

UNICEF Côte D'Ivoire (CDI) - Situation Report # 3

Reporting period: 10 - 17 January 2011

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IDP Camp in Duekoue, CDI. Credit: UNICEF/Cdi/2011/Slavin

Key highlights

- The security situation remains volatile mainly in Abidjan and the affected Western Region. UNICEF CO has re-deployed CO international staff to Man and this week to Bouake in addition to Liberia CO, to strengthen emergency response.
- Total number of IDPs in western CDI (as of 16 January): 18,544 people (14,853 in Duekoue, 2,193 in Man and 1,498 in Danane – the majority of IDPs are children and women (70%). Their most urgent needs are camp management, protection, food, access to health services, WASH and education.
- UNICEF participated in a 3-day inter-agency mission in Western region led by the DSRSG/RC/HC (14-16 Jan) to re-assess the situation and coordinate the humanitarian response.
- Serious protection concerns in Duekoue as officials report 17 cases of GBV and 8 case of sexual violence including 6 children raped, youngest age 6. UNICEF, UNFPA and partners are following up cases and providing treatment and psycho-social support to victims of sexual violence.
- 1 suspected measles case reported in Duekoue, and yellow fever outbreak is raging in 4 districts in Bandama and Worodougou Regions (with 36 deaths recorded, above 35% fatality rate). UNICEF and health partners will be supporting a national yellow fever vaccination campaign – targeting 32 districts.
- Shortage of vaccines and ARV stocks in northern CDI, especially for yellow fever and measles. Shipment of vaccines (all antigens) planned to start 17 January. UNICEF in Bouake and Man will help facilitate shipment across border to district, regional, and community level.
- Nearly all schools are closed in northern CDI due to President Ouattara coalition's call for civil disobedience including in the public sectors. Health workers are exempted but not school teachers. UNICEF, Save the

Children and other education cluster members are supporting DSRSG/RC/HC's advocacy to address this issue at top political level.

- UNICEF CDI current humanitarian funding gap is USD 3.4 million. Emergency Humanitarian Action Plan (EHAP) for Cote d'Ivoire +4 finalized and to be launched in Geneva this Tuesday – out of USD 32.7 million, USD 4.15 million have been requested by UNICEF CDI to immediately respond to humanitarian needs of IDP children and women and address critical emergency preparedness gaps and capacities.

Overall situation

- Most of IDPs in Western region and other affected population are women and children. Local authorities, especially in Duekoue, report a high number of displaced being hosted by local families (unknown figure so far). Nearly all IDPs fled during wave of violence in western region 03-06 January. Camp census currently underway now and count expected to decrease as situation calms.
- President Ouattara's coalition has called for a national campaign of civil disobedience and urged civil servants to honour it. Health workers are exempted but not school teachers. As a result, schools in an estimated 9 of 17 regions are nearly all closed. Re-opening of schools is resisted by local authorities. Any attempt to contravene this order is perceived by authorities, including the FN, as politically biased.
- Officials at the Duekoue Catholic mission (hosting largest IDP camp) have pledged to reopen primary school on 17 January and will take in as many IDP children as they can. However, church officials said they felt cut-off and on their own, especially for camp security and management. DSRSG/RC/HC is calling for additional support from HCR and IOM, respectively for protection and camp management.
- The inter-agency field mission led by the DSRSG/RC/HC to Western region was successful and thorough but a visit to the large IDP camp at the Catholic mission in Duekoue became tense on 15 January when some camp residents took advantage of TV camera crews (including BBC) and angrily protested in favour of President Gbagbo and against UNOCI. Security forces intervened and helped arrange an incident-free exit from the camp.
- UNICEF CDI (Social Policy) is assessing the social impact of such crisis upon children and women in Cote d'Ivoire, and will circulate its preliminary findings. Food prices have increased throughout the country and already doubled in Western region. Local analysts forecast if political deadlock continues into April, northern CDI will face nutritional crisis as resource poor communities are using reserves now to survive.

Humanitarian situation

- The humanitarian situation in Duekoue IDP camps is extremely grave. Concentration and overcrowding pose a threat to protection of children and women as well to heightened risk of epidemics. There is no available space to construct adequate sanitation facilities. The camp has one functioning hand pump, which is working well – but if it malfunctions, there is no back-up.



- According to UNICEF and humanitarian partners on the ground in northern and western CDI, nearly 50% of all medical staff left their functions since the beginning of the crisis. Some are currently returning but the situation is still difficult to monitor. Hospitals and clinics in Man and Duekoue are requesting support for additional medical staff and supplies. Stock disruptions of ARV treatment are foreseen for next week in Man. Pharmacist at Duekoue hospital reported they have a 2-week stock of ARVs but adequate vaccine supplies

- An assessment of the vulnerabilities of the displaced children and women who are being cared for by host families is a priority for UNICEF and partners in Man. Psycho-social assistance is needed for the 8 victims of sexual abuse in Duekoue (including 6 children) and 40 unaccompanied IDP children. UNICEF will support these UACs for family tracing and reunification.

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

- In western region, UNICEF Man has partly assumed the humanitarian coordination role (at regional level) since the departure of OCHA. Given coordination and security gaps in the emergency response at the Duekoue IDP camp, the DSRSG/RC/HC has addressed this issue during his field visit. As a result, OCHA is to soon deploy adequate coordination capacities and staffing to both Man and Abidjan.
- UNICEF CDI is leading the WASH, Nutrition clusters, and Education (co-lead with Save the Children); the Child Protection sub cluster; and is participating in the Health and GBV coordination mechanisms. Mostly all cluster meetings and HCT meetings have resumed. Last week's focus was to consolidate the EHAP for CDI, revise the inter-agency contingency plan, and address critical preparedness gaps at cluster level.
- The DSRSG/RC/HC has asked for a CERF for CDI (to follow up). A 6-month Emergency Humanitarian Action Plan (EHAP) for Cote d'Ivoire +4 has been finalized (total amount is USD 32.7 million). UNICEF CDI portion is USD 4.15 million to immediately respond to humanitarian needs of IDPs (current target is 25,000 people) and address critical emergency preparedness gaps and capacities (for 50,000 additional IDPs)
- Protection of Civilians could become a critical issue to address for the HCT and UNOCI. UNICEF CDI (with EMOPS support) addressed this issue together the DSRSG/RC/HC and form a humanitarian standpoint to initiate inter-agency discussions and actions to strengthen protection and monitoring (including child protection), humanitarian advocacy and humanitarian access and negotiations.

UNICEF and partners' emergency response

Health

- Supporting NGO and Red Cross partners and health centres personnel in Man Duekoue and Danane and provision of USD 10,000 worth of medical supplies including essential drugs, basic health kits and ITNs.
- 1 suspected measles case reported in Duekoue – UNICEF/ WHO following up and provided direct support to local health authorities to strengthen/restart routine vaccination in crisis affected districts.
- Yellow fever outbreak in 4 districts in Bandama and Worodougou Regions (with 36 deaths recorded, above 35% fatality rate). UNICEF to support a national yellow fever vaccination campaign (target is 32 districts).
- Shortage of vaccines and ARV stocks in northern CDI, especially for yellow fever and measles. UNICEF in Bouake and Man will facilitate shipment to district, regional, and community level planned to start 17 Jan.
- Support provided (including WCARO) to the Global Funds and its implementing partners to plan ITN distribution throughout the country. 9 million ITNs in country so far. UNICEF will support partners' plan to revise the distribution plan, identify critical districts and find alternative solutions for effective delivery.

Nutrition

- Nutritional rapid assessment conducted in Danane and Duekoue; currently on going in Man. Results to be shared within the Nutrition Cluster.
- Support provided to TFCs and NGOs in Man, Danane and Duekoue; provision of high protein biscuits, therapeutic milk etc. to cover 1,210 malnourished children and pregnant/lactating women.
- Promotion of breastfeeding measures undertaken both at national level (to re-initiate) and crisis affected areas (for both IDP and local populations)

Child Protection

- Established Child Protection Emergency Committee (with local NGO partners) for every IDP camp in Man, Danane and Duekoue including provision of transit kits
- Supported local authorities and local NGO partners in Man, Duekoue and Danane, re. UAC (20) and separated children (20) for family tracing and reunification and victims of sexual abuse (8 – and 6 are children) in Duekoue.

- Trained local NGO staff and community leaders on GBV awareness and response. Further GBV and child protection rapid assessment planned this week in crisis affected areas with UNFPA and CP partners

WASH

- Coordinated WASH Cluster response and supported creation of WASH management committees (including latrine rehabilitation and construction) in Danane and Man IDP camps.
- Distributed WASH emergency items and hygiene kits (including jerrycans, soaps, buckets, etc.) in Duekoue, Man, and Danane IDP camps.
- Provided 5,000-liter bladder at Man IDP camps and distributed to 1,000 IDPs in Duekoue 1,000 Aquatabs (for treatment of 50,000 litres of water) and provided 191 households with additional hygiene kits.
- Recipients also included 28 households whose homes were burned in recent violence and 36 residences which were looted.

NFI

- In Duekoue, Man, and Danane IDP Camps, distributed ITNs, sleeping mats, and blankets to 358 most vulnerable households

Education

- In Man IDP: ECD Kit (1) and School- in-a-Box (1) distributed. Danane IDP camp: Recreational Kits (2), School-in-a-Box (3), and ECD Kit (1).
- Training of IDP camp education supervisors and selection of recreational areas. Supported census of IDP children in Duekoue camp for school enrolment.

Supply and Logistics

- Emergency PGMs (procurement) finalized and sent to Supply Division (i.e. off shore procurement list) for all key sectors (i.e. WASH, Education, Nutrition, WASH and Child Protection). Local procurement underway.
- 4 UNICEF vehicles sent last week to Man and Bouake from Abidjan to support the field teams; and 2 UNICEF trucks (one from Guinea and one from Abidjan) sent to UNICEF Man and Bouake with office supplies, emergency WASH materials, education, recreational and ECD kits, NFI kits and emergency nutrition supplies to replenish emergency stocks in northern CDI.
- 6 million mosquito nets (from the Global Funds) are still in the port of Abidjan. 3 million mosquito nets are already dispatched throughout the country. UNICEF CDI (with WCARO support) is supporting Global Funds implementing partners to ASAP revise the distribution plan, identify most critical districts and find alternative approaches for most effective delivery and distribution.

Communications

- Camera crews from the BBC, AI-TV (France), and UNOCI PI were part of the DSRSG/RC/HC's mission to Western CDI 14-16 Jan. UNICEF Man Field Office facilitated coverage.
- UNICEF CDI support provided to DSRSG/RC/HC press briefings on humanitarian situation and response and one special press briefing planned this week on humanitarian situation of affected children and women.