



UNITED NATIONS
CÔTE D'IVOIRE



COMMON COUNTRY ASSESSMENT



September 2020

Leaving no one behind



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CÔTE D'IVOIRE



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INTRODUCTION

From unfinished MDG action to adoption of the SDGs giving hope for a better future

1. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were drawn up in 2000 as an expression of the world's commitment to implement all means necessary to eradicate poverty and promote human dignity, equality, peace, democracy and environmental sustainability by 2015. Upon completion of this programme, it became clear that the MDGs had contributed to lifting more than a billion people out of extreme poverty, reducing the number of victims of chronic hunger, the number of deaths and the number of preventable diseases, and educating more girls and boys than ever before. However, in many cases targets were missed because progress was insufficiently sustainable or equitable; in other cases, progress stalled or was even reversed. In particular, it was apparent that hundreds of millions of people were still living in extreme poverty and many were suffering from malnutrition, preventable diseases and exclusion due to their income, gender, linguistic group, religion, disability or another characteristic, or were suffering from the direct or indirect impact of climate change.
2. As a result of the pressing need for a programme for the post-2015 period, capitalizing on the progress made and the lessons learnt within the framework of the MDGs and reviving hope for a better future, the UN Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda in September 2015. This new programme is based on a holistic and balanced three-dimensional approach to sustainable development (economic, social and environmental). World leaders thus defined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), broken down into 169 targets, for the next 15 years.

A decade of action to achieve the world's goals and pick up the pace

3. In September 2019, world leaders observed that, despite some progress in a number of areas, the speed and scale of the measures taken to achieve the SDGs remained insufficient overall. They observed that a country's ability to achieve the 2030 Agenda was hampered by inadequate mobilization of finances¹ alongside conflicts, the climate crisis, gender-based violence, and persistent and growing inequalities. They also called for a decade of action and announced more than a hundred "acceleration actions", as well as voluntary commitments to intensify progress. All areas of society were invited to concentrate their efforts on three areas: i) action on a global scale to ensure better leadership, more resources and solutions which will have more impact on the sustainable development goals; ii) local action integrating the necessary transitions within State, city and local authority policies, budgets, institutions and governance mechanisms; and iii) societal and individual action by, amongst others, youth, civil society, the media, the private sector, trade unions and universities to create an irreversible movement to further achievement of these goals.

¹ It was established that a persistent annual funding deficit of approximately 2,500 billion dollars was hampering implementation of the SDGs.





Aims of the Common Country Assessment

4. The transformative vision of development contained within the 2030 Agenda requires a paradigm shift and has therefore guided reform of the United Nations System, which began on 1 January 2019, with a view to providing efficient support for countries working towards the SDGs. One of the main areas and key elements of implementation of the reform initiated in 2019 was the formulation of a remodeled, open, integrated and transformational United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) focused on demand and able to bring about change. The new directives drawn up by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) for joint strategic planning by the United Nations underline, amongst other things, the requirement to carry out a joint analysis of the situation in a given country (a Common Country Assessment or CCA) during the early stages of the process for preparing the United Nations Cooperation Framework.
5. Against this background, and with a view to preparing the 2021-2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), the United Nations Country Team in Côte d'Ivoire committed to producing, on a participative and collective basis, an inclusive, forward-looking analysis of the development context of the host country based on conclusive data. This CCA will also act as a strategic foundation for the United Nations Country Team in Côte d'Ivoire within the framework of its advice on sustainable development policies. Moreover, it aims to provide a more detailed analysis of the relevant strategic stakeholders for the 2030 Sustainable Development Programme in the country and to lay the ground for an extended partnership. The Côte d'Ivoire CCA aims to provide a common understanding and analysis of the institutional, economic, political, security, humanitarian, sociocultural and environmental opportunities and challenges facing the country, with a view to achieving the sustainable development goals. As this analysis should help define the conditions for accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

which places the 17 SDGs within the framework of the sustainable development programme, it is structured around the following underlying principles: Leave No one Behind, Human Rights, Equality, Gender and Female Empowerment, Resilience, Sustainability, and Profitability. The CCA was drawn up over the course of several months: the documents to be analyzed were compiled by the Agencies and analysis work was carried out by the SDG Advice/Support Group (Groupe ODD d'Appui-Conseil or GODDAC) composed of a pool of experts from UNDS acting as a reference group within the framework of the process for drafting, implementing and monitoring the UNSDCF. Throughout the process, the contributions of managers and experts from UNDS agencies were recorded. It should be noted that this independent analysis involved resident and non-resident UNDS agencies which were able to take part in the formulation process by providing relevant information. Similarly, the other stakeholders in the 2021-2025 UNSDCF formulation process (ministries, other national institutions, local authorities, the private sector, civil society and international financial institutions, particularly those which took part in the technical workshop to launch the UNSDCF process held in May 2020 in association with the Plan and Development Ministry) were able to make observations which enhanced this analysis. Draft 0 of the CCA was presented on 28 July 2020 with the participation of the Plan and Development Ministry, representatives from State institutions (Presidency, CESEC, etc.), ministries, chambers of commerce, trade union umbrella organizations, the private sector, civil society, decentralized bodies, and bilateral and multilateral technical and financial partners. The various stakeholders listed above provided comments with a view to improving the document. The document drew some inspiration from regional expertise, particularly that of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa on issues such as structural transformation of the economy and implementation of the SDGs, and UNOWAS with regards to issues such as peace and security at subregional level.





I. POLITICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUND

An unfinished reconciliation process and another tense pre-electoral context

6. Côte d'Ivoire has left a long period of crisis which had affected the development process, peace and social cohesion within the country. In particular, an armed conflict ran from 2002 to 2007, ending with the Ouagadougou Political Agreement (OPA) in 2007. This led to the 2010 presidential elections which in turn developed into the period of post-electoral crisis from 2010 to 2011.
7. In 2011, the Ivorian Government committed to a process of peace consolidation and economic reconstruction which, amongst other things, has enabled the country to put itself back on a positive economic trajectory. The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), which was established in 2004, closed its offices in June 2017. The political and security situation has remained stable, despite the resurgence of political tensions in the run up to the presidential elections in October 2020 due to party realignments and individuals jostling for power, uncertainty over the participation of potential candidates and the terrorist threat in the West African subregion.
8. However, national reconciliation remains a significant challenge because of considerable enduring divisions, particularly over the land issue, identity-based recollections and reparations for harms suffered by victims from all sides. Transitional justice, supposed to provide recognition for victims of the military, political and post-electoral crises, promote trust between individuals and trust in those working within State institutions, lead to reconciliation and strengthen the rule of law, has had limited results. Further, some have felt that it was insufficiently inclusive and independent to create equality and simultaneously foster mutual monitoring among the executive, legislative and judicial powers, as is provided for in the Preamble to the 2016 Constitution.
9. There also appear to be differences in terms of how the inclusiveness of electoral processes is gauged. Elections, which have been organized regularly since 2011, have not triggered participation by all parties and coalitions. The opposition parties and coalitions which did not participate in all these elections allege that the reconciliation and transparency conditions of the electoral process have still not been met. The electoral systems are not considered very credible by some opposition figures and civil society. Further, youth and women are underrepresented in the spheres of political debate (for different reasons), even though their needs with regards to the electoral process are many (civil status registration documents, information and training on the electoral process, etc.) and their contribution, as well as their full participation, are indispensable for holding peaceful elections without violence.
10. The causes of the conflict-generating crises which so bruised Côte d'Ivoire are still embedded in its society to such an extent that they tarnish reconciliation and social cohesion. Ten years after this painful episode, the country is starting to organize the presidential elections to be held in October 2020 in a context marked by very pronounced political rivalries between political parties. The authorities face the challenge of successfully managing a transparent, inclusive, democratic and non-violent election. The crises of the past must be taken into consideration in any analysis of the conditions for achieving the sustainable development goals because residual or still manifest inequalities and vulnerabilities may affect stability and the development process.



Security risks which could hamper economic and social activity

11. With regards to security, violent conflicts involving terrorists are taking place in the countries surrounding Côte d'Ivoire. These nations are also witnessing community conflicts with population movements. Security threats due to the situation on the borders with Mali and Burkina Faso in particular are exacerbating conflicts between communities on either side of the border. This could cause an escalation of migratory movement towards Côte d'Ivoire and could also supply recruitment networks and increase the terrorist threat. The risk is still very real after the terrorist attack on Côte d'Ivoire in Grand Bassam in 2016. The security situation in neighbouring countries and on the borders should be monitored, as well as any resulting migratory flows towards the country. Violent extremism in the Sahel, particularly in the Liptako

Gourma region, is a growing concern given the risks of terrorist attacks and multiple abductions, mainly in the border areas to the north of Côte d'Ivoire. Internally, land disputes and competition to exploit other natural resources are still a cause for conflict.² Land disputes represent two thirds of the mediation cases brought before the Republic's Mediator and 80 per cent of mediation cases brought before traditional leaders. Populations no longer systematically turn to State institutions to resolve their intra and/or inter-community relations and, in some cases, prefer "to deliver their own" justice. This has led to public disorder in large urban centres and conflicts between different communities (non-indigenous, allochtone and indigenous) in several regions in the country.

Overall governance improving

12. Côte d'Ivoire has made considerable progress in terms of its overall governance, obtaining a score of 54.7 and ranked 22nd out of 54 countries on the Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance in 2017, compared to a score of 42.6 in 2010. Within overall governance and in terms of security and respect for the rule of law, Côte d'Ivoire made the most progress in Africa between 2008 and 2017 with an increase of 15.4, bringing the country's score to 59.4 in 2017 and 22nd position out of 54 countries. With regards to participation and human rights, Côte d'Ivoire was 21st out of 54 countries in 2017 with a score of 55.8, an increase of 15.9 points compared to 2008. As regards the sustainability of economic

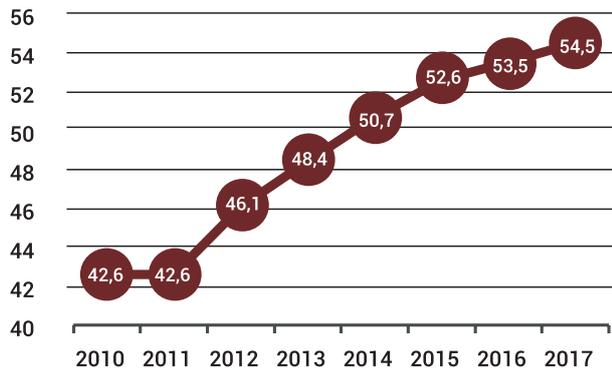
opportunities, the country improved by eight points between 2008 and 2017, giving Côte d'Ivoire a score of 49 and 22nd position out of 54 countries. With regards to human development, Côte d'Ivoire gained 11.4 points between 2008 to 2017, bringing its score to 53.8 and 26th position out of 54 countries. As regards progress in terms of combatting corruption, it came 106th out of 180 countries on Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) in 2019 with a score of 35 out of 100. Transparency International stated that Côte d'Ivoire "has made considerable progress since 2012", gaining six points

² Only 4 per cent of land in rural areas is covered by land deeds. This is a source of impoverishment and vulnerability, due to people fleeing amongst other things, as well as the main cause of recurrent conflict in the country at both inter-community and inter-ethnic level.



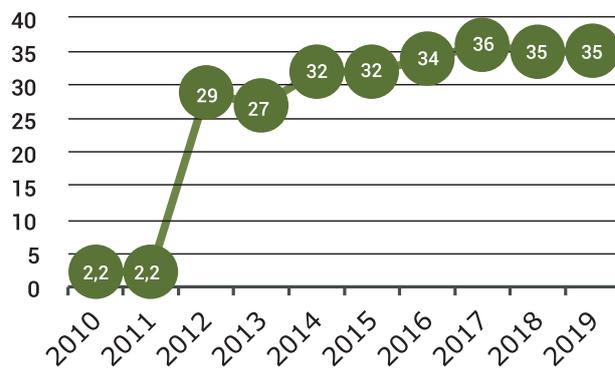
Ibrahim Index of African Governance

(Source: Mo Ibrahim Foundation)



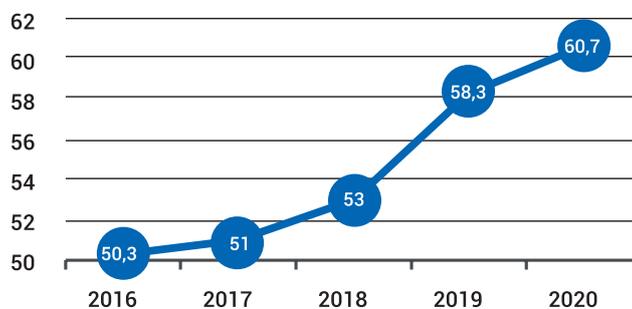
Corruption Perceptions Index

(Source: Transparency International)



Ease of Doing Business Index

(Source: World Bank)



13. Côte d'Ivoire has also performed remarkably well in terms of its business environment: it moved up the rankings from 167th place in 2012 to

139th place in 2018 in the World Bank's annual Doing Business report. Its score increased by more than 10 points between 2016 and 2020.

Solid economic performances but less encouraging human and social results

14. Côte d'Ivoire has 25,069,229 million inhabitants³ spread across 322,462 km² and a demographic growth rate of 2.6 per cent. Since the end of the 2010-2011 post-electoral crisis, it has experienced robust economic growth. Between 2012 and 2019, real GDP increased at an average annual rate of 8.3 per cent.⁴ Growth of 1.8 per cent is expected in 2020 according to the IMF,

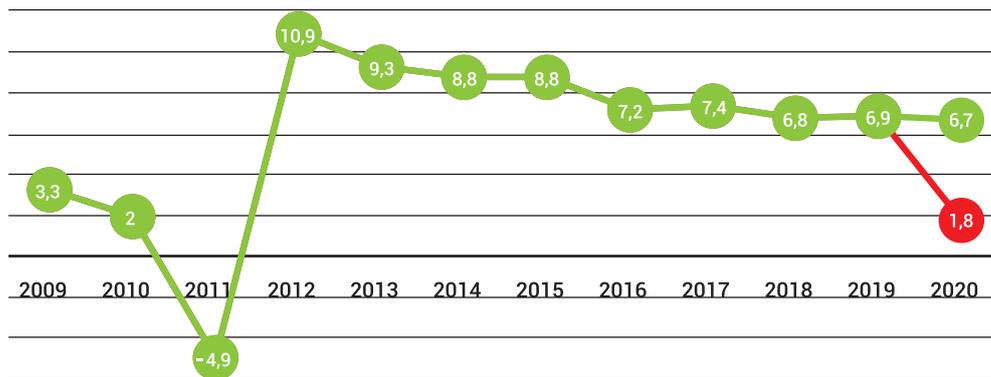
down from its initial forecast of 6.7 per cent due to the contraction of economic activity amid measures to cope with the Covid 19 pandemic and repercussions of the health crisis on the country's relations with external partners which have been affected. The growth rate should increase again in 2021 and reach 6.2 per cent.

³ According to a World Bank estimate in 2018: <https://donnees.banquemondiale.org/pays/cote-d-per-cent27ivoire>

⁴ <https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/CIV>



Figure 1: Real GDP Growth Rate
(Source: IMF)



15. The rate of inflation fell to between 0.4 per cent and 1.2 per cent between 2013 and 2019 after reaching a maximum of 2.6 per cent in 2012. The budgetary deficit was 2.9 per cent of GDP on average from 2016 to 2019. Due to a fall in the price of cocoa, a rise in international oil prices and social demands, it rose to 4 per cent in 2016 and 4.5 per cent in 2017. However, it dropped to 3 per cent at the end of 2019 thanks to efforts to improve incomes and rationalize spending. The Debt-to-GDP ratio was 37.8 per cent in 2019, compared to 39.7 per cent in 2018, significantly lower than the 70 per cent maximum defined within the framework of the convergence criteria of the UEMOA (West African Economic and Monetary Union). The risk of debt distress is moderate, as indicated in the latest IMF debt sustainability analysis. According to the IMF⁵, "given the severity of the Covid 19 pandemic, the envisaged temporary increase of the budgetary deficit is appropriate, even if that means a temporary deviation from the convergence criteria of 3 per cent of GDP. Given the considerable downward risks, spending reallocations would become necessary if tax revenue were to be less than the current forecasts. When the crisis has been curbed, it will be important for the budgetary deficit to

return to its pre-crisis trajectory to retain the sustainability of the debt in the medium-term.

16. Growth is strong in Côte d'Ivoire and it is becoming easier to share its fruits given the improving trend with regards to inequalities and poverty. This reflects the beginnings of concrete economic progress at human and social level. The country's Human Development Index (HDI) score increased from 0.454 in 2010 to 0.494 in 2015 and 0.516 in 2018, demonstrating improvement which must be continued. However, in Côte d'Ivoire human development remained below average for developing nations (0.686) and countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (0.541) in 2018. Observation from space indicates that development is very poor in the north and west of Côte d'Ivoire. The HDI score is less than 0.5 in those areas. Human development in the autonomous district of Abidjan is approximately 0.581, while in the other parts of the country the HDI figure oscillates between 0.480 (in the Bagoué region) and 0.543 (in the Grands-Ponts region). This could be due to the north/south human development disparity because of the presence of infrastructure which is more accessible in the south than the north.

⁵ <https://www.imf.org/fr/News/Articles/2020/04/17/pr20172-cote-divoire-imf-exec-board-approves-us-886-2m-disbursement-address-covid19-pandemic>



Figure 2: Human Development Index in 2018 by regions
(Source: Institut National de la Statistique de Côte d'Ivoire)

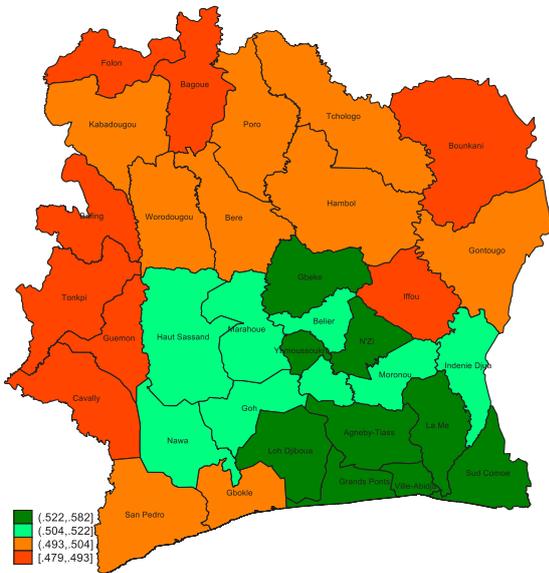


Figure 3: Regional Human Development Index
(Source: UNDP)

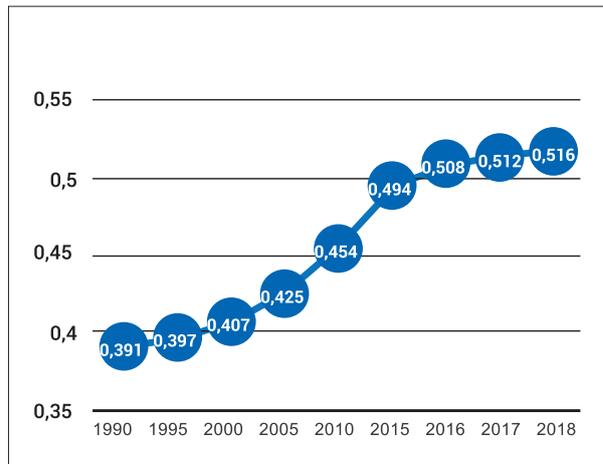


Figure 4: Ratio of the population living in poverty according to the national poverty line (percentage of the population)
(Source: ENV 2015 and INS / EHCVM-UEMOA, 1st Edition, 2018-2019)

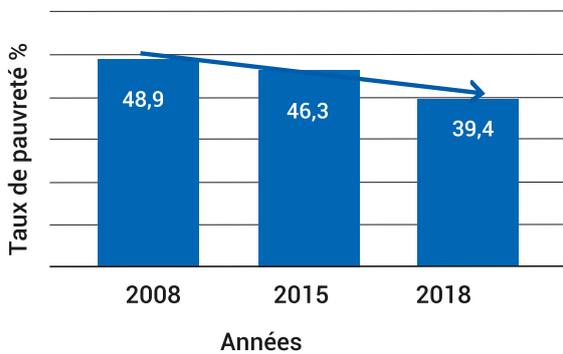


Figure 5: Gini Index
(Source: World Bank)

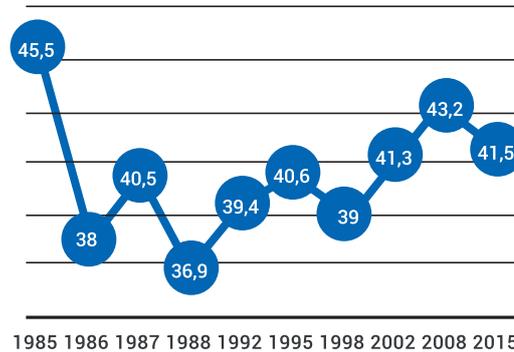
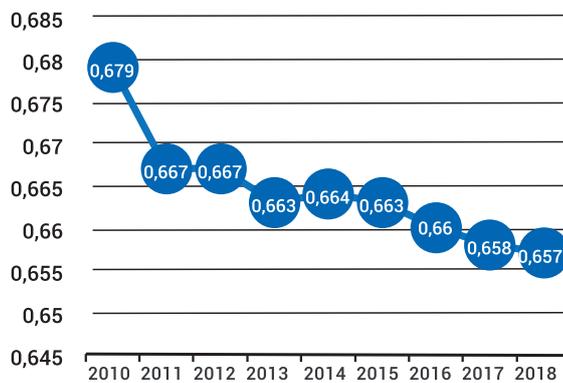


Figure 6: Gender Inequality Index
(Source: UNDP)





17. In terms of poverty, results have also improved marginally as 39.4 per cent of the population were living below the national poverty line in 2018, compared to 46.3 per cent in 2015 and 48.9 per cent in 2008. It should be noted that poverty dropped by 15.6 percentage points between 2011 and 2018 after regular increases: from 10 per cent in 1985 to 32.3 per cent in 1993, 33.6 per cent in 1998, 38.4 per cent in 2002 and 48.9 per cent in 2008. The Government's Social Programme, known as PS-Gouv and costing 1,003.4 billion FCFA overall from 2019 to 2020, is making a significant contribution to the inclusive nature of any growth, ensuring an improvement in social wellbeing with an accessible, efficient and high-quality public service. Peasant income has increased thanks to a remuneration policy guaranteeing agricultural producers at least 60 per cent of the CIF price; civil servants have seen their income improve after salaries frozen since 1989 were unblocked and index-based promotion every two years and payment of previous broken commitments resumed; those working in the private sector and pensioners have benefited from an increase in the SMIG [minimum wage], from 36,607 FCFA to 60,000 FCFA, and reform of the national social security and pension funds (the Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance Sociale, CNPS and the Caisse Générale de Retraite des Agents de l'Etat, CGRAE). The number of households receiving quarterly remittances increased from 27,000 in 2017 to 127,000 at the end of June 2020 and could reach 227,000 at the end of 2020 with all regions covered that year.

However, general monetary poverty trends conceal profound regional disparities. In more than three quarters of the country's regions the poverty rate was above the national poverty rate in 2018. The autonomous district of Abidjan recorded the lowest poverty rate at 9.8 per cent. Abidjan, the economic capital with a rate of 10.4 per cent, is traditionally the area with the lowest level of poverty in the country. The regions of Tonkpi (64.4 per cent), Kabadougou (63.4 per cent), Bafing (63.3 per cent), Cavally (63.2 per cent) and Tchologo (61.2 per cent) had the highest levels of poverty. Further, there is a difference between urban areas, where the

poverty rate was estimated to be 23.5 per cent, and rural areas where it reached a high of 51.2 per cent in 2018.⁶ The three regions with the most people living in poverty in Côte d'Ivoire are Haut- Sassandra (7.9 per cent living in poverty), Tonkpi (7.5 per cent living in poverty) and the autonomous district of Abidjan (5.8 per cent living in poverty). Between 2015 and 2018, the country's Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) dropped by 15.5 percentage points from 0.271 in 2015 to 0.229 in 2018. In 2018, multidimensional poverty remained concentrated and at a high level in the north and west of Côte d'Ivoire compared to the other regions, just as it was in 2015.

Regional analysis indicates a drop in the MPI in 23 regions (and autonomous districts) and an increase in the remaining 10. Although multidimensional poverty has decreased in most areas, it increased by more than nine percentage points in the following regions: Iffou (9.8 percentage points), Agnéby-Tiassa (41 percentage points), Grands-Ponts (12.9 percentage points), Cavally (11.1 percentage points) and Tchologo (22.5 percentage points). These variations highlight an unequal fall in deprivation in Côte d'Ivoire's various regions. The reduction in multidimensional poverty in 2018 is consistent with the decrease in monetary poverty and could be explained by the improved economic conditions which have led to an increase in investment and job creation, and the implementation of social measures by the Government (targeted free healthcare, education for all, electricity for all, etc.). Despite this improvement in living conditions, 46.7 per cent of the Ivorian population was still living in multidimensional poverty in 2018 with a high concentration in rural areas (68.6 per cent). In urban areas, 25.3 per cent of the population were living in multidimensional poverty. In 2018, poverty remained concentrated in the north, the north-west and the west of Côte d'Ivoire, just as in 2015. The preliminary results of studies into household living conditions since the advent of the Covid 19 pandemic indicate that poverty could increase in 2020.

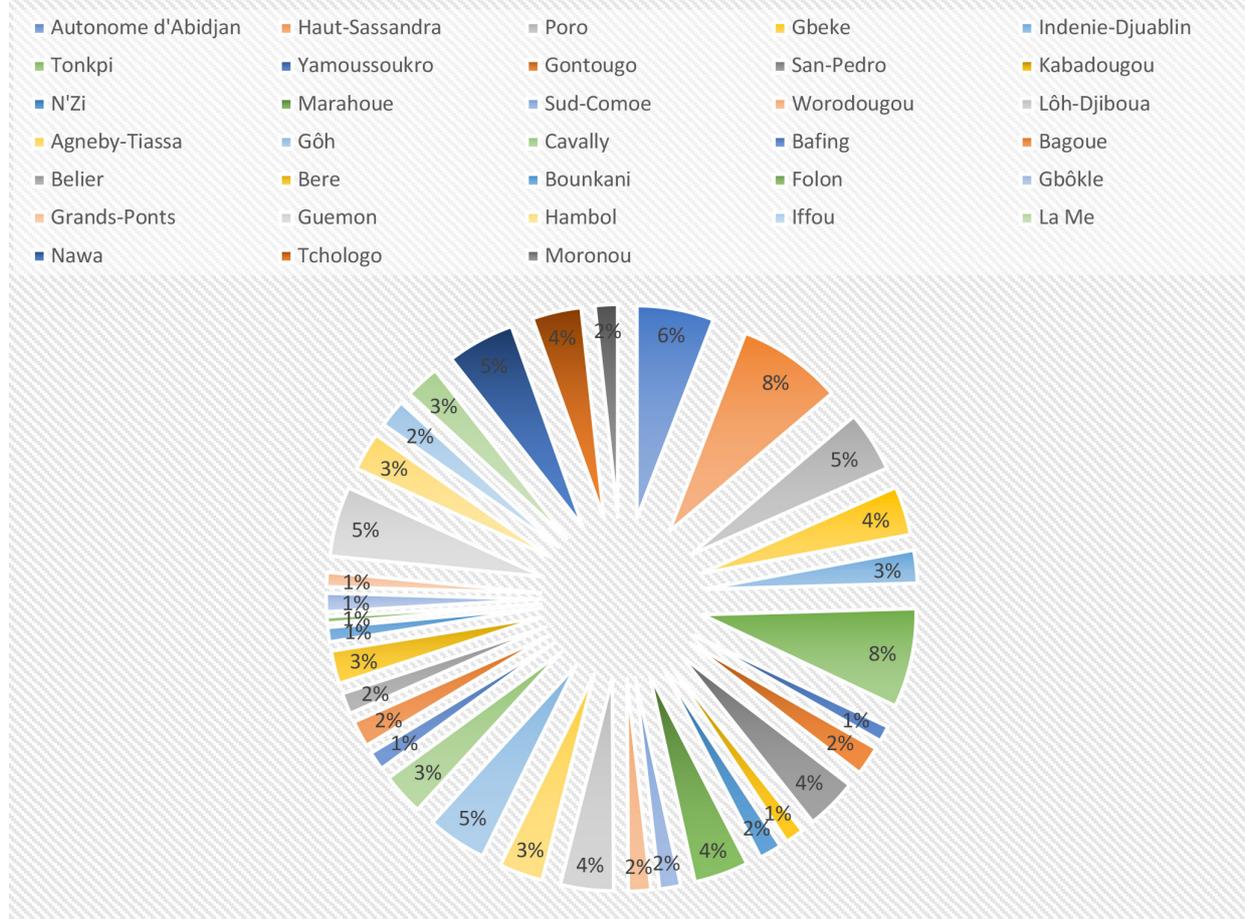
⁶ INS / EHCVM 2018





Figure 7: Regional breakdown of people living in poverty in 2018

(Source : INS / EHCVM 2018)



18. Any potential for human development is reduced by the extent of the country's inequalities whose fall had been slow until 2015: the Gini coefficient was 0.5 in 2002 falling to 0.42 in 2008 and then 0.415 in 2015. Inequalities then began to fall more quickly as the Gini coefficient reached 0.365 in 2019, an exceptionally low level. The Gender Inequality Index for Côte d'Ivoire was estimated to be 0.657 in 2018, compared to 0.679 in 2010 (UNDP, HDR, 2018).

19. The Government's Social Programme (PSGOUV 2019-2020), which has a budget of 1,000 billion FCFA, was introduced to strengthen and accelerate implementation of concrete measures to increase wellbeing among the population, particularly the most disadvantaged. The steps taken within this programme reaffirm the Ivorian Government's commitment to having "national economic growth generating social wellbeing with an accessible, efficient and high-quality public service."

Environmental damage: a source of concern

20. The World Bank's Climate Change Vulnerability Index ranks Côte d'Ivoire 147th out of 178 countries, suggesting that it is particularly vulnerable. The country has experienced warming temperatures, a change in the rainfall regime, bioclimatic changes affecting the Atlantic Ocean, drying-out of agricultural land, damage to forests at a rate of approximately 200,000 ha per year and a coastal erosion speed of one to three metres

per year. All this has significant consequences for the foundations of economic prosperity and social cohesion. In socioeconomic terms, hydroelectric production, agricultural production (particularly cocoa farming), fishing and other activities being developed in the coastal region have started to be impacted and/or threatened while still supporting millions of people. Agriculture's continued dependance on climate



conditions is a risk in terms of food security and also in terms of the revenue the people and the Government take from export crops. In terms of the living environment, several coastal villages

risk disappearing under the ocean, while in urban areas numerous households are regularly victims of flooding, causing material and social damage and potentially population displacement.

The Covid 19 pandemic: a lingering health crisis threatening national achievement of the SDGs

21. The socioeconomic context in Côte d'Ivoire is now impacted by the pandemic of the infectious disease linked to coronavirus (Covid 19) which has been affecting almost all countries and territories across the world since its appearance in Wuhan in China in December 2020. Côte d'Ivoire recorded its first case of a coronavirus infection on 11 March 2020. The pandemic continues to spread within the country and neighbouring nations with more than 13,554 confirmed positive cases and 87 deaths as of 17 July 2020. The socioeconomic consequences of the pandemic, in the wake of the steps taken to curb it, are clear: quasi-paralysis of economic activity, disruption to supplies and transport, the loss of jobs and income for a large part of the population which has been plunged into poverty, and a deepening of gender inequalities. The Covid 19 crisis has aggravated socioeconomic vulnerabilities as most households have been impacted by at least one of the Government's measures (80.7 per cent). According to a study carried out by UNDS, Covid 19 has impacted the employment of 78.8 per cent of heads of households because of the cash flow problems affecting 64.4 per cent of companies in the informal sector where activity has fallen by 52.8 per cent. Consequently, the number of additional households falling below the poverty line because of coronavirus is estimated to be 32 per cent.⁷ Spending on transport, money transfers and education have fallen most significantly. More than 40 per cent of households have therefore reduced their resources for education since the crisis began in response to the Government's decision to close schools. In terms of education, 87.2 per cent of households interviewed had school-age children, 55.3 per cent of which continued to ensure their children, aged 6 to 18,

continued with their education, compared to 32 per cent of households whose children were not receiving any such education. A smaller proportion of poor households has reduced its consumption of the various spending items compared to the most affluent households. The distributional impact of the crisis seems to favour the poorest households, most of which do not work in the sectors most affected by the crisis. However, analysis of the number of vulnerable households highlights the fact that 45.2 per cent are moving from not living in poverty to living in poverty, i.e. 1,620,777 additional households. The impoverishment of the 16.51 per cent of households which are already living in poverty has worsened due to the reduction in their income. This reduction is estimated to be 30 per cent on average. This situation makes them even more vulnerable.

22. Over and beyond its short and medium-term effects, the Covid 19 pandemic has therefore been included in Côte d'Ivoire's Common Country Assessment analysis to demonstrate the need to highlight the role of unpredictable stresses, a country's ability to respond and its resilience in the face of these types of health, environmental, security and financial stresses in a globalized world. It reveals weaknesses in their ability to respond and their resilience. The impact of these stresses on the trajectory of the country's development can be unexpected. It has become essential to take them into account in this CCA to highlight the associated institutional, economic, political, security, humanitarian and sociocultural opportunities and challenges as regards achieving the SDGs, and to define the risks facing implementation of public policies.

⁷ Household study into the impact of Covid 19 produced by the Institut National de la Statistique (INS) in April 2020 with the support of the United Nations System and coordinated by UNDP.







II. PROGRESS MADE TO IMPLEMENT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals in Côte d'Ivoire

23. In adopting the 2030 Agenda, Côte d'Ivoire has committed to implementing it within the framework of its national plans and programmes. The SDGs were on the point of being adopted when the 2016-2020 National Development Plan (NDP) was officially approved in September 2015. The SDGs, as well as contextualization of the SDG targets and indicators, have therefore been considered in stages during successive reviews of the NDP.

24. The Government has given the SDGs prominence within both the framework of the 2016-2020 NDP and other sector-based programmes such as the 2019-2020 Government Social Programme (PSGouv) launched in 2018 to escalate the State's social measures. By way of illustration:

- In terms of ending poverty (SDGs 1 and 10), the Government has strengthened and expanded its social protection programmes and directed approximately 35 per cent of State resources to the pro-poor budget (2018-2020);
- Agricultural and nutritional programmes have been introduced to promote food production and security, as well as nutrition and the population's nutritional security (SDG 2). These include in particular: the National Nutrition Policy (2016), the National Multisectoral Nutrition Plan (PNMN, 2016-2020), the National Agricultural Investment Programme (PNIA1 2012-2016 and PNIA2, 2018-2025), and a Strategic Plan for Development of Livestock Farming, Fish and Fishing Products (PSDEPA 2014-2020), all of which form an integral part of the 2016-2020 NDP;
- A number of programmes have been launched around the National Health Development Plan, including those covering reproductive, maternal, neonatal and infant health, as well as preventing HIV/aids, with a view to

strengthening the provision of healthcare and the demand for healthcare at national level (SDG 3). Healthcare infrastructure has been improved across the country through the construction and renovation of peripheral healthcare establishments and general hospitals to improve geographical accessibility. The number of people living less than 5 km from a health centre has increased from 44 per cent in 2012 to 69 per cent of the population in 2019. Further, three of the 12 flagship projects contained within the Government's 2019-2020 Social Programme focus directly on health: i) Strengthening targeted free healthcare; ii) Strengthening the expanded vaccination programme; and iii) a universal health insurance scheme (Couverture maladie universelle or CMU). 555,729 people were enrolled on the CMU during the first six months of 2020, bringing the total number of people enrolled to 2,421,338 out of 2,979,469 beneficiaries identified. 667,412 free birthing kits and 93,341 free cesarean kits were distributed in 2019 and the first half of 2020. Over and beyond the National Integrated Plan (NIP) to combat the illicit trafficking and abuse of drugs in Côte d'Ivoire, finalized in October 2019, a draft law on combating drug trafficking and drug abuse is being drawn up on a consultative basis under the aegis of the Anti-Drug Inter-Ministerial Committee (Comité Interministériel de Lutte Anti-Drogue or CILAD) with the support of UNODC (SDGs 3 and 16). Moreover, in 2019 the Ministry of Women, the Family and Children began the Strong Family programme. In 2018, the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of National Education launched the UNPLUGGED programme and in 2020 the "Keys for Adolescence" programme as tools to prevent drug use, including in schools, aimed at young people aged between 8/10/12 and 14, and their parents.⁸

⁸ <https://www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/fr/2018-09-10-ecowas-unplugged-launch-abidjan.html>



- In the field of education, the Government has adopted the Compulsory Education law (PSO) for children from the age of six, requiring their attendance within the education system until the age of 16 (SDG 4). Other significant measures include issuing birth certificates to school-aged children, implementation of the Strategic Plan to Accelerate the Education of Girls (2015-2018), school cafeterias, the construction of educational facilities and latrines in schools (particularly in rural areas where the construction of 60 local junior high schools is planned between now and 2021), and the recruitment of teachers to improve children's education and keep them in school. Between 2011 and 2019, the Government built 33,698 classrooms for primary and pre-school children, 277 junior high and high schools, and 623 first-contact health facilities (établissements sanitaires de premiers contacts or ESPCs). It also renovated 223 ESPCs. In the same period, 71,544 teaching and managerial staff were recruited, 10,300 teachers were recruited and allocated, and 186,000 new desks were received. Further, the Government built 133 local junior high schools between 2012 and 2019, while 95 other local junior high schools are under construction to enable children from rural areas to access high-quality education in the regions where their parents live. Seven universities are now operational, compared to three in 2011, and two more are under construction. The 2019-2020 Government Social Programme is seeking to step up the work already carried out in these areas, particularly through the extraordinary recruitment of 10,300 contract teachers by competition in 2019;
 - With regards to the rights of women (SDGs 5 and 10), Côte d'Ivoire has made excellent progress in terms of regulations and programmes. This is particularly true of gender equality, empowerment of women, combating violence against women and discrimination against women. The Ivorian Constitution, adopted in November 2016, endorses the principle of equality between men and women. Articles 35, 36 and 37 reaffirm the issue of parity. The law on marriage adopted in 2012 confers on women the same rights as men
- in terms of choosing where their family lives and the inclusion of children in their tax return. Côte d'Ivoire has also adopted the following: a National Policy Document on Equal Opportunities, Equity and Gender; a National Strategy to Combat Gender-Based Violence (GBV); an accelerated Plan to Combat Early Marriage, a Strategic Action Plan to Combat Forced Marriage; an Operational National Policy Plan on Equal Opportunities, Equity and Gender; a National Gender Policy; an Action Plan for Implementation of Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security; a National Agricultural Land Policy enabling women to access land; and a National Programme to Combat the Practice of Clitoridectomy. It has also adopted a new Criminal Code and a new Code of Criminal Procedure with a view to facilitating legal proceedings against people who commit GBV. Further, the creation of the National Equity and Gender Observatory (l'Observatoire National de l'Équité et du Genre or ONEG) and the National Council of Women (Conseil National de la Femme or CNF), as well as the introduction of 62 multisectoral platforms to combat GBV (plates formes multisectorielles de lutte contre les VBG or PFVBG), the inclusion of GBV into the initial training curricula of magistrates at the National School for Magistrates (École Nationale de Magistrature or ENM), and the inclusion of GBV in the continuous training curricula of the national police force are all of note;
- To tackle the structural imbalance of the water sector (SDG 6), the Government has introduced a plan to: i) improve governance of the sector; ii) secure available resources for the supply of drinking water; iii) renovate human drinking water facilities; iv) build human drinking water facilities; v) strengthen the human, technical and financial capacities of those operating in the water sector; and vi) promote technical innovations in the sector. The number of localities connected to urban hydraulics increased from 789 in 2011 to 1,100 in June 2020, while the level of urban hydraulics cover increased from 55 per cent in 2011 to 72 per cent in 2019;





- In Abidjan, drinking water production capacity increased from 350,000 m³/day in 2011 to 750,000 m³/day in June 2020, i.e. an increase of 400,000 m³/day. Production capacity within the towns of the interior increased from 79,655 m³/day in 2011 to 131,566 m³/day in 2018. Further, in order to protect the dignity of teachers, children and people living in rural areas, 528 school latrines were built in the first half of 2020, bringing the total number of school latrines installed to 1,164, while 4,210 latrines were built by villagers in the first half of 2020, bringing the total number of latrines installed by villagers to 4,832;
- To achieve its goal of providing electricity to 80 per cent of the country by the end of 2020, the Government has made accessing electricity (SDG 7) one of the main issues covered in the PSGouv. It aims to reduce the special 'social' tariff for the most disadvantaged households and increase rural electrification and subscription/connection for households at a lower cost. 1,330 localities were provided with electricity between January 2019 and the end of June 2020. Under these circumstances, electricity cover increased from 33.1 per cent in 2011 to 73.6 per cent in June 2020;
- To guarantee decent work for all and to reduce inequalities (SDGs 8 and 10), youth employment and the empowerment of women have been taken into account within the framework of the PSGouv with activities focusing on promoting entrepreneurship, skills development and internships, and Employment Intensive Investment Programmes (EIIPs) scheduled. 73,489 job opportunities were created for young people in 2019, compared to the goal of 77,004. 34,399 were within the framework of entrepreneurship, 17,391 in skills development, 15,149 for internships, 6,550 within the framework of Employment Intensive Investment Programmes (EIIPs) and 201 for job centres covering the entire country. Further, in the first half of 2020 and despite Covid 19, 750 young people received funding for structural projects within the framework of entrepreneurship, 1,082 were in training, 613 were accepted for work experience internships within companies, 539 were placed on prequalification traineeships and 500 on school/diploma validation internships. With regards to female entrepreneurship, in 2019 2,141 girls received training about entrepreneurship concepts and 775 received grants to set up income-generating activities. In the first half of 2020, 2,235 women also received grants for setting up income-generating activities worth 120,445,585 FCFA. Throughout 2019 and the first half of 2020, 362,471 people received information about sexual health and reproduction. In community settings in particular, 15,681 girls in 2019 and 36,728 adolescents and women in the first half of 2020 received information about life skills and sexual health;
- With a view to establishing high-quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure (SDG 9), a section on improving travel conditions for individuals and goods has been retained within the framework of the PSGouv with emphasis on maintaining tracks and roads to make the economy more inclusive. 19,170 linear kilometres of village tracks (1,389 routes) were reshaped between January 2019 and the end of June 2020, including 736 linear kilometres (43 routes) during the first half of 2020 to facilitate travel conditions for people and marketing goods. Since 2001, a significant effort has been made to improve transport conditions and therefore reduce the cost of living with 25 bridges and interchanges built, 539.20 kilometres of inter-urban routes improved, 655 kilometres of new roads built and 260.60 kilometres of urban roads created;
- The Government Social Programme (PSGOUV 2019-2020), which aims to build social housing amongst other things, should contribute to improving the quality of housing for low-income households. The Government's ambition would be to increase the percentage of the population living in decent housing from 30 per cent in 2015 to more than 50 per cent (SDGs 10 and 11). The initial goal of building 60,000 housing units over the 2012-2015 period actually increased to 150,000 during the 2016-2020 period. 15,618 housing units were created between 2011 and 2019, including 10,126 by private operators, 3,859 by the Société Ivoirienne de Construction et de Gestion Immobilière (SICOGI) and 1,633 within the framework of the Programme for Low- Cost Land Development;





- The Government is taking action within the framework of the 2019-2030 National Sustainable Development Strategy, the National Low Carbon Strategy, the June 2014 Framework Act on Sustainable Development, the 2015-2020 National Climate Change Strategy and the 2020-2024 National Gender and Climate Change Strategy, combined with an action plan, to make consumption and production methods sustainable, better control the environmental impacts of economic and social activities, as well as waste recycling (SDG 12), strengthen resilience and the ability to adapt in the face of climate risks and natural catastrophes (SDG 13), protect and operate the water environment sustainably (SDG 14), and protect and restore land ecosystems (SDG 15);
- Finally, in order to promote the advent of a peaceful society (SDG 16), a new Constitution⁹ was adopted by the National Assembly on 7 October 2016, approved by referendum on 30 October 2016 and promulgated by the President of the Republic on 8 November 2016. This Constitution is the result of a revision of the 2000 Constitution from which several provisions which could have been a source of conflict have been withdrawn (Articles 35 and 38).

25. Using the Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA)¹⁰ tool, it has been possible to assess to what extent the SDGs have been integrated into the 2016-2020 NDP and to identify whether the NDP measures and the SDG targets are consistent. The process to harmonize the SDGs with the NDP appears incomplete at this stage because only 105 of the 169 SDG targets were considered relevant for the harmonization exercise. On that basis, five targets have been fully integrated into the NDP; 82, i.e. 78 per cent, have been partially integrated; and 18, i.e. 17 per cent, have not been taken into consideration in the NDP. Differences in terms of the data have also been identified, as have the methods used to produce the necessary statistics.

26. Of the 105 targets, 40 (i.e. 38 per cent) have been considered a priority by the Government.¹¹

Of those targets, 17 fall under social sectors; 11 targets fall under economic sectors; eight targets fall under the environment; and four targets fall under governance. Analysis of the impetus of the various SDGs resulted in the identification of 65 acceleration actions, 11 of which are characterized as 'super-accelerators', broken down into the following five areas: i) Social development and inclusive growth; ii) Wealth creation through structural transformation of the economy; iii) Environment and the living environment; iv) Good governance; and v) Partnership for achieving the goals (see 2019 VNR).

27. Within the framework of implementation of the 2016-2020 NDP, the Government initiated measures to provide information and training about and advocate and encourage support for the SDGs, stages considered essential within the framework of the "Mainstreaming, Accelerating and Policy Support" (MAPS) process to begin harmonizing plans and programmes with the SDGs and the commitment of stakeholders to implement them. These activities, mainly carried out between 2016 and 2018 in the form of specific workshops, have involved ministerial departments, parliamentarians, State institutions, the private sector, civil society, local authorities, traditional leaders, women, youth, academics, the media, and technical and financial partners.

28. At the 2016 Sustainable Development Convention, the private sector committed to promoting corporate social responsibility (CSR) by bringing itself into line with the SDGs. Capacity-strengthening requirements were also underlined, particularly for local authority umbrella groups, while members of civil society raised their insufficient knowledge of the SDGs and how they are implemented and monitored. During this consultation and ownership phase, the main outstanding challenges raised were: production of statistical data on the SDGs, integration of the SDGs into sector-based and local policies, mobilization of resources and better coordination of action.

⁹ A new Constitution was promulgated on 17 March 2020. The changes mainly concern three significant reforms covering the executive power, the legislative power and the judicial power.

¹⁰ Tool produced by the UN Sustainable Development Group to help countries assess how their development strategies align with the SDGs.

¹¹ VNR





Examination of the progress made by Côte d'Ivoire to achieve the SDG

29. With regards more particularly to the production of data for effective monitoring and evaluation of implementation of the SDGs, Côte d'Ivoire, with the support of its Development Partners, has made a concerted effort to improve its national statistics system: in 2019, the country adopted a National Statistics Development Strategy proposing organizational, financial and technical measures to enable all national players, with technical coordination from the National Institute of Statistics, to play their part in producing regular and reliable statistical data, and to ensure monitoring of implementation of the NDP and the main development agenda the country is following. At the end of this process, those involved raised several problems and made recommendations to ensure data to monitor the SDGs and the NDP is collected regularly. The following problems were raised: lack of data to complete some SDG indicators; incomprehension of some indicators submitted to sectors; impossibility of completing some indicators due to the inexistence of calculation methods; unavailability of some indicators as described; and the excessive nature of some indicators containing a lot of information to be examined. These challenges suggest UNDS needs to provide support to strengthen the capacities of those in charge of sector-based statistics and particularly to: enable them to better complete the remaining SDG indicators; create a permanent framework for dialogue between organizations to facilitate the collection and circulation of data; draw up an indicator monitoring plan; highlight and develop a culture of taking into account routine data, as well as survey data; and ensure consideration of the SDG indicators within the framework of implementing and monitoring the NDP. The Government, in collaboration with its technical and financial partners, is initiating action to mobilize resources and explore new horizons to receive the innovative funding available. To ensure optimal management of any resources received, the Government is also initiating reforms to make an efficient management and coordination framework operational for financing the SDGs.
30. The available data on 39 targets highlights goal by goal the progress Côte d'Ivoire has made since 2015 to achieve the SDGs with regards to the pillars of sustainable development: People, Prosperity, the Planet and Peace.¹² Among the main achievements are: (i) an increase in the wealth created during the 2012-2018 period; (ii) expansion of Universal Health Cover; (iii) an increase in the primary school completion rate in a context where more than 33,698 classrooms have been built over the last eight years; (iv) improved household access to a better source of drinking water with nearly 5,000 village pumps repaired or replaced between January 2019 and the end of June 2020 to facilitate access to drinking water; (v) an increase in electrification rate from 33 per cent in 2011 to 73.6 per cent in March 2020 and electrification of 1,330 localities between January 2019 and the end of June 2020; and (vi) an improvement in the protection and management of the environment and natural resources through the adoption of measures and policies which respect the environment and the protection of natural resources for future generations.
31. However, this data reveals that work remains to be done within the framework of the decade of action for sustainable development. The level of poverty currently observed remains high and varies depending on sociodemographic characteristics and the occupation of the head of the household. This poverty is experienced differently depending on gender, age and where people live. Inequalities between men and women are the most marked and persistent, particularly with regards to education, access to employment and political empowerment.
32. In the absence of recent and complete data, as well as a clear definition of some of the targets retained, the problems encountered to ensure harmonized and balanced monitoring of implementation of the SDGs have been highlighted in the following figures which reveal irregular observation periods and a lack of indicators in the case of 12 targets.

¹² A specific part of the CCA covers partnership and mobilization of financial resources falling under Partnership/Cooperation.

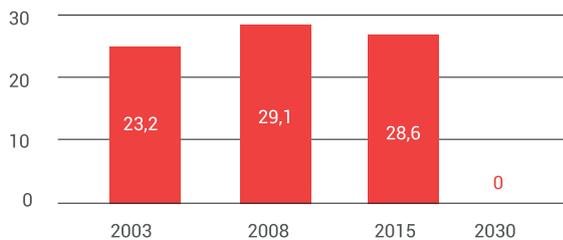






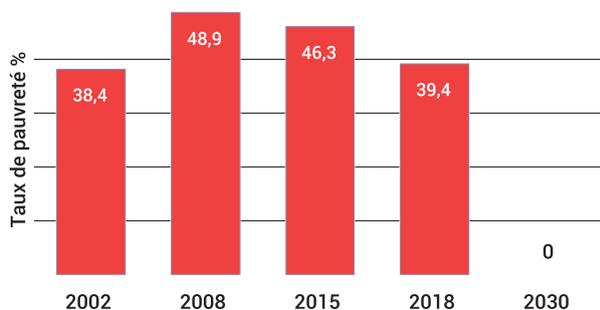
SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms

Target 1.1: By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere



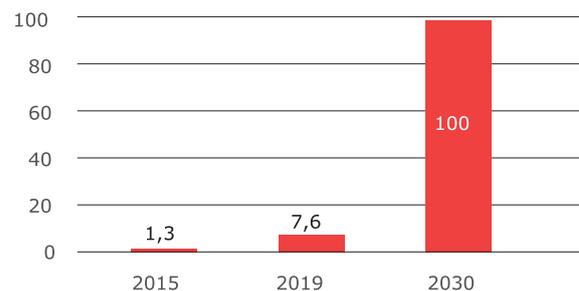
Ratio of the population living in poverty with less than \$1.90 per day (per cent). Source: World Bank

Target 1.2: By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
Rate of poverty (per cent)



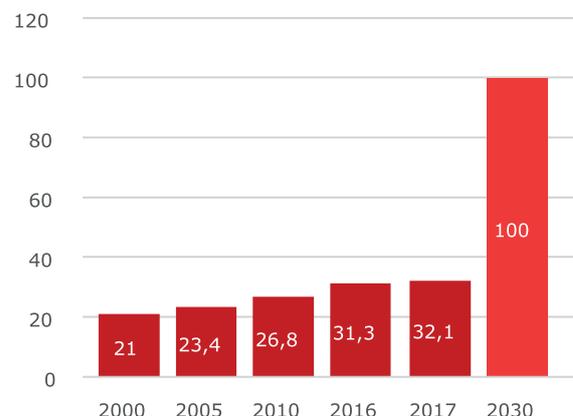
Proportion of the population living below the national poverty line (per cent). Source: ENV 2015 & World Bank forecast

Target 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.



Share of the population enrolled for Universal Health Cover (per cent). Source: CNAM¹²

Target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance



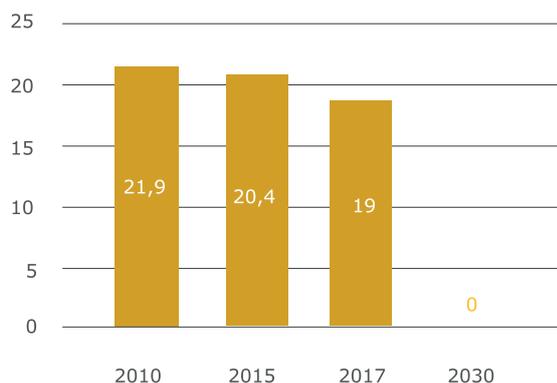
Proportion of the population using basic sanitation services (per cent).. Source: UNSDG database

¹³ Caisse Nationale d'Assurance Maladie [CNAM, National Health Insurance Fund]



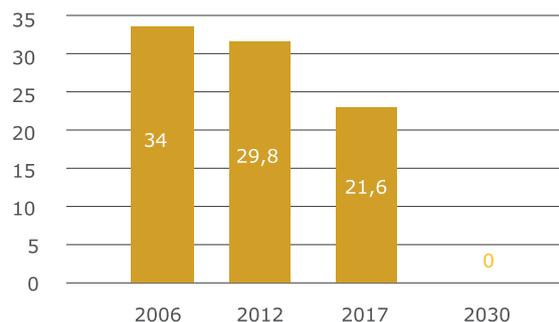
SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Target 2.1: By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round



Prevalence of malnutrition (per cent). Source : FAO

Target 2.2: By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons



Prevalence of stunting (per cent). Source : MICS5_2006 à 2016



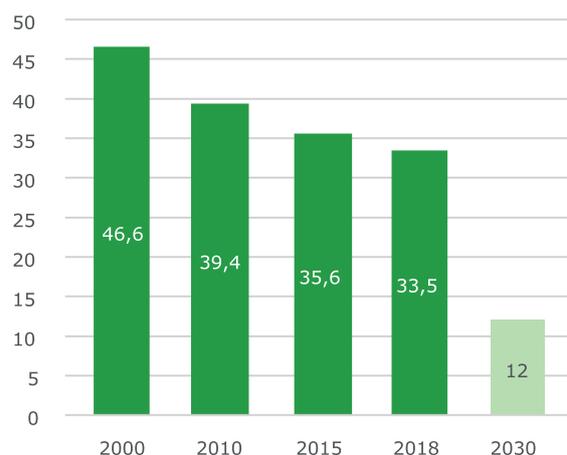
SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

Target 3.1: By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births



Maternal mortality ratio. Source : OMS

Target 3.2: By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births

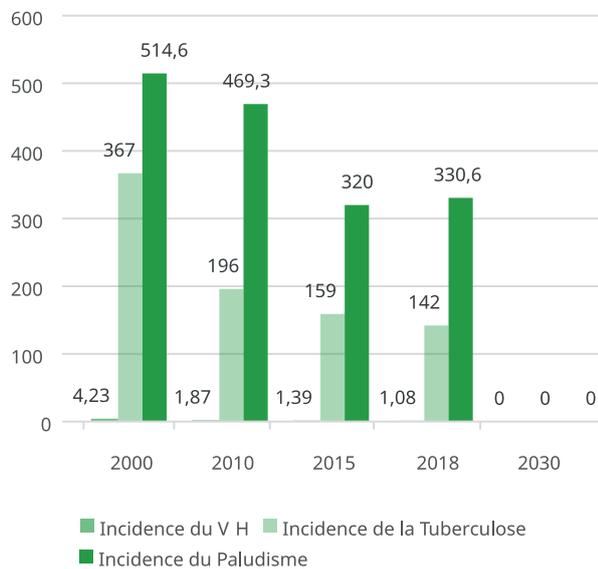


Neonatal mortality ratio (per 1,000). Source: United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation



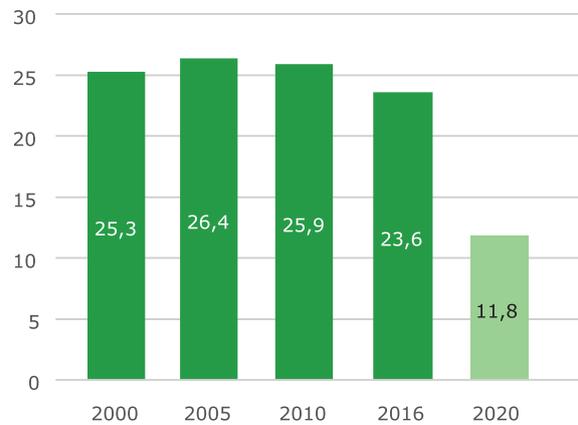


Target 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases



Incidence of HIV. Source: UNAIDS and WHO

Target 3.6: By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents

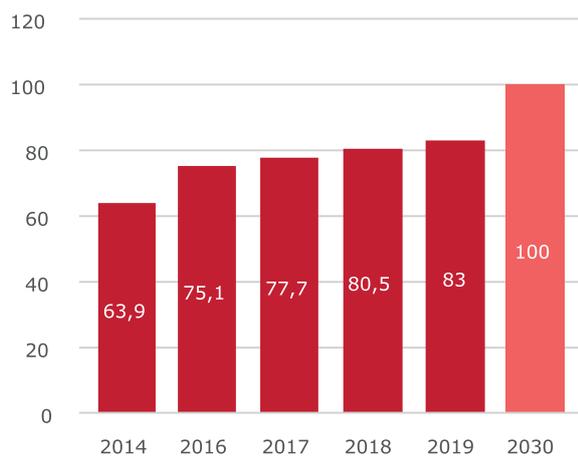


Road accident death rate (per 100,000 inhabitants). Source : UNSDG database

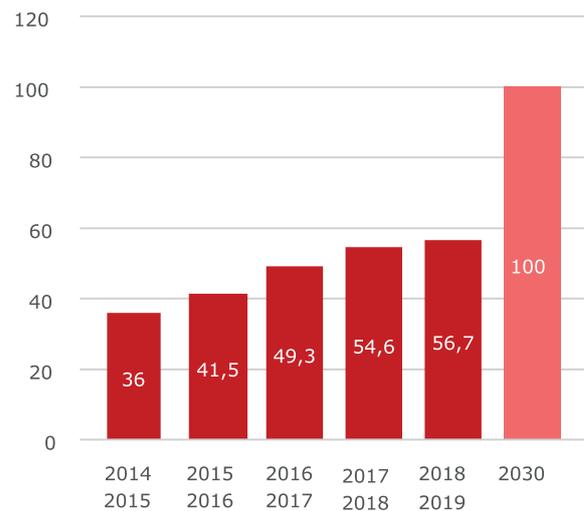


SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Target 4.1: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes



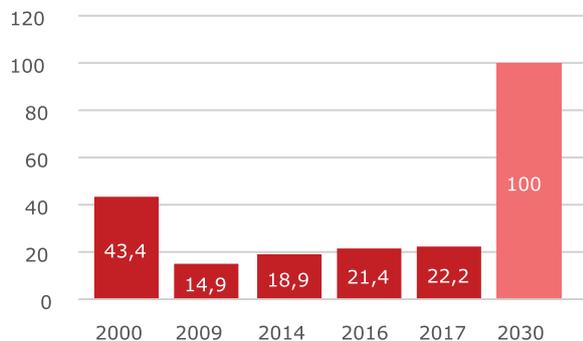
Primary education completion rate (per cent). Source: DSPS statistical yearbooks, MENETFP and DG's report on the Plan to technical and financial partners for 2019



Completion of first stage of secondary education (per cent). Source: DSPS statistical yearbooks, MENETFP

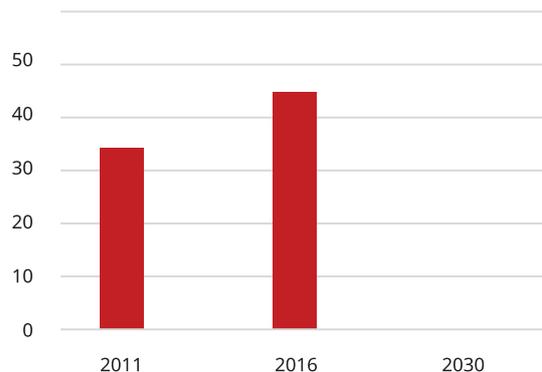


Target 4.2: By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education



Participation in organized learning (one year before official start of primary education). Source : UNSDG database

Target 4.6: By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy

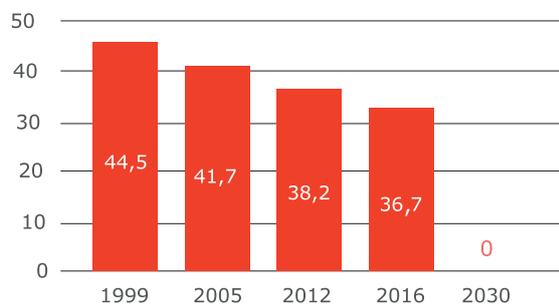


Literacy rate (per cent). Source: INS, ENV



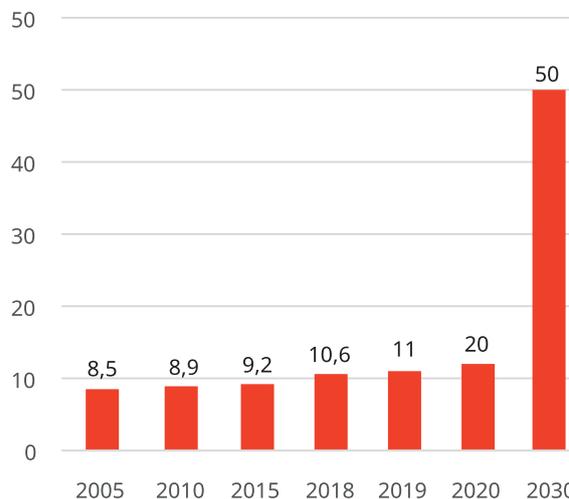
SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Target 5.3: Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation



Prevalence of female genital mutilation (per cent). Source : UNICEF

Target 5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life Proportion of seats occupied by women in national parliaments (per cent of total number of seats)



Proportion of seats occupied by women in national parliaments (per cent of total number of seats). Source : UNSDG database





SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Target 6.1: By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all



Total population with access to an improved water source (per cent). Source: Plan Executive Management, 2020. Preparatory work of the 2020-2025 NDP.

Target 6.2: By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations

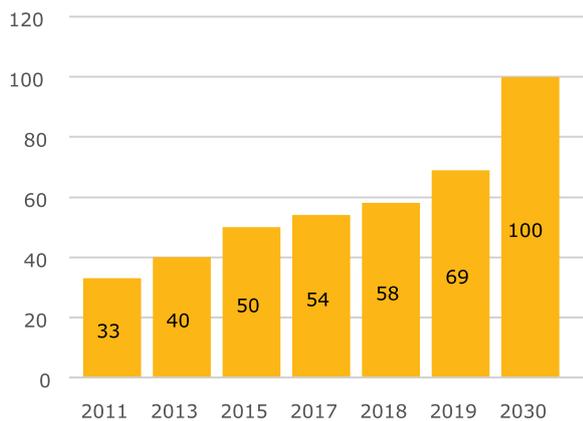


Proportion of the population with handwashing facilities (per cent). Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water



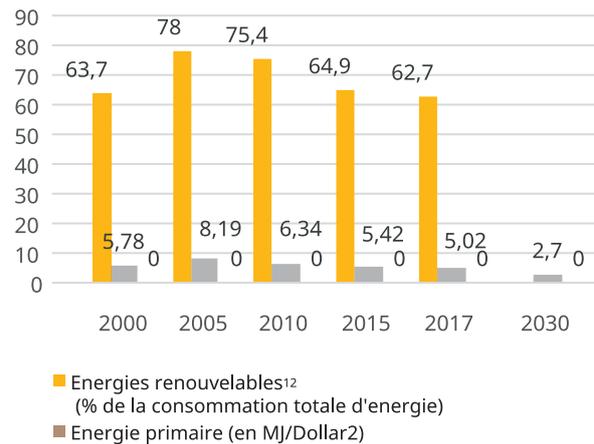
SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Target 7.1: By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services



National electricity cover. Source : MPD, MPEER/DGE

Target 7.2: By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix



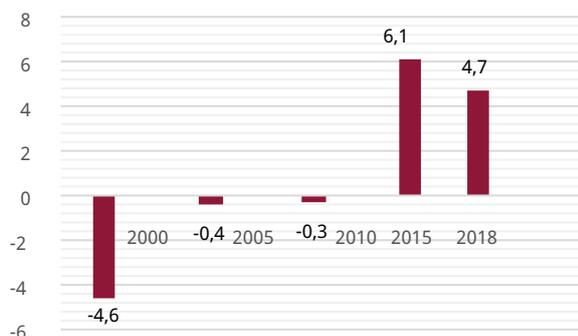
Consumption of renewable energies (per cent of total energy consumption).¹⁴ Source : UNSDG database
Energy intensity: Consumption of primary energy in MJ/Dollar.¹⁵ Source : UNSDG database

¹⁴ Côte d'Ivoire has set a target of producing 42% of its energy from renewable sources by 2030 (26% from hydropower and 16% from other sources (solar, bioenergy and wind)).
¹⁵ Energy intensity is an indication of the amount of energy used to produce a unit of economic output. A lower ratio indicates that less energy is used to produce a unit of output. This energy intensity, measured in megajoules (MJ) per dollar of GDP.



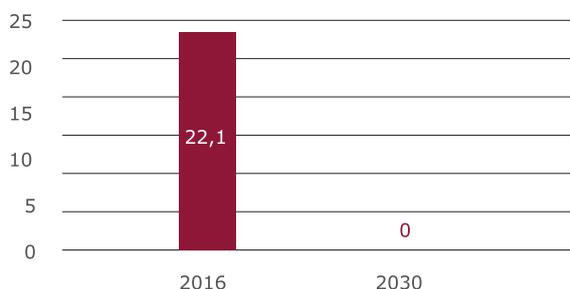
SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Target 8.1: Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries



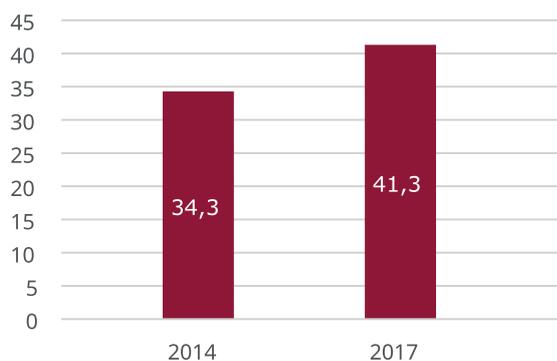
Real GDP growth per capita. Source: World Bank

Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour



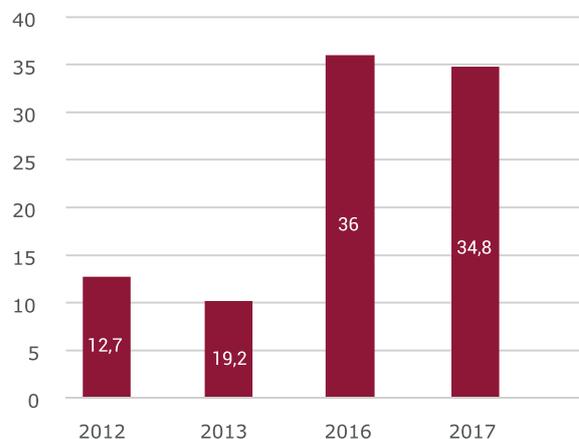
Proportion of children performing economic activities and household tasks according to gender and age (per cent). Source: UNSDG database

Target 8.10: Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all



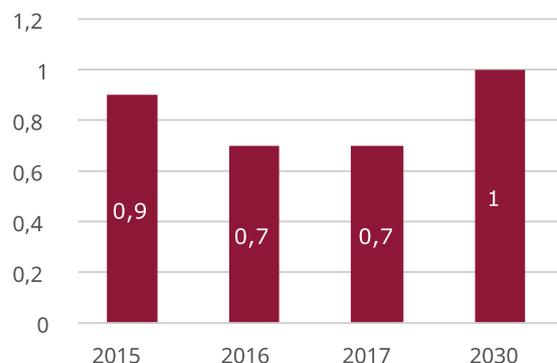
Proportion of adults (aged 15 and over) with an account with a financial institution or an electronic money service provider. Source: UNSDG database

Target 8.6: By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training



Proportion of youth not in school, employment or training. Source: UNSDG database

Target 8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

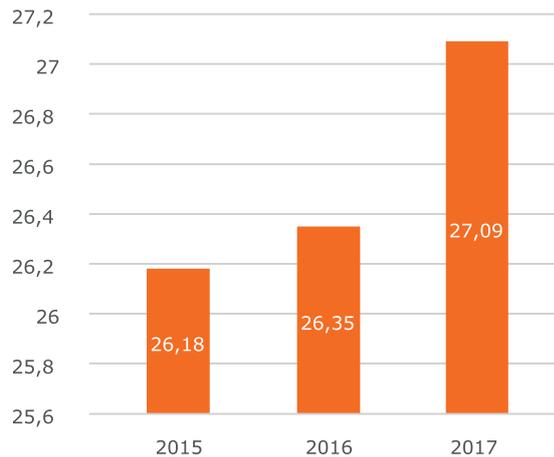


Level of compliance with employment rights at national level in view of ILO guidelines and national legislation. Source: UNSDG database



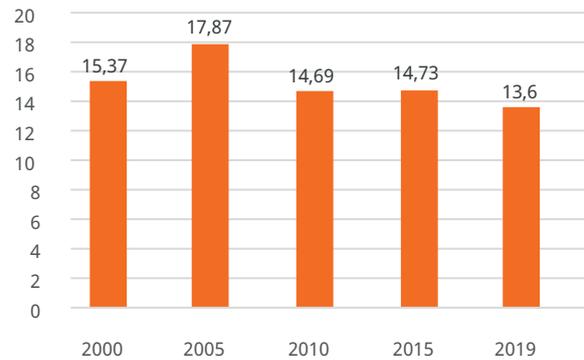
SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure and promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization

Target 9.1: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human wellbeing, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.



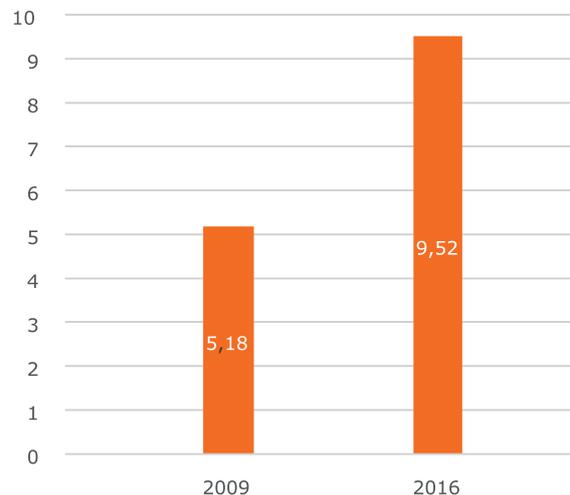
Volume of maritime freight transported per year in millions of tons (number). Source: Ministry for Transport and Matrix of the 2016-2020 NDP results framework.

Target 9.2: Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries



Added value in manufacturing industry in proportion of GDP (per cent). Source : UNSDG database

Target 9.3: Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets



Proportion of small-scale businesses in receipt of a loan or credit line (per cent). Source : UNSDG database





SDG 10: Reduce inequality

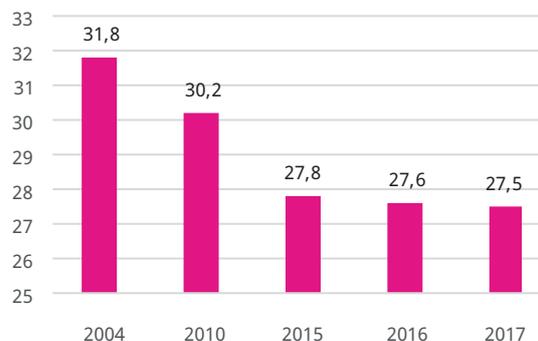
Target 10.1: By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average



Percentage of per capita spending in total consumption of the poorest 40 per cent of the population (per cent).

Source : INS, ENV

Target 10.4: Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality

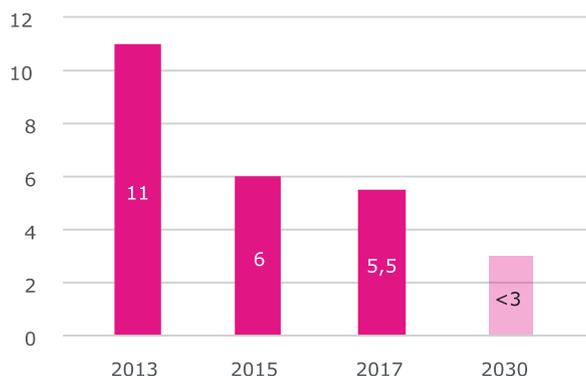


Share of employment in GDP (per cent).

Source: UNSDG database

Target 10.7: Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies: data missing

Target 10.c: By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent



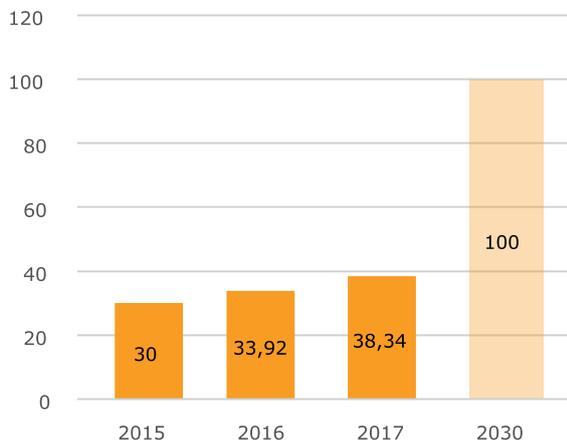
Average cost of a transaction for a money transfer to a given country (per cent). Source : World Bank





SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Target 11.1: By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums



Percentage of the population living in decent Source : MCLAU

Target 11.2: By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons: data missing

Target 11.5: By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations: data missing

Target 11.7: By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities: data missing



SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

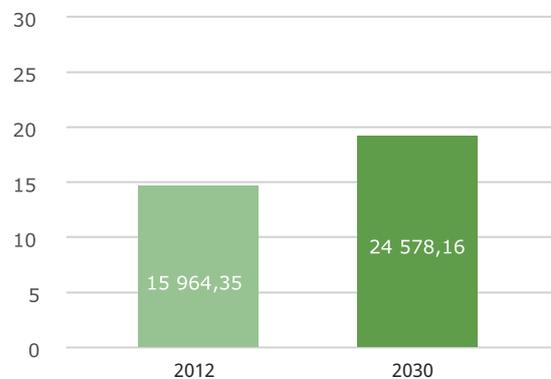
Target 12.3: By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses: data missing

Target 12.5: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse: data missing



SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change

Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning



Increase in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in Côte d'Ivoire¹⁶ (Total emissions in kton equiv. CO2)

¹⁶ Government's low carbon scenario for 2030. Côte d'Ivoire has undertaken to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 28 per cent by 2030.

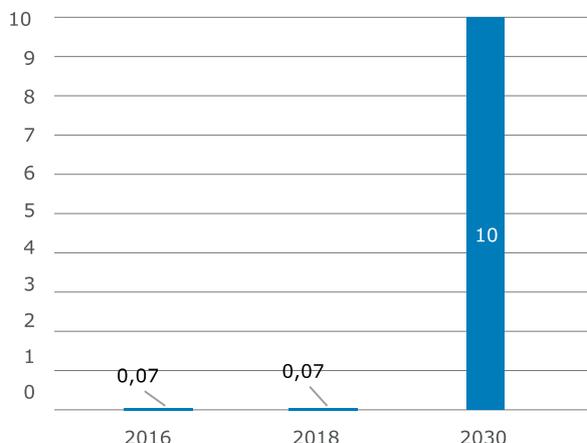


DG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Target 14.1: By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution: data missing

Target 14.4: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics: data missing.

Target 14.5: By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information

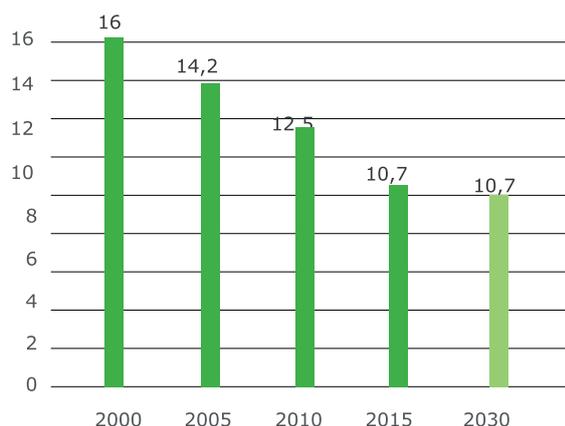


Surface area of protected marine areas in proportion to the total surface area (per cent). Source: Data from UNEP and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre as compiled by the World Resources Institute and based on data provided by the national authorities, national laws and international agreements



SDG 15: Protect terrestrial ecosystems and combat desertification

Target 15.2: By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally



Surface area of forest cover as a percentage of the total terrestrial surface area (per cent). Source : UNSDG database

Target 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species



Red List Index. ¹⁷. Source : UNDESA, et calculs de la CEA, Mars 2019

Target 15.7: Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products: data missing.

¹⁷ The Red List Index (RLI), whose value is between 0 and 1, is an index assessing biodiversity trends in a region. It therefore makes it possible to assess the risk of extinction of major animal species, coral reefs and cycads in the absence of any conservation efforts. A low RLI means the pace of future extinction of species is accelerating. Conversely, an RLI of 1 means damage to habitats and impoverishment of biodiversity has been halted.

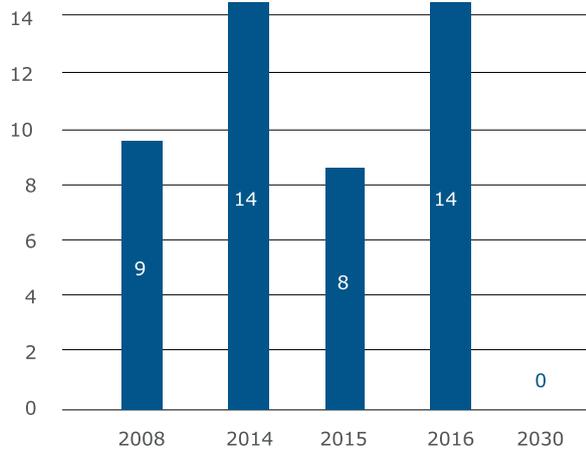




SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

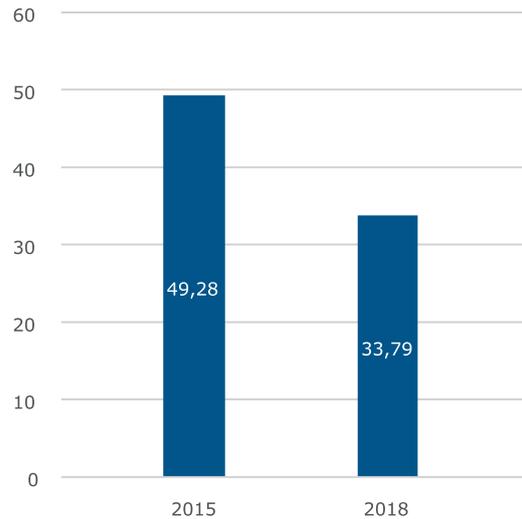
Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere: data missing.

Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children



Detected victims of trafficking in human beings for forced labour, servitude and slavery (number). Source: UNSDG database

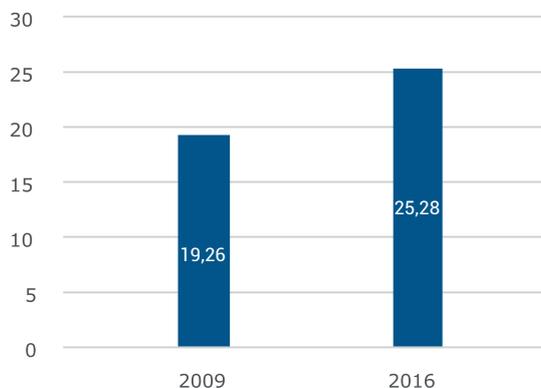
Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all



Proportion of the prison population awaiting trial (per cent). Source: Planning and Statistics Department / Ministry for Justice and Human Rights

Target 16.4: By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime: data missing.

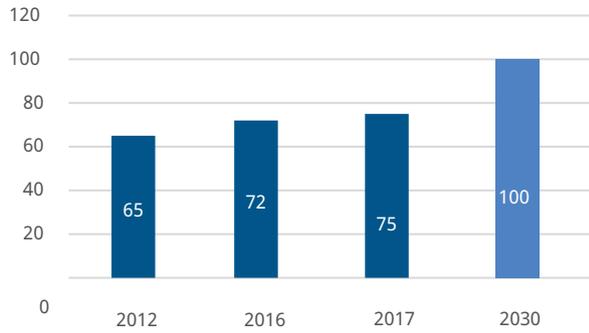
Target 16.5: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms



Proportion of companies having dealt on at least one occasion with a public agent to whom they have paid a bribe or who has asked them for a bribe over the previous 12 months (per cent). Source: UNSDG database

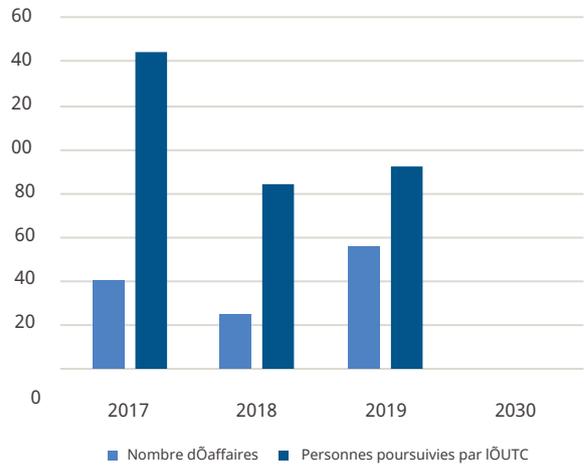


Target 16.6: By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration



Proportion of children under 5 registered by a civil status department (per cent). Source : INS

Target 16.7: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime



Number of cases / individuals pursued by Côte d'Ivoire's Unit to Combat Transnational Crime (UCT). Source: UNODC



Les engagements internationaux en matière de droits de l'Homme

33. With regards to acceptance of international human rights standards, Côte d'Ivoire has ratified several international instruments¹⁸, and in particular: the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (ratified in 2014); the Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption; the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict; and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. It is also party to the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court.¹⁹

34. With regards in particular to international labour standards, Côte d'Ivoire has ratified 41 conventions and two protocols, including eight core conventions, three conventions on governance and 26 technical conventions. Recently, the country ratified several conventions on health and safety at work, including: Convention N° 187 on the promotional framework for occupational safety and health, 2006; Convention N° 155 on occupational safety and health, 1981; Convention N°. 161 on occupational health services, 1985; and Convention N° 170 on chemicals, 1990, demonstrating the country's progress in terms of development and the increased importance of this matter in the current health context. Despite ratification of a number of the ILO's labour conventions, including all the core conventions, the monitoring bodies have observed several issues in terms of how the conventions ratified are implemented in law and in practice (including with regards to child labour, non-discrimination and equality, and freedom of association).

35. Côte d'Ivoire is party to the UN Convention against

Transnational Organized Crime (the 'Palermo Convention') and has ratified the additional protocols to prevent trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. The country has included these international commitments in its internal legislation with the adoption of Law N°.1111-2016 of 8 December 2016 on combating trafficking in human beings and Law N° 2018-571 of 13 June 2018 on combating the illegal trafficking of migrants. Following Decree N° 2017-227 of 13 April 2017, a National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings was created to define and coordinate all activities connected to combating trafficking in human beings and the illegal trafficking of migrants in Côte d'Ivoire. Combatting these forms of crime is a major challenge for Côte d'Ivoire, particularly as regards achieving SDG 5 on equality between men and women, and ensuring the empowerment of women and girls, and SDG 16 on the promotion of peaceful societies, ensuring access to justice for all through effective institutions. Within the framework of the international response to trafficking in human beings, Côte d'Ivoire distinguished itself internally through its adoption of holistic legislation against trafficking in human beings in 2016 and a five-year action plan (2016-2020), as well as through the creation of a national committee to combat trafficking in human beings (Comité National Contre la Traite des Personnes or CNLTP) which has an operational Executive Secretariat falling under the Ministry for Solidarity, Social Cohesion and Combating Poverty (SDGs 5.2, 8.7 and 16.2). On 25 October 2012, Côte d'Ivoire also ratified the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its additional protocol on preventing, suppressing and punishing trafficking in persons; on 17 November 2017, it also signed a decree to ratify the second additional protocol to the UNTOC Convention against the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air.

¹⁸ A/HRC/42/6 (EPU, 2019) para. 140.1 à 140.4, 140.6 à 140.27

¹⁹ Cf. https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Treaty.aspx?CountryID=42&Lang=EN





36. Côte d'Ivoire has not ratified any of the main international conventions on migrant workers and the protection of their rights, including ILO Conventions 97 and 143 on migrant workers or the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. This has an impact on the country's ability to establish legal migration channels for work within the framework of regional integration processes and bilateral (with the destination country) or triparty (with the destination country and the employer) agreements.
37. Since 1960, a total of 41 conventions and two protocols have been ratified by Côte d'Ivoire, including eight core conventions, three governance conventions and 26 technical conventions. However, it should be noted that Convention N° 170 on chemical products, adopted in 1990, was ratified on 1 November 2019 and shall come into force on 1 November 2020. Further, Côte d'Ivoire has reiterated its desire to respect its commitments by beginning a process to ratify the second optional protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, drawing up a memorandum with a view to ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families, and committing to discussions about ratification of the third optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.²⁰ The same is true with regards to the optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. As regards the optional protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, a draft law has been submitted for examination and adoption by Parliament. Côte d'Ivoire must consider ratifying Convention N° 102 on social security (minimum standards), which covers both contributory and non-contributory schemes, given the low level of social security protection in the country and the resulting vulnerabilities, a situation which is borne out by the current situation.
38. In January 2012, Côte d'Ivoire agreed to an individual complaints procedure established by virtue of the optional protocol to the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. On the same date, it also agreed to an investigation procedure under the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
39. With regards to the UN treaties bodies, Côte d'Ivoire has yet to present several reports. In particular: the initial report on implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, due on 30 June 1994; the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth reports on the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination due on 3 February 2006;²¹ the initial report on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, due on 10 February 2016; and the second report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights due on 2 April 2019.²² As regards the initial report on implementation of the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, due on 16 January 1997, the finalization process is complete and the report is being passed to the Committee Secretariat by the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

²⁰ UPR.

²¹ See Final Observations (2003) CERD/C/62/CO/1.

²² See Final Observations (2015) CCPR/C/CIV/CO/1.





FAIRBIRD TIDE
TIDEWATER

SALON DE COIFFURE



III. PEOPLE LEFT BEHIND OR AT RISK OF BEING LEFT BEHIND

40. Despite progress made to implement the SDGs, some have remained on the margins of the sustainable development process in Côte d'Ivoire. It is important to highlight the groups of people left behind, or those who could become so, in order to consider targeted measures. The process for identifying people left behind or those at risk of so was conducted based on cross-referencing vulnerability factors, particularly discrimination, geography, vulnerability to stresses, socioeconomic status and governance.

Thus, data from the indicators of the 17 SDGs was cross-referenced with that from the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI) and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), as well as other documents related to vulnerabilities with regards to implementing the SDGs. This method led to the identification of eight groups of people who have been left behind or who are at risk of so being.

Poor households in rural areas, particularly the most impoverished areas

41. In 2018, a large proportion of households in rural areas were affected by poverty (51.2 per cent compared to 23.5 per cent in urban areas) and were facing several forms of deprivation (SDGs 1 to 7). The incidence of multidimensional poverty was higher there than in urban areas (68.6 per cent compared to 25.3 per cent) in 2018.²³ Poor households living in those areas represented nearly seven million people if it is estimated that the rural population numbered nearly 12.34 million in 2018.²⁴ The lack of formal education by the head of the household constitutes a disadvantage for the individual themselves and the members of their household since level of education (in the modern sense) has an impact on poverty.²⁵ Children face forms of deprivation connected to health [(north: 72.7 per cent), (west: 72.4 per cent), (north-west: 71.8 per cent)] and nutrition [(north: 36.7 per cent), (west: 31.1 per cent), (north-west: 31.58 per cent)].²⁶ In these areas, certain cultural burdens stymie the socioeconomic initiatives supposed to benefit the population, particularly young girls (education) and women (literacy and empowerment). The proportion of women aged 15 to 49 who have suffered some form of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (SDG 5) is particularly

high [(north: 73.7 per cent), (west: 62.1 per cent), (north-west: 75.2 per cent)].²⁷ Given that these practices can take place when children are very young, the women of these households run the risk of suffering some form of FGM. This corroborates the 2016 MICS data: before the age of 15, 26 per cent of girls have suffered some form of FGM in the north, 18.5 per cent in the south and 10.8 per cent in the west. Gross rates of primary education are also among the lowest in these areas. Moreover, these rates are even lower.²⁸ for girls in, for example, Tchologo (North: 65.4 per cent for girls; 72.3 per cent for boys) and le Bagoué (north: 68.1 per cent for girls; 72.3 per cent for boys). Further, the quality of water is mediocre in these areas and presents a high level of risk [(north: 55.4 per cent), (west: 57.2 per cent), (north-west: 71.9 per cent)]. This rate is estimated to be 29.8 per cent when the head of the household has received at least secondary-level education and drops even further in urban areas (25.5 per cent).²⁹

42. The low educational level of heads of households exposes their families to poverty which reduces opportunities for healthcare. The girls in these households are more likely to be exposed

²³ INS / EHCVM 2018.

²⁴ World Bank estimates.

²⁵ Nearly 60 per cent of households whose head-of-household does not know how to read are poor (compared to 36 per cent when the latter knows how to read), 54.8 per cent when the head of the household has never been to school and 44 per cent when he/she has received general primary-level education (or its equivalent) (ENV, 2015).

²⁶ Unicef, Mada

²⁷ MICS, 2016

²⁸ VNR

²⁹ MICS, 2016





to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and forced marriages. Children also experience a low level of education because of the lack of attraction of school for this type of household. Child labour is frequent in these regions where educational facilities can be lacking.³⁰ An additional 95 local junior high schools are under construction to enable children living in rural areas to access a high-quality education in the regions where their parents live. However, the policy of compulsory education for children aged 6 to 15 still appears to be little enforced. Agricultural and livestock labour practices in these regions can also remove some children from school. As well as a lack of educational facilities, healthcare

facilities are also found wanting in terms of technical services and staff. Any work carried out is also poorly paid which leads to an inter-generational transmission of poverty. People living in the south-west, the west and the north-west constitute a specific group within the rural poor because of land pressure (SDGs 15 and 16) and numerous intra and inter-community conflicts. In these areas, access to economic opportunities, such as access to land, is unequal. Women, whose rights of ownership over these natural resources are very limited, constitute a vulnerable population in terms of their capacities and their empowerment.

Youth (men and women) living in poverty

43. According to the Integrated Regional Study into Employment and the Informal Sector (Enquête Régionale Intégrée sur l'Emploi et le Secteur Informel or ERI-ESI) carried out in 2017, 1,513,884 individuals, i.e. 34.8 per cent of young people living in poverty, are not in employment or training or have any viable socioeconomic opportunities (SDG 4, 8 and 10), with a proportion of 44.2 per cent among young women and 25.2 per cent among young men. Their vulnerability, combined with the cultural burdens which still endure³¹ and intensified by problems connected to substance abuse, particularly drugs and alcohol, can erode their ability to have and manage goods and resources (SDGs 5 and 10), and to carry out activities to be independent. Young girls are even more predisposed to suffering Gender-Base Violence (GBV) (SDGs 5 and 10) and may be forced into commercial sex or even prostitution in urban areas, something which exposes them to, for example, HIV (SDG 3) and many other vulnerabilities. Young men in this category have little chance of finding decent paid work (SDG 8) in the formal sector. Their low level of education, combined with a lack of professional qualifications, pushes them in the other direction. These young people are often forced to look towards the informal sector to survive, particularly selling food on a small scale for girls and resourceful illegal activities, such as small-scale local drug trafficking, for boys. Access problems can sometime force them not to embrace the professional sectors they

consider more lucrative. Financial exclusion and a lack of financial capital for basic equipment, a lack of space to perform the activity and the suspicion of already-established colleagues can constitute just some of the barriers to entering certain sectors. Absent from contract negotiations over natural resources (land for example) and therefore deprived of the results of financial transactions which could have offered them opportunities for socioeconomic self-integration, these young people sometimes sink into anti-social and risky behaviour³² and may be led to make extreme choices. In conflict areas, they are easily exploited by politicians and enrolled in armed groups (SDG 16). Further, the national response to the prevention of radicalization cannot be achieved without the coordinated participation of all stakeholders: ministries and State authorities but also civil society, including young people themselves. Consequently, a national strategy to prevent radicalization leading to an action plan is indispensable for preventing and protecting vulnerable populations exposed to the phenomenon of radicalization. The need to "strengthen prevention and treatment of substance abuse, particularly drugs and alcohol" (SDG 3.5), as well as prescription opioids such as Tramadol³³, remains particularly important with regards to an alarming national situation, reflected particularly in the increase in the number of "smoking rooms"³⁴ and an increase in demand for treatment for drug users.

³⁰ 95 additional local junior high schools are under construction to enable children living in rural areas to access high-quality education in the regions where their parents live.

³¹ UNDP and UN-Women.

³² Delage, Unicef social cohesion.

³³ [https://www.unodc.org/unodc/fr/frontpage/2019/July/key-findings-of-unodc-](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/fr/frontpage/2019/July/key-findings-of-unodc-study-on-tramadol-trafficking-in-west-africa-discussed-at-regional-meeting.html)

[study-on-tramadol-trafficking-in-west-africa-discussed-at-regional-meeting.html](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/fr/frontpage/2019/July/key-findings-of-unodc-study-on-tramadol-trafficking-in-west-africa-discussed-at-regional-meeting.html)

³⁴ tramadol-trafficking-in-west-africa-discussed-at-regional-meeting.html.

Doctoral thesis: "La prolifération des fumeurs de drogue dans le district d'Abidjan", Didiata TRAORÉ, presented in August 2018, published in July 2019.





The specific response of the healthcare sector is still poor, the social response demonstrates significant stigmatization and discrimination, and the legal framework is particularly

repressive with a negative impact on healthy, safe development and youth productivity which is badly affected.³⁵

Women in urban and rural areas living in poverty

44. The female population aged between 20 and 54 living in poverty in urban and rural areas represents approximately 1.5 million people. Illiteracy rates are disproportionately high among women, particularly those living in rural areas and those with a disability. Prevalence of violations against those working in the informal sector and in domestic work is particularly high, especially sexual harassment in the workplace and violations of the principle of equal remuneration for work of equal value, a guaranteed minimum wage, paid leave, maternity protection at work and compliance with the maximum working time (for domestic workers). Many of them are victims of trafficking in human beings and prostitution. The roots of violence against women run deep within society; it is an inherent part of its social norms, something which contributes to its enduring nature. The GBV women still face contributes to the persistent intergenerational transmission of gender inequalities and is a major hindrance to the empowerment of women. These women have limited access to basic services, are under-represented among landowners and face problems obtaining land certificates. As a result of pre-existing inequalities, they disproportionately

suffer the effects of climate change within the interior and on the coast due to deforestation and coastal erosion respectively. According to data from the MICS 2016 study in Côte d'Ivoire, the proportion of married women, or those in a common law relationship or of child-rearing age, using (or whose partner uses) at least one modern method of contraception is 14.3 per cent (SDG 3). This number drops even lower in rural areas (11.2 per cent) and especially when women do not receive any education (11.1 per cent). They represent 8.2 per cent of the group not receiving any antenatal care in rural areas compared to 2.1 per cent in urban areas. Further, 38.7 per cent of them give birth without qualified staff compared to 7.8 per cent in urban areas. The prevailing high level of maternal mortality in Côte d'Ivoire (614 out of 100,000 births: MICS, 2016) demonstrates the risk represented by births which often take place without any antenatal care or assistance from qualified staff and are therefore susceptible to causing complications which could lead to death or obstetrical fistula (SDGs 3, 5 and 10).

Populations living in extreme poverty in urban areas

45. Urbanization remains a major challenge for Côte d'Ivoire. The urban population has multiplied by a factor of 5.3 in 40 years (RGPH 2014). According to estimates from the National Institute of Statistics, the rate of urbanization was 51.6 per cent in 2017, consistent with a perpetually growing population (2.6 per cent demographic growth in 2018 according to the World Bank). The accelerating urbanization process has been marked by a lack of social housing and is subject to little control. It is particularly noticeable in Abidjan where the population was estimated to be between five and six million following the arrival of the displaced.³³ The living conditions of Ivorians in urban areas have therefore worsened

over time. There are grey zones in these areas where the population lives in extreme poverty and therefore faces a number of forms of deprivation. They live in migratory settlements or shacks on the outskirts of the large cities (SDG 11). They make up 8 per cent of the poor, i.e. approximately one million people. According to ENV 2105, "the poor mostly live in individual terraced houses (21.2 per cent of them), shared courtyards (28.4 per cent), isolated houses (20.3 per cent) and traditional huts (16.7 per cent). In Abidjan, they mostly live in shared courtyards (57.6 per cent) while in other towns they mainly live either in shared courtyards (38.7 per cent) or individual terraced houses (26.8 per cent).

³⁵ WENDU report

https://www.unodc.org/documents/westandcentralafrica/WENDU_REPORT_VF_V5_291019_FINAL_VERSION.pdf

In 2017, 132 people (0.5 per 100,000 inhabitants) in Côte d'Ivoire were treated for problems connected to alcohol consumption. In 2014, the main drug taken among people being treated for addiction (apart from alcohol) was cannabis (74 per cent). However, the trend in 2016 and 2017 indicated a high level of cocaine use (30 per cent and 27 per cent respectively). In 2017, heroin (33 per cent) was the primary drug usually taken (apart from alcohol) with 191 (0.8 per 10,000 inhabitants) people treated for problems connected to heroin use that year. A significant number of people who presented with problems connected to substance abuse (71 per cent in 2016 and 73 per cent in 2017) were aged between 20 and 39 (Table 6). Most of these people (57 per cent in 2016 and 65 per cent in 2017) were either students or unemployed. Those living alone (86 per cent in 2016 and 93 per cent in 2017) are most susceptible to taking substances and a significant number of them are either in primary or secondary school (71 per cent in 2016 and 70 per cent in 2017).





A significant proportion of the poor in Abidjan live in shacks (8 per cent) and in other towns traditional huts (8.4 per cent). Only 10 per cent of the poor (9.4 per cent in Abidjan) live in villas (INS, ENV, 2015). The floors of the buildings housing the poor are mainly cement (67.5 per cent) or soil (28.3 per cent). Under these circumstances, this group is particularly vulnerable to the flooding, storms and landslides which afflict the country, probably due to the increase in temperatures and the disruption to rainfall systems, but also connected to a lack of adequate pipes and the establishment of migratory settlements in low-lying areas and next to the lagoon (132 migratory settlements in 2014). The people living in migratory settlements are faced with a lack of basic services such as drinking water, an adequate sanitation system and access

to energy. In Abidjan, 3.9 per cent use surface water (marsh creek, river, etc.) for their needs, compared to 5.7 per cent in other towns (SDG 6). 7.2 per cent of this group also uses a torch, a lamp or another lighting method, compared to 27.7 per cent in other towns (SDG 7). 3.6 per cent of this group in Abidjan defecate in the open compared to 14 per cent in other towns according to ENV 2015. The Government's ambition would be to increase the percentage of the population living in decent housing from 30 per cent in 2015 to 50 per cent. The 2019-2020 social programme, which aims to build social housing, should contribute to improving the quality of housing for low-income households. As well as living in these precarious conditions, this group mainly works in the informal sector when they have employment (SDG 8).

Children living in extreme multidimensional poverty

46. Another category susceptible to being left behind is children who are victims of a number of forms of deprivation (SDGs 1 to 5, SDG 11). The estimated number of children under 15 living in households experiencing monetary poverty is approximately 950,000. Insufficiently inclusive public policies have driven many children into extreme poverty. Children experience forms of deprivation connected to sanitation (74 per cent), health (67.3 per cent) and housing (70.6 per cent). In terms of multidimensional poverty, nearly three quarters of children (74.5 per cent) under five are living in poverty. Of the seven forms of deprivation identified to measure their wellbeing, the latter are affected by more than two forms of deprivation. This form of poverty involves boys as much as girls. It is higher in rural areas (87.9 per cent) than urban areas (53.5 per cent).³⁴ Extreme multidimensional poverty has a greater effect on children living in the north, north-west, south-west and centre-east of the country where they experience at least four forms of deprivation. Girls, children in rural areas and children living in poverty, amongst others, continue to be victims of discrimination with regards to literacy, access to education and professional training. Further, it is of note that girls, children with a disability and children with albinism are subject to multiple forms of discrimination. In particular, children with albinism (SDGs 16 and 17) are victims of ritual murder, kidnapping, abandonment and stigmatization. Their severe myopia, if not treated early enough, can cause them to be withdrawn from school or experience problems

during their education. Those who finish their studies often suffer from discrimination when attempting to integrate professionally and socially. Acts of violence against children are common and often tolerated. Sexual violence against girls and boys, and gender-based violence particularly against girls are widespread, especially in schools, and only a small number of cases are reported, investigated and pursued. Children who are victims of sexual violence often do not have access to justice due to the unavailability of medical examiners, the cost of medical certificates, social stigma and the use of extrajudicial methods for settling disputes. The protection and assistance children who are victims of violence could receive are limited under these circumstances

47. The number of cases of female genital mutilation and child marriage remains high. As well as these forms of deprivation, some children are not registered at birth and are considered stateless. In the centre (17.8 per cent), centre-east (18.1 per cent), north-east (15.2 per cent), west (17.1 per cent) and south-west (15.7 per cent) the proportion of children without a civil status is above the national average (12.2 per cent). This form of deprivation is much more pronounced in rural areas where it is estimated to be 15.3 per cent compared to 7 per cent in urban areas (MICS, 2016). However, it is more established in the centre-west, the west and the south-west according to data from MICS 2016 and MODA, 2018.





The number of children involved in child labour (SDGs 8, 12 and 16), including its worst forms, is still high, particularly the numbers performing dangerous work on mining sites and in the agricultural sector, girls employed as maids and talibes (street beggars). These children are even more vulnerable because convictions

against those committing child labour offences are rare. Street children, commonly known as "microbes", often live in poverty. Many of them were mercenaries in previous conflicts and commit serious crimes such as murder and theft as members of child gangs.

Persons living with HIV/aids

48. 428,827 people were still living with HIV in 2020. 64.5 per cent were women and 7.4 per cent were children aged 0 to 14. 12,187 new HIV infections and 12,893 deaths connected to the epidemic were recorded in 2019. Further, it is notable that there is a predominance of women and girls in the epidemic from adolescence onwards. The same is true with regards to new infections: women represent 59.1 per cent of cases. HIV prevalence is also higher among women: 3.32 per cent compared to 1.46 per cent among men (Spectrum 2020). Levels of mother-to-child HIV transmission (MCT), amounting to 10.3 per cent, are again much too high. This is why effort must focus on eliminating MCT, preventing new HIV infections among young girls and women, and improving coverage of HIV screening and treatment services to reduce new infections and HIV-related deaths. Among men, use of HIV screening services and healthcare is overdue. Their negative perception of HIV, the persistence of clichés about HIV/aids as a deadly and stigmatizing disease, the denial of HIV, etc. (see *Enquête socio-anthropologique sur les déterminants de la faible demande de dépistage du VIH/sida en Côte d'Ivoire*, 2018) explain why the HIV death rate among men is equivalent to that of women even though they only represent 35.4 per cent of PLHIV. According to the review of the NDP, there are significant disparities in the geographical distribution of the HIV epidemic. Only six health districts had a prevalence below one (Sassandra, Korhogo 2, Tengrela, Minignan,

Buyo and Guitry). 23 health districts, including 14 within the interior and nine twelfths of the Abidjan health region, have a prevalence above the 2.39 per cent national average. Within the interior, prevalence rises to 2.44 per cent in Toumodi and 5.69 per cent in Bouaké-Sud. In Abidjan, it ranges from 2.45 per cent in Yopougon-Ouest-Songon to 9.16 per cent in Treichville-Marcory. In 2016, a national study into the index of stigmatization and discrimination towards People Living with HIV in Côte d'Ivoire revealed that the overall level of stigmatization and/or discrimination experienced by PLHIV from other people was 40.4 per cent (535 people/1,323 interviewed), taking into account the 19 indicators used in the study. Stigmatization and discrimination are two of the most common reasons for slowing down HIV prevention and treatment. Individuals tend not to adopt better behaviours in terms of seeking healthcare and they avoid preventative measures and HIV screening tests through fear of being judged. Many People Living with HIV (PLHIV) do not receive treatment or support despite the availability of services because of fear of stigmatization and discrimination.

49. Stigmatization and discrimination continue to create obstacles to combatting HIV in Côte d'Ivoire, particularly among those who are also suffering from problems connected to substance abuse, especially drugs and alcohol.





Persons with disabilities

50. The number of persons with disabilities (SDGs 1, 4, 8, 10, 11 and 13) is estimated to be approximately 453,500 based on the 2014 General Census of the Population and Housing (Recensement général de la population et de l'habitat or RGPH 2014). This group has also been identified as being left behind or at risk of so being. Approximately 90 per cent have a physical disability and 10 per cent have a mental disability. 58 per cent are men and 42 per cent are women. Approximately 70 per cent live in rural areas.³⁶ The country's military/political conflicts, Buruli ulcer (a disabling disease which affected several regions) and road accidents or accidents at work are just some of the factors behind the disabilities observed. Persons with a disability face civil status difficulties and problems accessing transport, training and decent work. Girls and women who have a disability (SDGs 4, 5, 8 and 16) struggle to access justice, inclusive education, employment, appropriate healthcare services and participation in political and public life. The risk of marginalization and stigmatization facing this group is such that recommendations³⁷ surrounding concerns related to the effectiveness of their rights were made in Côte d'Ivoire's Universal Periodic Review.

51. The country should therefore continue to expand the regulatory framework and ensure its effective implementation with a view to full social integration of persons with a disability, particularly

as regards the right to decent work in the public and private sectors, encourage their employment and ensure that they are integrated into the standard education system, while providing the particular services they might require. Further, the State should ensure that women, children, persons with a disability, indigenous people and marginalized communities can participate effectively in drawing up laws, policies and programmes on climate change and reducing the risks of catastrophes at local, national and international level, while continuing efforts to improve access to healthcare by ensuring that all healthcare facilities are unreservedly accessible to vulnerable groups, particularly those living in rural areas and those with a disability.

52. Finally, special attention should be paid to improving the right to an education of persons with a disability, ensuring their integration into the traditional school system and their active participation in the life of the community, and allocating sufficient resources to this end. Lastly, the State should strengthen measures to guarantee equal access to an inclusive, equitable and high-quality education. There were 12,326 pupils with a disability in primary education in 2018/2019 compared to 12,666 in 2017/2018. 12,524 students with a disability were identified in general secondary education in 2018/2019.

Migrants and persons at risk of statelessness

53. Migrants also constitute a group of people left behind or at risk of so being. Although traditionally fewer Ivorians have sought to reach Europe via the central and western Mediterranean routes, since 2016 it has been one of the leading countries of origin among West African nations. In 2019, it became the leading country of origin of illegal West African migrants in Italy (more than 1,000 illegal arrivals, i.e. 10 per cent of recorded arrivals) and therefore the leading country of origin after Tunisia on the central Mediterranean

route (23 per cent of total arrivals). Many young Ivorians are susceptible to being tempted to reach Europe via illegal migration in the hope of improving their economic situation, therefore predisposing them to significant vulnerability and abuse such as exploitation, trafficking in human beings and even death in the Sahara or the sea. Women and young girls are particularly disposed to migrate in order to meet their family's needs, often as single parents. Those who return to Côte d'Ivoire, either voluntarily, with the support

³⁶ <http://apanews.net/fr/news/environ-453-000-personnes-handicapees-denombrees-en-cote-divoire>

³⁷ (A/HRC/42/6 (EPU, 2019) para. 140.141, 140.146, 140.148, 140.152, 140.154, 140.208, 140.209, 140.210, 140.211, 141.14





of a voluntary return programme or within the framework of an expulsion, are often subject to stigmatization and face problems reintegrating society socially and economically. Côte d'Ivoire is also a destination country for numerous migrants. Although the figures are hard to estimate, UNDESA has identified 2.5 millions migrant workers while the 2014 national census reported nearly six million foreigners on Ivorian territory. Most migrants in Côte d'Ivoire work in the various agricultural sectors and are therefore located in rural areas in remote regions. Many therefore face problems accessing essential and basic services, particularly administrative and legal services, which make them vulnerable and, in the absence of any registration with the national or consular authorities, expose them and their families to a risk of statelessness. In particular, many migrants work for illegal operations established in protected forests (cocoa, coffee and gold), thereby exposing them to the possibility of expulsion as well potential mistreatment within the context of unregulated activities (forced labour, exploitation, trafficking in human beings, abuse). The prevalence of

offences resulting from transnational organized crime, such as trafficking in human beings and migrant trafficking, creates numerous victims among the Ivorian population (within the country itself and overseas) and among migrants living in Côte d'Ivoire. In this respect, women and children are the preferred targets for those involved in transnational organized crime. If forms of transnational crime are not adequately combated, it risks strengthening impunity and therefore calling into question whether the services charged with applying the law (the police and the justice system) can achieve SDG 16. Many of those who have attempted illegal migration via the chaotic route between West Africa and North Africa (even Europe) are victims of stigmatization and rejection by their families and their communities. The challenge of reintegrating returning migrants within their families is very real. Côte d'Ivoire's authorities should therefore be encouraged to continue the efforts they have made to reintegrate this group into society, paying particular attention to their psycho-social equilibrium.







IV. MULTIDIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEMS INFLUENCING THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

54. Examination of implementation of the SDGs, international human rights commitments and the situation of people left behind or at risk of so being have revealed several issues which have prevented Côte d'Ivoire from obtaining the best results despite the efforts it has made. By their very importance these problems must be overcome to accelerate achievement of the SDGs by 2030. However, it will be important to identify the causes and levers for action to conquer them. Among the various issues whose magnitude has been highlighted, five emerge in this Common Country Assessment: i) lack of inclusiveness in

the development process; ii) insufficient human capital; iii) slow structural transformation of the economy; iv) raised vulnerability to climate changes and environmental issues; and v) governance which could be even more efficient, transparent and participatory. These problems are systemically interconnected; the factors or causes affecting some necessarily have an influence on the others.

Lack of inclusiveness in the development process

55. Analysis of the progress made to implement the SDGs and the situation of people who have been left behind thus far has revealed that Côte d'Ivoire's achievements in terms of redistributing the fruits of growth through social services could benefit from being consolidated. It appears that monetary poverty and inequalities are falling slightly and that progress in terms of food security, nutrition and access to electricity, drinking water and social protection services are perceptible. These efforts to reduce the problems people face accessing essential services should be continued and expanded to other areas. In terms of health in particular, maternal mortality remains high while progress is still insufficient in terms of accessing education, adequate housing and decent work. These problems involve women in particular. Their rights are scorned, and they suffer significant violence and discrimination from infancy onwards. Gender equality in education, for example, has not yet been achieved, including primary education. In addition, young people are not always able to choose their own learning path and face problems joining the labour market. Geographical disparities remain in the country, particularly in education, employment and earnings. Poverty therefore seems more widespread and social indicators

less favourable in the north, centre-west and west than in the south and south-west where economic activity is more dynamic. Further, there is a difference between urban areas, where poverty was estimated to be 35.9 per cent, and rural areas where the rate was as high as 56.8 per cent in 2015. Among the factors explaining this situation are: the recurrent crises and their consequences, the predominance of informal employment and the resulting low remuneration; the low level of education of women and limits to their role in society; demographic pressure on social demand; and shortfalls in social policies. The 2002-2007 war and the 2010-2011 post-electoral crisis destroyed infrastructure and affected the development of the human capital which would have enabled Côte d'Ivoire to make real human and economic progress. Many young people were enrolled in militia and armed groups, abandoning school, their activities and learning without the possibility of socioeconomic reintegration. The Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration and Rehabilitation (DDRR) programmes launched after each crisis have often barely improved the situation due to suspicion between the parties involved and the inadequacy of the resources mobilized to tackle it.





56. The main employment market indicators taken from the ENSETE 2013, ENSESI 2016 and ERI-ESI 2017 studies indicate that the employment/population ratio, which is the ratio of the population in work relative to the population of working age (16 and over in Côte d'Ivoire), was 56.1 per cent for the population as a whole in 2017, i.e. 7,646,169 individuals. The rate of vulnerable employment, which represents (in per cent) self-employed workers and unpaid family workers in the total number of jobs, was estimated to be 69.5 per cent. Vulnerable employment decreased between 2014 and 2017. From 80.3 per cent in 2014, it fell to 73.1 per cent in 2016 and dropped further to 69.5 per cent in 2017. The employment rate was 23.1 per cent in 2017, i.e. one in four employed. Overall, evolution of the employment rate indicated an upward trend between 2014 and 2017. From 18 per cent in 2014, it reached 24.4 per cent in 2016 and recorded a slight reduction in 2017 (23.1 per cent). The low-wage employment rate, measuring the proportion of people with a monthly salary less than two thirds the median monthly salary, is 43.8 per cent. The informal employment rate was 91.9 per cent in 2017. In fact, 92.2 per cent of private jobs, 90.2 per cent of agricultural jobs and 97.5 per cent of household services jobs were informal jobs. In 2014, the informal employment rate was 96.6 per cent and fell to 93.6 per cent in 2016. This fall continued with 91.9 per cent achieved in 2017. However, the informal sector therefore still employs more than 90 per cent of the active population. Workers in the informal sector remain largely excluded from legal social security cover. This sector is characterized by low productivity which results in remuneration which often does not exceed the State minimum wage (60,000 FCFA per month). This is particularly true of agriculture which has a greater concentration of poor and destitute workers beset by multidimensional poverty. With regards to cocoa, according to the ENV 2015 data 54.9 per cent of the population live with fewer than 745 FCFA (constant) per day. In other areas of the economy (industry, manufacturing and services), underemployment has continued to increase without the logically expected effects of the flow of economic growth managing to reduce poverty sufficiently or provide a basis for inclusiveness in the growth process. Those sections of the population whose remuneration is minimal face problems meeting their essential needs. The informal economy is not only characterized by low pay.
- There is also a shortfall in terms of labour rights generally (working hours, rest, health and safety at work, and where there are incidents of child labour, for example, in the cocoa sector, etc.) and inspection to monitor compliance with these working conditions is lacking.
57. Women are benefiting the least from the consequences of growth and the policies deployed due to their low level of education, particularly in rural areas where they are also the poorest. This low level of education makes it harder to join the labour market and find more highly paid jobs. Not only does a low level of education limit women's choices, it also deprives them of the ability to use their rights and remove themselves from crippling situations. Nor can they fully enjoy all the opportunities which may be offered to them in terms of the social safety net, reproductive health, reducing their burden of responsibilities, etc. The Gender Inequality Index (GII), estimated to be 0.657 in 2018 and making Côte d'Ivoire 157th out of 189 countries (UNDP, HDR, 2019), can be explained above all by inequalities in terms of expected effective education and income. These inequalities stem from a social system which, from birth, attributes a collection of specific values and roles to an individual depending on their gender which the family is responsible for instilling in the child. Internalized by the child, repeated at school and even in religion, these values and roles are accepted by the child and particularly girls who ultimately take on their condition of being relegated to second place. Human rights in favour of women are simply ignored and scorned under these circumstances.
58. Côte d'Ivoire's demographic trend, while below that of economic activity for several years, is putting pressure on social demand. Côte d'Ivoire's population is still very young; 0–14-year-olds represented 42 per cent of the population in 2018.³⁸ The dependency rate, estimated to be 81 per cent in 2018, reveals the extent of the burden on the active population vis-à-vis the non-active population. The deficit in the life cycle, represented by social demand to some extent, is very significant. According to the results of the National Population Office (Office national de la population or ONP), every year nearly 36 per cent of GDP must be found to compensate for this deficit and therefore fund social demand.

³⁸ World Bank data.





In line with a perpetually growing population, the urban population has multiplied by a factor of 5.3 in 40 years (RGPH 2014) and Côte d'Ivoire's urbanization rate was 51.6 per cent in 2017. Due to its unplanned nature, such rampant urbanization is characterized by the development of housing which lacks the most essential services. The infrastructure required for economic development, protection of the environment and quality of life for citizens is lacking in Abidjan which has seen an explosion in its population. The proportion of people living in slums increased from 53.4 per cent in 1990-1994 to 56.6 per cent in 2005-2009 and then remained high at 56 per cent in 2010-2014. Consequently, the people living there have limited

access to salubrious housing, drinking water, affordable electricity and transport services, waste management, and even healthcare and education.

59. Against a background where the poorest cannot access essential services, the trend has been to direct them towards social safety nets through social programmes such as the 2019-2020 PSGouv. All measures seeking to provide social protection for the population, ensure their access to healthcare, education, electricity, drinking water and decent housing, and combat unemployment must target the right people and be well-coordinated.

Insufficient human capital

60. Growth in Côte d'Ivoire has been at a remarkable level for several years but, because it is driven by an accumulation of factors rather than overall productivity, it risks not being sufficiently sustained to create the expected changes to the population's living conditions by 2030. Strong growth in economic activity over a sustained period is particularly recommended for the development process to be sufficiently inclusive. Continuing increases in terms of individual income when there has been a recent slowdown in activity, which suggests that the process is running out of steam, necessarily requires increased productivity in all sectors. Increasing work productivity through investment in human capital is one way to maintain economic growth at the minimum rate of 7 per cent over the 2021-2025 period as desired by the Government, and could even influence long-term growth. Human capital is at a low level in Côte d'Ivoire: life expectancy at birth is low, a large share of the active population has not received either any education or just secondary-level education and the labour force is concentrated in sectors with poor productivity such as extensive agriculture. The Human Capital Index, which looks at human capital data, reveals just how poorly the country is doing in this respect. Sitting at 0.35 (in 145th position out of 157 countries listed),³⁹ it implies that a child born in Côte d'Ivoire in 2018 would only achieve 35 per cent productivity compared to what they might have achieved if they had grown up with a proper education and in good health. The Government has made the human capital issue a priority and is in discussions with

the World Bank to define a programme with a view to substantially improving the progress made in terms of human capital in the long-term. Three issues can explain the situation: limited scope of programmes connected to human capital, ii) degree of involvement of private players; iii) factors beyond school and health.

61. The reasons for Côte d'Ivoire's insufficient human capital might be found in the quality of governance of the education and healthcare sectors which directly contribute to human capital. At the same time, attention should be paid to the incompatible nature of sector-based strategies and priorities on the one hand and distribution of the State budget on the other to explain this state of affairs. Even though high-quality programmes, both in terms of their design and their effective operationalization, are available, resources must be used properly and costs must not be excessive to begin with. The same is true of procurement procedures for school and healthcare programmes. The expenditure chain, and that of operationalization of the aforementioned programmes, might therefore be open to question.

62. The degree of involvement of private players may be open to question, particularly when they account for a significant share of the provision of healthcare and education services. The specific goals of each facility may not square with the Government's strategic goals to develop human capital and improve its productivity. If the process for drawing up policies is not

³⁹ World Bank, 2018 Human Capital Project.





sufficiently inclusive to include dialogue with the private education and healthcare sector from the beginning, inconsistencies are possible which could hinder the improvement of human capital. At the same time, the cost of accessing these services can be significant for the most deprived populations, making support programmes from public authorities even more costly.

63. Neither can external factors at school, such as child labour and the poverty in which some of them live, be ignored. These factors force children to leave school early without them having the opportunity to learn a trade. Many children do not have a birth certificate which can hamper their education and their ability to defend their rights when they reach adulthood. The illiteracy of the

parents, who themselves cannot provide the necessary oversight of their children's education, also impedes action to promote human capital. Such a lack of education also hinders mothers in terms of monitoring the health of their children and themselves, particularly within the framework of reproductive health. The illiteracy rate of those over 15 was estimated to be 52.8 per cent in 2018.⁴⁰ The pressure put on the demand for educational infrastructure by demographic growth, inadequate funding allocated to the literacy sector and a lack of qualified human resources in the literacy sector where teaching may be provided by private companies (often called literacy promoters) which are often poorly trained in literacy techniques and adult education are just some of the factors explaining persistent illiteracy.⁴¹

Slow structural transformation of the economy

64. Structural transformation of the economy, resulting in the transfer of means and resources to the most productive sectors, is necessary to reach sustainable and inclusive growth. It can lead to job creation and added value which will increase the population's income and encourage the advent of a new middle class. This process is underway in Côte d'Ivoire but progress is slow. The structure of the Ivorian economy has only been modified slowly with small changes in the sectors and branches with high added-value potential. Between 2015 and 2018, the share of the primary sector decreased from 22.7 per cent to 19.8 per cent; the secondary sector held up at approximately 25 per cent and the contribution of services, which remains the largest area, increased from 31.6 per cent to 32.6 per cent. In this regard, the digital sector, particularly through thriving e-commerce, needs to play an important role given its potential in terms of contributing to the revitalization of growth areas and job creation. The secondary sector is showing signs of diversification and, along with the services sector, was the main engine for economic growth between 2012 and 2019, although the

contribution of the primary sector remains significant. Average growth recorded in the industrial sector was approximately 10 per cent over the 2012-2017 period and was estimated to be 8.5 per cent in 2018. The industrial map has been changed slightly but without undergoing profound disruption. The subsectors posting strong growth are the food processing industry, furniture production, construction materials production, engine production and automotive manufacturing. The 2016-2020 NDP reports the low level of transformation of the main export products such as cashew nuts (less than 5 per cent), cocoa (30 per cent), coffee (less than 50 per cent), cotton (fiber) and rubber trees (less than 5 per cent). The goal was to increase transformation to 60 per cent by 2023 for cocoa and cashew nuts.

65. Ivorian agriculture remains mostly characterized by low levels of productivity and inadequate value chains. Average added-value per worker in Côte d'Ivoire is low and direct producers can therefore only expect low pay which prevents them from saving and investing in innovations to make their

⁴⁰ Source : Unesco.

⁴¹ According to the 2019 Infrastructure Development Index from the African Development Bank (AfDB), the country is 22nd on the continent in terms of the general quality of its infrastructure in areas such as transport, energy and information and communication technology (ICT), Uneca, 2020, Côte d'Ivoire AfCFTA National Strategy





agricultural activities progress and diversify. This situation does not suggest that profound structural transformation to enable Côte d'Ivoire to consolidate the progress already made in its trajectory towards achieving the SDGs is likely in the medium-term. The main obstacles to accelerating structural transformation of the economy are: i) attractiveness of the country for manufacturing investments which are still sensitive to the sociopolitical climate and security conditions; ii) infrastructure supporting growth requiring improvement; iii) insufficient innovation and technological development capacities; and iv) limited scope for more advanced industrialization and transformation strategies for commodities.

66. Some steps have been taken to improve the country's attractiveness with significant steps such as the introduction of a new Investment Code, the establishment of a single office for the creation of companies, a paperless system at the Trade Tribunal, reform of the National Quality Testing, Metrology and Analysis Laboratory (Laboratoire National d'Essais de qualité, de Métrologie et d'Analyses or LANEMA), establishment of a quality support mechanism for companies and promulgation of a law on standardization and quality. However, the country's attractiveness remains very sensitive to the sociopolitical climate with a downward trend in manufacturing investments since 2015. FDI inflows increased by 86 per cent between 2012 and 2017 but the business environment remains comprised, particularly due to the ongoing systemic risk in the Sahel region and conflicts on the borders with some countries. In addition, there is an infrastructure deficit, particularly in the energy sector,⁴² and companies, especially SMEs, face problems accessing financing and have limited access to the stock market. In such an environment, private investment is directed more towards projects whose production and operation cycles are fairly short.

67. Innovation and technology play a major role in any upgrading within global value chains, as has been observed in emerging nations. And yet, integration of new technologies remains

low in Côte d'Ivoire's production apparatus. In 2016, only 15.9 per cent of Ivorian companies had introduced a process innovation, 3.4 per cent were using technology licensed to overseas companies and 6.8 per cent had invested in research and development.⁴³ According to the Global Innovation Index, the country, with a score of 27.2, dropped from 116th position out of 126 countries in 2015 to 123rd position in 2018 with a score of 19.986. However, technology is becoming increasingly important in services and fields such as health, education, agriculture and governance,⁴⁴ and several projects and programmes focusing on technology are continuing within the Ministry for the Digital Economy and Postal Services.

68. The National Development Plan for the 2016-2020 period devotes two of its five sections to issues connected to human development, social wellbeing and structural transformation. The development programme for new industrial areas (industrial parks and zones), begun in 2014, must accelerate to support the industrial policy. The export markets, on which Côte d'Ivoire is a world and African leader, appear to offer it small margins in terms of revenue. They will need to be examined properly to assess the transformational changes to be made to move forward. Similarly, it appears that partnerships lack diversity, particularly with emerging nations for providing new opportunities for markets, direct overseas investments and transfer of knowledge and innovation. Insufficient use of Côte d'Ivoire's labour potential limits the emergence of new niche areas or strategic positioning in international value chains. In effect, one of the keys to making progress will be absorbing the already significant labour force in the agricultural sector which is being underemployed in exporting activities in the subregion and a good part of Africa. However, this situation could be quickly reversed through brave agro-industrial policies based on a strategy focusing on accelerated adoption of organizational and technological innovations, while ensuring significant opportunities locally and regionally through the AfCFTA.

⁴² Uneca, 2020, Côte d'Ivoire AfCFTA National Strategy.

⁴³ Other projects in this direction are also being developed: eAdministration, eServices, eConsulting, eCabinet, eCivil Service, eTerritorial administration, ePublic finances, etc.

⁴⁴ <http://telecom.gouv.ci/>.





Raised vulnerability to climate changes and environmental issues

69. The environmental challenges facing Côte d'Ivoire are such that the National Sustainable Development Strategy indicates that the trends observed risk leading the country into a more serious disaster in the future if strict measures are not taken to reverse them. Beyond geography, anthropological activities⁴⁵ and the limited scope of strategies for sustainable management of the environment and natural resources are the main determining factors for Côte d'Ivoire's environmental problems and its high level of vulnerability to climate change.
70. Côte d'Ivoire's current economic model is based on heavy use of natural resources, land for agriculture and farming, and fossil fuels for industry, transport and most services. The energy mix is still dominated by fossil fuels and hydroelectricity. Extensive agriculture in particular, which uses a lot of land and fresh water, has led to deforestation in the country. Further, numerous Ivorian forests and protected areas have often been used illegally to locate and exploit mines, particularly gold. The coasts have been impacted by the construction of manmade structures on the banks, the construction of dams on rivers and extraction of sand from the beaches. Water courses have been victims of the use of pesticides on large plantations and emissions from big industry. Due to uncontrolled urbanization, some aquatic areas have been polluted, including Cocody Bay in Abidjan, and people have been exposed to health risks when efficient sanitation measures and management of household waste in particular are lacking.
71. Côte d'Ivoire has undertaken reforms to tackle the situation, in particular adopting a National Programme to Reduce Greenhouse Gases and Adapt to Climate Changes. Côte d'Ivoire aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 28 per cent by 2030 at the latest, increase the share of renewable energy in its energy mix with a goal of 16 per cent by 2030, and reduce deforestation as well as forestry damage. Côte d'Ivoire has also committed to reducing the vulnerability of the eleven priority sectors, six of which are highly vulnerable: agriculture/farming/fish farming, use of land, forests, water resources, energy and coastal areas. Further, the authorities have signed up to international protocols and action plans such as ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1994, submission of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and signature of the Paris Climate Change Agreement in 2015.
72. Unfortunately, efforts deployed through these ambitious reforms have been undermined by the inexistence of a framework act on sustainable development. Further, the conditions for moving towards sustainable agriculture do not seem to have been introduced yet. The low carbon strategy does not yet seem to have provided the expected results. The possibilities presented by biomass created by reusing cocoa and cotton farming waste have not yet been sufficiently exploited. The same is true for urban waste. Solar energy has only been used for domestic purposes and there is nothing to indicate that it will be used for commercial purposes in the near future. Forestry management, based on forestry reserves amongst other things, is struggling to establish itself, especially with aggravated violations during crisis situations. Adaptation measures, although the subject of the plan, are still not operational. It should be noted that, although the costs of a resilience strategy are undeniably high for the country, they are lower than inaction would be and they could be balanced by smart climate investment opportunities in high growth areas which will create new jobs.
73. The absence of available data and the lack of coordination and synergy between the various players and relevant sectors make any assessment of climate measures difficult. Under these circumstances, the action taken does not fit easily within the framework of a concerted, multisectoral and multiplayer policy to reduce greenhouse gases and adapt to climate change. Moreover, the various stakeholders are not sufficiently involved, particularly civil society organizations which often do not have adequate information about climate projects and struggle to access green funds due to a lack of skills. The lack of interest and passion demonstrated by citizens about climate and environmental issues also suggests that collective awareness of the numerous risks associated with unsustainable management of the environment and natural resources must be improved. Greater involvement by women would reduce their vulnerability to climate changes and would provide effective, equitable and sustainable answers to environmental problems.

⁴⁵ Carried out by a person or due to the existence and presence of people..





Governance which could be even more efficient, transparent and participatory

74. Côte d'Ivoire has made significant progress with numerous institutional reforms and efforts to strengthen the capacities and working methods of general government. However, it must continue the initiatives it has undertaken in support of: more inclusive and participatory governance; the promotion of efficient and profitable institutions; strengthening the rule of law and human rights; and effective management of the underlying causes of previous conflicts to prevent potential crises in the future. These challenges come into sharper focus when combined with aggravating factors such as the Covid 19 crisis which has been marked by unprecedented restrictive measures which have exacerbated existing social inequalities. Further, the security situation in the Sahel, with the risk of expansion of the terrorist threat towards coastal countries, constitutes a challenge which, when taken alongside existing socioeconomic programmes, may considerably slow down or check efforts for sustainable peace consolidation in Côte d'Ivoire.
75. With regards to the rule of law and human rights, the Government's efforts have been impacted by a perception that the judicial system has been politicized, something which affects the quality of judicial decisions and reduces the level of trust between citizens and the country's institutions. Further, more technical deficits remain, characterized by sector-based information systems, problems (financial and logistical) accessing the justice system, particularly for women, insufficient coordination between the various players operating in the field of human rights and the absence of a standardized system for early identification of problems and directing victims. The human rights-based approach is insufficiently integrated into policy and planning processes. In addition, the financial, technical and operational capacities of those promoting human rights and assisting vulnerable populations are inadequate, be they human rights champions, civil society organizations or the National Human Rights Council (NHRC).
76. With regards to the management of the underlying causes of previous crises and therefore conflict prevention, the return of refugees and their integration, normalization of the social and security situation, reforms in the field of rural land, strengthening the role of traditional chiefs and improving political dialogue are just some of the advances which contribute to preventing the resurgence of crises. In particular, adoption and implementation of a national reconciliation and social cohesion strategy has made it possible for notable progress to be recorded, particularly in terms of strengthening dialogue between communities. These efforts should be continued given that the successive crises the country has experienced have contributed to tearing apart the social fabric and the national reconciliation process remains unfinished. Some underlying causes of the crises which have shaken the country, such as management of rural land, management of migration, equitable operation of natural resources, etc., still persist. The transitional justice process, launched in 2011, was designed hastily with the creation of the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Commission Dialogue, Vérité et Réconciliation or CDVR), the National Enquiry Commission (Commission Nationale d'Enquête or CNE) and the Special Investigation Unit (Cellule Spéciale d'Enquête or CSE) less than three months after the most recent clashes. In the absence of proper overarching reflection, each mechanism was created independently without taking





into account good international practices. The evolving sociopolitical context, marked by political tensions and the resurgence of inter-community conflicts, reveals that the underlying causes of the previous crises and even frustrations related to management of these crises remain deep-rooted. As well as inter-community tensions, incivility and incitements to hatred, through social media amongst other things, there are other signs which are characteristic of a social malaise connected to a lack of national reconciliation. Côte d'Ivoire must have a proper migration policy and a national framework for governance of migration in order to bring more consistency to management of migration within the country and to better mobilize the diaspora to facilitate its participation in the country's development challenges. It is also important to formalize the promotion of migrants' rights by ratifying the related conventions (particularly the ILO conventions and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families). Côte d'Ivoire receives many migrants but still does not have a formal independent body charged with managing migration or a proper migration policy. This institutional shortcoming limits the country to using international and regional legislation to manage its migration issues on an ad hoc basis. Shared between six ministries and public bodies, management of migration has not been formalized.

77. Further, the security situation related to the expansion of the terrorist threat in the Sahel region towards coastal countries, including Côte d'Ivoire, raises the question of security governance and the effective presence of the State, particularly along the borders with Mali and Burkina Faso. The poorest regions, such as the north where the presence of the State and essential social services are limited, are fertile soil for the activities of non-State Groups, particularly terrorist cells which have infiltrated communities. The attack carried out on 11 June 2020 by unidentified individuals against a military post in Kafolo along the border with Burkina Faso led to 13 deaths and is a cause for concern.

78. In terms of promoting efficient and profitable institutions, despite the efforts made reforms of institutions and the civil service have not yet been fully completed. In particular, slow

procedures and suspicions of corruption penalize those in the population who are most deprived. General government's capacity for strategic planning and efficient support for development must be improved. The role of monitoring and evaluating policies remains difficult because of an inadequate evaluation culture, a lack of systematic performance indicators and monitoring material, and almost ineffective information systems. This shortcoming is accentuated by problems collecting, processing and circulating reliable and disaggregated statistical data in good time. The instability of the organic framework of the State and a lack of institutional memory within the administration, combined with the inexistence of a permanent role within several ministries, make exercising the role of coordinating inter and intra-ministerial activity difficult (recurrent changes to the descriptions and attributions of ministerial departments). Further, the effectiveness and efficiency of monitoring mechanisms and systems remain significant challenges, particularly within institutions seeking to combat corruption more effectively. In order to better combat illegal cash flows, corruption, money laundering, tax evasion and all forms of organized crime, and to recover the products of crime or stolen assets, Côte d'Ivoire is continuing to strengthen its legal and institutional framework (SDG 16). Decree No. 2018-478 of 16 May 2018 extended the jurisdiction of the Judicial Agency of the Treasury to recover and manage illegal assets. This measure aims to ensure greater recovery and more efficient State management of the financial resources illegally held by some groups (SDG 16.4). However, serious consideration of the structure, operation and attribution of each key entity in the national mechanism for preventing and overcoming corruption and the coordination mechanism is required to ensure it can accomplish its tasks efficiently. The capacities of governance institutions, as well as those of civil society organizations, remain insufficient to enable them to fully exercise their role of monitoring public action. Transparency and profitability in management of public affairs, as well as citizen participation with the involvement of women and youth, are insufficiently promoted at central and local level.

79. With regards to strengthening more inclusive governance and processes, the democratic process remains fragile through a perception





of cycles of management of power which are insufficiently inclusive. This situation is more visible during an election year when election management bodies are established without consensus. The holding of inclusive, transparent and peaceful elections meeting the democratic standard remains a challenge. Further, women face capacity problems which make their political engagement difficult and their participation in electoral processes remains limited. Currently, women only represent 11.37 per cent of the National Assembly, making the country 155th globally. The number of women able to stand at elections only represented 12 per cent overall and some political parties recorded a total absence of female candidates. Support provided by partners working in the electoral process, particularly UNDS, meant that the representation of women within the National Assembly increased slightly to 11.37 per cent in 2016, compared to 9.4 per cent in 2011, and a Constitution which is more sensitive to gender and includes elements aiming to strengthen promotion of the political participation of women was obtained. In accordance with the Preamble and Article 36 of the Ivorian Constitution, as revised in 2016, which promotes the political rights of women, a draft law seeking to promote the political rights of women by increasing their chances of accessing representation in elected assemblies, was adopted in November 2016. Youth participation in the electoral process tells a similar story. It is often connected to a lack of civic training and limited access to dialogue and decision-making frameworks. If not sufficiently addressed, the inclusion of youth, who are increasingly manipulated, in political processes could also be an obstacle to stability and peace consolidation. Current statistics confirm that Côte d'Ivoire has nine million potential voters but only 6.6 million are listed on the electoral roll (CEI-RLE-2018 statistics). During the last elections in 2018, only 36 per cent of voters participated. The participation of citizens of both genders, including women, youth and the most vulnerable, particularly those with a disability, in the consultation and decision-making process must also be improved. The problems encountered by some citizens in exercising their right to information contributes to a lack of structural transparency of institutions and

constitutes a restriction to participation in public life by all citizens, enlightened decision-making and the prevention of corruption. A lack of training on the focal points of information is one of the main problems to be overcome to encourage proper access to information.

80. As regards local governance, public administration suffers from a decentralization process which is struggling to establish itself. The decentralization and local development process is significant, particularly because it may constitute an option for the development of secondary cities and combatting disparities and inequalities. The lack of effective implementation of the land management policy creates a two-tier country in terms of development and constitutes a source of significant regional disparities, growing inequalities, difficult access to basic social services and an ever-increasing rural exodus to the capital. The major issues undermining the administrative decentralization process in Côte d'Ivoire are as follows: incompatibility between the profiles and posts of regional agents; effective non-application of Law No. 2003-208 of 7 July 2003 on transferring skills to local authorities; the lack of financial resources devoted to local authority operations with regards to the recommendations of UEMOA (UEMOA recommends devoting 10 per cent of the budget to local authorities); and a lack of logistical and human resources at the General Department for Decentralization and Local Development, limiting its ability to support and advise decentralized bodies. Reestablishing trust between the people and decentralized and devolved administrative departments has become crucial.

Although access to public services by the people (men, women and children) has been improved, it remains limited for the most deprived. The transfer of skills and resources to local authorities, as with local governance, should be effective and strengthened to increase the provision of services to grassroots populations and improve the quality of decentralized and devolved public services. Decentralization should encourage inclusive governance of the area, bolstering the legitimacy of the local authorities and taking the hopes of the population in planning and local development processes, as well as





the management of public affairs, more into consideration. The resources allocated to local authorities, as well as optimization of the spending of the aforementioned authorities with greater responsibility for service provision, are also challenges.

Renewed peace consolidation in Côte d'Ivoire must be powered by a sustainable social peace constructed on the basis of voluntary action which includes and associates social partners in drawing up and implementing public policies. To this effect, the Ivorian Government has set up the National Social Dialogue Council (Conseil National du Dialogue Social or CNDS) to act as a national framework for leading consultation with social partners and as a tool to prevent conflict. Several collective bargaining agreements also exist, although some are out of date and should be updated. The collective inter-professional bargaining agreement is more than 40 years old and addresses few of

the issues surrounding equal opportunities and treatment of the different genders. Social dialogue, as a process for consultation, negotiation and discussion between triparty representatives, is institutionalized in Côte d'Ivoire. The mechanisms exist to this effect at national, sector-based and company level. However, this support for the principle of social dialogue is in contrast with the recurrent labour movements observed over the last few years which hamper the stability of the social climate and productivity in the world of work. In addition, there are some issues facing social dialogue: particularly, the representativeness of the trade unions which is not determined; the National Social Dialogue Council (CNDS) which is insufficiently funded; and trade union organizations which are undermined by internal divisions. The unions point to weaknesses with regards to command of social dialogue techniques.

Transborder, regional and subregional issues

81. The countries surrounding Côte d'Ivoire are witnessing violent conflicts involving terrorists and overseas terrorist fighters travelling beyond national borders and therefore challenging border security management.⁴⁶ These same countries are also seeing community conflicts with population movement. Security threats, due to the situation on the borders with Mali and Burkina Faso in particular, are exacerbating conflicts between communities on either side of the border. As a result of its central position connecting neighbouring coastal countries with the Sahel, Burkina Faso now serves as a corridor extending the criminal operations of the Jihadi groups whose hopes of expansion into the north of the coastal countries, particularly Côte d'Ivoire, have been clearly identified. The ambition of these groups to occupy areas of governance which have received poor investment or are vacant is encouraged by the lack of national institutions in border areas focusing on preventing and suppressing the various types of threats specific to porous borders. Consolidation of the rule of law through the establishment of appropriate forms of national administrative bodies will contribute to improving national and regional information sharing. Strengthening control measures at borders is also necessary

for territorial security. Consideration of these parameters, as well as the action required to undertake them, will encourage progress towards achievement of SDG 16 in Côte d'Ivoire. The security threats which exacerbate tensions between communities on either side of the border could also intensify migratory movement towards Côte d'Ivoire, as well as supply recruitments channels and increase the threat from terrorism and transnational crime. This risk remains real after the act of terrorism against Côte d'Ivoire in Grand Bassam in March 2016. The security situation in neighbouring countries and on the borders should be monitored, as well as any resulting migratory flows towards the country. Inadequately combatting forms of transnational crime risks reinforcing impunity and therefore calling into question whether the services charged with applying the law (the police and the justice system) can achieve SDG 16. Violent extremism in the Sahel, particularly in the Liptako Gourma region, is a growing concern given the risks of terrorist attacks and multiple abductions, mainly in the border areas in the north of Côte d'Ivoire. The attack which occurred in Kafolo on the night of 10/11 June 2020 and which cost the lives of several Ivorian soldiers has only confirmed the presence of

⁴⁶ This is an important issue covered by UN Security Council Resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2396 (2017) in particular.





this threat. If these terrorist attacks spread, they will lead to a loss of human life, as well as growing pressure on natural resources due to subsequent migration. They may limit the ability of stakeholders to achieve the SDGs by creating a climate of insecurity within the population and have a negative impact on education, respect for human rights, etc.

82. It is also important to recall the pressure being put on the Ivorian authorities from organized crime as regards governance. Although little statistical data is available in terms of convictions for drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of serious crime, seizures and arrests are made in cases connected to these forms of trafficking, particularly through specialized departments such as the Unit Combating Transnational Crime (Unité de lutte contre la criminalité transnationale or UTC) and the Anti-Trafficking Airport Unit (Cellule aéroportuaire anti trafics or CAAT). These clearly demonstrate the country's vulnerabilities in this regard. The terrorist threat which is taking shape, particularly in certain border areas, and the links which may exist between terrorist groups and criminal groups require a redoubling of efforts to strengthen the institutional and operational capacities of the various departments charged with investigating, prosecuting and ruling on these events entirely independently and particularly through regional and international cooperation on criminal matters. As the Ivorian economy faces significant losses due to piracy and maritime crime in the Gulf of Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire introduced a judicial reform to combat the impunity of pirates and adopted the Maritime Code through Law 2017-442 of 30 June 2017 (SDG 16). This Maritime Code replaces Law No. 61-349 of 9 November 1961 on the Merchant Marine Code and, through Article 1008, defines piracy principally as per the contents of Article 101 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Moreover, Article 1018 gives the Ivorian courts criminal jurisdiction for "recognizing facts of piracy...even when they are committed on the high seas", in accordance with international law (Article 105 of UNCLOS).

83. Côte d'Ivoire has adopted various initiatives for unilateral and multilateral trade liberalization. The country has always played a leading role in subregional integration processes such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA). As the leading

economy in the UEMOA, with 36 per cent of its GDP in 2016, Côte d'Ivoire is the region's main economic engine. As a member of this subregional group, Côte d'Ivoire has harmonized several national mechanisms in its economic policy with the other members with which it also shares the same currency, the CFA franc. The country is also a member of the Mano River Union (a group of four West African countries: Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire (2008)), as well as the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), having previously been an observer. In order to take full advantage of its regional commitment, the country has a National Export Strategy (Stratégie Nationale d'Exportations or SNE) seeking to improve the competitiveness of national products, the diversification of trade, the efficiency of value chains and the business environment. The SNE has identified priority sectors such as (i) rubber and plastic, (ii) cashew nuts, (iii) cotton, cotton textiles and clothing, (iv) tropical fruits, (v) manioc and its derived products, and (vi) new information and communication technologies. Although the share of imports from countries in the subregion fell by nearly 50 per cent between 2010 and 2017, mainly profiting non-African partners, the share of exports to the subregion increased to the detriment of partners outside Africa. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) could generate substantial benefits in Côte d'Ivoire from an economic and social point of view by removing trade barriers, liberalizing trade on the continent and establishing a harmonized framework favouring competition, investment and innovation. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) estimates that the AfCFTA should boost GDP and exports from Côte d'Ivoire. Although the general increase is modest (less than 1 per cent for GDP and less than 3 per cent for exports), exports from Côte d'Ivoire to Africa should increase by approximately 3.5 to 8.5 per cent with an expected increase of approximately 10 per cent in the energy and mining sectors. In the agricultural and food sectors, exports should also increase significantly (approximately 8 per cent). As regards specific sectors, exports from Côte d'Ivoire to the rest of Africa should increase by more than 25 per cent in clothing, wood and paper products, electronics and transport vehicles and equipment. These exports should increase significantly to all African subregions and particularly to Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Morocco, Namibia, Rwanda, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. In the medium-term,





the AfCFTA should make it possible for Côte d'Ivoire to accelerate its trajectory towards achieving the SDGs, particularly through the economy's increased capacity to create jobs, especially for youth (SDG 8), improved revenue for economic operators (SDG 1), improve access to an expanded range of consumer products and cheap intermediate products (SDG 1), and

improve conditions for women and reduce gender inequalities (SDG 4). However, liberalization of the domestic market and opening national production structures up to those of the rest of Africa are associated with short-term risks such as the loss of jobs and earnings for nationals with the availability of overseas skills and a restructuring of the productive apparatus.





V. PARTNERSHIPS AND MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES TO IMPLEMENT THE SDGS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

84. Sustainable Development Goal 17 undertakes to “strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.” Sustainable development requires strong commitments coupled with partnerships between governments, the private sector, civil society, and bilateral and multilateral development partners. In effect, if the sustainable development goals are to avoid leaving anyone behind, everyone must be included in their implementation. In addition to the participation of all stakeholders, their contribution in each of the following areas is also essential: finance, human and technological resources, and skills. Lessons can also be learnt from previous successful and unsuccessful experiences with regards to limiting costs and learning timeframes. In the light of the resolutions of the Addis-Ababa Conference on Financing for Development and Aspiration 7 of the African Union’s Agenda 2063 to make Africa a strong influential global partner,⁴⁷ prominence should be given to domestic financing to implement the SDGs in African countries. The partnership and financing mobilization framework for implementing the SDGs, whose review with regards to Côte d’Ivoire will reveal the specific features, should take into consideration the mobilization of domestic resources and Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), as well as cooperation with regards to development, debt exposure and remittances. Côte d’Ivoire has been acting on each of these partnership and funding components, sometimes with exceptional results, particularly as regards mobilizing external resources and PPPs. However, results still appear to be mixed in other areas such as mobilization of domestic resources.
85. The tax burden (12.2 per cent of GDP) remained low in 2019 with regards to UEMOA’s performance criteria whose tax burden threshold is 20 per cent. In 2017 the savings rate was 23.5 per cent of GDP: savings from the private sector represented 21.9 per cent as a percentage of GDP compared to 1.9 per cent from the Government as a percentage of GDP. Niche revenue probably exists within the framework of tax spending related to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). For export products such as cocoa, any increase in taxes would lead to a drop in income for the direct producers; supporting them would be an option so that they can improve their margins to take themselves out of poverty and undertake some innovation. Côte d’Ivoire cannot really accelerate implementation of the SDGs without substantial domestic financing levers. Better recovery of tax revenue is expected thanks to the new Integrated Tax Management System (Système intégré de gestion des impôts or SIGICI) launched in February 2019, a new online tax return service for companies, planned electronic invoicing to combat VAT fraud, the attribution of a single tax number for all new companies and the introduction of an online registry to increase income from the land tax in the medium-term.
86. Côte d’Ivoire works with the private sector on a regular basis within the framework of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), particularly in order to carry out a number of infrastructure projects such as the third bridge in Abidjan. Côte d’Ivoire’s PPP experience is longstanding, dating back to the period immediately after independence.

⁴⁷ Aspiration 7 of the African Union’s Agenda 2063 corresponds to Goal 19: “Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful co-existence”.



More recently, in 2012 a judicial and institutional framework, overseen by the Presidency of the Republic, was established for PPPs. It is managed by a steering committee. Various opportunities have enabled the Government to put forward projects falling under the PPP system such as, in particular, the May 2016 Advisory Panel for financing the 2016-2020 NDP where Côte d'Ivoire put 70 PPP projects to its partners. Evaluation of this mechanism may be important for assessing its results in terms of contributing to implementation of the SDGs, promoting sector-based development, job creation, taxation (tax revenue and/or tax expenditure) and public or State-guaranteed debt generated.

87. Official Development Assistance, a component resulting from international cooperation, peaked at 11.2 per cent of GDP in 2012 at the end of the post-electoral crisis and had fallen to 2.3 per cent of GDP in 2018.⁴⁸ The Covid 19 crisis was certainly expected to take ODA to a higher level than in 2018 or 2019. Côte d'Ivoire has just received financing worth 886.2 million dollars from the IMF under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF) and the Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI) to tackle the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on the balance of payments.⁴⁹ Additional financing from the World Bank worth 35 million dollars is also under consideration.⁵⁰ In addition, financing worth 75 million Euros (49 billion FCFA) from the AfDB is available.⁵¹ The same is true for the support from the United Nations System in Côte d'Ivoire included within the framework of combating Covid 19. This seems to indicate that periods of crisis in Côte d'Ivoire correspond with ODA playing an important role in the country's financing. To expand its financing possibilities, Côte d'Ivoire has used the Advisory Panel mechanism supported by the World Bank and the United Nations System. In particular, Advisory Panels were organized in Paris in December 2012 for financing the 2012-2015 NDP and in May 2016 for the 2016-2020 NDP. 8.4 billion dollars of financing was announced for the 2012 Advisory Panel and 16.4 billion for the one in 2016.

88. Côte d'Ivoire introduced a debt policy for financing the 2016-2020 NDP based on concessional and non-concessional financing, issuing Eurobonds and access to the subregional financial market. Between 2014 and 2018, it issued Eurobonds worth an overall amount of 3,324 billion FCFA. In 2015 and 2016, it launched two issues of SUKUK bonds (an Islamic finance product)⁵² worth 310 billion FCFA. In 2018, 32.2 per cent of external financing worth 5,419.7 million dollars represented concessional resources and 67.8 per cent non-concessional resources. This amount was 42.7 per cent higher than that borrowed in 2017. Infrastructure financing was supposed to absorb 45.5 per cent of this financing, social spending 12 per cent and budget financing 38.2 per cent.⁵³ In general terms, without special effort to mobilize domestic resources, external debt exposure could take an increasingly significant share of public funding guaranteed by the State. This represents a gap which will need to be reduced with a view to achieving the sustainable development goals by 2030.

89. Côte d'Ivoire is not a stakeholder in the G20 plan to facilitate remittance flows.⁵⁴ Personal income received from overseas only represented 0.8 per cent of GDP in 2018.⁵⁵ These amounts, which take various routes to reach the country, should be evaluated in more detail, including remittances received by households. In general terms, this financing is used to cover the costs of migrants' families who have remained in the country, to create a business or another type of income-generating activity, and to improve housing. These remittances are also used to invest in the community for the construction of schools, chemists, religious buildings, facilities for accessing drinking water and electricity. Under these circumstances, and given the opportunities available, Côte d'Ivoire must rise to the challenge and mobilize its diaspora to contribute to the socioeconomic development of the country.

⁴⁸ World Bank, WDI, 2020.

⁴⁹ <https://www.imf.org/fr/News/Articles/2020/04/17/pr20172-cote-divoire-imf-exec-board-approves-us-886-2m-disbursement-address-covid19-pandemic>.

⁵⁰ <https://www.banquemondiale.org/fr/news/press-release/2020/05/05/cote-divoire-un-financement-additionnel-de-35-millions-pour-lutter-contre-le-coronavirus>.

⁵¹ <https://www.aa.com.tr/fr/afrique/covid-19-la-bad-approuve-un-prêt-de-75-millions-deuros-au-profit-de-la-côte-divoire/1870974>.

⁵² http://www.crepmf.org/Wwwcrepmf/Acteurs/pdf/AGR_2017-0101.pdf; <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/347369/economie/cote-divoire-lance-deuxieme-sukuk-de-150-milliards-fcfa/>.

⁵³ IMF, Art IV, 2019.

⁵⁴ The G20 undertook to reduce the cost of migrant remittances to 5 per cent of the amount transferred by 2014.

⁵⁵ World Bank, WDI, 2020.





90. International cooperation, with the Advisory Panel mechanism, will provide new opportunities to help Côte d'Ivoire finance its 2021-2025 NDP. This framework will enable all types of financing, including that from the UN Development System (UNDS), to be considered. Although the United Nations programme cycle can correspond to that of the country through the cooperation framework, implementation of agency work plans is usually out of sync. This limits consideration of UNDS support in the annual budget and the possibility for the Government to plan its spending commitments. The challenge will be for UNDS to provide information about its budget for the period to come when the State budget is being drawn up. Harmonized budgetary calendars could enable UNDS to discuss preparation of the multiannual budget and that of the following year with the budget teams and the various sectors.
91. Côte d'Ivoire is exploring new mechanisms for purchasing medicines through Unitaïd, an international organization financed by an airline ticket tax to centralize purchasing of medicines at the best prices for developing nations. This option seems especially topical due to the Covid 19 pandemic which has revealed the lack of resilience of medicine supply systems and the inputs required for healthcare and protection of healthcare staff.
92. All the financing options examined above must be galvanized to obtain significant levels of financing. Poor mobilization of domestic resources must be overcome. Côte d'Ivoire also needs to put new products on the market, or make its current products more competitive, to enable it to increase its market share and really take advantage of the AfCFTA. Use of the financial markets must be confined to the SDG acceleration actions whose financing would serve as a catalyst for other SDGs. The private sector is a powerful player which will bring transformational changes in terms of implementation of each SDG, particularly in the fields of innovation and structural transformation. However, any tax spending which could affect mobilization of internal resources must be limited.





VI. RISKS FACING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGs IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE

93. Examination of the documentation has identified more than a dozen risks connected to the sustainable development goals which could have an impact on their achievement. These various risks have been split into five categories to facilitate analysis. The five risk categories cover: (i) security, (ii) political participation and

governance, (iii) the environment, (iv) health and (v) the economy. The various risk categories are described, the probability of their occurrence assessed, the costs as regards implementing the SDGs indicated and recommendations to mitigate them proposed.

Security risks

94. Security risks mainly refer to: community tensions and conflicts; movement of light weapons and weapons caches; local and/or regional radicalization; and electoral conflicts. At first glance, the probability of these risks occurring does not appear to be very high. However, if combined with political tensions, the probability of their occurrence could become high. These risks could occur from frustrations stemming from multidimensional deprivation and the aftereffects of community tensions and conflicts before and since the post-electoral crisis. Populations no longer systematically turn to institutions to resolve their intra and/or inter-community relations and, in some cases, prefer "to deliver justice themselves". This has sparked public disorder in large urban centres

and conflicts between different communities (non-indigenous, allochtone and indigenous) in several regions of the country. An explosion of these security risks would cause localized confrontations which could lead to the loss of life and destruction of public and private property. It could also hamper economic and social activity. Achievement of the social SDGs in such areas would be compromised. The UNS should direct its operations towards strengthening democracy and social cohesion. Dialogue between political players on all sides prior to elections in the future could help prevent political tension. Dialogue between the Government and the UN System should lead to an assessment of how the UN System supports the electoral process.

Political participation and governance risks

95. The Government has taken action to bring the population back together since the post-electoral crisis of 2010/2011 ended. A dedicated ministry has been created, as well as bodies to support transitional justice. At the same time, action has been implemented to improve the security climate by restructuring the armed forces and security forces to encourage a climate of trust between these groups and the population. The capacities of the justice sector have also been strengthened to support this process and therefore encourage the primacy of

law and recourse to the institutions as the only means of resolving conflicts. However, trust in the institutions, particularly the justice system, the police and the gendarmerie, is still fragile because reconciliation remains unfinished. Achievement of the sustainable development goals would be severely compromised and the population seriously affected were there to be a recurrence of the post-electoral crisis. Its humanitarian, social and economic costs would be considerable.



Environmental risks

96. Although Côte d'Ivoire is committed to combatting climate change within the framework of sustainable development, the environment is a major risk to achieving the 2030 Agenda. After the creation of the Rural Land Agency (Agence Foncière Rurale or AFR) in 2016, charged with ensuring implementation of the land policy, it is important that sustainable solutions be found to the land issue which is one of the main sources of community conflict and a decisive issue in social cohesion. Further, the proliferation of unofficial areas for mining natural resources (gold) is accompanied by a destruction of the environment and seeds devastating conflicts between the various players involved. Continual deforestation of vegetation cover for commercial purposes contributes to strengthening this environmental risk. Migration and population movements seeking farmland also increase pressure on natural resources, compromise the balance between man and nature, and often encourage conflict. Despite ambitious initiatives, industrial production is still a source of pollution. The Blue Economy, covering a large part of the

coast, is in its early stages but would mitigate damage to the aquatic environment. Such unsustainable production and growth are to the detriment of the environment. The significant pressure being put on natural resources and the destruction and damage to the environment, as well as unsustainable production and growth, represent a considerable risk to achieving the 2030 Agenda. To mitigate these risks, criteria for the sustainability of activities could be introduced to encourage sustainability based on dialogue. It is also increasingly urgent that agriculture be the focus of innovation to help make it sustainable. In parallel, reforestation represents an undeniable challenge for Côte d'Ivoire. The introduction of multidisciplinary units to prevent and organize a response to catastrophes is becoming essential to capitalize on past experience.

Health risks

97. The Covid 19 pandemic has affected the country's economic, social and even institutional structures. The unprecedented restrictive measures have made some groups even more vulnerable, such as those living with HIV who will experience problems receiving their anti-retroviral treatment and even more so if they are affected by problems connected to substance abuse, particularly drugs and alcohol. In the border regions of Côte d'Ivoire, the Covid 19 crisis has stretched social ties to breaking point and caused family relations to deteriorate because people have been prohibited from visiting their families on the other side of the border. As a result of such reduced, sometimes even impossible, communication, some of those living in the border regions are exposed to an exacerbated risk of food insecurity and increased poverty. It should also be noted that there is the potential for reciprocal suspicion between populations which could have a negative impact on social cohesion in these border regions. Following the closure of the borders, the livelihoods of border populations are threatened by the risk of impoverishment and

even food insecurity. Transport restrictions lead to delays for pregnant women in work and create postnatal complications. Further, maternal and neonatal mortality rates, which are still high, could be severely impacted by the pandemic, something which will erode past achievements. The health risk is heightened because of climate and environmental stresses which are forcing animals out of their natural habitat. The Ebola epidemic, which spared Côte d'Ivoire in 2013/2014, should have been a warning of the potential health risks. The capacities of healthcare systems had already been severely tested in all the countries affected, as is the case at the moment with Covid 19. The resilience of healthcare systems must be analyzed to put public health at the heart of reform of the healthcare system, not just healthcare itself. In the field of health, the current Covid 19 pandemic shows the importance of having multidisciplinary units to prevent and organize a response to catastrophes. Comprehensive support from UNS to strengthen capacities for managing risks at national and local level is indispensable.





Economic risks

98. Côte d'Ivoire occupies an enviable position in both Africa and the world because of its profitable crops such as coffee, cocoa, palm oil, etc. The country would benefit from initiating faster structural transformation of its economy to take substantial revenue from the entire value chain supporting the transformation of raw materials into finished products. Innovations to ensure better productivity in agriculture also appear important. The UNS should support the country with its industrialization process, particularly structural transformation. A sharp drop in the price of export commodities, and cocoa in particular, may profoundly affect Côte d'Ivoire's economy. External debt exposure would increase to unsustainable levels and financing of the economy and social programmes could be severely affected. With regards to its economic performances since 2012, Côte d'Ivoire is in a comfortable position. It is deploying an ambitious NDP with its partners and is posting remarkable results. Its growth rates over the last few years are among the best in Africa. Further, it has a wide range of natural and human resources, and also significant financial potential which, used

efficiently, would contribute to real sustainable development. However, the country is not yet at an advanced stage of structural transformation of its economy. Poverty is still high, with unequal access to public health, quality education, water and electricity. The establishment of the AFCFTA is both an opportunity and a threat for Côte d'Ivoire, as its market will be open to regional competition. It should strengthen the competitiveness of the entire economy and the productivity of each sector

99. The new currency adopted by the countries in the UEMOA to replace the CFA Franc may open the way to tough negotiations about exchange rate regimes which could lead to flexibility in manufacturing costs and therefore the real earnings received by national players with a stronger possibility of inflation than with a fixed rate system. Expanding the aforementioned currency to ECOWAS could mean a shift in this direction. Some uncertainty may therefore be envisaged which, in the worst-case scenario, would affect the standard of living of the population due to higher inflation.





Synopsis of the risks facing implementation of the SDGs in Côte d'Ivoire

Risk category	Description of risks and themes	Probability of occurrence	Costs as regards achieving the SDGs	Recommendations
Political participation and governance	Social division Weak political dialogue Inadequate justice system Disputed electoral process Change of government frustrated	Very high	The humanitarian, social and economic costs may be considerable. The social SDGs will be sacrificed, and economic activity blocked. The consequences may yet be significant on forests and natural resources.	Facilitate dialogue between political players from all sides prior to future elections Assess the conditions for United Nations Systems support in the electoral process
Security	Community tensions and conflicts Movement of light weapons and weapons caches Electoral conflicts	High	Achievement of the social SDGs threatened Economic activity hindered. Increased poverty Risks connected to closing borders due to security risks which could affect the livelihoods of border populations which could cause impoverishment and even food insecurity	Map areas susceptible to conflict Strengthen social cohesion by avoiding identity-based stigmatization Activate or introduce early warning mechanisms Address the issue of light weapons and weapons caches
Economy	Reduction in prices of export commodities Increased public debt Financing of the economy compromised Job losses	Moderate	SDG financing compromised Job losses	Accelerate the country's structural transformation Plan for and anticipate the main foreseeable changes Develop innovation programmes





Risk category	Description of risks and themes	Probability of occurrence	Costs as regards achieving the SDGs	Recommendations
<p>Health</p>	<p>Ineffective management of the Covid 19 epidemic Product requirements for border populations often not met Human resources devoted to maternal services not available Healthcare system lacking resilience</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Health affected, particularly mothers and children Erratic management of the Covid 19 epidemic and other public health emergencies Availability and equitable distribution of healthcare staff for all essential healthcare services across the country unsatisfactory Inadequate management capacities for health problems at operational level (health district) Low availability of essential healthcare products Education of the most underprivileged compromised Economic and social activities halted or slowed down Increased unemployment Loss of qualification of the labour force.</p>	<p>Introduce multidisciplinary units to prevent and organize a response to catastrophes Strengthen the healthcare system Make the healthcare system more resilient</p>
<p>Climate and environment</p>	<p>State's inability to find sustainable answers to the land issue Unofficial gold mining accompanied by destruction of the environment Permanent deforestation Climate change Food insecurity and malnutrition</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>Loss of agricultural production Unemployment Migration Destruction and damage to the environment and production Pollution Unsustainable growth</p>	<p>Support the country's efforts with regards to the environment and climate change Define sustainability criteria for activities through sustainability based on dialogue. Introduce a programme of innovations for agriculture which could help make it sustainable Contribute to reforestation of forests Introduce multidisciplinary units to prevent and organize a response to catastrophes.</p>





CONCLUSION

100. The delay experienced by Côte d'Ivoire during the years of crisis had a dampening effect on the efforts undertaken by the Government during implementation of the NDP12012-2016 since the needs for reconstruction and peacebuilding were immense. The results have not yet reflected the means deployed to the extent that implementation of the SDGs has remained incomplete. Progress seems to have been quicker in social terms with regards to the second NDP from 2016 to 2020, although problems remain in terms of human capital and inclusiveness. Despite the plans and programmes which have been adopted, gaps remain in their implementation to ensure sustainable development.
101. The challenges associated with the shortcomings raised in this Common Country Assessment are many and involve: consolidation of transparent and efficient governance; the introduction of solid foundations for structural transformation of the economy; the introduction of structural tax reforms; and effective integration of sustainability as a principle and the goal within the country's choices and action. Eradication of extreme poverty, respect for human rights, and respect for gender equality and female empowerment must remain at the heart of action. All those left behind are affected by poverty, educational shortcomings, access to healthcare services limited by low income and limited provision, inadequate respect for their rights and few economic opportunities for professional integration. All these issues will need to be considered to progressively alleviate the deprivation affecting them.
102. Peace and stability are also significant challenges for which Côte d'Ivoire must find sound measures based on dialogue. Acceleration of implementation of the SDGs in Côte d'Ivoire will require a climate of peace. Planning based entirely on the SDGs can have its full effect within this framework. The health crisis has become an emerging problem during preparation of this report. The partial and final lessons learnt from management of Covid 19 could be considered with a view to making structural reforms for developing forward and operational capacities for rapid deployment in the event of the occurrence of similar crises or environmental ones. Monitoring implementation of the SDGs requires data high in both quantity and quality. The collection of information and statistics to better monitor the SDGs with more indicators must be improved. The strategies in place still seem limited to studies requiring significant financing. Capacities for producing routine data, such as in education, must be developed, as they must in the field of health. The data revolution and the use of private data must be promoted. It can be a decisive factor in the management of a health crisis like Covid 19. Côte d'Ivoire is still affected by the sociological shortcomings which have undermined peace and hampered the process for peace consolidation and national reconciliation. These weaknesses may hamper stability and the development process.





ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACHPR	African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AfDB	African Development Bank
ARDCI	Association des Régions et Districts de Côte d'Ivoire
BEONC	Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEONC	Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care
CFI	Cocoa & Forests Initiative
CGECI	Confédération Générale des Entreprises de Côte-d'Ivoire
CPI	Corruption Perceptions Index
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DNC	Determined National Contribution
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EMUWAS	Economic and Monetary Union of West African States
EONC	Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care
ERI-ESI	Regional Integrated Survey on Employment and the Informal Sector
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FPRES	Forest Preservation, Rehabilitation and Extension Strategy
GBS	General Basic Scheme
GBV	Gender-based violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GER	Gross Enrolment Rate
GIMW	Guaranteed Interprofessional Minimum Wage
GPI	Gender Parity Index
HCI	Human Capital Indicator
HDI	Human Development Indicator
HDR	Human Development Report
HIPCI	Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative
HIV/aids	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INS	Institut National de la Statistique
MAPS	Mainstreaming, Accelerating and Policy Support
MAS	Medical Assistance Scheme
MCT	Mother to Child Transmission
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys





MODA	Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis
MPI	International Monetary Fund
NAIP	National Agricultural Investment Plan
NDP	National Development Plan
NHDP	National Health Development Plan
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NMNP	National Multisectoral Nutrition Plan
NSP	National Strategic Plan
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PEPA	Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability
PLHIV	People Living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
RCF	Rapid Credit Facility
REDD	Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RFI	Rapid Financing Instrument
RIA	Rapid Integrated Assessment
RSF	Reporter Sans Frontière
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SPDLFP	Strategic Plan for the Development of Livestock and Fishery Products
TRDC	Truth, Reconciliation and Dialogue Commission
UHS	Universal Health Insurance Scheme
UHRI	Universal Human Rights Index
UNOCI	United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
UNS	United Nations System
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
UVICOCI	Union des Villes et Communes de Côte d'Ivoire
VNR	Voluntary National Report





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