

Integrated community rehabilitation and income-generating activities for affected and most vulnerable people



UN Trust Fund for Human Security



Fast Facts

Country: Guinea

Duration: November 2004 to May 2006

Implementing UN Agencies: UNDP

Other Implementing Partners: FAO; WFP; OCHA

Budget: \$1,030,932.36

Key Words: Internally displaced persons (IDPs); refugees; conflict-affected populations

BACKGROUND

The civil conflicts of the 1990s in Sierra Leone and Liberia transformed neighbouring Guinea into one of the largest refugee hosting countries in the world. By 2000, the country accommodated some 500,000 refugees and, since the conflicts in Sierra Leone and Liberia spilled over into Guinea, it triggered more than 300,000 internally displaced Guineans who were pushed inland from the border areas. At the same time, starting in 2002 more than 82,000 Guineans who had been working in Sierra Leone were obliged to return to Guinea due to the escalating situation of social and political unrest in Sierra Leone. The arrival of

refugees, returnees and internally displaced to western Guinea put heavy pressure on the host communities in Guinea. Faced with difficulties stemming from persistent poverty, lack of education, diseases, food insecurity, water scarcity and inadequate infrastructure, Guinea was not equipped to respond to the large influx of vulnerable people into its borders. In addition, the increased demand for fire wood and land for agriculture by newcomers harmed the local environment and resulted in large scale destruction of primary forests and soil erosion.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the project was to improve the living conditions of conflict-affected populations in the prefectures of Kindia and Forecariah. The complex situation required multi-pronged interventions of assistance to prevent the crisis from deepening and consequently the project set out to (i) improve the school infrastructure by constructing new school facilities aimed at newcomers; (ii) address the health

status of the population by assisting the health care system to manage the intensified pressure from refugees and IDPs; (iii) tackle water and sanitation issues by constructing better wells and installing drainage systems; (iv) provide easier road access to remote villages; and (v) reduce the impact on the environment by implementing reforestation activities and diminish the ongoing environmental degradation.

BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries were 15,000 IDPs, returnees and refugees living in vulnerable host communities

and refugee camps in the prefectures of Kindia and Forecaraih.