

UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) External Situation Report

20 April 2015

KEY POINTS

- Presidents of the three Ebola-affected countries put forward their regional post-Ebola recovery plan (\$8bm). Donors pledge over \$1bn in funding, including at least \$650mn from the World Bank.
- Resistance continues to inhibit counter-EVD activity in Guinea.

Key Political and Economic Developments

 The Presidents of the three Ebola-affected countries, met with the UN Secretary-General at the World Bank Spring Meetings Special High-Level Event on Ebola in Washington DC on 17 April. At the Event they presented their Mano River Union regional post-Ebola recovery plan (\$8bn). The World Bank Group announced that it would provide at least \$650mn during the next 12 to 18 months to help Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone recover from the devastating social and economic impact of the Ebola crisis and advance their longer-term development needs.

Response Efforts and Health

- 2. In total, 25,855 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,702 reported deaths.
- 3. Since the beginning of the outbreak, there have been 3,569 confirmed, probable or suspected cases in Guinea, of which 2,351 (66%) have died. As of 17 April Guinea has seven active prefectures: Boffa, Dubréka, Coyah, Forécariah, Kindia, Fria and Conakry, as well as two prefectures in alert: Boké, Telemele. As of 15 April, 2 new confirmed and 10 new suspected EVD cases were reported in Guinea. The two confirmed were in Forécariah. Among the 10 suspected cases, five were in Forécariah, two in Conakry, two in Kindia and one in Coyah.
- 4. As of 20 April, Liberia had gone 32 days without a new confirmed case. Furthermore it has been 24 days since the death and burial of the last person known to have contracted EVD and there are now no contacts under follow up in Liberia.
- 5. As of 14 April, Sierra Leone had reported eight confirmed cases over the past seven days of which one was in Western Area, two were in Port Loko and four were in Kambia. This brings the total number of confirmed, probable, and suspected cases since the outbreak of the epidemic to 12,244 of which 3,865 are confirmed deaths.
- 6. In the coming days WHO will launch a trial for the Ebola vaccine in the prefecture of Forécariah, Guinea. The first phase of the trial will vaccinate the contacts of the confirmed cases, as well as the group of contacts of the confirmed cases.

Logistics

7. For regular logistics operational information please visit <u>http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14.</u>

Resource Mobilisation

- 8. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.45 billion, which is around 64% of the total ask.
- 9. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 140 million in commitments. In total USD 142 million has been pledged.
- 10. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (<u>http://fts.unocha.org</u>) of their contributions via the e-mail address: <u>fts@un.org</u>.

Outreach and Education

- 11. In Guinea, general sensitisation efforts under the 'Ebola ça suffit' campaign continued with a music concert organized in the Faranah Theatre. Targeted sensitisation campaigns took place around the country, including a campaign in Dubréka with religious leaders and persons involved in burials around conduct of safe and dignified burials, door-to-door sensitisation in Ratoma (Conakry) by the Guinean Red Cross, outreach to schools in Boffa on EVD prevention, and education on use of hand washing kits and thermos-flashes in Zèssou (Lola Prefecture) and Thuo (Guinea Forest Region).
- 12. Guinea's National Coordination informed on preliminary results from its campaign of sensitisation and early detection of suspected cases of EVD, launched in Maferenya, Forécariah on 12 April. The campaign reached 91% (52,000) of the target population and found 35 suspected cases of which 10 were confirmed. The number of cases is less than expected, and these results will be analysed to determine if this is evidence of general decline or of continued community resistance. The campaign will continue on 17 and 18 April in the remaining areas of the prefecture (Moussaya and Farmoya), and will be extended to Coyah on 23 April. Early lessons learned from the campaign will be issued shortly and a comprehensive evaluation will be undertaken by WHO, UNICEF and CDC. These lessons will be fed in to planning currently under way for subsequent phases of the campaign to be rolled out to Coyah, Dubréka, Conakry, Kindia and Boffa.
- 13. Resistance continues to be a challenge in Guinea including an attack on a contact tracing team in Balemou (Guinea Forest Region) on 11 April, impeding of a safe burial in Kounsita (Coyah prefecture), refusal of entry to social mobilisation teams in the villages of Nyonta and Zénémouda (N'zérékoré prefecture), and six out of nine families carrying out funerals refused safe and dignified burials in Conakry. A team of anthropologists from WHO are carrying out research aimed at better understanding various perceptions and resistance around EVD.
- 14. There have been regular reports of losing contacts in Guinea (Conakry, Coyah Boké and Forécariah).
- 15. WHO informed that though surveillance is improving, there still remain too many unknown chains of transmission in Guinea. This problem is likely to decrease thanks to the cases identified through the campaign of sensitisation and early detection of EVD, which began in Forécariah and will continue in the following weeks in the remaining prefectures of Maritime Guinea.

Essential Services

- 16. IOM in Guinea is providing support to 20 Prefectural Emergency Operational Centres (PEOC), institutions used for the coordination of the EVD response at the Prefectural level in Guinea. According to IOM, 18 PEOCs have been completely rehabilitated. The remaining two have received office space and equipment, and their rehabilitation works will begin shortly.
- 17. WFP concluded on 13 April a census of all households eligible for food assistance in the village of Zouguéta, in the urban community of Lola. The census followed a request from local authorities for more transparency in the distribution of food assistance to EVD survivors and contacts.
- 18. With support from UNICEF, the Government of Liberia has identified 4,345 (2271 girls and 2074 boys) as affected by EVD. The Government has defined the number of children 'affected' as quarantined, orphaned, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), in treatment and discharged. UNICEF, with its local implementing partner Helping Hand has identified and hired the first 95 survivors in Margibi and Lofa counties as part of psychosocial support to families affected by EVD. Recruitment is ongoing for a target of 900 survivors in six counties.

Upcoming Events

19. The Districts of Faranah and Koinadugu, in Sierra Leone, will hold a technical cross-border meeting from 25 to 27 April 2015 in Faranah.

Attachments and resources

20. Reliefweb: Maps on the EVD response.