

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

16 March 2015

KEY POINTS

- The Liberian Ministry of Health focuses on EVD surveillance and response.
- In Western Area Urban, Sierra Leone, DERC, with UNMEER facilitation and participation, is working on improving living conditions in quarantined household clusters.
- WFP continues to support capacity building activities across the three affected countries, including in logistics training

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 24,509 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,096 reported deaths.
3. The Liberian Ministry of Health, with technical support from WHO and CDC, facilitated a 'train the trainers' session with over 100 participants on 13 March in Monrovia focused on enhancing EVD surveillance in the context of the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) protocol. The session was designed to help participants provide support and training to counties on a range of topics including: community-based surveillance activities; detecting, investigating, verifying and reporting priority diseases, including suspected EVD cases; and triggering early alert and response activities.
4. According to the prefectural coordinator of Forécariah, Guinea, an analytical laboratory will be installed in Forécariah with Canadian Government funds. The current Transit Centre in Forécariah will also be converted into an Ebola Treatment Centre (ETC).

Logistics

5. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.
6. WFP continues to support capacity building activities across the three affected countries. In Guinea, the WFP-led Logistics Cluster, in collaboration with Bioforce and the Government of Guinea, is organising a week-long logistics training from 23 March. 60 government Logisticians have confirmed their attendance. Bioforce will facilitate the first four days, after which the Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS) and the Government of Guinea will each facilitate one day of training. This training will be held at the Central Guinean Pharmacy and will be concluded by a visit to the WFP main logistics hub in Conakry.

Resource Mobilisation

7. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.39 billion, which is around 60% of the total ask.
8. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 136.8 million in commitments. In total USD 140 million has been pledged.
9. 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

10. WHO joined partners including UNMEER, Global Communities and UNICEF to support the Liberian Government in a community meeting on 13 March in Jacob's Town, Montserrado with representatives

from the Mandingo community. The primary outcome of the meeting was that a burial team from the community will be established, with training and support from Global Communities, to continue with safe and dignified burials in the Mandingo community. The community and partners also renewed their commitment to additional social mobilization activities, emphasizing the need for ongoing vigilance.

11. On March 13, UNMEER Liberia attended the school health coordination meeting at the County Health Team (CHT) office in Sanniquellie, Nimba County. The CHT and partners reiterated the need to scale up school health inspection visits in order to ensure that safe school hygiene protocols are observed. The CHT, county education office and UNMEER will continue to visit schools in different districts across the county to assess the use of school hygiene kits and to monitor general health practices. The County Education office was requested to share instructions to all school principals to convene Parents Teachers Association meetings to dispel rumours about the Ebola vaccine.
12. UNMEER Freetown participated in the social mobilization campaign of getting to zero. Staff moved around New England and Wilkinson Road distributing Ebola flyers and other information products.
13. CENAFOD (Centre Africain de Formation pour le Developpement) and UNICEF are currently involved in the supervision of use of hand washing kits throughout the urban community of Lola, Guinea.
14. UNITE CONJOINTE, a local NGO, continued the sensitization of primary schools on the use of thermo flash and hand washing kits, notably in schools of Gamakony Kony and Leapeleta in the Rural Commune of Kokota in Lola.

Essential Services

15. In Western Area Urban, Sierra Leone, the District Ebola Response Centre (DERC), with UNMEER facilitation and participation, is working intensively on improving living conditions in quarantined household clusters. This includes standardization of packages (food and NFIs), improvement of water supply and sanitation as well as solid waste disposal. The latter requires not only removal but also safe disposal. To this end, Oxfam currently is implementing a pilot and will be ready to give feedback shortly.
16. In Guinea, Essential Services supported the Communication Commission analysis of the “Zero Ebola in 60 days” campaign, elaborating a series of recommendations for the interim period, 10 March - 15 April. Among them the “Voix du Terroir,” a massive community engagement campaign proposal, was revived and has acquired a broader dimension that now also includes artistic and sporting events as well as political meetings, under the slogan “Ebola Ca Suffit”.
17. PRIDE-Guinée, the Centre d’Études de Recherches et d’Aide au Développement (CERAD) and UNICEF distributed hand washing kits in the neighbourhoods of Flayko and Homeyakoli, Lola. PRIDE also received yesterday additional kits from UNICEF to be distributed in the rural community of Bossou, Lola Prefecture.

18. . Upcoming Events

19. NSTR

Attachments and resources

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