Situation Overview

- The UN ASG for Human Rights, Mr. Ivan Simonovic, visited Côte d'Ivoire from 27 November to 2 December and met with local authorities, and traditional leaders in Duekoue, and local military and civil administrative authorities in Guiglo. He highlighted concerns about cases of torture and arbitrary detentions occurring in the country, and called for an independent investigation into the Nahibly situation which was destroyed by fire in July 2012, killing eight people and forcing nearly 5,000 IDPs in the camp to return to their villages of origin or to alternative destinations.

- A new Government was formed on 22 November, made up of 29 ministers, following the dissolution of previous government over a dispute in the National Assembly between the parties over the proposed amendments to the country’s marriage/family law.

- There have been continued reports of security incidents. Four armed individuals opened fire on 8 December in Sinematiali, 30km from Korhogo, injuring eight people. A confrontation was reported on 9 December between the FRCI and youth in Alépé, 45km from Abidjan, during which a weapon was taken from the FRCI.

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

WASH Cluster

- Emergency WASH interventions in the West: In November, NGOs IRC, NRC, DRC, CARE, Caritas, LIMPIA, Solidarités and the ICRC continued WASH interventions in the field, with a view to ensuring and supporting a sustainable return to the home villages for IDPs and returnees from Liberia by providing basic WASH services. To date, WASH Cluster members have repaired 150 out of 200 damaged pumps, all 59 pumps that had been stolen or vandalized have been replaced, all 430 water point management committees have been reactivated, and 35 percent of returnee households have benefitted from the family latrines project. Through these interventions, 50 percent of the target villages now have improved WASH environment.

Additionally, project evaluation conducted by the Directorate of Sanitation and Drainage in 182 villages in 14 departments had 160 villages being declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).
UNICEF Response

EDUCATION

• **Support to peacebuilding:** From 12 to 24 November 2012, in collaboration with ERNWACA, UNICEF undertook data collection in different regions of Côte d’Ivoire to take stock of the situation on the different perspectives of conflict with a view to contributing to developing a strategy for peace-building and promotion in the country.

• **Provision of school supplies:** The preparations for the distribution of basic school supplies continued. All information necessary for the provision has been collected, including the information that more than 107,000 children are enrolled in 1,200 community schools and 22 Islamic schools recognized by the Ministry of National Education. The school supplies for these children are being transported in partnership with NGOs, to ensure that the distribution at the local level can begin in mid-December.

CHILD PROTECTION

• **Birth registration:** Demographic and Health Survey 2012 (DHS) shows that the birth registration rate has worsened in the recent years, and existing records of individual civil status were lost or destroyed during the post-election crisis, estimated at between 93,000 and 185,000 status in 10 registration centres in the West. Yet continued promotion effort has successfully led to the registration of 13,400 children in the West in the last two months. The presidential decree to allow free registration of birth beyond the usual non-fee paying first three months of birth ended on 30 July 2012, but it was extended by a year starting on 26 September 2012, which was welcomed by all Cluster members.

• **Strengthening monitoring networks on violations of child rights, early identification and referral of victims:** To date, 1,248 victims of violence have been identified by the protection networks and were referred to care in 2012. 624 cases, or 50%, were victims of sexual violence, of which 237 were children. Of the total 1,248 cases, children represent 85%, or 1,061 victims.

• **Psychosocial support to children and their families:** Psychosocial support: 90,334 children have benefitted from psychosocial assistance to date, with 6 per cent of them having received assistance tailored to their individual needs.

• **Security forces training:** As part of the police and gendarmerie training curricula reform, a 5 days training programme on child protection and child rights was developed for deployed forces. A first group of 30 police/gendarmes from the West were trained in Daloa. A pool of trainers is now available, as a result of the training of trainers which was offered to the government, UNOCI, UN agencies, NGOs, and training institutions.

• **Approval of national child protection policy document:** National child protection policy document was finalised and approved following a year-long consultative process and is awaiting official launch.

HEALTH

• **Polio eradication:** 2012 was declared “polio emergency year” by the World Initiative for Polio Eradication, and the 4th polio immunization campaign of 2012 was carried out from 23 to 26 November. The immunization campaign was combined with de-worming of children aged between 12 to 59 months and Vitamin A supplementation for children aged between 6 to 59 months. Almost 7.5 million under 5 children were targeted, and results will be made available shortly.

WASH

• **Promotion of household water treatment:** 1,250 mothers and nannies/guardians of under-5 children in the districts of Béoumi, Bondoukou Bouaflé, Bouaké, Bouna, Boundiali Mankono, Sakassou, San Pedro, and Soubré were sensitised on household water treatment using OPUR Aquatab. 217,520 Aquatabs were provided to households to benefit around 6,000 under-5 children to improve their access to drinking water.

• **Cholera response:** Cholera epidemic is under control. Partner NGOs ACF and the Côte d’Ivoire Red Cross continued their cholera prevention activities in the Sud Comoé region, sensitising 13,500 persons and rehabilitating 11 water pumps in Aboisso. In Adiaké, 2 latrines were rehabilitated and 2 were newly constructed.
• **Nahibly IDP camp closure**: UNICEF, in partnership with IRC, closed pit latrines and drainage channels in the Nahibly camp which was destroyed in July. 128 of the total 240 latrine slabs that had been installed in Nahibly have been recovered and will be kept as emergency stock.

• **Activities under the CERF III grant**: UNICEF, in partnership with the French Red Cross, DRC, IRC, Solidarités and Caritas continued the emergency WASH activities in the West under the CERF III project. All 41 new pumps have been purchased and have been installed to replace damaged pumps as planned in November, and 90 pumps were repaired. 27 wells were improved. These will provide improved access to water to 134,000 persons.

**NUTRITION**

• **Malnutrition screening and treatment**: 252 under 5 children were newly admitted for SAM treatment in Tonkpi. During the month of November, a total of 451 children were successfully treated, while 33 abandoned the treatment, and 3 deaths were registered. In the Guemon-Cavally region, UNICEF, in partnership with ASAPSU screened 756 children for malnutrition and recorded 17 cases of SAM and 245 MAM cases. All 17 children suffering from SAM were referred to care. Of the children suffering from MAM, 35 children had complications. A total of 153 children suffering from MAM were successfully treated.

• **Provision of Plumpy Nut and therapeutic milk**: UNICEF provided 30 cartons of plumpy nut to the Boundiali health district. In the Guemon-Cavally region, UNICEF provided 50 cartons of F-75 therapeutic milk, 175 capsules of 250mg Amoxicillin, 200 buckets and 200 cups to the health districts.

**HIV/AIDS**

• **Sensitisation of young people**: 11,485 adolescents and young people, including 5,909 girls and 5,576 boys, have better knowledge of HIV transmission and ways to prevent HIV and AIDS due to sensitisation sessions in which they participated in the North and the Centre regions of the country. UNICEF, in collaboration with partners, provided counseling to 8,322 young people (3,302 women and 6,020 men). 302 of these people were tested for HIV and 3 women and 1 man were found to be HIV positive. 62 young people also were found to have STIs, and they were all treated and referred to adequate care and support.

• **World AIDS Day celebration**: On the occasion of the World AIDS Day, sensitization sessions were organized in Guiglo, providing information on HIV to 1,317 young people and adolescents, and counseling and testing to 348 women and 356 men in the West. In Abidjan, UNICEF, in partnership with local NGOs CASES, ADSR and Chigata, organized community interventions for prevention of HIV, and to support OVCs.

**COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (C4D):**

• **Support to the vaccination campaign**: Communications support was provided to the Child Survival and Development section for the 4th round of the national polio immunization campaign. Parents were provided with information on the importance of vaccinating their children, and religious and community leaders were mobilized to deliver messages on the campaign to local communities.

**FUNDING**

UNICEF Côte d’Ivoire has to date received around **US$ 22.7 million** (excluding recovery cost) in funds for emergency activities in 2012. This includes the rephrased amount from 2011, and all humanitarian contributions that came through in 2012.

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