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Cote d'Ivoire

Media and telecoms landscape guide

August 2011

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1. Introduction

Cote d'Ivoire was slowly returning to peace and normality in the second half of 2011 following eight years of simmering civil war.

According to UNHCR, more than 300,000 people were still internally displaced at the end of July 2011 as a result of the fighting which erupted after disputed presidential elections in 2010.

A further 200,000 Ivoirians had fled abroad as refugees – mainly to Liberia and Ghana.

In March 2011, rebel forces which controlled the northern half of Cote d'Ivoire, swept south and overthrew former president Laurent Gbagbo.

They attacked after Gbagbo refused to step aside and allow Alassane Ouattara, the internationally recognised victor of presidential elections in 2010, to succeed him as head of state.

Fighting ended with the surrender of Gbagbo on April 11. He was put under house arrest in the northern city of Korhogo.

Gbagbo's defeat paved the way for national reunification.

Ouattara and his cabinet took over the reins of government and began the difficult task of welding the country back together.

But restoring law and order and public confidence has proved difficult.

The armed forces which brought Ouattara to power included thousands of poorly trained rebels and volunteer fighters. These soon gained a reputation for indiscipline, racketeering and corruption, especially in Abidjan.

Ouattara faced the difficult task of integrating these forces with the national army and the police forces that had helped to keep Gbagbo in power for a decade.

At the same time, the new president had to bring to heel powerful warlords in the north. During the civil war, many rebel commanders had become independent-minded figures in their own command zones, behaving pretty much as they liked.

The security situation remained particularly tense in the western regions of Moyen Cavally and Dix-huit Montagnes near the Liberian border.

This area had been troubled for the past decade by ethnic and political violence, the activities of mercenaries from other West African countries and general lawlessness.

Cote d'Ivoire was once the most affluent and developed country in West Africa, with an excellent infrastructure of roads and public services and a prosperous economy.

But a decade of political strife, which began with a military coup in 1999, has left the country in economic ruin, with high levels of unemployment.

The conflict also severely damaged the infrastructure of the state broadcaster **Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI)**.

In August 2011, the UN radio station **ONUCI FM** was the only radio station able to broadcast throughout the country on FM.

However, Cote d'Ivoire also has about 120 local radio stations, known as *radios de proximite*. These have remained largely intact.

Ouattara's government has announced plans to liberalise broadcasting and allow private TV stations to compete legally with RTI for the first time.

In August 2011 the government had not yet announced a timetable for parliamentary and local government elections to complete Cote d'Ivoire's return to democracy.

The civil war began with a failed military uprising against Gbagbo in 2002. This split the country in half. Rebel forces were left in control of the dry and sparsely populated north. Gbagbo's government retained its hold on the fertile and densely populated south, including the capital Abidjan.

In 2003, the United Nations and France, the former colonial power in Cote d'Ivoire, deployed separate peace-keeping forces to keep the two sides apart.

A series of international peace initiatives eventually led to UN-supervised presidential elections in 2010. But the polls were held in a country that was still militarily and politically divided.

Gbagbo emerged as the leading candidate in the first round of voting in June with 38% of the vote.

But he lost the second round run-off to his rebel-backed rival Ouattara in November.

The Independent Electoral Commission declared Ouattara the clear winner with 54% of the vote. His victory was recognised by the UN mission in Cote d'Ivoire and most of the international community.

However, Gbagbo refused to step down or acknowledge defeat. He accused Ouattara of rigging the ballot in his favour in the rebel-controlled north.

Between December 2010 and March 2011, Cote d'Ivoire relapsed into conflict as anti-Gbagbo protests broke out in Abidjan and other parts of the south.

At the end of March, the pro-Ouattara rebels launched an all-out offensive from their stronghold in the north. They rapidly overran the rest of the country.

UN and French peacekeeping forces supported the pro-Ouattara forces in the final days of the conflict as they swept into Abidjan.

UN and French attack helicopters bombarded Gbagbo's military strongholds in the city to hasten an end to the fighting and limit the toll it was inflicting on civilian lives.

Ouattara is a respected economist who served as prime minister from 1990-93. He had been Gbagbo's main political opponent for more than a decade.

The president draws most of his political support from northern Cote d'Ivoire and from people of northern and immigrant origin in the south.

He never joined the *Forces Nouvelles* (New Forces) rebel movement, but he sympathised openly with its aims.

Ouattara had long been supported by the rebels as their candidate for head of state.

Control of the government's security forces rests largely in the hands of Prime Minister Guillaume Soro. He was the leader of the *Forces Nouvelles* (New Forces) rebel movement, whose fighters now dominate the army and the police. Soro is also Minister of Defence.

About three quarters of Cote d'Ivoire's 21 million inhabitants live in the predominantly Christian south of the country, which was controlled by Gbagbo during the civil war. It produces revenues from cocoa and offshore oil which fuel the Ivoirian economy.

Around five million people live in the drier, poorer and mainly Muslim north. This was controlled by the *Forces Nouvelles* rebel movement from its de facto capital in Bouake.

French is the main language used in the Ivoirian media. It is also the most common language used in everyday life.

However, local radio stations also broadcast in a wide variety of local languages.

More than 60 African languages are spoken in Cote d'Ivoire, but none have the status of a universal lingua franca.

Dioula, a language closely related to Mandingo, is widely used amongst people from the north and immigrants from Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea.

Baoule is widely spoken in central Cote d'Ivoire in area around Yamoussoukro.

Just over half the adult population can read and write and mobile phone usage is widespread.

There were 15.8 million mobile subscribers in Cote d'Ivoire in June 2011, according to the state telecoms regulator, **Agence de Telecommunications de Cote d'Ivoire (ATCI)**.

The country's five mobile networks were estimated to cover 89% of the population

The United Nations Mission in Cote d'Ivoire, which is widely known by its French acronym ONUCI, was created in 2003 to set up a UN peace-keeping operation.

In August 2011, ONUCI had around 10,000 troops in the country and a UN Security Council mandate to continue its operations until July 2012.

The French peace-keeping force, known as Force Licorne, consisted of 700 men in July 2011. It acted as a rapid intervention force in support of UN peacekeepers.

France has maintained a permanent military base at Port Bouet near Abidjan airport since Cote d'Ivoire's independence in 1960.

The "Wild West" remains the main focus of security and humanitarian concerns.

Heavy fighting in this area, accompanied by widespread atrocities against civilians, generated most of the refugees and IDPs in the final stages of the civil war.

For eight years, the front line ran through the middle of the "Wild West.". Although fighting petered out in the rest of Cote d'Ivoire between 2004 and 2010, violence, crime and impunity remained a serious problem in this lawless region.

Humanitarian organisations planning to launch communications initiatives with intended beneficiaries in Cote d'Ivoire should coordinate their actions with other stakeholders through the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) office in Abidjan

<http://ochaonline.un.org/UrgencesEmergencies/ElectionsCocirctedIvoire/tabid/7330/language/fr-FR/Default.aspx> and the Cluster leads.

Cote d'Ivoire at a glance

Population (2009 World Bank estimate)	21 million
Main languages	French, Dioula
Other languages widely used in broadcasting	Baoule, Bete, Senoufo, Agni, Yacouba, Guere and many others
Radios per 1,000 people (2007)	183
TV sets per 1,000 people (2007)	60
GDP per capita (2009 World Bank estimate)	\$1,027
Adult literacy rate (2009 UNESCO)	55%
Mobile phone lines (ATCI 2011)	15.8 million
Mobile phone penetration (ITU 2010)	75%
Mobile network coverage (Orange 2011)	89% of population
Internet subscribers (2009)	968,000
Ranking in Reporters Sans Frontieres Press Freedom Index 2010	118 (out of 178)
Ranking in UN Human Development Index 2010	163 (out of 182)

2. Media Overview

Radio is the most widespread and influential form of media in Cote d'Ivoire.

National radio and TV stations broadcast mainly in French, but local languages are used for selected news bulletins, public service announcements and advertisements.

In August 2011, the UN radio station **ONUCI FM** was the only radio station with a functioning nationwide network of FM transmitters.

The broadcasting capacity of the state broadcasting corporation **Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI)** had been severely degraded by the civil war. Its studios and transmitters in Abidjan suffered heavy damage during fighting in early 2011.

RTI's television service went off air completely between April and August 2011.

The state broadcaster was officially re-launched in August 2011 after an emergency repair programme and the reorganisation of its staff.

However, at that point, RTI still relied mainly on satellite broadcasts to reach most radio and TV audiences in the interior.

The French pay TV company Canal+ is the main satellite broadcaster in Cote d'Ivoire. It carries RTI's radio and TV broadcasts.

Many people receive Canal+ cheaply through cheap pirate connections. These rely on one person paying for a subscription and creating multiple TV connections from one decoder.

Three religiously inspired broadcasters have networks of FM relay stations that cover several of Cote d'Ivoire's main cities. These are:

- **Radio Nationale Catholique** (Roman Catholic Christian)
- **Radio Al Bayanne** (Muslim)
- **Frequence Vie** (Protestant Evangelical Christian)

There are also about 120 local radio stations across Cote d'Ivoire known as *radios de proximite*.

These local stations broadcast mostly in French. However they also carry local news bulletins, and occasionally other programmes, in the African languages spoken by their target audience.

There are about a dozen daily newspapers published in Abidjan. All of them are written in French. Few newspapers circulate outside the capital.

French is the official language of Cote d'Ivoire. It is the main language used in government, business and the media.

French is widely spoken as a lingua franca, even by people with little or no formal education.

There is no dominant African language that is spoken throughout the country.

In the north and among immigrant communities in southern Cote d'Ivoire, **Dioula** is widely used as a common language. Related to Mandingo, Dioula is also widely spoken in neighbouring Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea.

Baoule, the language of the ethnic group of Cote d'Ivoire's founding president, Felix Houphouet Boigny, is widely spoken in central areas around Yamoussoukro.

Public service announcements and humanitarian radio programmes are likely to have a much bigger impact on rural communities if they are broadcast in appropriate local languages rather than French.

However, Cote d'Ivoire has over 60 languages and no ethnic group is dominant in terms of population size.

Local language broadcasts must therefore be narrowly targeted at defined population groups in quite small geographical areas in order to be effective. (See language map).

UNESCO estimated the national adult literacy rate in 2009 at 55%.

Education was badly disrupted by the 2002-2011 civil war, especially in the rebel-controlled north. There are fears that the literacy rate and fluency in French amongst young Ivorians has been falling.

Despite the diversity of media in Cote d'Ivoire, the country has a poor record for freedom of expression and responsible publishing. It ranked 118 out of 178 in the Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) 2010 Press Freedom Index.

The media was frequently used to transmit hate speech and incitements to violence during the 2002-2011 civil war.

The intimidation of journalists and self censorship was rife. Several journalists were killed during and immediately after the conflict.

The most recent casualty was Sylvain Gagnetaud, a pro-Gbagbo journalist who worked for the Abidjan local radio station Radio Fraternite de Yopougon.

According to RSF, Gagnetaud was arrested and summarily executed by pro-Ouattara security forces in May 2011, a month after the military defeat of Gbagbo's government.

The suburb of Yopougon was a hot-spot of violence during the battle for Abidjan. Pro-Gbagbo militia groups had traditionally been active there. Shooting persisted in Yopougon for several weeks after Gbagbo and his government surrendered.

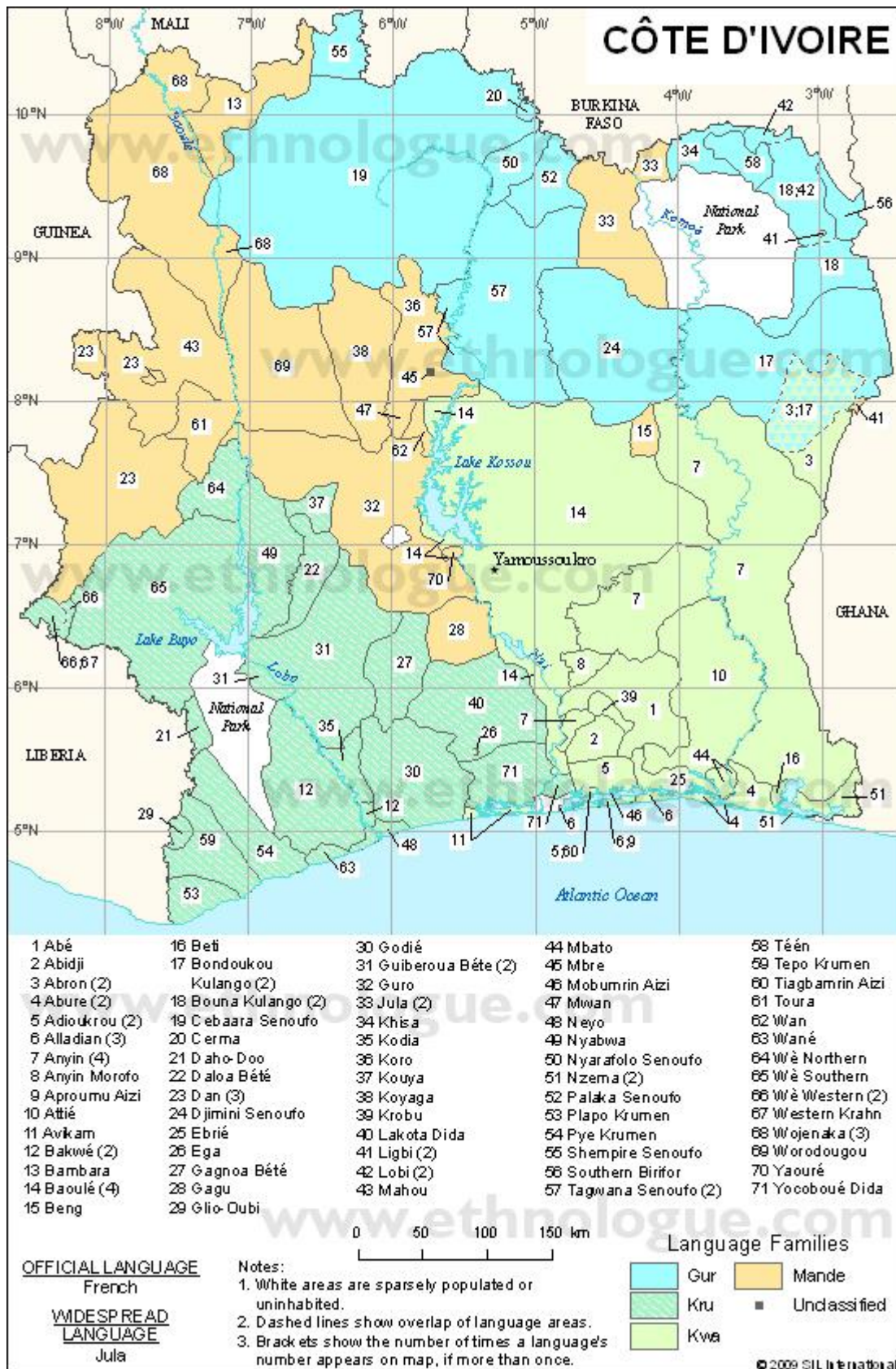
RSF said Gagnetaud was arrested in a security sweep and then executed along with several youths suspected of belonging to pro-Gbagbo militia groups.

The state media serves as the propaganda tool of government and seldom carries any criticism of the authorities.

Private sector radio stations are legally banned from reporting political news.

However, this rule is widely flouted by several unlicensed stations which sprung up in the rebel-controlled north of the country after 2002.

Cote d'Ivoire's newspapers reflect a wide range of political views, but many of them are stridently partisan. Their reporting is often unreliable.



Source: Lewis, M. Paul (ed.), 2009. *Ethnologue: Languages of the World*

There are only four broadcasters which reach large sectors of the population.

- **Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI)** www.rti.ci is the state broadcasting corporation. It normally operates two radio stations on FM nationwide and two TV channels. From December 2010 to April 2011 during the final months of the Gbagbo administration, RTI was reduced to operating a single radio service and a single TV channel. Many of its transmitters were damaged or broke down during the civil war. Its central studios in Abidjan were badly damaged in the final days of the conflict. RTI's television service subsequently went off air for four months. However RTI continued its radio broadcasts on FM in Abidjan and satellite in the rest of the country. The government of President Alassane Ouattara has invested heavily in RTI's repair and rehabilitation. The state broadcaster resumed normal TV programming one one channel in August 2011.
- **ONUCI FM** www.onuci.org/onucifm is the voice of the UN peacekeeping mission in Cote d'Ivoire. It broadcasts from Abidjan and 20 FM repeater stations throughout the country. In August 2011, ONUCI FM was the only radio station that could be heard on FM throughout Cote d'Ivoire.
- **Radio Jam** www.radiojam.biz is a popular privately-owned commercial station that broadcasts from powerful FM transmitters in **Abidjan** and **Yamoussoukro**. Its music and entertainment programming is aimed at a youth audience. The station's website claims that Radio Jam also transmits on FM in Korhogo, Man, Bouake, Abengourou and Gagnoa, but this is not the case in reality.
- **Radio Nationale Catholique** www.rnc-ci.net is the nationwide radio station of the Roman Catholic Church. It broadcasts on FM in **Abidjan, Gagnoa, Abengourou** and **Bondoukou**. It also has plans to open a relay station in **Bouake**. In addition, the Catholic Church operates stand alone radio stations in **Abidjan, Yamoussoukro, Grand Bassam** and **Man**.
- **Radio Al Bayanne** www.radio-albayane.com is Cote d'Ivoire's main Muslim radio station. It broadcasts on FM in **Abidjan** and has relay stations in **San Pedro, Yamoussoukro** and **Korhogo**. Al Bayanne is widely listened to by the country's Muslim population. There are also several stand alone Muslim *radio de proximite* in the interior.

Many of the FM radio stations based in Abidjan are able to tap into a large potential audience in and around the city.

Radio Espoir, the Roman Catholic radio station in Abidjan, claims to reach a third of Cote d'Ivoire's 21 million population. Its FM signal can be heard up to 70 km from the city.

Little data is publicly available about radio audiences and their listening habits.

However, a common pattern is for people to tune in to RTI, ONUCI FM or a foreign radio station between 6am and 9am to find out what is happening in the country and the wider world.

They then tune in to a local radio station later in the day.

Fourteen local radio stations were damaged and forced off air during the conflict which followed the 2010 elections – mainly in Abidjan and the “Wild West.”

Many of them were subsequently repaired and resumed broadcasting.

State-run RTI has an official monopoly of free-to-air television broadcasting in Cote d'Ivoire, but this was broken by the creation of new rival stations during the civil war.

Three unlicensed TV stations were set up in northern Cote d'Ivoire during the period of rebel occupation and Ouattara created his own TV station, TCI, in Abidjan at the end of 2010.

An independent TV station sympathetic to the *Forces Nouvelles* (New Forces) former rebel movement operates **Television Notre Patrie** (Our Fatherland Television) (TVNP) from the former RTI studios in **Bouake**. This station broadcasts to audiences in the city and the surrounding region.

Two private TV stations also operate in the northern city of **Korhogo**.

Ouattara's government has signalled its intention to officially liberalise television broadcasting by awarding licences to private operators.

In Abidjan, RTI has become propaganda mouthpieces for the Ouattara government and the political movements that support it.

Its radio and TV broadcasts seldom carry any criticism of the government.

Neither do they reflect the views of Gbagbo's supporters, who now constitute the official opposition.

More than a dozen tabloid daily newspapers are published in Abidjan, but sales are low and very few copies reach the interior of Cote d'Ivoire.

The government daily **Fraternite Matin** has the largest circulation. It sold 13,000 to 16,000 copies per day in 2010.

Some private newspapers, such as **Soir Info** and **L'Inter**, endeavour to provide balanced and independent news coverage.

But many, such as **Notre Voie**, the mouthpiece of former president Laurent Gbagbo's *Front Patriotique Ivoirien* Ivorian Patriotic Front (FPI) party and **Le Patriote** which is sympathetic to President Alassane Ouattara and his *Rassemblement des Republicains* (Rally of Republicans) (RDR) party are stridently partisan.

The Ivorian media are widely distrusted as a source of reliable information on political issues.

Many Ivorians listen to **ONUCI FM** and foreign radio stations, particularly **Radio France Internationale (RFI)**, to find out what is really happening in their own country.

ONUCI FM lost much of its reputation for political neutrality during the four months of conflict which followed the disputed 2010 presidential elections. During this period it followed the UN line in treating Ouattara as the legitimate winner of these polls.

Officials of Gbagbo's government stopped speaking to ONUCI FM at this stage, a factor which made the station's coverage appear even more biased.

However, since Gbagbo's military defeat, supporters of the former president have been largely excluded from state radio and television.

They have therefore resumed speaking to ONUCI FM.

In August 2011, ONUCI FM was the only national radio station that provided a platform for all shades of political opinion.

This has helped to restore its damaged reputation.

Radio France Internationale (RFI) broadcasts on FM in **Abidjan**, **Bouake** and **Korhogo**. Some of its news programmes are also picked up from satellite broadcasts and relayed by local radio stations in northern Cote d'Ivoire.

Afrique Numero Un, a pan-African radio station based in Gabon, and the French services of the **BBC World Service** and **Voice of America (VOA)** can be heard on FM in **Abidjan**.

During the civil war, Gbagbo's government frequently shut down the FM relays of foreign broadcasters at times of crisis.

RFI was kept off air for 10 months in 2005/2006.

In December 2010 the Gbagbo administration also blocked the reception of several French TV stations. It ordered Canal+ to stop beaming several French TV channels into Cote d'Ivoire, including the news channels **France 24** and **TV5**.

They were all restored after Ouattara came to power four months later.

During the civil war, the Ivorian media operated under tight restrictions on news reporting and the constant threat of physical attack or closure.

Pro-Gbagbo militants known as *Jeunes Patriotes* (Young Patriots) frequently attacked private radio stations and the offices of newspapers accused of supporting the opposition.

On two occasions, the *Jeunes Patriotes* even occupied the headquarters of **RTI** to put out stridently pro-Gbagbo statements, apparently with tacit presidential approval.

The Cote d'Ivoire correspondent of RFI in Abidjan was shot dead by a policeman in 2003, apparently on the orders of senior figures in the Gbagbo government.

Another journalist with joint French and Canadian nationality who was working for the French media disappeared in Abidjan in 2004. He is widely believed to have been abducted and murdered by government agents.

Few attacks on the media were documented in the rebel-controlled north during the lull in hostilities between 2004 and 2010.

However, journalists in the north remained equally wary of upsetting the *Forces Nouvelles* authorities. Self censorship was widely practised.

The political pressure on journalists intensified during the country's slide back into full-scale conflict in early 2011.

During this period several media professionals were arrested, dozens received anonymous death threats and at least two were killed.

A printing press worker at the pro-Gbagbo daily **Notre Voie**, was hacked and clubbed to death by a mob outside his home in Abidjan in February.

The most recent fatality was radio journalist Sylvain Gagnetaud in May, a month after the civil war ended. He was arrested and summarily executed by pro-Ouattara security forces.

For the past decade, the Ivorian media has been sharply polarised between supporters of Gbagbo on the one hand, and his political rivals on the other.

During the final stages of the civil war, the tone of the political rhetoric spewed out by both sides became particularly strident and incendiary. Hate speech and the celebration of violence became commonplace.

Neither side in the conflict used the media to condemn acts of violence perpetrated by its own supporters. Indeed, such killings were often celebrated.

However, since the end of the conflict, the tone of political rhetoric in all media has been toned down. Those newspapers that continue to support Gbagbo have lost most of their venom.

Private radio stations in Cote d'Ivoire are technically banned from broadcasting domestic political news under the terms of their licence.

However, this is a grey area. What radio stations are allowed to report appears to depend more on the degree of political tolerance shown by the government of the day than on the strict application of the law.

In practice, all radio stations are allowed to report official events and routine government announcements. However, they are not supposed to comment on such news items. Neither are they supposed to report news of a party political nature.

All radio stations are also allowed report foreign news.

Despite these restrictions, in August 2011, many unlicensed radio stations in the former rebel zone were continuing to actively discuss political issues on air.

The government news agency **Agence Ivoirienne de Presse (AIP)** www.aip.ci provides domestic news to local media outlets.

Under the Ouattara government it has been fairly neutral, reporting events and official announcements without commenting on them.

3. Radio

Overview

Radio is the most popular form of media in Cote d'Ivoire and has the widest reach.

Radio ownership is widespread. In 2007 the country boasted nearly one radio set for every five inhabitants.

However, in August 2011, the only radio station with nationwide FM coverage was the UN radio station **ONUFI FM**.

Radio Cote d'Ivoire, the general service of state-run **Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI)**, could be heard on FM in Abidjan, but most of its FM relay stations in the interior were out of action.

There are several commercial music and entertainment stations in Abidjan which command a large audience in and around the capital. The most popular of these are **Radio Jam** and **Radio Nostalgie**.

Three religiously inspired radio stations broadcast on small networks of FM repeater stations that cover many of Cote d'Ivoire's main cities.

Three religiously inspired broadcasters have networks of FM relay stations that cover several of Cote d'Ivoire's main cities. These are:

- **Radio Nationale Catholique** (Roman Catholic Christian)
- **Radio Al Bayanne** (Muslim)
- **Frequence Vie** (Protestant Evangelical Christian)

In addition, there are about 120 local radio stations across Cote d'Ivoire known as *radios de proximite*.

Many of these small stations are run by local government authorities. Others were set up by community associations, religious organizations and private entrepreneurs.

Several new *radios de proximite* sprung up in the rebel-controlled north during the 2002-2011 civil war without obtaining a government licence.

Since the overthrow of former president Laurent Gbagbo, all these unlicensed stations have applied to the government regulatory authority to continue operating.

In May 2011, the government created a new regulatory body for radio and television called the **Haute Autorite de la Communication Audiovisuelle (HACA)** (High Authority for Audiovisual Communication).

Headed by Ibrahim Sy Savane, a former minister of communications and a close associate of Prime Minister Guillaume Soro, it is widely expected to preside over a liberalisation of broadcasting in Cote d'Ivoire.

Local radio stations command a large and very mixed audience in both towns and villages because people want to find out what is happening in their own area.

At least 14 *radios de proximite* were damaged and forced to shut down in the fighting that flared up in late 2010 and early 2011.

Others decided to shut down temporarily as a precautionary measure as violence swirled around them.

Many of the damaged radio stations have managed to resume broadcasting. Some received equipment and technical assistance from ONUCI FM to get back on air.

RTI used to reach the entire country on FM through its general service **Radio Cote d'Ivoire** and its music and entertainment station **Frequence 2**.

However, several of its 13 transmitter masts were damaged in fighting during the final stages of the civil war, including the main transmitter covering Abidjan.

Other RTI transmitters in the rebel-held north of the country had stopped working long before then and had never been repaired.

To make matters worse, RTI's headquarters in Abidjan were bombarded by artillery and heavily damaged in the days of the civil war in April 2011.

In August 2011 RTI relied on satellite transmission to get its radio signal into many parts of the interior. Its broadcasts were carried on the popular Canal+ satellite TV package for Cote d'Ivoire.

Some local radio stations take advantage of this facility to pick up the RTI radio service and relay its news programmes.

RTI has an official monopoly on the broadcast of political news and current affairs. However its coverage has always been biased heavily in favour of the government of the day.

The broadcaster's performance so far under the President Alassane Ouattara has continued this tradition.

Radio Cote d'Ivoire, the general service of RTI, was also the name of a parallel radio station set up by Ouattara's shadow administration in December 2010.

At that time, former president Laurent Gbagbo still controlled the government and RTI.

Ouattara's parallel Radio Cote d'Ivoire stopped broadcasting in August 2011 following the re-launch of RTI. Most of its staff rejoined RTI.

However, government officials hinted at the time that the radio station and its sister TV station Television Cote d'Ivoire (TCI) could be revived as independent broadcasters in the near future.

In normal times, RTI's Radio Cote d'Ivoire general service is widely listened to by people in the interior in the 35 plus age bracket.

In the past, many of them relied on the station as their main source of national news, especially those who listened to its news bulletins in local languages.

Since 2004, RTI's official monopoly of news and current affairs has been challenged by the creation of the UN radio station **ONUFI FM**.

ONUFI FM broadcasts are relayed by 20 FM repeater masts across the country.

Most of these transmitters are concentrated in a belt running east to west across the centre of Cote d'Ivoire.

During the civil war, this band of relay stations gave ONUFI FM good coverage of communities that lived near the ceasefire line that separated government and rebel forces.

Until the disputed November 2010 election, the UN station enjoyed a good reputation for broad and unbiased news coverage across Cote d'Ivoire.

ONUFI FM had always been popular with opponents of former president Laurent Gbagbo, since the radio station had consistently allowed opposition leaders as well as government representatives to speak on air.

However, its reputation for independence and political neutrality diminished after the second round run-off between Gbagbo and Ouattara.

ONUFI FM followed the United Nations in recognising Ouattara as the legitimate winner of this disputed poll.

From then onwards, representatives of Gbagbo's government refused to speak to the UN radio station.

As a result, many Ivorians thought that ONUFI FM had abandoned its former neutrality and was slanting its news coverage in favour of Ouattara.

Since the fall of Gbagbo's regime, the former president's supporters have returned to ONUFI FM since they are now denied a voice on state radio.

As a result, the UN radio station has largely regained its former reputation as an impartial news broadcaster open to all shades of political opinion.

The broadcast licensing system in Cote d'Ivoire does not allow local radio stations to transmit political news or news about industrial disputes, although this restriction s may soon be liberalised.

Under Gbagbo's rule, broadcasting was regulated by the **Conseil National de Communication et Audiovisuel (CNCA) (National Council for Audiovisual Communication)**, a parastatal dependency of the Ministry of Information.

This allowed some privately owned commercial radio stations (which derive more than 20% of their revenue from advertising) to broadcast news bulletins.

However, these stations were not allowed to broadcast political interviews or current affairs programming.

All radio stations were permitted to produce and transmit social affairs programmes, but the distinction between political and social affairs is rather was a grey area.

Over the years, the CNCA frequently imposed fines and suspensions on private radio stations for overstepping the terms of their broadcasting licence (*cahier de charge*) by transmitting information that was deemed to be political in nature.

Many young people in Abidjan listen to **Radio Jam** and **Radio Nostalgie**. Both are commercial music stations with regular short news bulletins.

All radio stations in Cote d'Ivoire welcome collaboration with humanitarian organisations, so long as they pay for air time.

Aid agencies and international NGOs are viewed as an important source of revenue, especially by cash-strapped local radio stations which find it difficult to attract advertising.

Most radio stations experienced a financial squeeze after Cote d'Ivoire relapsed into conflict at the end of 2010.

Some stations laid off staff as their normal sources of revenue dried up. Others failed to pay their employees regularly.

The radical polarisation of the Ivorian media following the disputed 2010 presidential election, led many Ivorians of all political persuasions to listen more frequently to international radio stations to find out what is really happening in their country.

The most popular foreign stations are **Radio France Internationale (RFI)** and the French language services of **BBC** and **Voice of America (VOA)**.

National radio stations

Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI) www.rti.ci

Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI) is the official state radio and TV broadcaster.

It normally operates two nationwide radio stations on FM, but many of its 13 transmitters around Cote d'Ivoire were damaged or fell into disrepair during the 2002-2011 civil war.

RTI's headquarters in the Abidjan suburb of Cocody were bombarded by artillery and badly damaged during the final phase of the conflict in early 2011.

In July 2011 infoasaid verified that RTI's radio signal could no longer be heard on FM in the northern cities of **Korhogo**, **Bondoukou** and **Odiene**. It had also disappeared from several other regions of the interior.

The state broadcaster also suffered from reduced coverage of **Abidjan** and the surrounding region. This followed damage to its main transmitter mast at Abobo during fighting earlier in the year.

In 2011, President Alassane Ouattara committed 5.0 billion CFA francs (\$US 11million) to repairing and rehabilitating RTI and switching it from analogue to digital transmission. The state broadcaster was officially re-launched in August 2011.

RTI has a legal monopoly on broadcasting domestic political news and current affairs.

However, its news output focuses on positive reporting of Ouattara, his government and their supporters.

Criticisms of the government and the views of its political opponents are seldom aired.

This is nothing new. RTI has always been used as a propaganda tool by the government of the day.

Under Ouattara's administration, RTI has abandoned the hate speech which characterized its broadcasts during the final months of the ousted regime of former president Laurent Gbagbo.

The state broadcaster has also toned down its political rhetoric.

RTI normally operates two radio stations, **Radio Cote d'Ivoire**, its general service, and **Frequence Deux**, a music and entertainment station.

Frequence Deux stopped broadcasting in December 2010 as the country slipped back into full-scale conflict, but it was re-launched in August 2011 as a cultural station.

Before the outbreak of civil war 2002, RTI also operated a regional radio station in the central town of **Bouake**.

However, its studios were taken over by the *Forces Nouvelles* rebel movement, which used them to launch a new pro-rebel radio station, Ivoir FM.

The Ouattara government has named new RTI directors of radio and television for Bouake, indicating that it plans to re-launch RTI's radio and TV broadcasts from the city soon.

RTI has FM radio and TV transmitters in the following locations:

- **Cocody (Abidjan)**
- **Abobo (Abidjan)**
- **Divo (Sud Bandama)**
- **Dimbokro (N'zi Comoe)**
- **Niangbo (Vallee du Bandama)**
- **Niangue (Valleé du Bandama)**
- **Bouake (Valleé du Bandama)**
- **Dabakala (Valleé du Bandama)**
- **Koun-Fao (18 Montagnes)**
- **Man (18 Montagnes)**
- **Séguéla (Worodougou)**
- **Tiémé (Denguele)**
- **Touba (Bafing)**

Radio Cote d'Ivoire is the general service of RTI. It broadcasts nationwide on 88.00 FM.

Most of the programming is in French, but there are some news bulletins in local languages.

The station normally broadcasts two or three 10-15 minute news bulletins daily in selected local languages, according to a weekly schedule. There may only be one news bulletin per week in some languages.

The main news programmes in French are usually at 06.00 (90 minutes), 12.00 and 19.00. There are also short news bulletins on the hour.

However, programme reschedules have been badly disrupted since December 2010.

The re-launch of RTI in August 2011 was supposed to herald a return to more stable and predictable programming.

Many of Radio Cote d'Ivoire's programmes deal with agriculture and local customs. In normal times it also carries some political debates.

In the past, Radio Cote d'Ivoire was widely listened to by people in the interior in the 35 plus age bracket.

They often relied on this station as their main source of national news, especially those who tuned in to the news bulletins in local languages.

Frequence Deux used to be a music and entertainment station. It broadcasts nationwide on 92.0 FM.

The station went off air in December 2010, but resumed broadcasting in August 2011 with a remit to carry cultural programming.

Frequence Deux broadcasts mostly in French.

There are short news bulletins at 30 minutes past the hour.

RTI Acting Director General – Lazare Saye Aka
Tel: +225 22 48 60 65

RTI Deputy Director General for Radio - Jean Claude Bayala
Tel: +225 20 21 27 11

Radio Cote d'Ivoire

Director of programmes and production - Emile Konan Fréjus

Director of Information - Silué Salimata Konaté
Mob: +225 05 99 33 13

Head of Production - Valérie Ekoué

Fréquence 2

Director of Programmes and Production - Camara Mourané

Director of Programmes – Mamadou Toure

Head of Production - Mariam Coulibaly
Tel: +225 05 88 13 99

RTI Bouaké

RTI's regional radio and TV station resumed broadcasting in December 2011 following extensive repair and renovation.

Traore Abou, the Director of RTI Bouake, said in a newspaper interview in January 2012 that the radio station's signal could be heard clearly well beyond Katiola, 54 km to the north and often as far away as Korhogo, more than 200 km away.

Director of Radio Bouaké - Prosper Djan Houé Konan
(Nous avons besoin des contacts individuels pour tous ces gens la)

RTI,
Boulevard des Martyrs,
Abidjan
RTI switchboard: +225 22 44 67 19
+225 22 44 17 61
+225 20 21 44 84

ONUCI FM www.onuci.org/onucifm

ONUCI FM is the radio station of the UN peacekeeping force in Cote d'Ivoire, which is known by its French acronym ONUCI. The radio station opened in 2004, despite opposition from Gbagbo's government.

ONUCI FM broadcasts from studios in Abidjan. Its signal is beamed via satellite to 20 FM relay stations across the country (see map).

There are concentrations of FM transmitters along the former front line between government and rebel forces in a belt that runs from east to west across the centre of Cote d'Ivoire.

There are also several transmitters in the volatile west and the far north.

ONUCI FM broadcasts on FM from transmitters in:

- **Abidjan**
- **Abengourou**
- **Bangolo**
- **Bondoukou**
- **Bouake**

- **Bouna**
- **Boundiali**
- **Daloa**
- **Danane**
- **Daoukro**
- **Duekoue**
- **Ferkessedougou**
- **Guiglo**
- **Korhogo**
- **Man**
- **Odiene**
- **San Pedro**
- **Seguela**
- **Tabou**
- **Yamoussoukro**
- **Zuenoula**

The station broadcasts mainly in French, but also has programmes in **Baoule, Dioula, Bete, Yacouba** and **Guere**.

ONUCI FM is widely appreciated for the neutrality and reliability of its news. It has a large network of correspondents throughout Cote d'Ivoire.

However, during the final phase of the civil war, from December 2010 until April 2011, ONUCI FM was widely seen as favouring Alassane Ouattara, the internationally recognised winner of the disputed 2010 presidential election.

Representatives of the Gbagbo administration refused to speak to ONUCI FM during this period.

The station's news coverage therefore became increasingly one-sided.

However, since Gbagbo's overthrow in April 2011, supporters of the former president have been excluded from the airwaves of RTI.

They have therefore resumed speaking to ONUCI FM in order to get their views heard across the country. This has helped ONUCI FM to regain its damaged reputation for balance and neutrality.

When ONUCI FM was first established, the station quickly allayed early fears that it would become an uncritical mouthpiece for the rebels and the unarmed opposition.

Its programmes have consistently allowed politicians of all parties to comment on current events. This has helped the station to win a politically diverse audience.

During the civil war, supporters of political parties opposed to Gbagbo and the *Forces Nouvelles* rebel movement often tuned in to ONUCI FM because they were frustrated by not being able to hear their own leaders talk on other stations.

Many Gbagbo supporters also listened to the UN station because they were aware that the state broadcaster RTI did not always give a complete picture of the political and security situation in the country.

During the final stage of the civil war, ONUCI FM journalists found it increasingly difficult to work in the southern half of Cote d'Ivoire because of hostility from the Gbagbo regime and its supporters.

Media sources said many ONUCI FM staff received death threats in letters delivered anonymously to their homes or in phone calls received at work.

Some were also physically assaulted in the street by pro-Gbagbo militants of the *Jeunes Patriotes* movement.

ONUCI FM broadcasts more humanitarian programming than any other station in Cote d'Ivoire. It provides ample air time for UN agencies and local and international NGOs to talk about their activities.

Organisations wishing to place spots or programming on ONUCI FM should contact the official spokesman of ONUCI, Hamadoun Toure, in the first instance.

ONUCI spokesman - Hamadoun Touré

Tél: +225-06203317

Mob: + 225-05990075

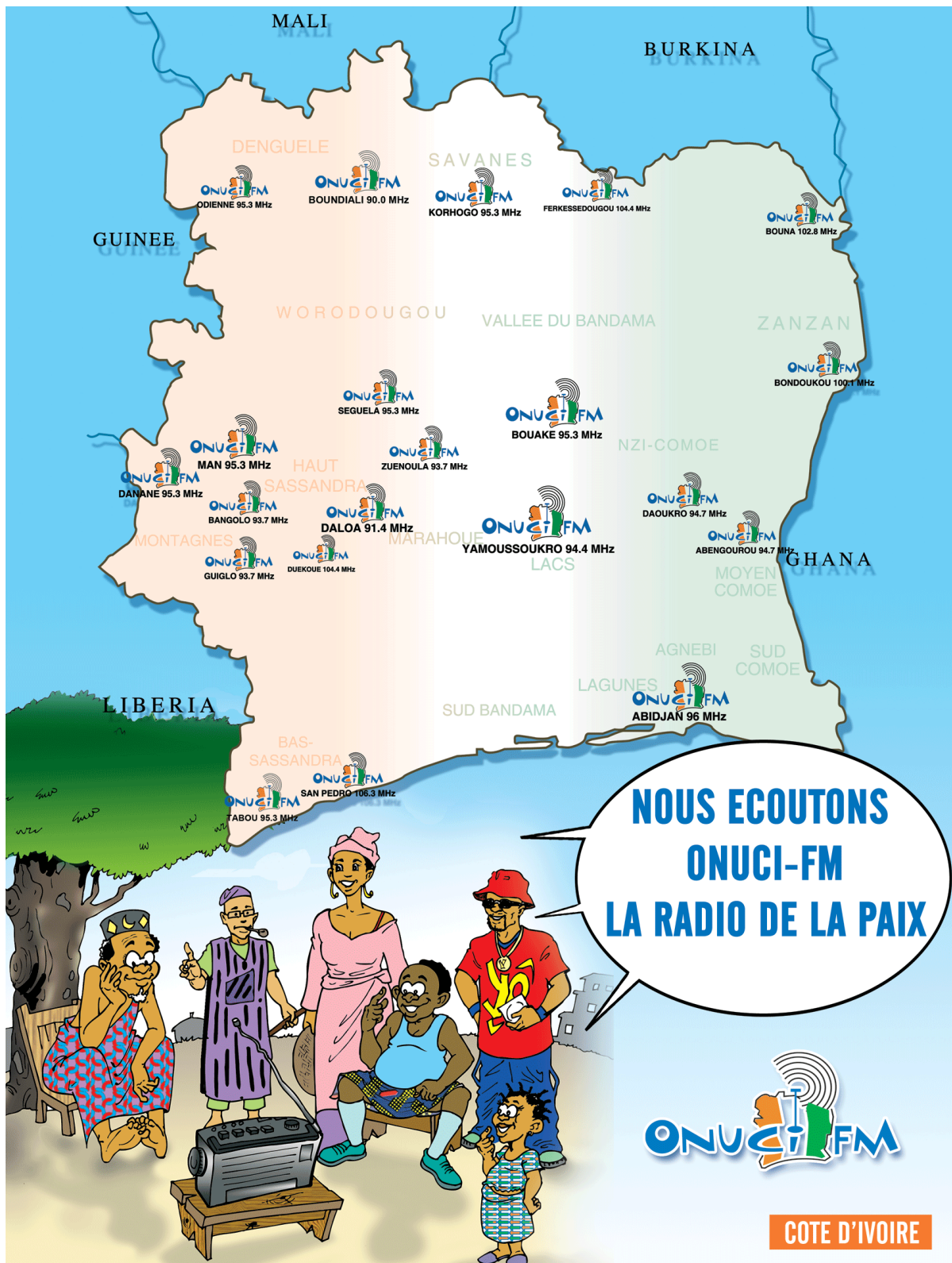
Fax: +225-06203320

Email: hamadoun@un.org

Director ONUCI FM - Sylvain Semilinko

Tel: +225 20 23 32 90

Mob: +225 05 99 03 14



Location of ONUCI FM transmitters in Cote d'Ivoire

Radio Nationale Catholique www.rnc-ci.net

This Roman Catholic radio station was launched in **Abidjan** in 2001 with the aim of achieving nationwide reach.

In August 2011 it was broadcasting on FM in Abidjan, **Gagnoa**, **Abengourou** and **Bondoukou** and had plans to open another relay station in **Bouake**.

About one third of Cote d'Ivoire's population is Christian. The Roman Catholic Church is the largest in the country. It enjoys special recognition from the government.

Administration

Tel: +225 23 53 71 40

Fax: +225 23 53 71 49

E-mail: rnc@aviso.ci

Studios:

Tel: +225 23 53 71 44 / 23 53 71 46

In addition, the Roman Catholic Church operates the following stand-alone radio stations:

- **Radio Espoir** in **Abidjan**
- **Radio Paix Sanwi** in **Aboisso**
- **Radio Man, La Voix des 18 Montagnes** in **Man**
- **Radio Notre Dame de la Paix** in **Yamoussoukro**

Radio Al Bayane www.radio-albayane.com

Radio Al Bayane is Cote d'Ivoire's main Islamic radio station. It was launched in 2001. It broadcasts on 95.7FM in **Abidjan**.

Just over a third of Cote d'Ivoire's population is Muslim. Islam is particularly strong in the north of Cote d'Ivoire and among immigrants from other West African countries.

In August 2011, its broadcasts were being relayed on FM in **Yamoussoukro**, **San Pedro** and **Korhogo**.

There are also several stand-alone Muslim *radios de proximite* in other towns and cities, including **Bouake** and **Boundiali**.

Tel: +225 22-40-59-95/96/98/99

Fax: +225 22-40-59-97

Email: contact@radio-albayane.info

Frequence Vie www.sim.org

Frequence Vie (Life Frequency) is a protestant evangelical radio station which normally broadcasts on FM in five cities in southern and western Cote d'Ivoire.

However, following the destruction of its powerful 4,000 Watt transmitter in Abidjan and damage to all its relay stations in the interior during the final stages of the civil war, Frequence Vie could only be heard in **Abidjan** on a standby 300 watt transmitter in August 2011.

The station is run by the US-based protestant missionary organization Serving in Mission (SIM). It has links with Radio ELWA in neighbouring Liberia.

Frequence Vie broadcasts from the Abidjan suburb of Cocody on 84.9 FM. Its studios are situated close to those of RTI.

The station's damaged relay stations in the interior are located in **Yamoussoukro, Daloa, Gagnoa** and **Man**.

Radio Station Director – Tim Welch

Tel: +225 22 44 70 09

Mob: +225 07 89 35 35

Radio Cote d'Ivoire (RCI) (independent of RTI)

President Alassane Ouattara launched his own version of Radio Cote d'Ivoire (RCI) as an FM radio station in **Abidjan** in December 2010.

It went off air in August 2011 following the re-launch of RTI and most of its staff rejoined the official state broadcaster.

RCI gave Ouattara's shadow government an independent voice following the disputed presidential elections. This was a time when the incumbent head of state, Laurent Gbagbo, still controlled the government ministries in Abidjan and RTI.

Confusingly, and perhaps deliberately, Ouattara gave his new station exactly the same name as the general radio service of the state broadcaster RTI.

Ouattara launched RCI from his UN-protected stronghold in Abidjan's Golf Hotel as a time when it was besieged by Gbagbo's security forces..

Senior manager – Alain Kacou

Mob: +225 01 06 49 26

Important radio stations in Abidjan

There are about 30 radio stations on air in Abidjan. However, there is little public data available to assess objectively the size and nature of their audiences. The urban conurbation has a population of about five million people. It is home to nearly one in four inhabitants of Cote d'Ivoire.

The following list, compiled by Radio Abidjan 1 www.radioabidjan1.com shows all licensed radio stations, including government and foreign stations, that were on air in Abidjan in 2009.

RADIO STATION	FREQUENCY	LOCATION	CONTACT
Radio ABIDJAN 1	105.6 FM	Cocody II Plateaux	22.41.29.03 22.41.04.76
Radio BLM (Radio Ecole)	100.6 FM	Treichville	21.24.87.62
Radio Amitié	100.1 FM	Yopougon	23.45.39.66
Radio Attiécoubé	92.5 FM	(Abidjan et périphéries)	20.37.85.46
Radio Bonne Santé	106.4 FM	Plateau	20.22.39.89 20.22.39.32
Radio Fréquence 2	92.0 FM	Abidjan	20.21.48.00
Radio ESPOIR	102.8 FM	Port – Bouët	21.75.68.00
Radio Nationale Catholique (R.N.C.)	102.5 FM	Abidjan	23.53.71.47/48
Radio Al Bayane	95.7 FM	Abidjan	22.40.59.95
Radio Cocody FM	98.5 FM	Cocody	22.44.68.83
Radio Treichville	93.6 FM	Treichville	21.24.13.52
Radio TERE FM	104.7 FM	Williamsville	20.38.68.40
Radio C.I. / Chaîne Nationale	88.00 FM	Plateau	20.21.48.00
Radio Nostalgie	101.1 FM	Plateau	20.21.10.52/53
Radio YOPOUGON	96.8 FM	Yopougon	23.45.43.85
Radio N'GOWA	89.7 FM	Marcory	21.36.45.02
Radio JAM	99.3 FM	Abidjan	21.34.10.83
Radio City FM	106.1 FM	Abidjan	21.25.10.28
Radio ATM	90.5 FM	Port – Bouët	21.58.07.08
Radio Zénith FM	92.8 FM	Marcory	21.26.27.36
Radio Sud 7		Abidjan	05.92.47.37
Radio Elite	104 FM	II Plateaux	09.32.76.57
Radio Atlantique FM	107 FM	Abidjan	21.25.66.66
Radio La Voix de l'Amérique (V.O.A.)	94.3 / 99.00 FM	Abidjan	
Radio BBC	94.4 Fm	Abidjan	
Radio AFRICA N°1	91.1 FM	Abidjan	
Radio France Internationale (R.F.I.)	97.6 FM	Abidjan	
Radio ONUCI FM	96.00 FM	Abidjan	
Radio ARC EN CIEL	102.0 FM	Abobo	06.84.68.60
Radio Anyama		Abidjan	23.55.75.14

The most important private radio stations in Abidjan, which are known to have a large audience in certain sectors of the community, include the following:

Radio Jam www.radiojam.biz

Radio Jam is a privately owned popular music station which broadcasts on 99.3 FM in **Abidjan** and **Yamoussokro**.

The station's website also shows FM transmitters in **San Pedro, Gagnoa, Abengourou, Bouake, Man** and **Korhogo**, but these do not appear to have been built and activated yet.

Radio Jam's target audience is young city dwellers aged 15 to 29. The station is particularly popular with bus and taxi drivers, so large numbers of commuters regularly have to listen to Radio Jam, whether or not they like the station.

The music play list is aimed at a younger audience than that of Radio Jam's main rival, Radio Nostalgie.

There are regular news bulletins, but no political debates or inter-active programming. News coverage is generally balanced and fair.

The station can usually be heard within 100 km radius of Abidjan, but its signal became weaker since the RTI radio and TV transmitting mast in the Abidjan suburb of Abobo was damaged during fighting in February 2011.

Director - Jonas Koue Bi

Commercial Director – Mr Danho

Tel: +225 21 21 58

Mob: +225 07 60 07 67

Email: jocedanho@yahoo.fr

Avenue 21, Rue 47B, ilot 115,
Treicheville,
Abidjan

Radio Nostalgie www.nostalgie.ci

This commercial music and entertainment station broadcasts in French on 101.1 FM in **Abidjan**. It can be heard within 100 km radius of the city.

There are regularly news bulletins, but no debates or interactive programmes. News coverage is generally balanced and fair.

The station has plans to extend its transmissions to **Yamoussoukro** and the port city of **San Pedro**.

The station targets city dwellers aged 22 to 40 and the music play list reflects this. But Radio Nostalgie attracts a lot of younger listeners too.

Radio Nostalgie is owned by a company linked to President Alassane Ouattara.

Because of Nostalgie's association with Ouattara and his *Rassemblement de Republicains* (RDR) (Rally of Republicans) political party, the station's offices and studios in Abidjan were frequently attacked by Gbagbo supporters during the civil war.

Radio Nostalgie's advertising revenue declined sharply with the resumption of conflict in December 2010, forcing management to lay off several members of staff.

Director - Boniface Goin Bi
Tel: +225 20 21 31 08
Email: georgeslatier2004@yahoo.fr
Radio Nostalgie 101.1 FM
SORANO,
Immeuble Le Paris,
Avenue Chardy,
Plateau,
Abidjan.01

Radio Espoir www.radioespoir.net

Radio station owned and operated by the Roman Catholic Church. Launched in 1991, it broadcasts on 102.8 FM from Abidjan. Radio Espoir claims that its signal can be heard within 70 km radius of Abidjan.

The station has recording studios that are available for hire.

Director – Pere Basile Diane
Tel: +225 21 75 68 01
Director of Programmes – Pierre Kiene
Tel: +225 21 75 68 01

Radio Fraternite Yopougon

Radio Fraternite Yopougon, widely known as Radio Yopougon, was the first *radio de proximite* to be licenced in Cote d'Ivoire. It began broadcasting in the Abidjan suburb of Yopougon in 1998. The station is owned by the local municipality.

Radio Yopougon can be heard on 96.8 FM throughout the city of Abidjan within a radius of 20 km from the transmitter.

Radio Yopougon is one of the largest *radios de proximite* in Cote d'Ivoire and is widely considered to be one of the most professional. It broadcasts in French, but carries spots and announcements of up to one minute in local languages.

The studios were damaged and the station was forced off air during the fighting and criminal violence which engulfed Yopougon between February and April 2011.

Radio Yopougon was back on air in August 2011.

Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) said Sylvain Gagnetaud, a pro-Gbagbo journalist who worked for Radio Yopougon, was arrested and summarily executed by pro-Ouattara security forces in May 2011, a month after the military defeat of Gbagbo's government.

The suburb of Yopougon was a hot-spot of violence during the final battle for Abidjan. Pro-Gbagbo militia groups had traditionally been active there. Shooting and insecurity persisted in Yopougon for several weeks after Gbagbo and his government surrendered.

RSF said Gagnetaud was arrested in a security sweep and then executed along with several youths suspected of belonging to pro-Gbagbo militia groups.

Director – Zega Bodie

Mob: +225 07 57 75 66

Tel: +225 23.50 32 20

E-mail : radioyop@yahoo.fr

Radio stations in the interior

There are about 120 local radio stations in Cote d'Ivoire, known as *radios de proximite*.

Many were set up in the rebel-controlled north of Cote d'Ivoire after the outbreak of civil war in 2002 without being licensed by the government media regulator, the **Conseil National de Communication Audiovisuel (CNCA)**.

Since the overthrow of former president Laurent Gbagbo in April 2011, all of these unlicensed stations have applied to the CNCA for permission to continue broadcasting.

A total of 14 local radio stations were damaged and forced to close during the final stages of the civil war in early 2011. Some have since reopened.

The following stations were forced off air during the fighting:

RADIO	LOCATION	REMARKS
Radio Yenian Oualebo	Sakassou, Vallee du Bandama	Off air in August 2011
Radio Mont Séité	Touleupleu, Moyen Cavally	Resumed broadcasting
MAN FM	Man, 18 Montagnes	Off air in August 2011
Meinneaudh	Danané 18 Montagnes	Off air in August 2011
La voix du Guémon	Duékoué, Moyen Cavally	Undergoing rehabilitation with help from ONUCI in August 2011
Sud-Bandama	Lakota, Sud Bandama	Studio burned down in Lakota in January 2011. Station reopened in Divo in March 2011. Broadcasts cover Divo, Lakota and Fresco
La voix de Guiglo	Guiglo, Moyen Cavally	
Alliance Terre-Mer (ATM)	Port-Bouet, Abidjan	Resumed broadcasting
Radio Amitié	Yopougon, Abidjan	Resumed broadcasting
Radio Fraternité de Yopougon	Yopougon, Abidjan	Resumed broadcasting
Téré Fm	Adjamé, Abidjan	Under repair in August 2011
Arc-en-ciel	Abobo, Abidjan	Resumed broadcasting
Radio Anyama	Anyama,	Station still abandoned in August

	Abidjan	2011
La voix d'Adzopé	Adzopé, Agneby	

The following list, compiled with the help of the national association of local radio stations - **L'Union des Radios de Proximité de Côte d'Ivoire (URPCI)** shows all the local radio stations which were believed to exist in July 2011.

Some may no longer be operational, but field research by infoasaid indicated that the overwhelming majority were on air in August 2011.

The radio stations numbered 1 to 88 are shown by province and location. Those numbered 89 to 119, which are shown by location only, are all situated in the former rebel zone in the north.

All these radio stations broadcast mainly in French, but they also use a wide variety of local languages for news bulletins, public service announcements and advertising.

All *radios de proximité* in Côte d'Ivoire are keen to collaborate with humanitarian agencies so long as they are paid to air public service announcements and sponsored programmes. Such payments constitute an important source of revenue for small radio stations, which have difficulty in attracting advertisers.

Region	N°	Radio	Location	Frequency	Contact person	Contacts
ABIDJAN	1	Radio Attécoubé	Attécoubé	92.5 FM	Yao Bruce	07-98-86-06 05 73 75 08
	2	Radio Cocody FM	Cocody	98.5 FM	Mme Koissy Bamba karamoko	07-58-80-23 07-07-44-88
	3	Radio Elit FM	Cocody	104.0 FM	Gouri Stéphane	04-84-83-80
	4	Radio Zénith	Marcory	92.8 FM	N'Cho Jean	66-93-29-93
	5	Radio Bonne Santé	Plateau	106.4 FM	Assi Christophe	
	6	Radio Alliance Terre Mer (ATM)	Port-Bouët	90.5 FM	Ledjou Blaguet Monique kacou	07-07-37-09 01-52-74-13
	7	Radio BLM	Treichville	100.6 FM	Michel Koffi	06-61-77-31
	8	Radio Fraternité Yopougon	Yopougon	96.8 FM	ZEGA BODJE	07 57 75 66 23 50 32 20
	10	Radio Amitié	Yopougon	100.1 FM	Bakayoko Barry Abdoul Kader	07-67-67-30 05-22-11-05
	11	Radio Treichville	Treichville	93.60 FM	Fofié Ibrahima	05-76-09-27

		Radio Arc-en-Ciel	Abobo	102.0 FM	Alex	07 97 45 04
	12	Radio Bien-être	Treichville	94.00 FM	Alain SIBI	01 1827 31 47 97 13 68
	13	City FM	Treichville	106.1 FM	Aliou Sibi	07 39 68 60
	14	Téré Fm Closed in early 2011. Undergoing repair	Adjamé	104.7	Kone Tangara	05 88 38 34 07 58 53 92
	15	Radio Alobhé	Bingerville	100.8 FM	Eric Gohou	05 87 92 10 07 8382 35
	16	Radio A Bayane	Riviera	Abidjan 95.7 FM Yamoussoukro 91.2 FM San Pedro 102.7 FM Korhogo 102.2 FM	Kounadi Kone	07 01 71 31 22-40-59-95 96/98/99 www.radio-albayane.info
		Frequence Vie (Christian Protestant radio station)	Cocody Relay stations in Man, Gagnoa, Daloa, Yamoussoukro off air in August 2011	84.9 FM	Tim Welch	22 44 70 09 07 89 35 35
LAGUNES	17	Radio Anyama Closed in early 2011	Anyama	103.60 MHZ	Armel Akonda/Mme Bakayoko	08-99-81-40 01-88-33-02 07-74-73-64
	18	Radio Lepin	Alepé	97.3 FM	Michel Saouré/Mme Patricia/Yapi	04-06-27-00 04-42-34-57 40-41-94-25 03-11-30-74
	19	Leboutou FM	Dabou	103.7 FM	Zanhouan Roger Camille	01-95-34-27 08-41-87-20
	20	Fatchué	Jacquerville	104.4 FM	Grah	05 99-42-42
	21	Sikensi FM	Sikensi	89.5 FM	Léa Cécile Ango	05-59-94-87 09-45-17-09
	22	Radio Tiassalé	Tiassalé	90.3 FM	Pasteur Kouamé Lucien	49-29-08-31 03-19-37-67 05-70-57-97
AGNEBY	23	Tchoyasso	Adzopé	107.2 FM	Serge Séka	08-18-13-78
	24	Kanien FM	Adzopé		Serge Séka	08-18-13-78
	25	La Voix d'Adzopé Closed in early 2011	Adzopé	87.7FM	Monné katou Michel	05-70-09-04
	26	La Voix de l'Agnéby	Agboville	95.2 FM	Doh Guy Marcel	09-58-89-23
SUD COMOE	27	BIA FM	Aboisso	102.3 FM	Ano Bertin	08-77-17-68
	28	Paix Sanwi	Aboisso	89.2 FM	Gnorou Gbagbo Jeannette	07-88-68-30 07-99-24-22
	29	N'Nowé	Bonoua	100.2 FM	Kokogni Félix	07-92-64-21 05-55-62-34

	30	Bassam FM	Grand-Bassam	100.1 FM	Attia Gogo Gnion Aristide	47-34-78-33 05-08-77-77
	31	Radio Assinie Mafia	Assinie Mafia	92.3 FM	Kouassi Ernest	05-52-12-10 02-37-84-12
	32	Akwaba	Noé	105.9 FM	Amon Bilé Daniel Eba	05-59-92-57 01-29-85-81
MOYEN COMOE	33	Tchia-min	Niablé	105.10 FM	Ben Yacouba Touré	07-52-52-27
	34	Radio Agnia FM	Abengourou	98.1 FM	Konaté Eboh Ami Charles	07-38-48-48 02-68-70-32
	35	Djuablin FM	Agnibilékro	104.6 FM	Touboui Hyacinthe	66-66-46-00
N'ZI COMOE	36	Radio Iffou	Daoukro	102.2 FM	Mme Kangouté	05-57-13-68
	37	La Voix du N'Zi	Dimbokro	89.8 FM	Cissé Abdoulaye	07-68-18-98
	38	Radio Moronou	Bongouanou		Nanan Kabran Pierre Emile Zola Aka	07-65-68-52 07-97-05-06
	39	Radio Anouanzè	M'batto	106.5 FM	Koua Ehouman Alain	07-09-05-47 04-69-63-66
	40	Radio Bocanda	Bocanda		Le Maire Dans Arsène	05-03-12-40
LACS	41	"Yackoi" Radio des lacs	Yamoussoukro	101.2 FM	Manet Guy Alain Kouadio Sylvain	8-40-65-65 66-20-43-90 05-21-06-02
	42	Radio Djékanou	Djékanou	106.2 FM	Konan N'guessan	05-32-10-16 09-86-14-70
	43	N'Zassa	Toumodi	95.8 FM	Allangba Simon Pierre	08-39-32-21
	44	Radio Notre Dame	Yamoussoukro	104.8 FM	Marina Kouassi	30 64 41 55
	45	Radio Nobel.FM	N'djébonoua	105.0 FM	Konan Konan Sylvain N'Guessan Akissi Irène	07-64-31-67 06-17-65-50
	46	Radio Tchewy FM	Tiébissou	93.9 FM	Kouadio Konan Patrice	05-49-72-11 07-44-93-04
VALLEE DU BANDAMA	47	Radio Yenian Oualebo Closed in early 2011	Sakassou	90.7 FM	Yao	47-60-78-89
	48	Média +	Bouaké	103.0 FM	Traoré	07-88-71-17
	49	Ivoir FM	Bouaké	92.10 FMZ	Koné Moïse Zahi Oscar	08-31-06-40 60-33-97-60
	50	Radio Al Firdaws	Bouaké	99.5 MHZ	Issa Kourouma	07-92-04-38 01-59-50-85
	51	Radio Islamique	Bouaké			
	52	Radio Goly Dandy	Béoumi	105.7 FM	Konan	01-44-01-34
	53	Radio Seneyo	Dabakala		Chris Kader	09-43-81-48 05-15-37-71
	54	Radio Pulsar	Katiola	89.7 FM	Traoré Mamadou (Franck)	01-63-75-00 07-41-11-67

SUD BANDA MA	55	Fraternité Divo	Divo	94.0 FM	Bedou Jean	46-20-90-83 66-99-71-11
	56	Radio Lokoda	Lakota	104.4 FM	Gnayoro Emmanuel	32-76-65-46
	57	Radio Sud Bandama	Divo (relocated from Lakota in March 2011)	102.6 FM	Koré okrou Serges Gbadou	01-82-28-29 01 15 95 12 32 76 83 62
MARAHOUÉ	58	La voix de la Marahoué	Bouaflé	92.3 FM	Hounnou Comlan Nicolas Hamed Touré	05-89-90-99 07-65-30-12
	59	Radio Kavokiva	Zuénoula	89.0 FM		
	60	Radio Sinfra	Sinfra	89.5 FM	Yao Charles Coulibaly Mohamed	06-13-94-65 04-04-93-82
	61	Radio Koaty FM	Bandiahi (near Bediala)	86.6 FM	Irié Bi Djanli Olivier	05-18-12-24
HAUT SASSANDRA	62	Radio Tchtrato	Daloo	101.4 FM	Traore Idrissa	07-88-71-17
	63	La voix du Rocher	Issia	104.4 FM	Dogo Gbobia	07-50-01-60
	64	Radio Kavokiva	Vavoua	95.3 FM	N'Doua Koffi Habib	04-44-62-38
BAS SASSANDRA	65	Radio Buyo	Buyo	106.7 FM	Zadi Michel	01-95-59-59 07-18-73-89
	66	Radio Koplou	Touih	93.6 FM	Beneto Zigbé	09-74-13-47
	67	San Pédro	San Pédro	90.0 FM	Tahé Joseph	07-69-86-10
	68	Sassandra	Sassandra	96.3 FM	Mme Gondo Paulette Goulia Paul Delon	07-68-85-34 06-26-39-30
	69	Voix de la Nawa	Soubéré	89.6 FM	Directeur	06-29-81-84
	70	Radio Tabou	Tabou	101.0 FM	Beugré Kouadio	05-66-07-33
	71	Radio du Phare	Tabou	91.0 FM	Moa Boadi	06-40-26-11
	72	Radio Ouyne	Yacolidabouo	99.6 FM	Botté Guéré Bernard	09-35-01-77 01-44-81-59
FROMAGER	73	Radio Gagnoa	Gagnoa	90.0 FM	Alain Dexter	67-57-88-68 07-95-94-92
	74	Radio Guibéroua	Guibéroua	93.1 FM	Aka Constantin Maxence Zagadou Obou	07-53-71-17 05-35-54-13
	75	Radio Diégo	Diegonéfla	106.20 FM	Konan Mathias	49-23-79-76 02-30-80-79
	76	Tene FM	Oumé	97.9 FM	Yapo Assi M.	07-68-98-88
	77	Radio Saioua	Saioua	97.0 FM	Agness Essoh Cyrille	02-23-77-37
	78	Radio Ouragahio	Ouragahio	96.3 FM	Blega FranceParfaite	05-33-82-04

WORODOUGOU	79	Djely FM	Mankono	91.8 FM	Karamoko Bamba	07-93-19-06
BAFING	80	La voix de l'Arbre Céleste	Touba		Prince Bamba	
18 MONTAGES/MOYEN CAVALLY	81	Radio Etoile Closed in early 2011	Danané	98.9 MHZ	Fadiga Kabiné	09-56-81-99
	82	La voix de Guiglo Closed in early 2011	Guiglo	107.30 MHZ	Mondouho Thomas	06-69-27-15
	83	Radio Man Closed in early 2011	Man	97.6 FM	Kpan Doua Guillaume	09-83-31-51
	84	La Voix des 18 Montagnes	Man	104.7 FM	Père Keunan Yaba Legamin	05-66-06-78 09-82-66-96
		RadioMeinneaudh	Danane			
	85	Radio Authentic	Man		Benson Fofana	08-50-50-63
		Junior FM	Man	98.6 FM	Bamba Moriba	Juniorfm.radio@yahoo.fr
	86	Radio Mont Bian FM Off air in August 2011	Biankouman	92.3 FM	Baya Stéphane /Mme DE Pélagie	09-98-99-76 09-75-00-28
	87	La Voix du Guémon Duékoué Closed in early 2011, undergoing repair	Duékoué	101.1 FM	Masso Odette Directeur des programmes	08-38-63-49 05-10-64-99
	88	Radio Mont Séité Closed in early 2011	Toulepleu	106.4 FM	Péhé Gérard	05-28-96-55 01-78-81-14
	89	Radio Ténéhouré 2000	Boundiali	104.6 FM	Ganon Fousséni	05-79-25-86 02-12-46-15 36-86-55-54
	90	Radio Al-Furquane (Muslim radio station)	Boundiali	99.8 FM	Hervé N'dépo	47-67-87-91 02-14-66-14
	91	Radio Diko FM	Dikodoudgou	97.7 FM	Cissé Lacina	09-25-91-58
	92	Radio Foundara	Ferkéssedougou	97.3 FM	Fatim Yéo Kassambara Hamed	67-08-22-23 05-58-55-09 03-14-52-03
	93	Bin Kadi	Ferkéssedougou	106.6 FM	Mohamed Diallo	07-78-99-93 03-00-03-22
	94	Radio soungon FM	Sinematiali		Dogoni Souleymane	05-98-33-88 www.souyegnon.org
	95	Peleforo Gbon	Korhogo	100.8 FM	Koné Issa	07-15-82-92
	96	Satellite	Korhogo	94.0 FM	Amontchi Jean Claude	08-43-45-37 05-34-46-53
	97	Savane Radio Télé	Korhogo		Capitaine John	08-71-83-28
	98	Radio Sinai	Korhogo	89.4 FM	Silué melehé	66-70-73-82
	99	Radio Diawala	Diawala		Ouattara Adama	09-29-14-01 01-89-34-04
	100	Radio Tortiya	Tortiya			

	101	Tropic 1	Korhogo	99.8 FM	Diarra Zoumana	05-27-38-32 65-04-65-67
	100	Napié FM	Napié	93.2 FM	Ouattara Bakary	08-06-99-08
	101	Radio Niellé	Niellé	98.5 FM	Koné Daouda Ouattara Fatogoman	01-89-33-93 09-62-28-72
	102	Radio Kouto	Kouto		Etchian michel	07-72-12-88 03-75-29-79
	103	Radio Niene	Gbon	102.5 \fm	Moussa ouattara	07-44-85-42 01-24-24-25
	104	La voix du Kassamblé	Sienpirgo		Ganon foussemi	05-79-25-86
	105	Niofoin	Niofoin	93.0 FM	Yéo Founnigué Alain	47-00-30-90 36-86-59-17
	106	Radio Ouangolo	Ouangolodougou		Ouattara Mamadou Koïta Adama	01-99-69-36
	107	Radio Peda-Zan	Kolia	93.1 FM	Diarrassouba Amadou	07-07-20-85 01-19-34-33
	108	Radio Ben kadi	Tongrela	106.7 FM	Konan Konan	09-84-20-66 06-08-85-38
	109	Radio Kabadougou	Odienné		Koné Mory	
	110	RT Odienné Denguelé	Odienné	98.0 FM	Kamara Lanciné	09-66-23-36 05-89-40-00
	111	Radio Kibarouya	Samatiguila			
	112	Radio Madinani	Madinani, Denguele Region			
	113	Radio Bako	Bako, Denguele Region			
	114	Radio Zanzan Off air following lightning strike in 2010	Bondoukou	96.9 FM	Kamagaté El Hadji Dieoua Ali	05-72-49-69 08-22-73-27
	115	La Voix du Zanzan	Bondoukou	96.1 FM	Ouattara Adolphe	08-15-43-91
	116	Radio Bradré	Koun-Fao	93.7 FM	Manon Edja	02-29-04-20 07-24-10-90
	117	Radio Télévision Doropo	Doropo, Zanzan Region		Ouattara Banassogo	
	118	Radio Nassian	Nassian	104.3 FM	Ninsémon Clément Koffi Kouamé	09-26-60-95 46-41-74-03 08-90-97-18
	119	La Voix de la Savane	Bouna		Da Sanssan Alfred	05 78 21 98 47 45 51 40

CÔTE D'IVOIRE - Reference Map



Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Map data source: CGAR, United Nations Cartographic Section, ESRI, Europe Technologies, FAO, UN OCHA.

Detailed information about selected local radio stations in the interior

(The following information refers to some of the key radio stations operating in areas considered vulnerable conflict in late 2010. The list of stations is incomplete, but further research could be commissioned to obtain similar information about other local radio stations in the interior)

Ivoir FM

Frequency: 92.10

Location: **Bouake**

Coverage: 100 km radius

Local languages used: Dioula, Baoulé

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: UNICEF, Action Solidarite

Notes: Ivoir FM started out as a mouthpiece of *the Forces Nouvelles*, broadcasting from the RTI studios in Bouake in 2002. It has since tried to distance itself from the former rebel movement.

The station was off air in August 2011 following a lightning strike. Given the intention of RTI to resume broadcasting from Bouake, the future of this station appeared uncertain.

Owner/Manager – Kone Moise

Tel: +225 08 31 06 40

E-mail: khauney_moise@yahoo.fr

Radio Satellite

Location: **Korhogo**

Frequency: 94.0

Coverage: 150 Km radius

Local languages used: Dioula, Senoufo

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: Search for Common Ground (SFCG), Save the Children, UNDP, IRIN

Notes: The privately owned station was launched in 1998 and reaches a large swathe of northern Cote d'Ivoire. During the civil war it was sympathetic to the *Forces Nouvelles*.

Owner/Manager – Jean-Claude AMONTCHI

Mob: +225 08 43 45 37/ 05 34 46 53

E-mail: radio_satellite_fm@yahoo.fr

Radio Peloforo Gbon

Frequency: 100.8

Location: **Korhogo**

Coverage: 70 km radius

Local languages used: Dioula, Senoufo

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: CARE, Search for Common Ground, UNDP, ONUCI

Notes: The same company, Radio Television Peloforo, also owns a TV station in Korhogo, TV Pelorofo.

Owner: Kone Issa

Mob: +225 07 15 82 92

Savanne RadioTele

Frequency: 96.3

Location: **Korhogo**

Coverage: 80 km radius

Local languages used: Dioula, Senoufo, Peulh, Moré

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: None recorded

Notes: Radio Savanne is operated by Savanne Radio Television (SRTV), which also operates a TV station in Korhogo.

Owner: Mr Fane

Mob: +225 06 34 96 95

Radio Sinai

Frequency: 89.4

Location: **Korhogo**

Coverage: Unknown

Local languages used: Unknown

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: Unknown

Notes: Christian radio station owned by the Baptist Church

Owner: Association of Baptist Churches of Cote d'Ivoire

Director: Silué Méléhé

Tel: +225 66 70 73 82

Man FM

Frequency: 97.6

Location: **Man**

Coverage: 250 km radius

Local languages used: Dioula, Yacouba, Senoufo, Guéré, Wobé, Malinké, Gouro, Baoulé, Senoufo, Moré, Toura, Gervé de Guinée

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: IRC, UNICEF, Search for Common Ground

Notes: The studios of Man FM were attacked by a pro-Ouattara mob in December 2010, apparently because the head of the local authority which owns the radio station was the local campaign coordinator for Gbagbo in the 2010 presidential elections. Most of the radio station's equipment was hidden before it could be damaged.

In August 2011, the station was still off air.

Owner: *Conseil Général de Man* (local authority)

Director: Jean Guillaume Dou

E-mail: manfmradio@yahoo.fr
douajeans@yahoo.fr

Junior FM

Location: **Man**

Frequency: 98.6

Coverage: 70 Km radius

Local languages used: Yacouba, Dioula, Guéré,

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: RASALAO (NGO dealing with small arms control), SAVE THE CHILDREN

Owner: Local NGO called *Droit a la Vie* (Right to Life)

Director: Bamba Moriba

E-mail: juniorfm.radio@yahoo.fr

Radio Etoile

Location: **Danane**

Frequency: 98.9

Coverage: 15 Km radius

Local languages used: Yacouba, Dioula, Moré, Peulh

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: Search for Common Ground (SFCG), UNFPA

Owner: *Association des Jeunes Pour le Développement de Danané (AJPDD)*
(Association of Youth for the Development of Danane)

Closed as a result of conflict in early 2011.

Director: Fadiga Kabiné

Mob: +225 09 56 8199

Email: kabusfad1@yahoo.fr

Mont Bian FM

Location: **Biankouman**

Frequency: 92.3

Coverage: 20 Km radius

Local languages used: Yacouba, Dioula, Toura

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Notes: The station is owned by the Biankouman mayor's office. This is controlled by the UDPCI party, which supports President Alassane Ouattara.

The station was off air in August 2011 due to a technical fault.

Contact - Baya Stéphane

Tel: +225 09 98 99 76

Radio Kavokiva

Frequency: 95.3

Location: **Vavoua**

Coverage: 25 km radius

Local languages used: Dioula, Senoufo, Gouro, Kouya, Moré, Baoulé, Peulh

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Red Cross

Owner: ACEPORCE – an association of coffee and cocoa traders

Director: N'Doua Habib

Mob: +225 04 44 62 38

La Voix de l'Agneby

Frequency: 95.2

Location: **Agboville** (South central Cote d'Ivoire)

Coverage: 30 km radius

Local languages used: Abbey, Dioula, Attié, Krobou, Baoulé, Agni

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: None recorded

Notes: The local authority which owns the radio station is controlled by the PDCI party which supports President Alassane Ouattara.

Owner: Mayor's office of Agboville

Director of Programmes: Jean Marcel Doh Guy

Mob: +225 09 98 89 23

E-mail: vaagboville@gmail.com

Radio Anyama

Frequency: 103.6

Location: **Anyama** (northern outskirts of Abidjan)

Coverage: 50 km radius

Local languages used: Attié, Abbey, Dioula, Goua, M'batto, Moré, Koulango

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

Notes: The radio station belongs to the Mayor's office, which is controlled by the FPI party of ousted president Laurent Gbagbo. However, the local population consists mainly of Malinké people from the north of Cote d'Ivoire and neighbouring countries who mainly support President Alassane Ouattara.

Radio Anyama went off air in early 2011 after heavy fighting broke out in the suburb between Gbagbo's security forces and the pro-Ouattara "Invisible Commando" urban guerrilla group. As of August 2011 there had been no moves to revive it.

Owner: Mayor's office of Anyama

Director: Mrs Bakayoko

E-mail: radioanyama01@yahoo.fr

Radio Gagnoa

Frequency: 90.0

Location: **Gagnoa** (south central Cote d'Ivoire)

Coverage: 75 km radius

Local languages used: Bété, Dioula, Baoulé, Gagou, Gouro, Yacouba, Guéré

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: National Development Agency (NDA), CARE, UNFPA, UNIDO, Search for Common Ground.

Notes: Gagnoa is a stronghold of former president Laurent Gbagbo's FPI party and the Bete ethnic group to which Gbagbo belongs.

Owner: Mayor's office of Gagnoa

Director: Alain Dexter

Mob: +225 07 95 94 92

Leboutou FM

Frequency: 103.7

Location: **Dabou** (south central Cote d'Ivoire)

Coverage: 60-80 km radius. Most of the Departement of Dabou

Local languages used: Bété, Dioula, Baoulé, Gagou, Gouro, Yacouba, Guéré, Adjoukrou, Fon, Mina, More, N'Zima

Collaboration with humanitarian agencies: UNICEF

Notes - The radio station tends to collaborate more with government agencies such as *L'Agence Nationale d'Appui au Développement* (ANADER) (National Agency for Supporting Development) and *Le Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricoles* (FIRCA) (Inter-professional Fund for Agricultural Research and Advice).

Owner: Mayor's office of Dabou

Director: Roger Camille Zahouan

Mob: +225 01 95 34 27/ 08 41 87 20

Email: tjehide@yahoo.fr

Foreign radio stations

Radio France Internationale (RFI) www.rfi.fr is the most popular foreign radio station in Cote d'Ivoire. It is rebroadcast on FM relays in **Abidjan, Bouake** and **Korhogo**.

Several local radio stations in the former rebel zone in northern Cote d'Ivoire relay RFI's news programmes.

RFI can also be accessed by internet-equipped mobile phones on the Orange network.

There was much bitterness between RFI and the government of former president Laurent Gbagbo following the murder of RFI's correspondent in Cote d'Ivoire, Jean Helene in 2003. He was shot dead by a policeman.

Helene's death was widely viewed a political killing instigated by pro-Gbagbo militants.

Guy Andre Keiffer, an economic journalist with dual French and Canadian nationality, was kidnapped and murdered a few months later at a time when he was investigating alleged links between FPI barons and protection and extortion rackets in the cocoa trade.

During the civil war, Gbagbo's government often silenced the FM relay broadcasts of foreign radio stations in times of crisis.

RFI was kept off air for 10 months in 2005/2006.

BBC World Service www.bbc.co.uk/afrique broadcasts in French and English on 94.3 FM in **Abidjan**, 97.7 FM in **Yamoussoukro** and 93.9 FM in **Bouake** (93.9).

Voice of America (VOA) www.voanews.com broadcasts in English and French on 94.3 FM in **Abidjan**.

Afrique Numero Un www.africa1.com is a radio station based in Gabon, aimed at Francophone audiences throughout West and Central Africa. It broadcasts on 91.1 FM in Abidjan.

3. Television

Overview

State-run **Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI)** has an official monopoly on free-to-air television broadcasting in Cote d'Ivoire. It is tightly controlled by the government.

RTI's television service went off air completely for four months at the end of the 2002-2011 civil war as a result of heavy damage to its studios and transmitters.

It resumed television broadcasting on one of its two channels following a re-launch in August 2012.

At that time, most viewers could only access RTI television by satellite through a package offered by French Pay TV broadcaster Canal +.

Canal+ is the main supplier of satellite TV services in Cote d'Ivoire.

President Alassane Ouattara set up a parallel TV station **Television Cote d'Ivoire (TCI)** at his provisional headquarters in the Golf Hotel in Abidjan in December 2010 following his victory in the disputed 2010 presidential election.

This replaced RTI as the government television service in the period immediately after the civil war. But it shut down following the re-launch of RTI in August 2011.

TCI was set up by pro-Ouattara defectors from RTI at a time when former president Laurent Gbagbo continued to control the government and RTI.

Following the military defeat of Gbagbo by pro-Ouattara forces in April 2011, TCI continued to broadcast from the Golf Hotel. It was beamed into Abidjan from a local transmitter and to the rest of Cote d'Ivoire by satellite.

Although TCI suspended its broadcasts following the re-launch of RTI's television service, government officials hinted that it might be revived as an independent television station at a later stage.

Three unofficial television stations were launched in the rebel-held northern cities of **Bouake** and **Korhogo** during the civil war.

All three continued to broadcast free-to-air in these two northern cities in August 2011.

Zoumana Diara, the Director of Tropic FM in the northern city of **Ferkessedougou**, was meanwhile preparing to open a new private TV station in the same town.

The future of these private TV channels remains uncertain.

President Ouattara's government has announced plans to allow private television in Cote d'Ivoire, alongside RTI.

However, the government has signalled its intention to only award two private TV licences in the first instance.

In May 2011, the government created a new regulatory body for radio and television called the **Haute Autorite de la Communication Audiovisuelle (HACA)** (High Authority for Audiovisual Communication).

Headed by Ibrahim Sy Savane, a former minister of communications and a close associate of Prime Minister Guillaume Soro, HACA is widely expected to preside over a liberalisation of broadcasting in Cote d'Ivoire.

Television stations

Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI) www.rti.ci

State-run RTI has a legal monopoly on terrestrial free-to-air TV broadcasting in the Cote d'Ivoire, but its reach and influence have been eroded by the civil war.

RTI's television broadcasts were suspended completely between April and August 2011. During this period, President Alassane Ouattara's recently created Television Cote d'Ivoire (TCI) replaced RTI as the state TV broadcaster.

Many of RTI's 13 television transmitters no longer function, including the main transmitter covering Abidjan at Abobo.

RTI resumed television broadcasts under its own brand in August 2011, but it relied mainly on satellite broadcasts to reach viewers outside Abidjan, particularly through the French pay TV operator Canal+.

RTI television was a strident propaganda mouthpiece of former president Laurent Gbagbo, during his decade in power.

However, following Gbagbo's military defeat by northern-based rebels in April 2011 the state broadcaster has switched to singing the praises of his successor as president, Alassane Ouattara.

RTI normally broadcasts on two channels:

- **RTI-1** – This is RTI's main channel. It was formerly known as "La Premiere." It broadcasts nationwide in French. Every day, the channel carries two or three 10-minute news bulletins in selected local languages. The languages used in these bulletins vary from day to day. Some spots are also in local languages.
- **RTI-2** – This second channel was previously known as TV2. It stopped broadcasting in December 2010 and was still off air in August 2011, although RTI had announced plans to re-launch it shortly as a culture channel under a new name. TV2 was only broadcast in Abidjan, but the government has announced plans to broadcast RTI2 nationwide.

From the start of Cote d'Ivoire's slide back into conflict in December 2010 until the overthrow of Gbagbo in April 2011, RTI television abandoned its normal programme schedules. It resorted to broadcasting a steady stream of pro-Gbagbo propaganda and appeals for ordinary Ivorians to support the government.

RTI has FM radio and TV transmitters in the following locations:

- **Cocody (Abidjan)**
- **Abobo (Abidjan)**
- **Digo (Sud Bandama)**
- **Dimbokro (Nz'i Comoe)**
- **Niangbo (Vallee du Bandama)**
- **Niangue (Valleé du Bandama)**
- **Bouake (Valleé du Bandama)**
- **Dabakala (Valleé du Bandama)**
- **Koun-Fao (18 Montagnes)**
- **Man (18 Montagnes)**
- **Séguéla (Worodougou)**
- **Tiémé (Denguele)**
- **Touba (Bafing)**

RTI Director General – Lazare Saye Aka

La Premiere

Deputy Director General in Charge of La Première :- Aka Sahé Lazare

Director of information - Koné Lanciné

Mob : +225 01 06 10 27

Director of Programmes - Touré Sanga

Mob :+225 05 93 73 79

TV2

Deputy Director General in Charge of TV2 - Degny Maixent

Tel : ++225 22 40 12 50

Deputy Director of Information : Kady Fadiga

Director of Programmes - Cissé Mohamed Lamine

Mob : +225 05 95 55 35

Director of Production - Jeff Aka

Mob: +225 05 06 06 87

RTI Bouaké

Director of TV Bouaké - Traoré Abou

RTI,
Boulevard des Martyrs,
Abidjan
RTI switchboard: +225 22 44 67 19
+225 22 44 17 61
+225 20 21 44 84

Tele Cote d'Ivoire (TCI)

Tele Cote d'Ivoire was launched in **Abidjan** in December 2010 by the shadow government of Alassane Ouattara, shortly after he had been declared winner of the disputed 2010 presidential elections by the Independent Electoral Commission.

The TV station was set up at Ouattara's UN-protected headquarters in the Golf Hotel to give Ouattara's government in waiting an independent voice at a time when Gbagbo still controlled RTI and was refusing to step down as head of state.

It continued broadcasting until August 2011, when RTI was re-launched as the official state TV broadcaster.

It was unclear whether this would be the end of TCI. Government officials hinted that it could be revived in the near future as an independent TV channel.

During its first nine months of existence, TCI acted as a mouthpiece for Ouattara and his administration. It did not carry criticisms of the government or give coverage to the pro-Gbagbo opposition.

The TV station was staffed mainly by pro-Ouattara defectors from RTI.

Besides news programmes, which were often repeated, TCI carried a lot of foreign programmes and archive material from RTI.

Until August 2011, the station was broadcasting to Abidjan from a local transmitter and to the rest of Cote d'Ivoire by satellite.

Most of its staff rejoined RTI in August 2011.

Television Notre Patrie (TVNP)

TVNP is a television station controlled by the *Forces Nouvelles* in Cote' d'Ivoire's second city **Bouake**. It broadcasts from the RTI studios in the rebel capital to Bouake and the surrounding region.

TVNP relayed many of the election programmes produced by RTI during the 2010 presidential election campaign.

In August 2011, it was not clear whether TVNP would survive as an independent TV station in the longer term.

The Ouattara government has named a new RTI Director of Television for Bouake, suggesting that it plans to eventually close down TVNP and return its studios and transmission equipment to the official state broadcaster.

Contact details needed

Savanne Radio Television (SRTV)

SRTV is a private TV station that broadcasts from **Korhogo** in the rebel-held north of Cote d'Ivoire, to the surrounding area.

Most of its programmes are in French. It also uses Dioula, Senoufo, Peulh and More.

SRTV also operates the FM radio station **Radio Savanne** in Korhogo.

Owner: Fane

Mob: +225 06 34 96 95

Radio Television Peloforo

Radio Television Peloforo broadcasts from Korhogo to the surrounding region.

It mainly broadcasts in **French**, but also uses **Dioula** and **Senoufo**.

The same company also operates **Radio Peloforo Gbon** in Korhogo.

Owner: Kone Issa

Mob: +225 07 15 82 92

4. Newspapers and print media

Overview

More than a dozen daily newspapers are published in **Abidjan**. All of them are written French.

Most newspapers are published five days a week Monday to Friday. Some titles also appear on Saturday.

Most newspapers sell between 2,000 and 10,000 copies per day to educated and relatively affluent people living in Abidjan – typically civil servants and office workers.

Very few newspapers are distributed and sold in the interior. Where they do arrive, it is usually in the late afternoon or the following day.

Poor distribution means that newspapers do not reach most large towns in the interior until late afternoon on the day of publication or the following day.

Furthermore, purchasing power in the interior is lower. Most people who live up country cannot afford to buy a newspaper regularly.

However, most Ivorian newspapers have websites. This enables people with internet access anywhere in the country to read them free of charge online. Newspaper websites also attract the Ivorian diaspora in Europe and North America.

The government newspaper **Fraternite Matin** has the largest daily sale.

Fraternite Matin sold between 13,000 and 16,000 copies per day in the first half of 2010, according to calculations made on the basis of the quarterly sales statistics compiled by the **Conseil National de la Presse (CNP)**, (**National Press Council**) the government body which regulates the print media.

A survey conducted by the marketing firm Media Data www.mediadata.ci, showed that 27% of all regular newspaper readers read Fraternite Matin.

Many of the newspapers are politically partisan, some stridently so. Several, such as **Notre Voie** (*Front Patriotique Ivoirien - FPI*), **Le Patriote** (*Rassemblement Des Republicains - RDR*) and **Le Nouveau Reveil** (*Parti Democratique de Cote d'Ivoire - PDCI*) are the official mouthpieces of Cote d'Ivoire's main political parties.

As such, they are important tools for mobilising supporters of the political parties which they represent.

These newspapers are mainly purchased by party supporters.

The quality of the reporting in Ivorian newspapers leaves much to be desired. Most do not bother to check facts thoroughly or ensure balance and fairness.

The relatively high cover price of CFA 200 (44 US cents) means that only affluent Ivorians can afford to buy a daily newspaper on a regular basis.

However, several people usually read each copy purchased.

Many news vendors allow customers to “rent” a newspaper for the reduced price of CFA 50(11 US cents). This practice allows some people to read a newspaper on the cheap while standing at the stall before returning it to the vendor.

When Cote d’Ivoire relapsed into conflict in December 2010 following the disputed presidential election, most newspapers became much more stridently partisan.

Several papers with close links to the rival armed factions were accused of actively promoting hatred against different sectors of the community and inciting violence.

Fraternite Matin, Soir Info, L’Inter and **L’Intelligent d’Abidjan**, which are not directly linked to any of the country’s political factions, were among the few voices of moderation that remained.

Following the military defeat of former President Laurent Gbagbo by rebel forces backing his elected successor Alassane Ouattara in April 2011, hate speech has disappeared from the press and the tone of political rhetoric in the newspapers has become more muted.

The pro-Gbagbo newspapers, notably **Notre Voie** and **Le Temps**, disappeared from the streets for a few weeks, but resumed publishing in May 2011.

The Gbagbo administration frequently harassed newspaper journalists and publishers and sought to prevent them from publishing critical or embarrassing news reports.

It used the official regulatory body for the print media, the **Conseil National de la Presse (National Press Council) (CNP)**, to impose fines and the temporary suspension of publication on several newspapers that stepped out of line.

In March 2011, nine newspapers suspended publication for a week in protest at threats and harassment against them by officials linked to the Gbagbo administration.

Main newspapers

Fraternite Matin (Morning Brotherhood) www.fratmat.info

This government-owned daily, widely known by its nickname “Frat Mat,” has the largest circulation of any newspaper published in Cote d’Ivoire.

The newspaper traditionally reflects official views. But of all the state media, Fraternite Matin is the most moderate and balanced in its news coverage.

The current Director General, Venance Konan, is an award winning journalist and well known supporter of President Alassane Ouattara.

Konan is not a member of Ouattara’s political party, the RDR, but he actively participated in the president’s 2010 election campaign. Under his leadership, Fraternite Matin gives some space to the views of opposition parties.

Fraternite Matin used to be heavily biased towards former president Laurent Gbagbo and his FPI party. However, following the appointment of a new management team in 2006, the newspaper’s coverage became more balanced and sales picked up.

Even after Cote d’Ivoire’s return to open conflict in December 2010, the newspaper managed to retain a relatively moderate tone for several weeks.

Before Gbagbo came to power in 2000, Fraternite Matin was the official mouthpiece of a succession of governments controlled by the *Parti Democratique de Cote d’Ivoire* (PDCI), which ruled Cote d’Ivoire. For its first 40 years of independence.

According to CNP figures, the newspaper had daily sales of 13,000 to 16,000 during the first half of 2010.

A media readership survey by Abidjan marketing firm Media Data found that 27% of those who had read a newspaper on the previous day had read Fraternite Matin.

Only one member of Fraternite Matin’s management team under Gbagbo is still in place. Former Editor in Chief Abel Doualy, was reassigned to the post of Deputy Director of Editorial Development.

Director General – Venance Konan
Tel +225 20 37 06 66

Editor in Chief – Michel Koffi
Mob: +225 05 89 57 48

Secretary General of the Editorial Team– Moussa Toure
Mob: +225 05 00 04 86

Soir Info www.soirinfo.com

Independent newspaper published since the 1990s. It has consistently maintained a moderate voice, independent of all political factions, through each national crisis.

According to CNP figures, it has the second largest circulation after Fraternite Matin, selling between 9,000 and 10,000 copies per day. Its print run is much larger.

Soir Info is owned by Lebanese businessman Radi Rayess, who also owns **L'Inter**. He generally keeps a low public profile.

Several journalists of Soir Info and its sister paper **L'Inter** have been threatened and accused of bias by both the Gbagbo and Ouattara camps.

Director General – Guy Martial Da-Trinidadada

Director of Publication – Vamara Coulibaly
Mob: +225 01 04 59 55

Editor in Chief – Kikie Nazaire
Tel: +225 60 12 99 04
Mob: +225 07 99 59 64

Secretary General of the Editorial Team – Serge Stephane Yavo
Tel: +225 47 94 03 82

L'Inter www.linter-ci.com

An independent newspaper which reprints large tracts of copy from the foreign press. The proprietor is Radi Rayess, the Lebanese businessman who also owns **Soir Info**.

According to CNP data, L'Inter sold 5,000 copies per day during the first half of 2010.

Director: Mr Ahoussou
Mob: +225 07 34 07 48
Editor in Chief: Felix Bony
Mob: +225 07 20 71 80

BP 2462

ABIDJAN 10

Switchboard: +225 21 21 28 00 /01/02/03/04

Email: linter@linter-ci.com

Le Nouveau Reveil (The New Awakening) www.lenouveaureveil.com

Newspaper with close links to the opposition *Parti Democratique de Cote d'Ivoire* (Democratic Party of Cote d'Ivoire) (PDCI) party led by former president Henri Konan-Bedie.

The regional power base of this party is among the Baoule people of central Cote d'Ivoire.

Le Nouveau Reveil also reflects the views of the *Rassemblement des Houphouetistes pour la Democratie et la Paix* (RHDP) (Rally of Houphouet loyalists for Democracy and Peace), an umbrella grouping of political forces which backs President Alassane Ouattara.

According to CNP data, Le Nouveau Reveil sold between 8,000 and 9,000 copies per day during the first half of 2010, although its print run was much larger.

Managing Director – Denis Kah Zion (a noted PDCI activist)
deniskahzion@yahoo.fr

Editor in Chief – Akwaba Saint Clair
Mob: +225 07 85 18 52

Secretary General of the Editorial Team – Parfait Tadjau
Mob: +225 07 33 93 11

Lot 458, Ilot 51, près de l'Eglise St Jacques,
Cocody II Plateaux,
Abidjan

Tél: +225 22 41 29 15

Fax: +225 22 41 28 9

Email: lenouveaureveil@yahoo.com

lenouveaureveil@hotmail.com

Le Patriote (The Patriot) www.lepatriote.net

Newspaper close to the RDR party of President Alassane Ouattara.

According to CNP data, Le Patriote sold more than 5,000 copies per day during the first half of 2010.

Le Patriote and another pro-RDR newspaper, **Nord-Sud Quotidien**, are widely used for announcements by various organisations representing the Muslim community in Abidjan.

Director – Charles Sanga

Email: sangacharles@hotmail.com

Editor in Chief – Kore Emmanuel

Tel: +225 21 66 71 07 70

23 Rue Paul Langevin,

Zone 4C

Abidjan.

Switchboard: +225 21 21 19 45 / 21 21 19 46 / 21 21 19 47

Email: lepatriote@afnet.com

Nord Sud Quotidien www.nordsudquotidien.net

Newspaper close to Alassane Ouattara's RDR party. It is widely read by Muslims community for news concerning the Islamic community in Cote d'Ivoire.

Managing Director – Kebe Yacouba

Editor in Chief – Kesy Jacob

Secretary General – Choilio Diomande

Tel: +225 22 42 96 72

+225 22 42 45 62

Email: nordsudmedia@yahoo.com

Notre Voie (Our Way) www.notrevoie.com

This newspaper is the official mouthpiece of President Gbagbo's FPI party.

Several of its staff went into hiding or exile following the overthrow of Gbagbo's government in April 2011.

Notre Voie suspended publication for several weeks, but returned to the news stands in May.

Along with two other daily newspapers, **Le Temps** and **Aujourd'hui**, it forms part of the so-called “blue press” that still openly supports Gbagbo.

The newspaper has toned down its former strident support for Gbagbo and the vilification of his enemies.

Instead, it republishes a lot of articles from foreign media that are critical of the Ouattara government and sympathetic towards Gbagbo.

According to CNP data, Notre Voie sold more than 4,000 copies per day during the first half of 2010.

Managing Director – Etienne Lahoua Souanga (widely known as César Etou)

Acting Editor in Chief – Abdoulaye Villard Sanogo

Secretary Generals of the Editorial Team – Franck Dally
- Didier Depry

Riviera Palmeraie,
BP 2868,
Abidjan 06
Tél : +225 22 49 51 97/ 22 49 51 98
Email: lequotidiennotrevoie@yahoo.fr

Le Temps (The Times)

This newspaper maintains its strong support for former president Laurent Gbagbo. It has traditionally been closer to Gbagbo personally than his FPI party.

It disappeared from the streets with Gbagbo's overthrow in April 2011 but resumed publishing in June.

Director – Patrice Douh
Tel: +225 22 40 00 79 60

Editor in Chief – Yacouba Gbane
Tel: +225 22 40 00 81 70

Secretary General of the Editorial Team – Tche Bi Tche
Mob: +225 05 64 14 05

Email: cyletemps@yahoo.fr

Aujourd'hui (Today) (no website)

This pro-FPI daily was launched following the overthrow of former president Laurent Gbagbo in April 2011.

Aujourd'hui is the most radical of the three remaining pro-Gbagbo newspapers. It refuses to acknowledge the legitimacy of the current president, Alassane Ouattara.

Aujourd'hui is relentlessly critical of the government, the UN peacekeeping force and France.

In July 2011, the government newspaper regulator, **Conseil National de la Presse (CNP)**, ordered the newspaper to suspend publication for 12 editions for "the constant manipulation of information, the publication of false information, calls for sedition and incitement to tribal hatred and religious hatred, revolt and xenophobia."

Director – Joseph Titi Ghnahoua
Mob: +225 08 72 66 89/06 16 37 38
Email: joseph.tit@yahoo.fr

Editor in Chief – Bertin Anasse Anasse
Tel: +225 44 48 44 49

News agency

Agence Ivoirienne de Presse (AIP) www.aip.ci

AIP is a government-run news agency which provides domestic news for the local media. It forms part of the Ministry of Information.

AIP has 14 functioning bureaux in **Abengourou, Agboville, Bondoukou, Bouaflé, Bouaké, Daloa, Dimbokro, Divo, Man, Gagnoa, Korhogo, Odienné, San Pedro** and **Yamoussoukro**.

It also has a network of 50 part-time correspondents who cover other parts of the country.

The agency publishes news through its website. Its news reporting is generally neutral and without comment.

Interim Director Mrs Sana Barry Oumou

Agence Ivoirienne de Presse,
Avenue Chardy
04 BP 312
Abidjan 04
Tel: +225 20 21 57 12/20 21 35 99

5. Online media

Several Abidjan newspapers, including **Fraternite Matin**, **Le Soir**, **L'Inter**, **Le Patriote**, **Le Nouveau Reveil**, **Notre Voie** and **L'Intelligent d'Abidjan** have their own news websites.

The state broadcaster **Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI)** also normally carries news on its website, but In August 2011 the RTI website was not working.

There are two news aggregation websites on Cote d'Ivoire that are widely used by the diaspora overseas:

- www.abidjan.net — This long established news website is regularly consulted by the educated elite with internet access. Many of its breaking news stories about Cote d'Ivoire are lifted from Agence France Presse (AFP).
- www.ivorian.net — This website reprints newspaper stories and has links to websites of RTI and the main Abidjan dailies.

Other news websites to note are:

- www.rezoivoire.net — Reseau Ivoire
- www.connectionivoirienne.net — Connection Ivoirienne
- www.fninfo.ci — website of the former *Forces Nouvelles* rebel movement

6. Cote d'Ivoire – Media resources

Regulatory organisations

Haute Autorite de la Communication Audiovisuelle (HACA)

In May 2011, President Alassane Ouattara created a new regulatory body for radio and television called the *Haute Autorite de la Communication Audiovisuelle (HACA)* (High Authority of Audiovisual Communication).

It is headed by Ibrahim Sy Savane, a former journalist and media manager who served as Minister of Communication in the coalition government that attempted to bring about national reunification in 2010.

Sy Savane is a close associate of Prime Minister Guillaume Soro (who also served as prime minister under Gbagbo in a series of governments of national reconciliation from 2007 to 2010).

At the time of his appointment, Sy Sylvane was widely expected to preside over the progressive liberalisation of broadcasting in Cote d'Ivoire.

HACA replaced the former regulator known as the *Conseil National de Communication Audiovisuel (CNCA)* (National Council for Audiovisual Communication), whose website www.lecnca.net still existed in August 2011.

HACA is responsible for issuing broadcasting licences and enforcing their terms.

Its predecessor, the CNCA, had the power to reprimand, fine or suspend media outlets that behaved improperly or overstep what they were allowed to do under the terms of their *cahier de charges*.

President- Ibrahim Sy Savane
Haute Autorite de la Communication Audiovisuelle (HACA)
Place de la République,
B.P V 56
Abidjan
Tel : +225 20 31 15 80

Conseil Nationale de la Presse (CNP) <http://www.lecnp.com>

The National Press Council is the government regulatory body for the print media.

It is a dependency of the Ministry of Information.

The CNP publishes quarterly statistics of the print runs and actual sales of all newspapers and magazines on its website.

However, the accuracy of these figures is questionable. They show some newspapers selling less than 20% of their daily print run.

The CNP website also includes useful links to the websites of all Ivorian newspapers and magazines that have an internet presence.

President Alassane Ouattara reappointed Eugène Die Kacou as President of the CNP.

Kacou had formerly held this post under Gbagbo, but he was removed in February 2011 to make way for a hardline supporter of the former president who launched a crackdown on press freedom.

The CNP has the power to fine newspapers for irresponsible reporting and temporarily suspend their publication.

In July 2011, the CNP ordered the pro-Gbagbo daily Aujourd'hui to suspend publication for 12 editions for "the constant manipulation of information, the publication of false information, calls for sedition and incitement to tribal hatred and religious hatred, revolt and xenophobia."

However, under Kacou's leadership, the CNP has also warned Ivorian newspapers not to publish humiliating images of former president Gbagbo and his wife.

President – Eugène Die Kacou

Tel: +225 22 40 53 53

Fax: 22 41 27 90

Email: info@lecnp.ci

Villa n°224 bis,
Cocody les Deux Plateaux 1ère tranche,
BP V 106,
Abidjan,

Observatoire de la Liberté de la presse, de l’Ethique et de la Presse (OLPED)

(no website)

Founded in 1995 following a seminar on the responsibility of journalists during the electoral period, OLPED has fought a long and difficult battle to try to raise standards within the Ivorian media.

It supports press freedom but pushes constantly for a more ethical approach to journalism and a more rigorous monitoring of excesses.

OLPED has also called on the press to police itself, arguing that a culture of ‘self-regulation’ works much better than a constant recourse to legal action.

OLPED is in constant contact with the main press houses and organizations like the **Union Nationale des journalistes de Côte d’Ivoire (UNJCI)**.

The organisation has worked with several international partners, including **Internews**, the **Groupe de recherche et d’échanges technologiques (GRET)** and the **Panos Institute**.

A code of media ethics known as the *Code de Déontologie* was adopted by the Ivorian media in 1992. However, OLPED acknowledges that journalists routinely violate this code. In 2006 alone, it recorded some 5,000 infractions.

OLPED says its naming and shaming policy has had some impact. Its sanctions can include the withdrawal of press cards from individuals. But OLPED also accepts that the print media is likely to remain fiercely partisan and that the more irresponsible papers are guilty of spreading rumours, exacerbating inter-ethnic tensions and poisoning the political climate.

President – Zio Moussa
Mob: +225 05 05 96 13

Secretary General – Maniza
Tel: +225 06 00 90 20

Media associations

Union des radios de proximité de Côte d'Ivoire (URPCI) (no website)

The Union of Local Radio Stations in Cote d'Ivoire (URPCI) is the umbrella grouping for all local radio stations throughout the country. It has expanded its profile in Côte d'Ivoire in recent years and has taken a lead role in helping to coordinate journalism training for its members.

URPI argues that radios de proximité should be trusted to play an expanded role in covering the elections and should be seen as the key channel for transmitting information. URPCI has been backed by the Panos Institute.

President – Bamba Karamoko
 Union des Radios de Proximité de Côte d'Ivoire (URPCI)
 Mob: +225 0793 1906/ 66303045
karamokobamba@hotmail.com

Manet Guy Alain
 Vice-President
 Tel : +225 21 34 090 09
 Mob : +225 0840 65 65/ 66 20 43 90

Groupeement des Editeurs de Presse de Cote d'Ivoire (GEPCI) (no website)

Association of Newspaper Publishers of Cote d'Ivoire.

President – Denis Kah Zion
 Managing Director – Le Nouveau Reveil
deniskahzion@yahoo.fr

Union Nationale de Journalistes de Cote d'Ivoire (UNJCI)

The main journalists' trade union in Cote d'Ivoire.

President - Mamery Camara
 Mob: +225 07 61 75 01
 05 99 86 00
 09 47 50 57

Organisation des Journalistes Professionnels de Cote d'Ivoire (OJPCI)

President: Brou Aka Pascal (RTI)
Mob: +225 57 91 27 30

Secretary General – Zega Bodje (Radio Fraternite de Yopougon)
Mob: +225 07 57 75 66

Media development organisations

Search for Common Ground

www.sfcg.org/programmes/cote/programmes_cote.html

Based in Brussels and Washington, Search for Common Ground specialises in conflict resolution and radio production.

Following its establishment of 'Talking Drum' studios in Liberia and Sierra Leone, It began operations in Côte d'Ivoire in 2005.

The organization says its primary goal is: ***to reduce tensions among communities and groups, to facilitate reconciliation, and to strengthen social cohesion.***

There is a strong emphasis on peace-building through media work and community outreach. SFCG's work has targeted the more volatile parts of the country and the more vulnerable sections of the population, working in the north, west, southeast and central regions of the country.

Working with studios in Abidjan and Daloa in the interior, Search has developed partnerships with over 20 radio stations.

Its programmes are also broadcast on ONUCI FM, They include **Passerelle** (Bridge), which uses traditional conflict resolution mechanisms to work for peace, and **Dignités des Femmes** (Dignity of Women), which provides a space for women's voices.

Search's work with local radio stations is strongly oriented towards getting more community participation. SFCG makes widespread use of drama, both soap operas and sketches to get key messages across.

Country Director
Spes Manirakiza
Tel: +225 22 42 3966
Mob: +225 0728277
Email: smanirakiza@sfcg.org

Search for Common Ground in Côte d'Ivoire
Boulevard Latrille X Rue J 106
Cocody - 2 Plateaux
POB 06 BP 6426
Abidjan 06

Freelance radio trainers/producers

Roger Saiba and Martin Guenaye are radio journalists who worked as trainers and producers for IRIN's local radio development programme in Cote d'Ivoire from 2003 to 2008.

IRIN worked with *radios de proximite* throughout the country to produce programmes on conflict resolution and other issues of concern to the humanitarian community.

Saiba and Guenaye subsequently worked on a series of other community outreach projects for the United Nations and international NGOs.

They have worked with many of the most influential local radio stations in the interior. Both are now freelance media consultants.

Roger Saiba

Chef de projet/chef de production
Cel : 00 225 0482 40 13
roger_saiba@yahoo.fr

Martin Guenaye

Chargé de Communication
Cel : 0482 40 14
martingci@yahoo.fr

Recording studios/independent radio productions

Radio Espoir www.radioespoir.net – Studios available for hire for independent productions.

Radio Abidjan 1 www.radioabidjan1.com – Studios available for hire and spots recorded to order. See price list published on its website below. The station charges a lower rate for small businesses than for larger firms. It is not clear how much it would charge humanitarian organisations.

RODUIT	DUREE	TARIFS PME/PMI (Frs cfa)	GRANDES ENTREPRISES (Frs cfa)
Confection de spot	30 secondes	25.000	50.000
Diffusion de spot	30 secondes	5.000	7.000
Temps d'antenne	15 minutes	20.000	25.000
PAD	05 minutes	30.000	50.000
Publi-reportage	05 à 10 minutes	70.000	100.000
Sponsoring	30 minutes	70.000	70.000
Sponsoring	1 heure	140.000	140.000
Citation	#	5.000	10.000
Communiqué	03 fois/jour	5.000	7.000
Play-list	03 fois/jour (1 mois)	75.000	75.000
Play-list+spot	03 fois/jour (1 mois)	120.000	120.000
Top horaire (15 secondes)	19 fois/jour (1 mois)	300.000	500.000

Market Research

TNS

TNS strengthened its position in Cote d'Ivoire with the takeover of Nigerian-based Research and Marketing Services (RMS) in March 2010.

Its TNS Sofres subsidiary conducted several opinion polls during the 2010 presidential election campaign.

Research & Marketing Services
Apartment E32, 28
Abidjan JECEDA

BP 1319
ABIDJAN 28
Tel: +225 44 69 58 13
Mob: +225 05 11 66 55

Advertising and media marketing agencies

Océan Ogilvy A subsidiary of the WPP global advertising and marketing group

Local clients include Comium (Koz), BNI, Uniwax, Coopec, Nestlé.

Manager - Martine Coffi-Studer
Tel: +225 21758335/ 22404170
Fax: +225 22487860
Ave C16 Jean Mermoz
Villa n66,
Cocody,
Abidjan 7759

Except

Manager Vincent N'Goran
Tel: +225 22 42 70 54/ 22 43 64 26
Mob: +225 07 19 73 37
Email: except.sarl@yahoo.fr
BP 12595,
Riviera Attoban - Cocody
Abidjan 01

Voodoo Communication

Offices throughout Francophone West Africa. Clients include Orange.

Chief Executive - Fabrice Sawegnon
Avenue des Champs Elysée résidence Bertille,
Deux Plateaux
06 BP 2095
Abidjan 06
Tél: 22 41 48 38
Fax: 22 41 48 37
Tel: +225 22 43 75 49/50/30/31
Fax: +225 22 43 75 31

Vitamines

Local clients include UNDP.

Managing Director -: Yasmine Ajami
Tél: 21 21 52 30
Fax: 21 21 52 34
Email: info@vitamines-ci.com
Rue Paul Langevin Prolongée,
Zone 4,
BP 1891,
Abidjan 16

McCann Erickson Côte d'Ivoire A subsidiary of the global McCann Erickson advertising and marketing group.

Local clients include Orange, Air France, Peugeot, Unilever

Manager: Maurice Touré
Tel: +225 22401717
Fax: +225 22489418
.Quartier Mermoz,
Cocody,
Abidjan 01

MW Marketing Services

Several offices in Francophone West and Central Africa. Local clients include MTN Côte d'Ivoire.

Tel: +225 20 30 53 30

Fax: +225 20 32 00 98

7. Traditional channels of communication

Radio and television broadcasts and mobile phone signals do not reach all rural communities in Cote d'Ivoire.

Even in villages which do have access to the electronic media, the views of local community leaders, expressed in the local language, carry a lot of weight. Often much more weight than messages conveyed by faceless outsiders in French through the mass media.

Traditional chiefs and their immediate advisers are particularly influential in moulding attitudes and behaviour at the local level.

Religious leaders are also influential. However, they wield little power outside their own congregations.

Recent experience in Western Cote d'Ivoire suggests that it is more effective to monitor and influence social behaviour in villages by establishing small groups of respected local representatives in each community to act collectively as an intermediary between humanitarian organisations and the local population.

This has worked better than establishing a relationship with a single prominent individual in each community.

Committees that are genuinely representative of all the main factions within a community command more respect locally. Any actions they take or recommend are likely to command a greater consensus.

Broad-based committees are also more likely to pass on full and timely information than an individual who may be associated with one particular faction.

Rural communities in Cote d'Ivoire often mirror in miniature the social, political and ethnic divisions which sent the country as a whole plunging into political crisis in the late 1990s and eventually into armed conflict.

Many towns and villages in the green and fertile south of Cote d'Ivoire are divided along ethnic lines, and sometimes along religious lines too, between *autochtones* (natives) and *allogenes* (incomers).

The *autochtones* regard themselves as the original inhabitants of the area with first rights to its land and the control of local institutions.

The *allogenes*, or their forefathers, arrived in the community as landless immigrants during the course of the 20th century, – either from other parts of Cote d'Ivoire or from other countries in West Africa. They settled and were allowed to farm.

For many years the two communities lived side by side in harmony. Cote d'Ivoire's first president, Felix Houphouet Boigny, who ruled from 1960 to 1993, actively encouraged immigration from other West African countries and kept a firm lid on tribalism.

However, as the population has grown, pressures on the land have increased. And since the death of Houphouet Boigny, tribalism and resentment against immigrants have become major factors in Ivorian politics. As a result, since the mid 1990s, the land rights of the *allogenes* have increasingly been questioned by the *autochtones*.

Land issues are at the heart of most inter-communal disputes in rural areas.

Deep divisions between *autochtones* and *allogenes* mean that it is often more effective to communicate with rural communities through a committee of local representatives that includes all the main strands of local society, than through an individual, who may be regarded as favouring one particular faction.

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) both had some success in establishing broad-based peace committees in several divided rural communities of Western Cote d'Ivoire in 2010.

IOM set peace committees in several villages near Daloa, Zuenoula and Vavoua, to report rising tensions and outbreaks of violence and if possible to deal with them at a local level before they got out of hand.

IRC undertook a similar project in the area around Man and Duekoue to deal with incidents of gender-based violence. Committees of four or five people were set up in each community to report incidents.

These committees did not usually include the village chief, but the chief was kept informed of the committee's activities and could be called upon when necessary as a counsellor.

The chief was often too busy to take part personally in the everyday work of the committee. These groups worked best whenever a trusted representative of the chief was included in them.

The inclusion of religious leaders was also useful, but like the chief, many of these are too busy to play a regular role in the committee's activities. The best solution was to ensure that someone was appointed to ensure that they were kept informed.

It was important to include in these peace committees youth leaders from the different factions in the community. When protests, violence and intimidation take place, young people are invariably at the forefront of such activities.

The chairman of the local peace committee should have a mobile phone to report incidents and keep in close contact with the project coordinators.

He or she should be provided with pre-paid phone credit on a regular basis to encourage him to use this channel of communication regularly.

However, IRC found that maintaining regular communication by phone with committee leaders in villages around Man proved difficult, because of poor network coverage in the surrounding rural area.

8. Telecommunications

Overview

Although the 2002-2011 civil war partitioned Cote d'Ivoire into a government-controlled southern zone and a rebel-controlled north for more than eight years, the country's telecommunications networks continued to function normally on both sides of the ceasefire line during most of this period.

However, in 2010 the government of former president Laurent Gbagbo started closing down the SMS messaging facility on mobile phone networks at times of crisis.

SMS messaging was shut down for several days in November 2010 during the run-up to the second round run-off in the presidential election.

It was subsequently shut down again in February 2011 as conflict intensified.

SMS messaging was only restored following the overthrow of Gbagbo's government two months later.

According to the state telecoms regulator **Agence de Telecommunications de Cote d'Ivoire (ATCI)**, the country had a 15.8 million mobile subscriber lines in June 2011.

That gave the country a 75% mobile penetration rate – there were three mobile phone lines for every four inhabitants.

The number of mobile lines in use was increasing at an annual rate of 13%.

The mobile network covers the vast majority of the population. There is good coverage in the main towns and along the main highways, but subscribers often suffer problems in making calls because of network saturation.

Geographical coverage is best in the densely populated south and east of the country. It is thinner in rural areas of the drier and more sparsely populated north.

Coverage is also thin outside the main towns in the troubled west of Cote d'Ivoire.

But as mobile phone usage has increased, the fixed line telephone network has shrunk.

According to ATCI, there were 290,000 fixed line telephones in Cote d'Ivoire in 2010, just over one per 100 inhabitants.

That was 37% down from a peak of 356,000 landlines in 2008.

There were an estimated 968,000 internet users in Cote d'Ivoire in June 2010, according to the ITU, equivalent to 4.6% of the population.

Cote d'Ivoire has become West Africa's third largest Internet market after Nigeria and Ghana, with services superior to those in many other African countries, including ADSL with speeds of up to 8Mb/s.

There are cyber-cafes in all the main towns and these offer the most popular way of accessing the internet. One hour online costs 200-300 CFA francs (45-65 US cents).

There are three main types of internet cafe user:

- People who go online to use email or social networking sites to contact friends and family.
- Fortune seekers known as *brouteurs* (grazers) who search the net for wealthy and gullible Europeans and North Americans who can be conned into parting with their money or offering marriage – and thereby the guarantee of a visa to allow them to emigrate. These are typically well educated youths aged 17 to 30.
- Children and teenagers who are mostly interested in playing computer games.

All the mobile phone companies offer internet access – either through the mobile handset or a modem stick attached to a computer.

The telecommunications sector is regulated by the government's **Agence de Telecommunications de Cote d'Ivoire (ATCI)** www.atci.ci

Mains electricity is provided by the Compagnie Ivoirienne d'Electricite (CIE) www.groupecie.net from thermal and hydro-electric power stations.

CIE is a former parastatal which is now majority controlled by the French company Bouygues. The power supply is usually reliable, but outages lasting several hours sometimes occur.

Cote d'Ivoire's fixed line telephone network is operated by **Cote d'Ivoire Telecom** www.citelecom.ci France Telecom acquired a controlling stake in this former parastatal in 1997. It also owns the Orange mobile network.

Cote d'Ivoire Telecom offers both voice and data services.

Heavy fighting in Abidjan in early 2011 caused substantial damage to the fixed line network in some parts of city.

There were five mobile telephone companies operating in Cote d'Ivoire in 2011:

MTN is the largest network, with more than 4.6 million subscribers.

Orange is the number two player, with over 4.0 million.

A survey by ATC in late 2009 showed that MTN, Orange and Moov offered the best nationwide coverage (see maps below).

Orange claims to cover 82% of Cote d'Ivoire's population and 69% of the country's land area.

Many mobile handset owners have SIM cards for more than one network in order to avoid the generally higher cost of making calls from one network to another.

Pre-paid users are charged between CFA 30 and CFA100 (seven to 22 US cents) per minute for voice calls made within the same network. The tariff varies according to the charge plan adopted by the customer and sometimes according to the time of day at which the call is made.

Calls to other networks are generally more expensive – CFA 90 (20 US cents) per minute or more. However, some companies offer plans which charge the same for voice calls to all networks.

SMS messages cost CFA 25 to CFA 50 (five to 11 US cents). It is often more expensive to send a message from one network to another.

All the mobile operators offer access to the internet.

Unlimited access to the internet from a computer with a leased modem stick costs upwards of CFA 15,000 (US\$33) per month.

Since 2008, MTN and Orange have both introduced electronic money transfer schemes, based on Kenya's successful M-Pesa system.

Mobile phone subscribers on these two Ivorian networks can transfer up to 99,500 CFA francs (US\$220) in cash from an account linked to their own mobile phone account to any other mobile phone subscriber in the country for a modest commission.

The recipient receives an SMS message informing him/her of the sum transferred, along with an authorisation code. He/she can then collect the cash from any authorised agent of the mobile phone company.

The system is widely used by city dwellers to transfer cash to relatives and friends in the countryside.

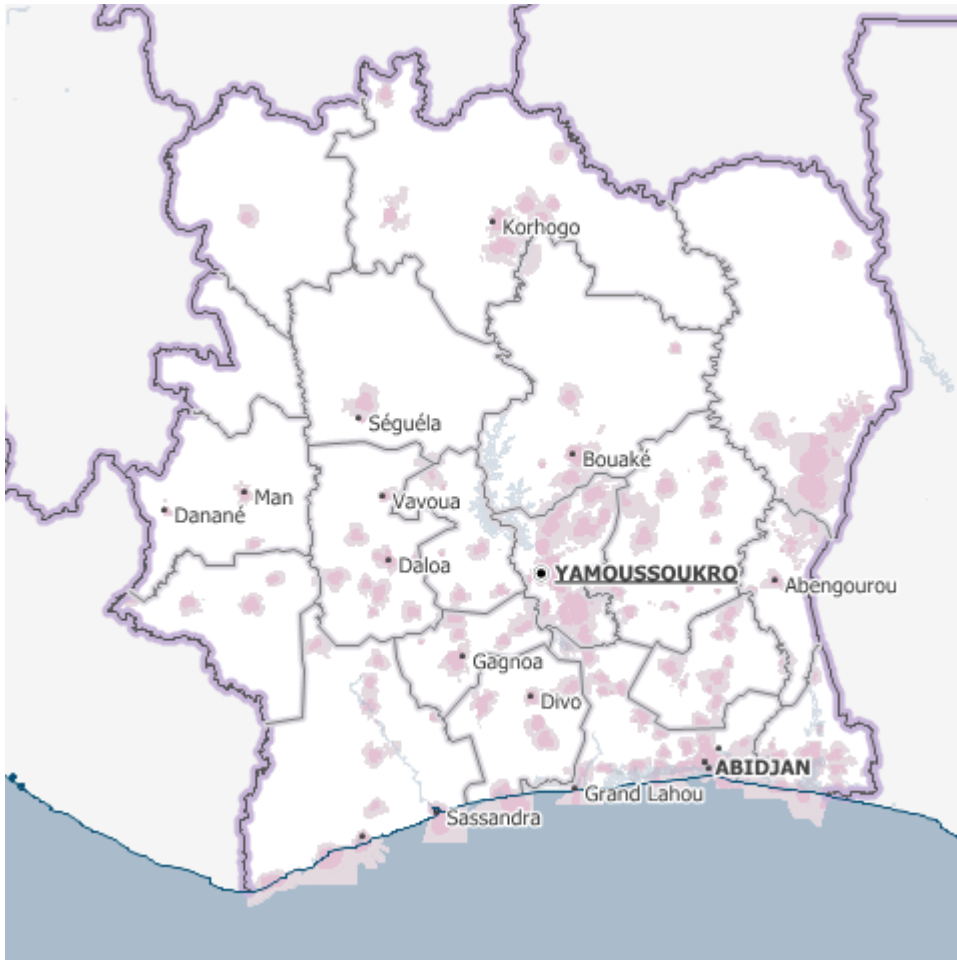
9. Telecommunications companies

MTN www.mtn.ci

MTN is Cote d'Ivoire's largest mobile phone company. It had more than 4.6 million subscribers in early 2010.

It forms part of the South African-based MTN mobile telecoms group.

In 2009, MTN launched MobileMoney, an electronic cash transfer system which allows users to transfer sums of up to CFA 99,500 (US\$220) to other mobile phone subscribers in the country.



MTN mobile network coverage in Cote d'Ivoire

Source: MTN CI website

Tel: +225 20 31 63 16

Address: MTN, Immeuble Loteny, Avenue Crosson Duplessis, Plateau, Abidjan

Orange www.orange.ci

Orange is Côte d'Ivoire's second largest mobile phone company, with more than four million subscribers in late 2010. It is owned by France Telecom, which also has a controlling stake in the Telecom Côte d'Ivoire landline network.

In August 2011, Orange claimed that its network covered 89% of the population and 64% of Côte d'Ivoire's geographic area.

The company said its signal reached nearly 59% of Côte d'Ivoire's 8,609 officially recognised *localites* (town suburbs and villages).

Orange launched its Orange Money financial transfer service in Côte d'Ivoire in December 2008.

Tel: +225 21 21 66 39
21 23 90 91

Moov www.moov.com

Moov is controlled by the United Arab Emirates (UAE)-based telecoms operator Etisalat.

It had over 1.8 million subscribers in 2008.

Its nationwide network was rated by the ATCI survey as being almost as good as those of MTN and Orange.

Contact – Adama Bamba

Tel: +225 01 00 01 58

Email: adama.bamba@moov.com :



Moov mobile network coverage in Cote d'Ivoire

Source: Moov website

KoZ www.koz.ci

KoZ – the name phonetically spells the French word for “chat” - was launched in 2007. It forms part of the Lebanon-based Comium telecoms group.

By 2010, KoZ claimed 1.7 million subscribers.

One of the attractions of KoZ is that it charges pre-paid customers a flat rate of CFA 99 (22 US cents) per minute for voice calls to all networks.

The 2009 ATCI survey rated its coverage of the interior as being less comprehensive than MTN and Orange.

Tel: +225 66 90 15 00

Address: Koz/Commium, Boulevard Valerie Giscard d'Estaing, Marcoury, Abidjan



Koz mobile network coverage in Cote d'Ivoire

Source: Koz website

GreenN www.greenn.ci

GreenN is the newest and smallest of Cote d'Ivoire's five mobile operators. It was launched in late 2008 by the Libya Africa Portfolio, an overseas investment arm of the Libyan government.

Six months after its launch, GreenN claimed to have signed up 500,000 subscribers.

GreenN lacks good coverage of the interior.

However, one of its attractions is a cheap call rate of only CFA 60 (13 US cents) per minute to subscribers on the same network. It costs CFA 90 per minute (20 US cents) to call another network.

Communication Services Manager – Hughes Ligue

Direct tel: +225 60 00 09 09

Switchboard: +225 60 60 60 60

Address: Green, Immeuble New Building, Boulevard Latrille, Deux Plateaux, Abidjan

Cote d'Ivoire Telecom www.citelecom.ci

France Telecom acquired a controlling stake in this former parastatal in 1997.

It offers voice and data services through its fixed line network and controls the Orange mobile network.

According to ATCI, Cote d'Ivoire had 290,000 fixed phone lines in June 2011, equivalent to 1.4 per 100 inhabitants.

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