

UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Cote d'Ivoire

SUMMARY FOR 2005

Critical Issues for Children and Women

The ongoing crisis in Côte d'Ivoire has seriously worsened the well-being and livelihood of children and women throughout the country. The country remains *de facto* partitioned in two. An estimated 500,000 people remain displaced within the country. Populations in the zones controlled by the New Forces (ex-rebels) in the north, and in the devastated west of the country have been particularly hard hit by the collapse of public services, including health and education. The situation has further aggravated by the conflict in early November 2004, which ensued street violence in Abidjan and elsewhere in the country.

Between 800,000 and 1 million children receive no education. The latest surveys indicate an extremely precarious nutritional situation among children in the north and west, where vulnerable populations depend on humanitarian food and health aid. Over 65% of village hand pumps are not functioning, this figure rising to 80% in areas of the west. Routine vaccinations are available to only about 50% of the population, a situation which has contributed to the return of 15 cases of polio identified so far. Cote d'Ivoire has the highest rate of HIV infection in West Africa, at 9.7%.

Planned Humanitarian Action for 2005

UNICEF closely cooperates with the UN agencies, NGOs, and Line Ministries within the framework of humanitarian assistance and post crisis activities. UNICEF chairs Education, Water and Sanitation Working Groups, and participates actively in the Protection, Health, Nutrition, Food Security, Communication and Advocacy Groups. UNICEF's humanitarian assistance programme is part of the CAP for 2005 and will target some 5 million women and children.

Health and Nutrition: UNICEF will support therapeutic nutrition programme and the re-establishment of routine vaccination and supply of cold chain equipment. UNICEF will also support the Polio National Immunization Days and vitamin A supplementation campaign.

Water and Environmental Sanitation: UNICEF will rehabilitate damaged latrines and water points, procure and distribute water disinfectant products, and support the protection of water sources. UNICEF will also reactivate local water management committees and sensitize communities on appropriate hygiene practices.

Education: UNICEF will supply basic educational materials, recreational kits and additional school supplies, and support the establishment of temporary classrooms and the rehabilitation of damaged schools including latrine construction. Additionally, UNICEF will train teachers on HIV/AIDS and peace education.

Child Protection: UNICEF will expand social reinsertion activities for demobilized children, and reinforce reception centres and staff. UNICEF will sensitize youth on life skills particularly on HIV/AIDS, train health workers on appropriate care to victims of rape, and provide HIV test kits as well as STI kits.

Summary of UNICEF Financial Needs for 2005	
Sector	US\$
Health and Nutrition	7,229,591
Water and Environmental Sanitation	5,430,068
Education	2,738,636
Child Protection	1,869,090
Total¹	17,267,385

¹ The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 12 per cent. The actual recovery rate on individual contributions will be calculated in accordance with the Executive Board Decision 2003/9 of 5 June 2003.