

I. HIGHLIGHTS

- *The general security situation has improved in Abidjan but remains unpredictable in certain districts and in the rest of the country.*
- *Food distributions in Western and Northern/Central Côte d'Ivoire are ongoing and activities in Abidjan have resumed despite security challenges. Over the last week, a total of 77,154 beneficiaries have been reached with 370 mt of various food commodities.*
- *Airlifts have been completed and other actions to strengthen the pipeline in Côte d'Ivoire are ongoing. UNHAS flights have been out since 12 April.*
- *WFP's emergency operation is currently facing shortfalls of US\$20.1 million (50%). In view of scaling up of activities under the Budget Revision, which has been finalized, additional contributions are urgently needed.*

II. SITUATION UPDATE

- The general security situation has improved throughout the country but remains unpredictable.
- In Abidjan, cases of looting by armed elements have been reported and appear to be increasing. Shootings still occur in various districts of the city, but heavy gun fire has stopped since the FRCI took control over the Yopougon district last week. The security threats are mainly related to the residual risks of armed persons moving around and increased criminality.
- In the West, the main concern remains the uncontrolled armed elements in the border areas with Liberia and the expected increase of criminal activity. Tensions are adding to ethnic disputes. Movement restrictions have been issued due to the armed clashes between FRCI and militias/mercenaries in the southern part of the sector.
- In Bouaké, the security concerns are mainly related to crime.
- President Ouattara was sworn in by the Constitutional Council on Friday, 6 May 2011. The WFP Representative attended the session and ensured President Ouattara of WFP's support. The induction ceremony will take place in Yamoussoukro on 21 May 2011.
- Former President Laurent Gbagbo was questioned for the first time on violations of human rights he is alleged to have committed when he was in power. The hearing was not attended by Mr. Gbagbo's lawyers, who had not been given access to the country due to invalid entry visas.
- There are reports of IDPs and refugees returning as authorities return and schools start to reopen.



IDPs in Duékoué receive food rations from WFP. WFP/Graan Jaaf

III. WFP RESPONSE

Current operational priorities:

- Ensure appropriate food pipeline for western regions and Abidjan populations.
- Identification of strategies to address the issue of access to food in Abidjan.
- Assess nutrition and food security status and needs in the entire country.
- ETC cluster is on the ground addressing telecommunication issues in order to have it set up in an adequate timeframe. This will enable agencies and partners to communicate more effectively.

Assessments:

- A feasibility study for cash and/or voucher interventions is being carried out in Abidjan. The mission is expected to last until the end of May.

- WFP and FAO are planning a food security assessment throughout the country that will start in a few weeks.
- A market analysis will begin next week.
- The nutrition team in Man is assessing nutrition sites and partners. ACF conducted rapid nutrition assessments in Guiglo and in Duékoué. The situation is very serious, with global acute malnutrition rates at about 8% and a severe acute malnutrition rate of about 4%.
- A nationwide nutrition survey is planned for June. This exercise will be led by the National Nutrition Programme (PNN) and is expected to be assisted and funded by ACF, UNICEF and WFP.

Food distributions:

- WFP ongoing activities include General Food Distributions for IDPs in the West, in the Centre-North and in Abidjan and supplementary feeding for malnutrition prevention and treatment in the West. WFP has enough commodities in stock to provide food assistance to IDPs for the next two months (30-day rations).
- In Abidjan, food assistance is being provided to an estimated 16,561 beneficiaries who are hospital patients and IDPs staying in sites identified by UNHCR and partners. In the recently freed district of Yopougon, WFP has started to assist with distributions to some 1,700 beneficiaries in 5 sites.
- Food assistance is also being provided to in-site IDPs and host families in the West (31,413 beneficiaries) and the Centre-North (33,750 beneficiaries).
- A total of 77,154 beneficiaries have been reached with 370 MT of various food commodities over the last week as follows:
 - 30,567 beneficiaries with 259 mt of food in the western regions of Duékoué, Zouan-Hounien and Danané. WFP will initiate food distributions on an urgent basis in the areas of Toutlepleu, Guiglo and Bolequin. These distributions are expected to start by early next week.
 - 18,800 beneficiaries with 313 mt of food in Bouaké and Korhogo.
 - 7,787 beneficiaries in hospitals and in sites with 98 mt of rice in Abidjan. The ration will be complemented with pulses and salt in the next few days.



WFP airlifted rice from Mali into Côte d'Ivoire to meet the needs of IDPs.
WFP/Celine Mersch

Logistics:

- Trucks carrying rice from Mali and Ghana have been received in the Man warehouse.
- Deliveries of food commodities to FDPs for May distributions are ongoing.
- The lease of the B1900 aircraft used by UNHAS Côte d'Ivoire will expire on 11 May 2011. The CO is obtaining the over flight/landing and operating permit from the Côte d'Ivoire aviation authority for the Dash 8 aircraft.
- The logistics cluster meeting was held on Tuesday, 10 May 2011. Members have been requested to identify their transportation and storage needs for the next three months.
- UNHAS operations will be based in Abidjan as of Monday, 16 May 2011.
- An assessment of the capacities of the ports of Abidjan and San Pedro will be conducted shortly.

ICT/ECT

- WFP as emergency telecommunication cluster lead has airlifted equipment to set up emergency telecommunication services for the humanitarian community in Bouake and Man. Staff from FITTEST have arrived for the inter-agency emergency telecommunication implementation project.
- VSAT bandwidth in Bouaké and Man is being upgraded to facilitate internet access of humanitarian workers in these locations. The team in Man has undertaken upgrades to the radio room.
- ETC has been contacted by OCHA, Save the Children, OXFAM and ACF to provide ETC services and support in Man. Various assessments have been carried out and recommendations have been shared with all relevant parties.

- Equipment delivery: ETC equipment delivery has been delayed by the carrier in Dubai. ICT orders placed for EMOP and Logistics SO are affected as well. Partial shipments arrived in Accra on 6 and 7 May 2011. More details will be provided soon.

IV. RESOURCING UPDATE

- Under the emergency operation (requirements US\$40 million pending approval of BR), contributions received so far have helped WFP to reduce shortfalls to US\$20.1 million (or 50% of total requirements). However, in view of the BR under preparation, these shortfalls will further increase and urgent contributions will be required.
- The two Special Operations in place are critical for the implementation of humanitarian operations in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire: Both operations are critically underfunded and require urgent contributions in order to be implemented at full scale: Regional Special Operation 200234 (US\$11.3 million) to augment the logistics and telecommunications capacity is facing US\$7.5 million shortfalls (67% of total requirements), and UNHAS SO 00277 has so far not received any contribution, hence having a shortfall of US\$1.9 million.
- WFP is appealing for contributions to be made rapidly considering the long lead-time between procurement and arrival of food in the country. Numerous strategies to reduce the lead-time are being implemented, including airlifts, regional procurement, loans etc.
- Regional purchases of cereals (rice from Mali and Ghana, pulses from Burkina Faso) as well as regional commodity loans are facilitating the rapid arrival of food in the country.



WFP airlifted High Energy Biscuits from Dubai to Accra to Côte d'Ivoire.
WFP/Kingsley Zinanu

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