

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

6 March 2015

KEY POINTS

- UNMEER and UNICEF support DERCs in Sierra Leone
- Unsafe burials remains a concern
- AFPs support restoration of essential services across affected countries

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 23,983 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been reported 9,823 deaths.
3. According to WHO, the number of confirmed EVD deaths occurring in the community in Guinea and Sierra Leone remains high. In Guinea in the week to 1 March over half (53%: 17 out of 32) of reported confirmed deaths occurred in the community, an increase from 42% the previous week (9 out of 21). In Sierra Leone, 16% of confirmed EVD deaths occurred in the community in the week to 1 March, compared with 21% the previous week. WHO also noted that unsafe burials also continue to occur in both Guinea and Sierra Leone.
4. In the week to 1 March, one new health worker infection was reported in Guinea, compared to three in the week to 22 February, bringing the total of health worker infections reported across the three most-affected countries since the start of the outbreak to 839, with 491 deaths.
5. On 3 March, the NERC in Sierra Leone issued a press release where most of the new cases in the country were attributed to unsafe burial practices. The NERC underscored that safe and dignified burials are critical part of the response and reiterated its standard operating procedure that without exception and exemptions all bodies must be buried in a safe and dignified manner by approved teams within 24 hours of death.
6. In Sierra Leone, UNMEER in collaboration with District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) have developed a district dashboard showcasing the Ebola response scenario in Bonthe, Bombali and Kono districts. Additionally, UNMEER is currently working on an initiative to collect information on cellular coverage in the country using an app called CrisisSignal. Information collected will facilitate the work of response efforts and enhance communication, surveillance and tracing activities.

Logistics

7. WFP continues to support the transportation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the affected countries. Last week, 200mt of essential items were dispatched from WFP's Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) to Guinea and Liberia on behalf of WHO. Among this 200mt were 120,000 PPE kits donated by the Government of Japan. Also last week in Sierra Leone, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of the seven remaining WHO containers transporting PPE, completing an initial request to relocate 36 containers; two containers were delivered to the Ministry of Health's Central Medical Stores (CMS) and five to the main logistics hub in Port Loko.
8. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

Resource Mobilisation

9. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.3 billion, which is around 57% of the total ask.
10. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 136.8 million in commitments. In total USD 140 million has been pledged.

11. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (<http://fts.unocha.org>) of their contributions via the e-mail address: fts@un.org.

Outreach and Education

12. In Sierra Leone, UNICEF concluded a two-day workshop on micro planning for social mobilization for DERC, local officials, traditional and community leaders in the Tonkolili District.

Essential Services

13. WFP Liberia began cash transfers this week to EVD survivors using Mobile Money. As of 5 March, 140 survivors in seven counties were provided a total of USD 12,000 - their first transfer out of a three month cash assistance of USD 85 per person per month. Distributions of phones and registration of remaining survivors is continuing in parallel. An estimated 2,000 survivors are expected to be reached by end of May. In addition to cash and to boost nutritional recovery, survivors will receive a monthly ration of staple food.
14. UNDP Liberia has delivered a new medical waste sterilizer to JFK Hospital in Monrovia and plans to deliver another to Tappita Regional Referral Hospital in Nimba. Autoclaves allow medical equipment to be sterilized and then re-used. In total 12 autoclaves and 5 generators have also been purchased for use in Liberia. The locations were decided based on a strategy developed by the Government, involving the Ministry of Health, Monrovia City Corporation, the IMS and UNIDO. Consultants from UNDP's Global Health Waste Management team are installing the autoclaves and training staff on their use.
15. UNDP, in partnership with the Liberian Ministry of Transport and the Angie Brooks International Center, have inaugurated 25 hand washing stations at motorcycle parking stations in and around Monrovia. Each station is being equipped with a 500 gallon tank to be managed by the country's transport union. UNDP also procured large amounts of chlorine, sprayer bottles, cartons of hand sanitizers, Ebola prevention stickers, and 850 reflective vests.

Upcoming Events

16. NSTR

Attachments and resources

17. Reliefweb: [Maps on the EVD response.](#)