

Côte d'Ivoire

Map of African continent



Indicator	Data
Population, 2019 (no.)	25,716,544
Population density, 2018 (people per sq. km of land area)	78.83
Coastal population, 2014 (no.)	6,230,583
Share of people living in urban areas, 2019 (%)	51.2
Total MSW generated, 2014 (tons/year)	1,980,398

Socioeconomic Profile

Côte d'Ivoire is a lower-middle-income country in West Africa bordered by Liberia, Guinea, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Ghana. As the economic hub of Francophone West Africa, Côte d'Ivoire is one of the world's fastest-growing economies and remains the globe's leading producer and exporter of cocoa beans and cashew nuts.¹ The country comprises 12 administrative districts and 2 district-level autonomous cities² and runs a unitary presidential republic system with a parliament.

In 2019, Côte d'Ivoire recorded an overall GDP (PPP) of just over \$134 billion, with a GDP (PPP) per capita of \$5,213.^{3,4} With an area of 322,463 km², the country has a population of 25,716,544 (2019) and its population density falls around 78.83 people per km² (2018).⁵ The majority of Côte d'Ivoire's population resides in urban areas—51.2 percent in 2019.⁶ Over 6 million Ivorians (2014) reside in coastal areas,⁷ with the most important coastal city being Abidjan.

Plastic Industry and Ecosystem

In 2018 and 2019, Côte d'Ivoire had no domestic resin production. Its conversion industry processed 197 kt of resin (117 kt PE, 57 kt PP, 23 kt PET) in 2018 and 174 kt of resin (128 kt PE, 17 kt PP, 29 kt PET) in 2019.⁸ In keeping with the trend found in West Africa, Côte d'Ivoire is also a net importer of plastics. In

¹ World Bank Group, "Côte d'Ivoire—Overview," 2021, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/cotedivoire/overview>.

² Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, "Ivory Coast—Administrative Structure," 2015, https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/499705/Ivory_Coast_Administrative_Structure.pdf/.

³ GDP, PPP (constant 2017 international \$) and GDP per capita, PPP (constant 2017 international \$).

⁴ World Bank Group, "World Development Indicators," 2020.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Jambeck et al., "Plastic Waste Inputs from Land into the Ocean."

⁸ UN Comtrade, "UN Comtrade Database," 2019.

2019, over 241 million kg of plastics were imported into the country, with PE, PP, and PVC making up about 99 percent of the imports.⁹ Only 4.4 million kg of plastics were exported from Côte d'Ivoire that same year, 74 percent of which was classified as PVC.¹⁰

As of 2019, there were 110 plastic manufacturing firms operating in Abidjan.¹¹

Solid Waste Management

Côte d'Ivoire generates 0.79 kg of MSW per capita per day and this aggregates to an overall daily MSW generation of approximately 4.9 million kg.¹² About 81.6 percent of MSW generated in Côte d'Ivoire, however, is inadequately managed.¹³

Plastic waste is reported to make up about 13 percent of MSW arisings in Côte d'Ivoire, with a daily generation rate of 637,000 kg, of which 82 percent is inadequately managed¹⁴; about 12,748.40 kg of plastic waste leaks into the environment in Côte d'Ivoire daily.¹⁵

According to Anteja (2019)¹⁶, 63 plastic recycling businesses operate in Abidjan. Currently, both PE and PP plastic waste is locally recycled to produce nonfood articles such as black tarpaulins, plastic bags, and other household items.¹⁷

Legislation, Policies, and Other Initiatives

The government ministry responsible for municipal waste management in Côte d'Ivoire is the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.¹⁸ Currently, waste management in Côte d'Ivoire is driven by the following law:

- Framework Act 96-766 under the Environmental Code, 1996: This law highlights the legal framework provisions for the collection and management of waste.¹⁹

Furthermore, a decree banning the use of plastic bags—Decree No. 2013-327—was introduced in 2013. It prohibits the production, import, marketing, and use of non-biodegradable plastic bags with a thickness less than 50 microns.²⁰ Exceptions were, however, made for some applications of plastic bags, such as

¹⁰⁷ UN Comtrade, "UN Comtrade Database," 2019

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Anteja, "Présentation de la filière des déchets plastiques en Côte d'Ivoire," 2019.

¹² Jambeck et al., "Plastic Waste Inputs from Land into the Ocean."

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Anteja, "Présentation de la filière des déchets plastiques en Côte d'Ivoire."

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Climate & Clean Air Coalition, "Abidjan, Ivory Coast," 2017, <https://www.waste.ccacoalition.org/participant/abidjan-ivory-coast>.

¹⁹ Chatham House, "Policies."

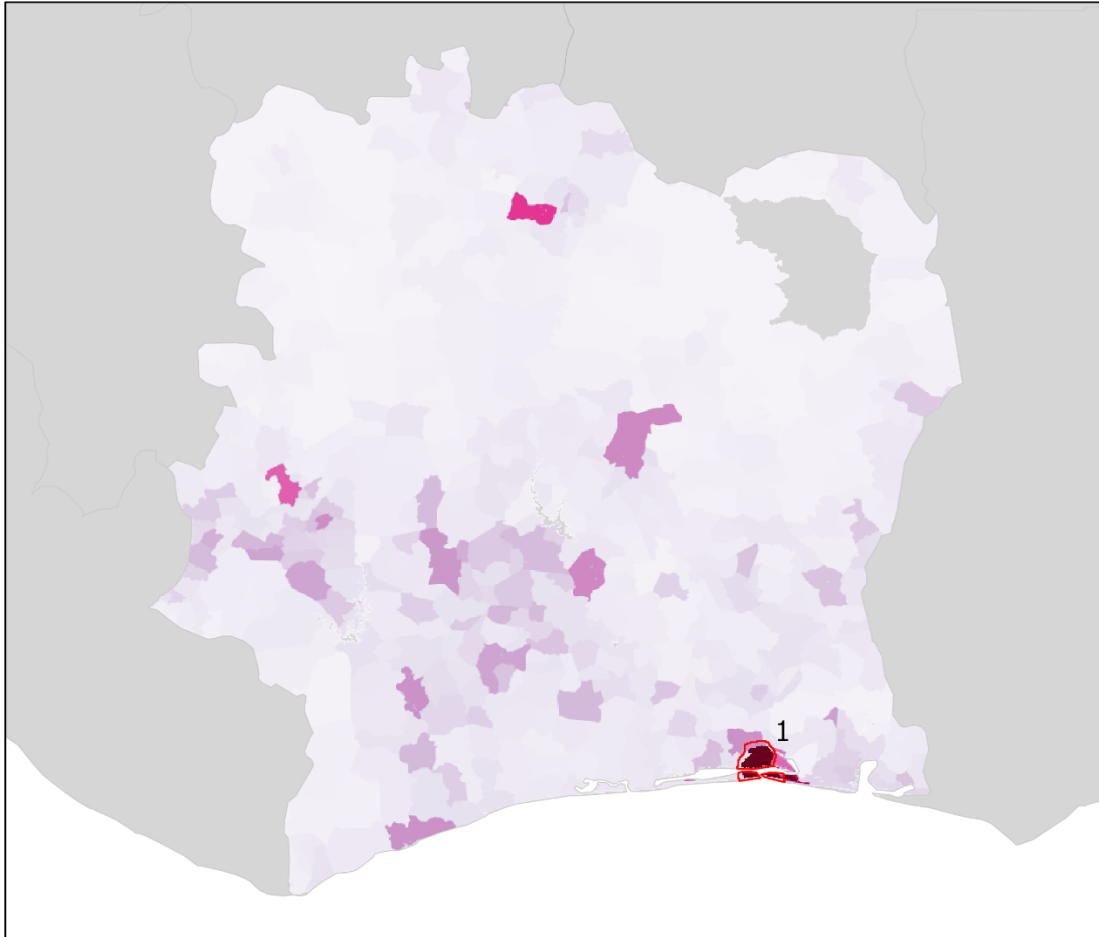
²⁰ Ibid.

agricultural uses, primary packaging of perishable foods and pharmaceutical products, and the storage of MSW.²¹ Additionally, Decree No. 2013-327 includes an EPR requirement.²²

²¹ UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), *Legal Limits on Single-Use Plastics and Microplastics: A Global Review of National Laws and Regulations* (Nairobi, Kenya: UNEP, 2018), https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27113/plastics_limits.pdf.

²² Ibid.

Plastic Waste in Côte d'Ivoire



Plastic Generation Hotspots

ID	Locale	Rank	Plastic Waste (kt)	Population	Area (km ²)
1	Abidjan 2	112.3579	3,921,628	784.51	

Total Annual National Plastic Waste Generation: 699.90 kt



Location in Region

