

International Rescue Committee Côte d'Ivoire: Strategy Action Plan



A Wade / IRC

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IRC2020 GLOBAL STRATEGY OVERVIEW

The International Rescue Committee's (IRC) mission is to help the world's most vulnerable people survive, recover, and gain control of their future. The aim of the global strategy, IRC2020 (see right), is to make measurable improvements in health, safety, education, economic wellbeing, and decision-making power. Therefore, the IRC will make investments to have more effective programs, use resources more efficiently, reach more people more quickly and better respond to beneficiaries' needs.



CÔTE D'IVOIRE OVERVIEW

Civil war in 2002 left Côte d'Ivoire in a fragile socio-economic situation, which was further compounded by the 2010-2011 post-election crisis. Today, social services are often of poor quality and limited availability, which augments growing inequality and jeopardizes the country's return to long term stability.

Despite strong economic growth in recent years, many populations are still at risk. Rural communities and women and girls are often deprived of healthcare and education, and have a lower quality of life. In addition, women and girls are highly vulnerable to gender-based violence.

While many services like healthcare are nominally free, corruption, poor availability, and facility

mismanagement often forces patients to pay for services to which they are entitled. These financial barriers to services disproportionately impact women and children, who usually do not have control over household expenditures.

As a result, a large part of the population is uneducated, in poor health, vulnerable to violence or exploitation, and with limited economic opportunities.

The IRC's strategy for Côte d'Ivoire illustrates its commitment to improving the health, safety, education, economic wellbeing, and decision-making power of crisis-affected people in Côte d'Ivoire.

IRC'S STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING

From now until the end of 2020, the IRC's strategy in Côte d'Ivoire will prioritize improving health, safety, education, economic wellbeing, and decision-making power (see Figure 1). The IRC aims to reach 2.1 million people in Côte d'Ivoire by the end of 2020, specifically targeting women and girls, unemployed youth, returnees and other vulnerable groups.

The IRC will work to improve healthcare, particularly for children under five and pregnant women. Initiatives to train health workers on community-based epidemic surveillance, engage populations on safe sanitation practices, increase access to potable water and strengthen the capacity of healthcare facilities that aim to protect and treat communicable diseases.

To increase the safety of women and girls, survivors of gender-based violence will be supported through the IRC's holistic gender-based violence response model. This will be complimented by social and economic empowerment for women and direct outreach to men to transform harmful gender norms.

To ensure education services function and are safe, the IRC will continue to promote enrollment, improve

facilities, pilot literacy and numeracy methodologies and build management committees' capacity. IRC will also implement programs aiming to eliminate child labor and strengthen business and technical capacities of youth and adults.

The IRC will enable crisis-affected and other vulnerable groups, particularly women, to generate revenue and build assets through employment and self-employment. Business skills and job training will help beneficiaries find jobs and establish stable sources of income.

The IRC will also aim to improve local and civil society governance by ensuring beneficiaries contribute to public service management and the promotion of women's empowerment and inclusion.

The IRC's commitment to gender equality strives for equal outcomes for women and girls, and men and boys. To narrow the gender gap, the IRC will incorporate gender-focused programming into all activities.

SIGNATURE OUTCOMES		CORE OUTCOMES
HEALTH	> Children are protected from and treated for communicable diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Women and adolescent girls prevent unintended pregnancy > Women and adolescent girls are protected from and treated for complications of pregnancy and childbirth > Women and adolescent girls are protected from and treated for the consequences of gender-based violence (GBV) > Children are protected from and treated for neonatal complications > People are protected from water, sanitation and hygiene-related diseases > Adults are protected from and treated for the consequences of communicable diseases
SAFETY	> Women and girls are equally safe from harm as men and boys where they live, learn, and work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > People are safe in their work places and receive support when they experience harm
ÉDUCATION	> Girls and boys enroll in and attend safe, functioning, and responsive education services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 6-14 year olds have literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional skills, according to their development potential > Youth (15-24) have high levels of market-relevant livelihoods skills, literacy and numeracy skills, and social and emotional skills, according to their development potential > Young children have cognitive and social and emotional skills necessary for future academic success and wellbeing, according to their developmental potential
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING	> People generate income and assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > People meet basic needs and avoid negative coping strategies > Women use and control resources and assets
POWER		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > People collectively influence decisions that affect their lives
NARROWING THE GENDER-GAP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Women and girls are as skilled in literacy, numeracy, social and emotional skills, and livelihoods as men and boys > Negative gender norms and inequities that undermine the health of women and girls are transformed > Women and girls can, like men and boys, decide where to live, how to live and how they are led > Women and girls are equal to men and boys to the extent that their basic needs are met, they are safe from food insecurity, and they use, generate and control income and assets

COMMITTMENTS FOR IMPACT

In order to maximize impact and achieve the priority outcomes, the IRC in Côte d'Ivoire is making investments to improve program effectiveness, use resources more efficiently, reach more people in more places, be more responsive to beneficiaries and partners, and react more quickly when crisis strikes. The IRC made the following commitments to strengthen programming and improve the lives of the people it serves in Côte d'Ivoire.

Figure 2: Commitments to Ensure Impact



> Effectiveness

- > Implement an enhanced monitoring and evaluation system to better generate evidence of effective programs
- > Focus on achieving priority outcomes, using identified evidence and theories of change to design and implement effective programs
- > Capitalize on previous experiences of ICT for program



> Best Use of Resources

- > Improve procurement and supply chain systems to obtain better quality products more quickly, and at lower prices
- > Systematically assess cost per beneficiary and incorporate findings into projects



> Responsiveness

- > Establish formal feedback mechanisms across all program areas, such as satisfaction surveys and focus groups with beneficiaries, partners, and staff
- > Increase implementation by local entities



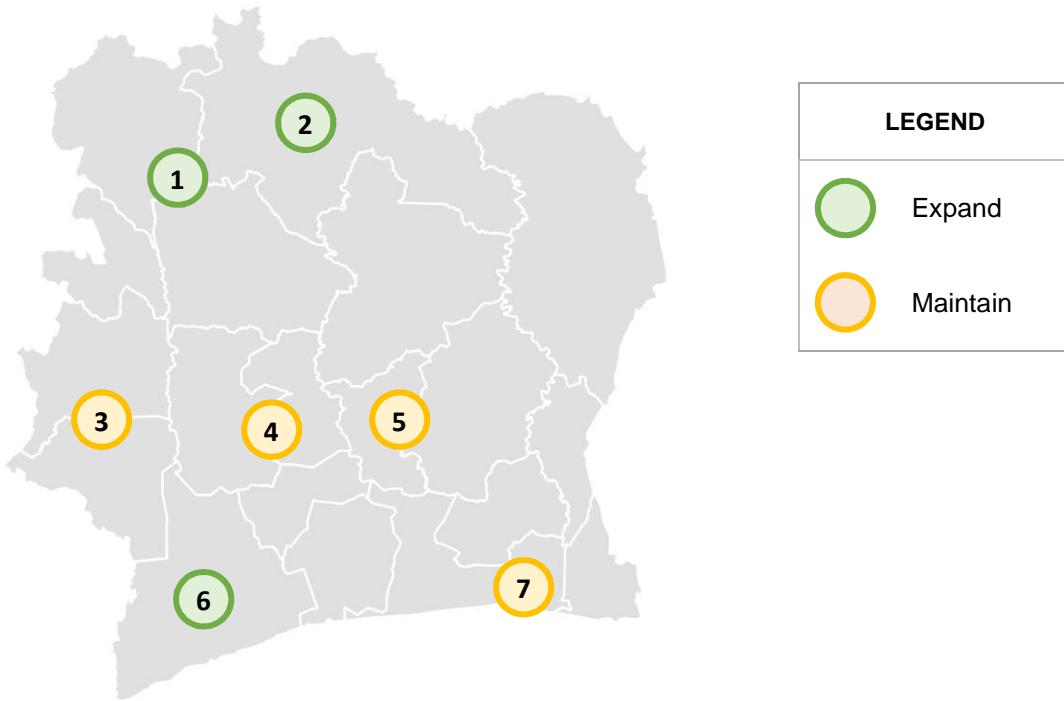
> Gender Equality

- > Implement action plan (following the Gender analysis carried out in 2017) to correct gender gaps and mainstream gender equality among each program
- > Strengthen gender analyses in the development of proposals through the identification of issues leading to gender inequalities
- > Increase the number of women staff members, in order to enable further tailoring of our response to the needs of women and girls

IRC'S STRATEGIC PRESENCE

From now until the end of 2020, the IRC will maintain, expand, and reduce its presence in sites across Côte d'Ivoire based on an analysis of where the greatest need is and where the IRC can create the biggest impact.

Figure 3: The IRC's Geographic Transitions in Côte d'Ivoire



Location	Geographic Transition
1 North-west	Expand interventions in health, education, economic wellbeing, power, and safety in Bagoué, Folon, Kabadougou, Worodougou, Béré and Bafing.
2 North	Expand education, health, economic wellbeing, and safety interventions in Poro and Tchologo.
3 West	Continue to serve beneficiaries with interventions in health, education, economic wellbeing and power in Tonkpi, Guémon, and Cavally.
4 Center-west	Continue interventions to improve economic wellbeing and health programming in Haut-Sassandra, Marahoué and Gôh.
5 Center	After 2020, progressively reduce existing programs in line with needs on the ground in Gbéké, Bélier, N'Zi and Yamoussoukro.
6 South-west	Launch programs to promote safety, while expanding existing interventions in education across Nawa, Gboklé and San Pedro.
7 South	Continue to provide essential services in health and economic wellbeing and promote safety in Agnéby-Tiassa and Abidjan.



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