 22 communities. Four ‘Safe and Well’ messages were either distributed in various host communities and refugee campsites or communicated by phone. 19 unaccompanied or separated children were newly registered, and 46 cases followed up. 56 newly identified potential unaccompanied or separated children were met, with their registration pending further verification.

The Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) and UNHCR continue to raise awareness amongst refugees in Harper on adherence to Liberian laws. The Government of Liberia has deployed additional police and immigration officers, including Emergency Response Unit personnel, while UNMIL personnel have also been deployed to boost security in Maryland and other border areas. UNMIL is also providing protection to the prison in Harper, where armed elements who crossed over to Liberia are being held.

FOOD
A total 2,460 MT of food remains available to WFP, but stocks of cereals are needed urgently to meet the growing needs. WFP began transporting 50 MT of food to Harper (Maryland) to ensure assistance to the growing influx to that County. Given that food stocks are limited, food will be distributed in prioritized sites where the ratio of refugees to host population is the highest.

Food distribution was completed at the Beo-Yoolar food distribution point. 2,691 refugees were served out of the 4,064 initially planned. NRC is following up on the lower turn-up, with the distribution moving to Tartuo on 10 April. Provision of food for distribution however remains slow due to the broken bridge in Zorgowee. UNMIL is rebuilding the bridge and awaiting spare parts from Monrovia. General food distribution also took place in Bahn Camp for 2,768 individuals.

FOOD SECURITY
In response to the serious levels of food insecurity in Liberian host communities, who have been supporting the food needs of Ivorian refugees since December 2010, FAO is preparing to distribute rice production kits to 2,600 households to support the upcoming planting season in May 2011. The CERF-funded project will...
benefit around 13,500 individuals. It is expected that the intervention will support rice production on more than 2,000 hectares, potentially producing almost 3,000 metric tons of rice. Beneficiaries will also receive basic training in improved production and pest management practices.

FAO is also helping to reinforce food security coordination with the arrival of two International Experts. In close collaboration with WFP, UNICEF and the Ministry of Agriculture, FAO will strengthen the food security sector coordination mechanism and ensure increased leadership and accountability in the provision of humanitarian response to the affected population.

**NUTRITION**

In Nimba County, 293 children were screened for acute malnutrition and 98 were admitted for treatment. To increase the coverage of treatment, Equip is training 100 general community health volunteers (gCHVs) on active community screening and referral of severely malnourished children. IRC will also train health-workers on the conduct of mobile clinics in the northern region. Hospital health workers in Zwedru, Grand Gedeh were also trained to carry out outpatient and inpatient treatment for severe acute malnutrition, and to deliver therapeutic supplies. Gbarzon and Konobo health centres have also provided training on outpatient treatment. UNICEF supplied 200 cartons of PlumpyNuts, therapeutic spreads, Vitamin A capsules and blankets.

**WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE**

UNICEF continues to support 38 communities in Nimba, and 13 in Grand Gedeh County, including 9 of the 15 designated host communities in Nimba County. Activities include the development and improvement of water sources, sanitation arrangements, hygiene promotion, and distribution of WASH supplies (NFIs).

1,160 refugees families in Toe Town district received WASH supplies (NFIs). Water trucking for refugees in the transit centre of Harper in Maryland County has commenced. Four blocks of latrines with 6 drop holes each, as well as 4 blocks of showers were completed in Zorgowee. Two hygiene promoters are currently working on site, while a waste collection system has also been set-up.

**HEALTH**

A total of 910,768 children under 5 years were vaccinated during the first round of the National Immunization Days (NIDs) for polio. This included 15,666 Ivorian refugee children. The second round will commence on 29 April. WHO and UNHCR donated two interagency health kits (each for 10,000 for 3 months) to the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW) to be used by the NGO Merlin to assist refugees and host communities in Maryland. UNICEF has also donated assorted drugs to be used by the County Health Team, midwife kits for refugees in Maryland County, and is working with the MoHSW to ensure adequate vaccines are available. UNFPA provided medical supplies including technical assistance to the County Health Team and partners to prevent sexual and gender based violence, reduce transmission of HIV as well as maternal and newborn deaths.

**GHANA**

As of 12 April, 9,716 Refugees had been registered in Ghana. A campsite in the town of Berekum has been activated in the Brong Ahafo Region to accommodate persons fleeing conflict in CDI identified in ten communities in the region. A UNHCR team in the area is working to register and relocate those in need of assistance to the new camp facility. Currently, 443 persons have been transferred to the Camp (Kassap in Berekum), mainly from Sampa, a border-crossing town the northern part of the region.

With recent developments including the arrest of Laurent Gbagbo, UNHCR maintains heightened vigilance at the borders, particularly in Brong Ahafo Region where refugee populations are predominately pro-Gbagbo and where ex-combatant movements have been recorded.

**GUINEA**

The total number of Ivorian refugees registered is 1,662. The capacity of Kouankan II camp was increased by 34 temporary community tents. 58 sanitary blocks have been finalized and 12 new community kitchens have so far been completed. UNHCR’s medical coordination went on joint mission with UNFPA to evaluate the health situation and assess the medical assistance available to refugees and returnees at the Sinko site.
TOGO
Over 600 refugees are registered in Togo. They are hosted in the Tropicana site camp where 20 sanitary blocks have been installed. Food is distributed daily to the refugees.

IV. Coordination

GHANA
UNHCR continues to host coordination meetings every Monday with UN agencies in Ghana, as well as Protection coordination meetings on Tuesdays. The venues are used to provide briefings on the situation and strengthen inter-agency coordination in the field.

V. Funding

• The revised Emergency Humanitarian Action Plans for Liberia and Côte d’Ivoire+4 were launched on 13 April. Over $300 million is requested to address humanitarian needs: $146.5 million for Liberia and $160 million for Côte d’Ivoire and its other 4 neighbouring countries.
• FAO is appealing for urgent contributions in order to support the food production and income generation needs of refugees and host communities: $8.56 million are still required for its emergency operations in Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia and at the regional level ($1.2 million for Côte d’Ivoire, $5.3 million for Liberia and $2 million at regional level, including neighboring countries).
• UNICEF is seeking $6 million in order to provide education material, teacher training, incentives for volunteer teachers and community mobilization to support a “back to school” campaign that will target 1.2 million school children.

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA’s Financial Tracking Service (FTS - http://fts.unocha.org) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: fts@un.org.

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