



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HUMANITARIAN AID - ECHO

HUMANITARIAN AID

For vulnerable sections of the population

In Liberia

GLOBAL PLAN 2007

Humanitarian Aid Committee, December 2006

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 14-year civil war in Liberia ended in August 2003 with the signature of the Accra Peace Agreement, leading to the creation of a National Transitional Government. The United Nations Mission to Liberia (UNMIL) deployed 15,000 peace keeping troops to support the cease-fire, secure the country, and allow access for humanitarian assistance throughout the country. Over more than 100,000 former fighters have been disarmed and demobilized. On 16 January 2006, almost two and a half years later, the inauguration of democratically elected President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf marked the end of this political transition period.

The war killed around 250,000 people and resulted in the displacement of a third of the population. At the height of the conflict an estimated 500,000 Liberians were displaced internally and took refuge in camps, spontaneous settlements, with families, in host communities and in public places, while hundreds of thousands of people fled to neighbouring countries. As a result of very poor governance and widespread corruption, public institutions were dysfunctional. Physical infrastructure across the country has been totally devastated and the social fabric disrupted. Besides the direct human suffering and material impact, the conflict also had a huge psychological impact on those who suffered, perpetrated or witnessed violence. Many children were enrolled as child soldiers, people became victim of torture and women suffered from large-scale sexual violence.

Despite the positive developments, Liberia still requires humanitarian assistance and support until the Government has the capacity to take over from international agencies in a Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development context (LRRD). The majority of the population remains without access to adequate services including healthcare, drinking water, sanitation, shelter and livelihood opportunities. With the increasing confidence in the stability of the country since the beginning of 2006, the repatriation movement of refugees has been accelerating with consequent extra pressure on the scarce existing basic social infrastructures in the areas of return. Access throughout the country is difficult with many roads impassable and the sections that are rehabilitated deteriorate rapidly during the heavy rains. Even though the security situation has significantly improved thanks to the presence of the peacekeeping troops, there is an increased wave of criminality reported in and around major cities in the country.

With this global plan DG ECHO will continue addressing humanitarian needs assisting the return and reinstallation of refugees in their places of origin, and restoring access to basic services such as water, health and sanitation, food security and protection. DG ECHO will target refugees, vulnerable sections of the population like women and children, and host communities. The proposed envelope for the global plan for Liberia is EUR 12,000,000 over 18 months.

2. CONTEXT AND SITUATION

2.1. General Context

The political and military crises that have affected Guinée, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, are closely linked. Since 1989, all of these countries have been rocked by armed combat, at different times and with varying intensity, but the armed rebels have always found refuge in a neighbouring country. The border areas have been the theatre for huge movements of populations fleeing the crises, and facilitate the trafficking of arms, minerals, children and combatants. Throughout the region, the control and exploitation of natural resources like diamonds, rubber, cocoa, wood and cotton is in the hands of small groups wielding power in the area.

Liberia faces some of the worst economic and social conditions of all post-conflict countries in the world. Well over three quarters of its approximately 3,1 million¹ population live below the poverty line of 1 USD per day². About half of the population lives in extreme poverty on less than 50 cents per day. 86% of households have been displaced twice³ since 1990 in Liberia, and according to the 2006 National Human Development Report, life expectancy at birth stands at 47.

DG ECHO has been fully committed to assisting in the humanitarian situation caused by the Liberian crisis in 2003. The bulk of humanitarian aid was allocated for survival and for early recovery. Pursuing this engagement in Liberia is necessary to provide a satisfactory level of basic services in the main affected areas, to consolidate what has been done so far, and to facilitate the phasing-out strategy to development instruments.

2.2. Current Situation

The President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf made an appeal to Liberian refugees in neighbouring countries and Internally Displaced people (IDPs) to return back home, rebuild Liberia in a common effort with the Government and cohabit in peace. This found an immediate echo, and as of mid September 2006 80,274⁴ out of the 340,000 refugees in official camps had returned from neighbouring countries with the assistance of UNHCR while thousands of Liberians returned spontaneously. Another 140,793 are still registered in refugee camps waiting to come back. In April 2006, the return process of 321,187 IDPs to their areas of origin was declared finished and all camps were officially closed. The problems of return and reinstallation of returnees are only a part of the bigger picture of relief and recovery in Liberia. The challenge of reinstalling hundreds of thousands of uprooted Liberians remains immense.

A number of coordinated actions are taking place in the LRRD context, based on the Government's efforts to formulate policies and on the development donors' ability to make long-term funds available. This is particularly the case in the health sector where

¹ National Human Development Report (NDHR) 2006

² Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Document, August 2006

³ WFP, Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey (CFSNS), September 2006.

⁴ UNHCR briefing notes, September 2006

discussions are taking place between DG ECHO and the Development Aid services of the Commission in the framework of the implementation of the 9th EDF and programming of the 10th EDF. Coordination also takes place with other donors like DFID and USAID to make sure critical needs in the sector will be covered in the medium term in the framework of a national policy.

Liberia is at a critical juncture and there is concern whether LRRD development funds will be sufficient to consolidate what has already been achieved with humanitarian aid. Strong international support, both financial and political, is needed to secure the peace process, to help stabilize the political situation, and to facilitate the country's recovery.

3. IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Needs regarding Repatriation

Between November 2004 and September 2006, a total of 80,274⁵ Liberian refugees were assisted in their return by the UNHCR and a further estimated 200,000 refugees, including non registered refugees, returned by their own means, without assistance from the UNHCR. Of the remaining 140,793 refugees registered in camps mainly in Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea, but as well in Ghana and Nigeria, UNHCR plans to assist 60,000 by June 2007. The repatriation process has been relatively slow, especially with regards to the refugees living in Côte d'Ivoire. The main return zones continue to be Lofa, Nimba, Bomi (for residual caseload of IDPs), Montserrado, Cape Mount and Maryland counties. The UNHCR has set up a system to deregister refugees who return to the country spontaneously, a system that is currently running in the country's western counties but needs to be rolled-out country-wide.

The assistance provided to refugees once they cross the Liberian border consists in protection, four months of food rations distributed by WFP in two lots of 2 months (an additional decision is foreseen under the food aid budget line to support WFP assistance to returnees), household items and a contribution towards transportation; the most vulnerable are provided with transport.

Needs in Health

There is a dearth of reliable information on health, but a few basic statistics show that access to health care in the country is extremely poor. Recent estimations are that more than 75% of the population does not have access to referral facilities, including emergency obstetrics. The spread of HIV/AIDS is also worrying with an estimated prevalence rate between 8 and 12%⁶ particularly given the extent of the sexual violence suffered by women during the years of civil war.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) needs massive support to develop its capacities and a national strategy. Out of the Government 120,000,000 USD annual national budget for 2006-2007, 5.6% has been allocated to the health sector (around 7,000,000 USD). The most urgent needs concern the crucial lack of medical staff (it is estimated that there are only 34 doctors in the country) and the situation regarding paramedical staff is even worse. Out of the 490 health structures existing before the war, only 354 are functioning

⁵ UNHCR Liberia, September 2006.

⁶ Millennium Development Goals Report 2004, cited in UNDP Partner Profiles 2006.

today: 286 clinics, 50 health centres, 18 hospitals⁷. 90% of the health services in Liberia are totally dependent on support from agencies, humanitarian NGOs and churches which pay the staff, buy medicine and supervise facilities and training, and one third of this alone is DG ECHO funding. The drug supply system is dependent on the provision of medicines through international NGOs or organisations.

In Monrovia, three hospitals run by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) are offering quality and free access services. Faith based hospitals (Catholic hospital, ELWA) are offering quality but paying services. The major Governmental hospital JFK hospital will need time to reach an acceptable level of quality services.

The timing of the disengagement of humanitarian aid from the health sector is vital. The withdrawal of MSF from Redemption hospital in mid 2006 resulted in the almost total collapse of the services in that hospital. Many emergency partners working in the health sector are programming to phase out which risks leading to a rapid reduction in the access and in the quality of services provided. So far no alternative has been found to their presence. At the same time there is a significant increase in the number of consultations with the IDPs and refugees returning home.

The new Ministry of Health is aware of this situation and is working on a national health policy paper. The handover from humanitarian interventions to Government and development partners will take time.

Needs in Water and Sanitation

Despite assistance delivered so far by DG ECHO and other donors and agencies (OFDA, UNDP, UNHCR) in the sector, only 32% of households have access to safe drinking water and 76% have no access to sanitary facilities⁸. According to the World Food Programme (WFP) survey, the counties with the worst coverage rates in terms of access to safe drinking water are Sinoe and Grand Kruh (7%), Grand Bassa (10%), River Gee and Gbarpolu (15%). As a consequence, the prevalence of water-borne diseases is high in most of these counties with the highest prevalence found in Grand Kru where 52% of children have had diarrhea during the 2 weeks before the WFP survey, followed by Sinoe with 43% and River Gee with 36%. The reported high child morbidity rates go hand in hand with high malnutrition rates in the same counties. These results emphasize the need for improved water and sanitation services as a major component in addressing childhood illnesses, malnutrition and mortality.

Access to safe sanitation facilities is almost non-existent in rural Liberia. The lowest coverage rates are reported from Grand Bassa, River Gee, Sinoe and Grand Kru. Open defecation in the bushes is common practice leading to widespread transmission of diseases. In cities like Monrovia the situation is similar with people living in overcrowded buildings or suburbs with very limited access to water and sanitation facilities.

As far as the risk of epidemics is concerned, especially cholera, the densely populated urban slum areas are at the highest risk. In 2006, Monrovia registered an average of 60-80 cases per week during the peak season (August / September) and Buchanan reported an outbreak as well. Thus, there is a need to work on prevention campaigns as well as to

⁷ Rapid Assessment, June 2006 – USAID/MoH

⁸ WFP, Comprehensive Food Security and Nutrition Survey (CFSNS), September 2006.

foresee response capacities in the health sector. DG ECHO will continue to pay special attention to urban sanitation problems which lead to increased vulnerability to cholera outbreak.

While new water points are needed, it will be also important to allow partners to stay in the area of previous operations in order to reinforce the training of technicians in charge of pump maintenance, the hygiene promotion aspects as well as the provision of spare parts.

Needs in emergency food security

The survey conducted by WFP between February and June 2006 gathered baseline data on food security and nutrition. According to the results only 8.6% of households have been found food secure with good food access and good food consumption. Returnees are amongst the most vulnerable as most of them are returning with little or no assets. They need to receive agricultural inputs to start their farms in addition to training and income generating activities.

During the transition from emergency to recovery, external assistance will play a fundamental role in sustaining the livelihoods of many households in Liberia. It is estimated that about 36% of households benefited from food assistance programmes during the six months prior to the WFP survey, mainly through school feeding and reinstallation programmes. Despite this external assistance, the findings show that the food security status of the population is still critical: 11% of the surveyed households are food insecure; 40% are highly vulnerable; 41% are moderately vulnerable to become food insecure.

A similarly bleak picture is visible when looking at child malnutrition rates: 39% of children under 5 are stunted or too short for their age, indicating problems of malnutrition. At present, food insecurity in Liberia is linked to food availability, caused by the lack of agricultural input and knowledge as well as low agricultural production capacities; to difficulty to access food due to limited income-generation opportunities in the agricultural and non-agricultural sector; and to inadequate food preparation or child feeding practices.

Needs in protection

DG ECHO has helped addressing protection needs exacerbated by the conflict and by displacement of populations. Protection issues are now becoming more related to human rights and will therefore be mainstreamed through general humanitarian assistance operations and will not any longer be included as a separate sector of intervention.

Needs for a humanitarian air service

Humanitarian workers in Liberia need to have access to their areas of work, but large sections of the road network are damaged and **regularly completely closed during the rainy season**. This is particularly the case in Lofa, Nimba, River Gee and Maryland where most of DG ECHO partners are present. Because there are no commercial companies with domestic flights, **the only alternative is the UNMIL flight service**. Since 2004, DG ECHO has funded a regional humanitarian air service in order to guarantee humanitarian access in the sub-region. In 2006, this air service which is managed by WFP transported around 750 persons per month from UN agencies, international NGOs and donors. Given the fact that 2007 will remain an important year in terms of humanitarian operations in Liberia with many actors present in the field, and given the

extremely bad conditions of the road infrastructures, an air transport service needs to be maintained.

4. PROPOSED DG ECHO STRATEGY

4.1. Coherence with DG ECHO's overall strategic priorities

The strategy proposed under this global plan complies with DG ECHO's overall strategic priorities in four ways:

Greatest humanitarian need:

For 2007, DG ECHO has not set geographical priority areas but gives specific priorities for the different sectors of intervention. The selection of operations will be made on the basis of criteria such as: (a) significant humanitarian needs for healthcare, water, sanitation, subsistence capacity; (b) regions with high population density; (c) refugee return areas; (d) inclusion of interventions from other donors who have already been identified. The 15 counties of Liberia are concerned by this decision.

Assistance to most vulnerable/gender and child-related projects:

Aid for children and women, who suffered greatly during the conflict, will be maintained in 2007 through providing access to basic services and through the mainstreaming of protection operations, like the prevention of underage recruitment by armed factions and the prevention of gender based violence.

HIV-AIDS cross-cutting issues appropriately addressed:

DG ECHO encourages its partners to include whenever possible HIV/AIDS actions in all the projects they finance, such as precautions to halt the spread of the disease, analysing blood used for transfusions, distributing contraceptives and running information, education and communication campaigns. Whenever it is appropriate and possible, DG ECHO recommends preventive and curative actions targeting the populations which are most at risk: health actions, protection against sexual violence, and anti-retroviral post exposure prophylaxis if possible.

Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD):

DG ECHO's withdrawal from Liberia will depend on various factors, including the actions that can be taken in the LRRD context to alleviate the immediate suffering while providing the initial impetus for a resumption of economic and other normal activities. In order to lead to development programmes, humanitarian interventions have to start switching from being purely reactive to vulnerabilities, to being in line with national strategies. However, this depends on the new government capacity to formulate policies and on the donors' confidence to make funds available.

4.2. Impact of previous humanitarian response

DG ECHO's response in Liberia since 2003 can be divided into four phases:

(a) During the acute phase of the humanitarian crisis that followed the massive population displacements towards Monrovia in the summer of 2003, DG ECHO responded to humanitarian needs for healthcare, water, hygiene, sanitation and shelter.

(b) Support to humanitarian activities in IDP camps gave 98 000 people access to water, sanitation, and healthcare, while 50 000 out of the 261 000 displaced persons registered in official camps benefited from food aid distribution.

(c) Restoration of basic services in areas particularly affected by the fighting and in the return zones (rehabilitation and functioning of 85 primary health care structures, construction and rehabilitation of more than 1,000 water points); support for the reopening and functioning of 10 hospitals around the country; distribution tools and seed and support for farming activities for 391,000 persons; protection of the most vulnerable.

(d) 80,274 refugees from neighbouring countries and 321,178 IDPs received assistance for their return to their place of origin, and more than 20,000 vulnerable IDPs received transport assistance from the camps to their homes.

4.3. Coordination with activities of other donors and institutions

Since the departure of United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) from Liberia at the end of November 2004, the coordination of humanitarian assistance has been led by the Humanitarian Coordination Section of UNMIL. Recently, the new government has put in place the Liberia Reconstruction and Development Committee (LRDC) whose task is to coordinate recovery and reconstruction activities under four pillars: security; economic revitalisation; governance and rule of law; infrastructure and basic services.

Financial assistance by other main humanitarian donors decreased considerably between 2004 and 2006⁹. In 2006 donors started shifting their attention to longer-term development projects with most of the funding earmarked for governance issues such as the security sector reform and judicial reform.

DG ECHO is coordinating closely with the Development Aid services of the Commission in the framework of the implementation of the 9th EDF and programming of the 10th EDF to prepare the link with programmes having long-term goals. This coordination is essential to maintain continuity in DG ECHO-funded operations particularly in the health sector.

This global plan is the result of consultations with the main partners and agencies, both at headquarters and on the ground. Collaboration of this nature fosters good complementarities in the financial support provided for humanitarian operations, and is making approaches more consistent.

⁹ The financial support from OFDA to Liberia humanitarian crisis decreased from USD 24,5 million in 2004 to USD 9 million in 2005 and USD 2 million in 2006.

4.4. Risk assessment and assumptions

Several factors may influence the implementation of the planned actions.

The unstable regional context, particularly the risk of increased tension in Côte d'Ivoire and the instability that could develop in Guinea, could provoke massive population movements into areas that do not have the capacity to cope, like Nimba, Grand Gedeh and Maryland.

Donors' confidence, and ultimately the funds made available to the country, will depend on good political, economic and social governance by the Liberian government. The capacity of the new government to formulate policies and of donors to coordinate will be essential if continuity is to be maintained for basic assistance currently provided under DG ECHO funded operations.

Continued progress towards stability depends on the security situation which is so far maintained thanks to the presence of UNMIL troops. UNMIL's peacekeeping mandate has been renewed until March 2007. The envisaged down-sizing of its troops in certain counties in late 2007/early 2008 will be the first test case for the fragile stability. In that respect, the major destabilization factors such as the movement of combatants in the sub-region must be controlled. Reports on rising crime in Monrovia have also to be taken seriously as a factor of instability.

The rapid deterioration of the roads during the rainy season was a considerable obstacle to the implementation of humanitarian operations during the past two years, mainly in Lofa, Maryland and Nimba, where some activities were temporarily suspended as the target zones could not be reached. If the initial attempts to improve the roads and/or to maintain them are not followed up, this situation may well be repeated in 2007.

4.5. DG ECHO Strategy ¹⁰

DG ECHO's financial contribution will support the process of repatriation and reinstallation for refugees, and will improve access to basic services such as water and sanitation, health care, and restoring productive activities (including agricultural). The main beneficiary groups in need of significant and sustained assistance will be the **60,000 refugees to be repatriated** as well as the **returnees and the local communities** representing more than 1,500,000 people. At least 9,000 humanitarian actors will benefit

¹⁰ Grants for the implementation of humanitarian aid within the meaning of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid are awarded in accordance with the Financial Regulation, in particular Article 110 thereof, and its Implementing Rules in particular Article 168 thereof (Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002, OJ L248 of 16 September 2002 and No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002, OJ L 357 of 31 December 2002).

Rate of financing: In accordance with Article 169 of the Financial Regulation, grants for the implementation of this Decision may finance 100% of the costs of an action.

Humanitarian aid operations funded by the Commission are implemented by NGOs and the Red Cross organisations on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) (in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation) and by United Nations agencies based on the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA). The standards and criteria established in Echo's standard Framework Partnership Agreement to which NGO's and International organisations have to adhere and the procedures and criteria needed to become a partner may be found at

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/partners/index_en.htm

from the air service. Emergency evacuation will be assured as well as urgent and essential freight for the humanitarian community.

Principal objective:

Integrated aid and return assistance is provided to alleviate the suffering of Liberian people affected by the conflict

Specific objectives:

Objective 1 – To supply post-emergency integrated assistance to returnees and local populations

Objective 2 – To continue assisting the repatriation and reinstallation of Liberians to their area of origin

Objective 3 – To facilitate humanitarian access to remote or inaccessible areas

Objective 4 – To maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, and to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of humanitarian operations

Activities linked to specific objective 1

- Provision of free primary and secondary health care, and monitoring of malnutrition in health centres, as well as maintenance of an emergency response capacity for epidemics;
- Training beneficiaries in good hygiene and food preparation practices, and training of local staff on the job;
- Prevention of sexual violence, and promotion of use of post-exposure prophylaxis;
- Promotion of standard refrigeration equipment, with technical support from UNICEF;
- Rehabilitation and/or construction of wells and boreholes with hand pumps to improve access to safe drinking water, latrines as a model for the community and/or the families;
- Promotion of basic hygiene and community approaches to reduce the incidence of water-borne diseases to improve hygiene practices;
- Strengthening the achievements of previous water and sanitation operations ensuring longer-term sustainability of the built infrastructures;
- Targeted distribution of non-food products and family shelters;
- Targeted distribution of food, agricultural inputs and training and promotion of revenue-generating activities;
- Protection of vulnerable persons affected by the consequences of the conflict and displacement in the context of these activities;
- Promotion of coordination between humanitarian partners;
- Ad hoc actions targeting former IDPs and former camps' sites.

Activities linked to specific objective 2

- Support for the repatriation of Liberian refugees to cover all stages of the process including registration, transport, protection, distribution of food and non-food products, support and reintegration at the final destination;
- Support for coordination between the different partners involved in the return process.

Activities linked to specific objective 3

- Two air planes will continue serving at least 10 destinations in the sub-region (in Liberia, Guinea, Côte-d'Ivoire, and Sierra Leone) for humanitarian staff, but the present decision will only support the air service in Liberia;
- Participation in emergency evacuation and emergency airfreight will be ensured.

Activities linked to specific objective 4

The Commission will maintain a DG ECHO team in Monrovia to maximise effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable. This team will assess project proposals, and coordinate and monitor the implementation of humanitarian operations financed by the Commission. They will supply the technical and logistical assistance necessary for tasks to be completed.

4.6. Duration

The duration for the implementation of this decision will be 18 months.

Humanitarian operations funded by this decision must be implemented within this period.

Expenditure under this decision shall be eligible from 1 January 2007.

Start date: 1 January 2007.

If the implementation of the actions envisaged in this decision is suspended due to *force majeure*, or any comparable circumstance, the period of suspension will not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid operations.

Depending on the evolution of the situation in the field, the Commission reserves the right to terminate the agreements signed with the implementing humanitarian organisations where the suspension of activities is for a period of more than one third of the total planned duration of the action. In this respect, the procedure established in the general conditions of the specific agreement will be applied.

4.7. Amount of Decision and strategic programming matrix

4.7.1 Total amount of the Decision: EUR 12,000,000

4.7.2. STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING MATRIX FOR THE GLOBAL PLAN

Principal objective	<i>Integrated aid and return assistance is used to alleviate the suffering of Liberian people affected by the conflict</i>				
Specific objectives	Allocated amount (EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Activities proposed	Expected outputs / indicators	Potential partners
<p>Specific objective 1:</p> <p>To supply post-emergency integrated assistance to returnees and local populations</p>	9,000,000	Liberia	<p>Provision of preventive and curative primary and secondary health care; Nutrition monitoring; Improvement of the response capacity for epidemics; prevention of gender based violence</p> <p>Provision of access to safe water and sanitation; promotion of hygiene practices;</p> <p>Improvement of food security through increasing and diversifying agricultural production and provision of other sources of income</p> <p>Provision of Non food items and reduction of vulnerability of people affected by the conflict and by displacements</p> <p>Support to humanitarian coordination</p>	<p>Estimated number of direct beneficiaries: 1,500,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Functioning of the primary health care system and key referral services (morbidity and mortality reduced) - Vulnerability to malnutrition is reduced - Improvement of access to clean water, sanitation facilities and hygiene (decreasing of waterborne diseases); - Provision of facilities conform to minimum standards; - Working personal trained to different activities; - Coordination mechanisms are working; - Reduction of vulnerability to food insecurity and restart of agricultural system (food dependence is reduced) ; - Transport and reinstallation of the most vulnerable (number of reinstalled vulnerable people) ; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACF - ADRA Denmark - CONCERN WORLDWIDE - IRL - CROIX-ROUGE - CICR- ICRC - CH - DRC - GERMAN AGRO ACTION - IRC-UK - MDM - FRA - MERLIN - MSF - BEL - MSF-CH - OXFAM - GB - PMU - S - SCF - UK - SOLIDARITES - FR - TEARFUND - UK - UN - UNICEF - BEL - ZOA - NL
<p>Specific objective 2:</p> <p>To continue assisting the repatriation and reinstallation of Liberians to their area of origin</p>	2,000,000	Liberia	<p>Support the return of refugees and remaining caseload of IDPs with transport, protection, non food items distribution</p>	<p>Estimated number of direct beneficiaries: 60,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of refugees returned and reinstalled; - Registration of/assistance delivery to refugees (number of assisted persons) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN - UNHCR - BEL

<p>Specific objective 3:</p> <p>To facilitate humanitarian access to remote or inaccessible areas</p>	<p>500,000</p>	<p>Liberia</p>	<p>Support WFP air service operation facilitating humanitarian transport of passengers and essential goods to remote areas; provide a facility for emergency/medical evacuations</p>	<p>Estimated number of direct beneficiaries: 9,000 humanitarian workers</p> <p>- Transport for humanitarian staff and small cargo; medical evacuation</p>	<p>- UN - WFP-PAM</p>
<p>Specific objective 4:</p> <p>To maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, and to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of humanitarian operations</p>	<p>180,000</p>	<p>Liberia</p>	<p>Technical assistance</p>	<p>- Regular monitoring of the humanitarian operations (minimum of one visit to each ongoing operation) ;</p> <p>- Regular reporting/grant agreement management;</p>	
<p>Risk assessment</p>	<p>Further deterioration in Guinea an/or escalation of hostilities in Côte impact negatively Liberia – Degradation of road infrastructures during rainy seasons make access and implementation of humanitarian operations difficult – Lack of post crisis aid support limits the impact of humanitarian assistance and the effect on development – Lack of genuine commitment of the new Government in fighting corruption and in resolving the main root of the conflict (access to natural resources) compromises all efforts toward development- Increasing criminality compromises the fragile security situation.</p>				
<p>Assumptions</p>	<p>Stability and security in Liberia is maintained – Peace process in Côte d’Ivoire and stability in the region – Long term commitment of international community - Efforts leading to good governance and to national reconciliation..</p>				
<p>Contingency reserve</p>	<p>320,000</p>				
<p>Total cost</p>	<p>12,000,000</p>				

5. EVALUATION

Under article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid the Commission is required to "regularly assess humanitarian aid operations financed by the Community in order to establish whether they have achieved their objectives and to produce guidelines for improving the effectiveness of subsequent operations." These evaluations are structured and organised in overarching and cross cutting issues forming part of DG ECHO's Annual Strategy such as child-related issues, the security of relief workers, respect for human rights, gender. Each year, an indicative Evaluation Programme is established after a consultative process. This programme is flexible and can be adapted to include evaluations not foreseen in the initial programme, in response to particular events or changing circumstances. More information can be obtained at:

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/evaluation/index_en.htm.

6. BUDGET IMPACT

Article 23 02 01

-	CE (EUR)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2007	485,000,000
Supplementary Budgets	-
Transfers	-
Total Available Credits	-
Total executed to date	-
Available remaining	-
Total amount of the Decision	12,000,000

7. ANNEXES

Annex 1: Statistics on the humanitarian situation

Summary of all collected data											
 A 2005		World Factbook 2005 CIA Total Population (Estimation of 2004 or earlier)	HDR 2005 UNDP Human Development Index HDI (177)	HDR 2005 UNDP Human Development Index HDI (177)	HDR 2005 UNDP Human Development Index HDI (177)	HDR 2005 UNDP Human Poverty Index HPI-1 (95)	HDR 2005 UNDP Human Poverty Index HPI-1 (95)	HIK 2005 Conflicts	UNHCR June 05 Refugees	USCR - World Refugee 2005 IDPs	Refugees + IDPs combined / population
Survey Indications			2002	2002				1995-2005	12 / 2004	2004	
Countries - GNA 2006		[Number]	UNDP value	UNDP Rank	GNA HDI Score	UNDP value *****	UNDP Rank	GNA Conflicts score	Number	Number max	Number
Cote d'Ivoire		17.298.040	0,42	163	3	41,9	84	3	72088	800000	5,04%
Guinea		9.467.866	0,466	156	3	45,3	x	2	139252		2,34%
Liberia		1.867.035	x	x	x	39,7	x	2	15172		7,78%
		IDP + REF / Total population	UNICEF 2005: % of Children under WEIGHT (age <5)	UNICEF 2005: % of Child mortality (age <5)	UNICEF 2005: % of Child mortality (age <5)	OECD net ODA / Capita	OECD net ODA / Capita				
			1995-2003	2003	2003						
		GNA IDP + Ref Score	GNA UndW score	[%]	GNA Mort score	[US \$ / cap]	GNA ODA score				
Cote d'Ivoire		6	1	192	2	86	2				
Guinea		5	2	160	1	81	3				
Liberia		6	3	235	3	106	2				
		Key:									
high need		3									
medium need		2									
low need		1									
no need		0									
no relevance or no data		x or -9999									

ECHO Activity Tracking By Implementing Partner by District



Annex 3: List of previous DG ECHO operations

List of previous DG ECHO operations in LIBERIA				
Decision Number	Decision Type	2004 EUR	2005 EUR	2006 EUR
ECHO/- WF/BUD/2004/01000	Global Plan (*)	8,526,000		
ECHO/LBR/EDF/2004/0 1000	Non Emergency	4,300,000		
ECHO/- WF/BUD/2004/03000	Non Emergency (**)	550,000		
ECHO/LBR/EDF/2005/0 1000	Non Emergency		2,700,000	
ECHO/- WF/BUD/2005/01000	Global Plan (***)		12,860,000	
ECHO/LBR/BUD/2006/ 01000	Global Plan			16,400,000
ECHO/LBR/EDF/2006/0 1000	Non Emergency			1,400,000
	Subtotal	13,376,000	15,560,000	17,800,000
	Grand Total	46,736,000		

Dated : 26/09/2006

Source : HOPE

(*) out of a 18,000,000 EUR regional Global Plan

(**) out of a 2,000,000 EUR Ad Hoc decision

(***) out of a 25,000,000 EUR regional Global Plan

Annex 4: Other donors' contributions

Donors in LIBERIA the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria					
Belgium	500,000	ECHO	17,873,529	OFDA	2,000,000
Cyprus				US/PRM	17,000,000
Czech Rep.				USAID/FFP	21,000,000
Denmark	1,139,410	Other services	p.m.	Switzerland	3,666,000
Estonia				GFATM	9,600,000 (****)
Finland	400,000			WB	16,000,000
France	169,834				
Germany	2,658,454				
Greece					
Hungary					
Ireland	4,354,972				
Italy					
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg					
Malta					
Netherlands	3,291,831				
Poland					
Portugal					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain					
Sweden	6,982,453				
U.K.					
Subtotal	19,496,954	Subtotal	17,873,529	Subtotal	69,266,000
		Grand total	106,636,483		

Dated : 26/09/2006

(*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://hac.ec.europa.eu>

(**) Contribution in 2005, figures for 2006 are not available

(***) Global Fund – Source: UNDP Partners Profiles

Empty cells means either no information is available or no contribution.

Besides the EUR 63,000,000 from DG ECHO since 2003, the European Commission has allocated EUR 100,500,000 to Liberia between 2003 and 2006: EUR 25,000,000 DEV/AIDCO Post Emergency funds to support refugees and returnees, EUR 8,000,000 support to ECOWAS, EUR 46,500,000 for post conflict rehabilitation and institution building, EUR 7,000,000 Food aid in 2003, EUR 7,000,000 Food aid in 2004, EUR 5,000,000 Food aid in 2005 and EUR 2,000,000 Food aid in 2006.

Annexe 5: list of abbreviations

ACF	Action Contre la Faim	LURD	Liberian United for Reconciliation and Democracy
ADRA-DK	Adventist Development and Relief Agency - DK	MDM	Medecins Du Monde
AIDCO	European Aid Office	MERLIN	Medical Emergency Relief International (GBR)
DFID	British Department for International Development	MODEL	Movement for Democracy in Liberia
DG DEV	Development Directorate General of the European Commission	MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
DG ECHO	Humanitarian Aid Directorate General of the European Commission	NFI	Non Food Items
DRC	Danish Refugee Council	NGO	Non Governmental Organization
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African Countries	NTGL	National Transitional Government of Liberia
EDF	European Development Fund	OCHA	Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Aid
GAA	German Agro Action	OFDA	Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance
GBV	Gender Based Violence	PMU	PMU Interlife Sweden
GEMAP	Government and economic Management Assistance Program	SCF	Save the Children Foundation
GNA	Global Need Assessment	STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
HCS	Humanitarian Section of UNMIL	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
HIV/AIDs	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus/Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome	UNHCR	United Nations High Committee for Refugees
ICGL	International Contact Group for Liberia	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
IDP	Internally Displaced People	UNMIL	United nation Mission in Liberia
ICRC	International Red Cross Society	USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
IOM	International Office for Migration	WFP	World Food Program
IRC	International Rescue Committee	WHO	World Health Organization
LRRD	Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development	ZOA	ZOA Refugee Care

COMMISSION DECISION

of
on the financing of a Global Plan for humanitarian operations from the budget of
the European Communities in
LIBERIA

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,
Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid¹, and in particular Article 15(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Liberia has been seriously affected by a protracted internal conflict that erupted in the late 1980s and lasted for 14 years, causing the death of more than 250,000 people;
- (2) The conflict has led to the displacement of more than 900,000 people of which 340,000 were refugees registered in camps in neighbouring countries, and more than 500,000 were internally displaced;
- (3) All these years of conflict and displacements of population totally deprived people of access to basic services that have been looted, destroyed or abandoned, which in turn is leading to high mortality and morbidity rates, and is slowing down the return process of Liberian to their area of origin;
- (4) The conflict has led to massive damage to the road network which impedes humanitarian access to large parts of the country particularly during the rainy season;
- (5) In order to maximise the impact of humanitarian aid operations financed by the Commission, it is necessary to maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field;
- (6) An assessment of the humanitarian situation leads to the conclusion that humanitarian aid operations should be financed by the Community for a period of 18 months;
- (7) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 12,000,000 from budget line 23.02.01 of the general budget of the European Communities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to more than 1,560,000 vulnerable people, taking into account the budget available, other donors' interventions and other factors;
- (8) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002², Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 and last amended by Regulation (EC,

¹ OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1-6

² OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1

Euratom) No 1248/2006³, and Article 15 of the internal rules on the implementation of the general budget of EC⁴;

(9) In accordance with Article 17(3) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid, the Humanitarian Aid Committee gave a favourable opinion on 14/12/2006.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves an amount of EUR 12,000,000 for a Global Plan for humanitarian aid operations for Assistance to returnees and vulnerable populations in Liberia from article 23 02 01 of the 2007 general budget of the European Communities,

2. In accordance with Articles 2 and 4 of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objectives:

- To supply post-emergency integrated assistance to returnees and local populations
- To continue assisting the repatriation and reinstallation of Liberians to their area of origin
- To facilitate humanitarian access to remote or inaccessible areas
- Technical assistance: to maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, and to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of humanitarian operations

The amounts allocated to each of these specific objectives are listed in the annex to this decision.

Article 2

Without prejudice to the use of the contingency reserve, the Commission may, where this is justified by the humanitarian situation, re-allocate the funding levels established for one of the specific objectives set out in Article 1(2) to another objective mentioned therein, provided that the re-allocated amount represents less than 20% of the global amount covered by this Decision and does not exceed EUR 2,000,000.

Article 3

³OJ, L 227, p.3, 19.08.2006.

⁴ Commission decision of 6.2.2006, SEC (2006)131.

1. The duration of the implementation of this decision shall be for a period of 18 months, starting on 1 January 2007.
2. Expenditure under this decision shall be eligible from 1 January 2007.
3. If the actions envisaged in this decision are suspended due to *force majeure* or comparable circumstances, the period of suspension will not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the implementation of this decision.

Article 4

1. The amount of EUR 12,000,000 shall be conditional upon the necessary funds being available under the 2007 general budget of the European Communities.
2. This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

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ANNEX: BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATIONS BY SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Specific objectives	Amount per specific objective (EUR)
To supply post-emergency integrated assistance to returnees and local populations	9,000,000
To continue assisting the repatriation and reinstallation of Liberians to their area of origin	2,000,000
To facilitate humanitarian access to remote or inaccessible areas	500,000
To maintain a technical assistance capacity in the field, and to assess needs, appraise project proposals and to coordinate and monitor the implementation of humanitarian operations	180,000
Contingency Reserve	320,000
TOTAL	12,000,000