

# IVORY COAST

UNITARY COUNTRY

AFRICA

## BASIC SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Income group - LOWER MIDDLE INCOME Local currency - Franc CFA (XOF)

### POPULATION AND GEOGRAPHY

AREA: **322 463** km<sup>2</sup>

POPULATION: **22** million inhabitants (2014),  
an increase of 2.4% per year (2010-14)

DENSITY: **69** inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>

URBAN POPULATION: **54.2%** of national population

CAPITAL CITY: **Abidjan** (21.4% of national population)

Sources: World Bank indicators, UNDP, ILO

### ECONOMIC DATA

GDP: **72.2** billion (current PPP international dollars)  
i.e. 3 258 dollars per inhabitant (2014)

REAL GDP GROWTH: **8.5%** (2014 vs 2013)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: **9.4%** (2014)

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT, NET INFLOWS (FDI): **462** (BoP, current USD millions, 2014)

GROSS FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION (GFCF): **17%** of GDP (2014)

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX: **0.462** (low), rank **172**

## TERRITORIAL ORGANISATION AND SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

MUNICIPAL LEVEL	INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	REGIONAL OR STATE LEVEL	TOTAL NUMBER OF SNGs
<b>197</b> MUNICIPALITIES AVERAGE MUNICIPAL SIZE: 112 473 INHABITANTS	-	<b>33</b> 31 REGIONS ± AUTONOMOUS DISTRICTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS	<b>230</b>

**MAIN FEATURES OF TERRITORIAL ORGANISATION.** Ivory Coast is a unitary State with a specific two tiers government organization as the two cities of Abidjan and Yamoussoukro, due to their importance, are autonomous districts. The country is therefore divided in 31 Regions and 2 autonomous districts, which are themselves divided in 197 municipalities (*communes*). In Abidjan and Yamoussoukro the municipalities relies on districts (*arrondissements*), as for the rest of the regions small urban centers named "villages" constitute the basic level of administration and are closely linked to devolved local powers.

**MAIN SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS RESPONSIBILITIES.** Decentralization reform was implemented in 2011 and should be completed in 2011. Aside from a renewed organization and the creation of regions, this reform aims to create support institutions dedicated to local authorities. A local finance committee is to be created, and division of competences between the two tiers of government has been clarified by the new legislation. Competences are divided between decentralized and deconcentrated authorities according to a subsidiarity principle. Municipalities are the designated level to provide inhabitants with basic services and administrative acts of a local interest, as the regions are in charge of college education, regional hospitals, emergency and police services, ect. However, as the national government hasn't take the necessary decrees yet, this division of charges and competences is not effective for the whole municipal level.

## SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

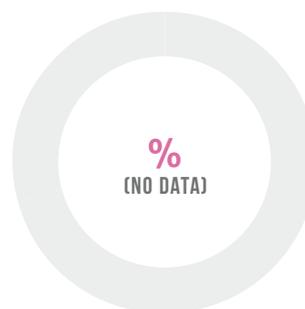
EXPENDITURE	% GDP	% GENERAL GOVERNMENT (same expenditure category)	% SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (2013)	-	-	-
CURRENT EXPENDITURE	-	-	-
STAFF EXPENDITURE	-	-	-
INVESTMENT	-	-	-

Municipal budgets are submitted to the approval of the central government by the Ministry of Interior before being executed.

## EXPENDITURE BY FUNCTION

## % SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE

- GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES
- DEFENCE
- SECURITY AND PUBLIC ORDER
- ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
- HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES
- HEALTH
- RECREATION, CULTURE AND RELIGION
- EDUCATION
- SOCIAL PROTECTION



There is a lack of available reliable data on the classification of subnational expenditures by functions. Yet, on average over the past years, current expenditures made almost two thirds of subnational expenditures. Within these current expenditures, more than half is spent on average on general public services. Many municipalities do not play any role in terms of expenditures regarding economic affairs, and they have a very low contribution to promote social and economic development.

REVENUE BY TYPE	% GDP	% GENERAL GOVERNMENT (same revenue category)	% SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENT
TOTAL REVENUE (2012)	3.6%	3.2%	100%
TAX REVENUE	0.4%	-	11.3%
GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES	-	-	-
OTHER REVENUES	-	-	-

According to the legislation, municipalities can levy taxes and perceive user fees and charges, however, despite these fiscal resources, and due to the challenges linked with tax and fees collection, municipalities rely heavily on national financial transfers that constitute by far the most of their local revenues.

**TAX REVENUE.** Municipalities can levy 4 global taxes (*impôts*) on : land, business licenses, stamp duties, and a synthetic tax perceive by all municipalities. A share of these taxes is perceived directly by the Central Government, and the rest goes to the local budget.

Appart these taxes, local authorities can levy taxes on their own for services that they render (*taxes rémunératoires*). There are around 22 such taxes, that are the standard fees of small traders and artisans, taxes on fuels distributive pumps, on carts, on shows and galas, port and airport taxes, taxes on advertising.

**GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES.** Central government transfers funds to municipalities through a general grants to current budget (Dotation globale de fonctionnement) half of which is set at a flat rate, and the other half is defined by demographic and economic criteria. Investment grants are also allocated, the FIAU (*Fonds d'Investissement et d'Aménagement Urbain*) and the FRAR (*Fonds Régional d'Aménagement Rural*).

**OTHER REVENUES.** Municipalities also perceive fees and charges (*redevances*) for public services provision, including parking fees, fees on public transportation, etc. The collection of these fees is challenged by a lack of human, technical and financial resources within municipal administrations.

## OUTSTANDING DEBT

	% GDP	% GENERAL GOVERNMENT
OUTSTANDING DEBT (2013)	-	-

Municipalities are legally allowed to borrow under strict conditions, however, as the necessary decrees were never published by the general government, these conditions are unknown and this legislation cannot be enforced. The country has reached a high level of national debt, limiting very strictly the opportunities for local authorities.

A joint- study of:



Source: National Statistical Institute of Ivory Coast • F. Yatta (2013) • *Direction Générale de la Décentralisation et du Développement Local (DGDDL)*, Guide pratique de l'élu • Decree n°2011-262 du 28/09/2011 on the orientation of the general organisation of administrative division of the State de l'organisation générale de l'Administration Territoriale de l'Etat; • Law n°2012-1128 du 13/12/2012 on territorial organization