



WFP Engineering and Logistics

Build, maintain, sustain

West Africa Response

in Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Senegal, & Ghana

Engineering Update, October 21st 2014

Background

In response to the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in West Africa, the World Health Organization, humanitarian medical NGOs, and the Governments of Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea identified the urgent need for training, isolation, and treatment centres to serve communities affected by EVD.

WHO, regional governments, donors and the wider UN system under UNMEER, asked WFP to mobilise in support of wider operations, as well as scaling up its own operation to respond to Food Security.

WFP is providing support through construction, logistics, procurement and transport services, and has advanced funded many of these activities. WFP was initially requested to build large Ebola Treatment Units (ETU) in Monrovia (400 beds).

Scale-Up

In the intervening period, requirements have expanded considerably. The portfolio of construction works requested of WFP includes:

- **Liberia** – 2 x large ETUs and a Log Base in Monrovia; 5 x Forward Logistics Bases (FLB) throughout the country
- **Guinea** – Log Base at Conakry Airport and up to 9 x ETUs across the country.
- **Sierra Leone** – ETUs and FLBs required, along with support infrastructure and roads.
- **Dakar** – UNHAS Air Terminal at Dakar airport.
- **Accra** – UNMEER office and base facilities at UNHRD Accra.
- **UN Medical clinics** – in Conakry and Freetown.

Current Status

Liberia

ETUs:

- Despite persistent rain, SKD and MOD ETU sites will be ready in 3 weeks with phased handover commencing within a week.
- WFP has taken over water and wastewater management, including construction of borehole water supplies.
- Surface water drainage is a concern for communities. WFP will culvert and treat surface water discharges.



MOD Site : [left] view of ETU's ; [right] interior of the completed units

FLBs:

- Contracts for FLBs in Gbarnga and Voinjama are signed; contractor has mobilised and will break ground shortly.
- Tenders for Zedrew and the Monrovia airport have closed and will be signed shortly; mobilisation to begin immediately.
- Site inspections for Harper and Buchanan arranged for later this week; contract for Buchanan to issue next week.

Guinea

- Three ETUs are being contracted with a construction period of 4 weeks.



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- Six further ETUs have been requested by Government of Guinea.
- Designs refined with MSF and companies, to be used as models for wider regional use.
- UNHRD will supply all necessary generators and equipment.
- WFP Engineering has provided support to UNMEER office establishment, to the Logistics team, as for construction companies identified through EoI, and tender/contract packages for rapid execution of the works.
- Main Log Base in preparation at Conakry Airport.

Sierra Leone

- Three FLBs are immediately proposed. Site works required. Two more sites to be identified.
- EoI identified 8 local construction companies.
- Ancillary works required - upgrading WFP workshops (Kisi); road repairs for FLBs
- Logistics development works, Freetown Airport.

Senegal

- At Dakar Airport, UNHAS terminal site clearance and preparation complete.
- Tenders have been received for the civil works package.
- Tender for modular buildings being launched.
- Tented facility for the Terminal is operating, with health screening as required by Government.

Ghana

- UNMEER base and offices on lands at UNHRD, Accra is in preparation.

UN Clinics

- **Conakry** - New premises leased in Conakry. WFP has advanced funding, (c.US\$60,000) for minor works. UNDP to supply medical and diagnostic equipment.
- **Freetown** - Existing UN clinic needs replacement. A new rapid-build modular facility is proposed. This is led by WFP Medical Services, funded through the

WFP Special Operation, with support by UN JMS in New York.



Satellite Imagery – SKD Stadium Site, Monrovia

Key Constraints/Risks and mitigations

- **Resources:** WFP has advanced significant amounts of its own resources – staff time and funding - to support partners and sister agencies.
- **Staff:** Identifying required numbers of appropriate technical staff from Standby Partners continues to be a constraint.
- **Weather:** This continues to be a major constraint. Geotextile suppliers have been identified by WFP Engineering for large quantity procurement action of material for all locations.
- **Consultation:** Assurance to communities is a prerequisite before construction works on any facility, and should be led by is a WHO and Government partners.
- **Implementation in an Emergency:** Demands on WFP continue to evolve unpredictably. Given time constraints for all works, contract arrangements and design details are being developed on site, and works are being procured by single source procurement processes.

WFP Field Engineering

WFP Field Engineering supports field operations to implement emergency infrastructure projects.

WFP Field Engineering provides support on many types of engineering services and construction projects including workshops, warehousing, roads, bridges, airstrips, offices, guesthouses and camps.