

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

25 March 2015

### KEY POINTS

- UNMEER focuses its Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) on EVD prevention measures
- UNICEF and response partners intensify targeted social mobilization activities

### Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR

### Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 24,872 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,311 reported deaths.
3. According to the National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) in Sierra Leone, eight new confirmed EVD cases were reported on 24 March, in Port Loko (4), Western Area Urban (2) and Western Area rural (2).
4. A suspected measles or EVD case was reported in Juarzon, Sinoe County, Liberia. However, the individual is rumoured to have fled to Greenville (Sinoe County) before the investigation team arrived. The RITE and ambulance team plan to meet with the District Superintendent to help locate the individual. At the moment it is unclear if the individual has measles, EVD or both. Another suspected measles case was reported in Money Camp, Sinoe County. The surveillance team sent a specimen to the Liberia Institute for Biomedical Research (LIBR), Monrovia. A door-to-door active case search for measles was conducted in the area.

### Logistics

5. The WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications (ET) Cluster continues to provide technical support to health facilities throughout the affected countries. In Sierra Leone, the ET Cluster has distributed 115 Samsung-donated smart phones to three Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) in Freetown, for use by doctors, nurses and patients. A further distribution of 89 phones is planned for the coming week.
6. For regular logistics operational information please visit <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.

### Resource Mobilisation

7. The OCHA Ebola Virus Outbreak Overview of Needs and Requirements, now totaling USD 2.27 billion, has been funded for USD 1.42 billion, which is around 63% of the total ask.
8. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 138.9 million in commitments. In total nearly USD 142 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](mailto:fts@un.org).

### Outreach and Education

10. In the previous week, UNICEF conducted several social mobilization and community engagement activities in Guinea. Religious leaders at the Grand Mosque of Kouroussa, delivered Ebola sensitization messages following the reading of the Quran with 14 imams reaching more than 500 people. Community for Development (C4D) coordinators and Community Watch Committees (CWC) members provided support. The C4D coordinators and CWCs sensitized a total of 35,741 people on EVD using posters, radios messages, door-to-door visits and group meetings. A total 19,832 men, 11,248 women and 4,661 children were reached.

11. In Guinea, UNICEF in partnership with the Guinean Scouts, is working to overcome community resistance to Ebola related humanitarian interventions in numerous locations in Conakry, Coyah and Dubréka. As part of this, UNICEF and the Scouts distributed 5,440 household WASH kits this week bringing the total number distributed to 6,436. The Scouts also held camp fire Ebola sensitization sessions and screened sensitization films during evening gatherings.
12. The Ebola Community Action Platform (ECAP) commenced a three-day mobilizer refresher training at Cestos City hall, Rivercess County (Liberia) for 18 mobilizers, including district and county health officers, teachers and community leaders drawn from three administrative districts - Jo River, Norwein and Fen River. Among others, the purpose of the training is to get feedback, share experience and lessons learned on EVD field work with the communities. The mobilizers supervise 300 communicators from the communities. The issue of stigma faced by Ebola survivors, ETU and health care workers and how they are perceived in communities was also addressed. UNMEER attended the training which is facilitated by Population Services International (PSI), the Rivercess County Health Team (CHT), Face Africa with support from Mercy Corps and USAID.

### **Essential Services**

13. In the previous week, UNICEF continued efforts to support the safe re-opening of schools in cooperation with Education, Social Mobilization, Supply and Logistics, Health, and WASH partners. UNICEF started the distribution of over 7,000 hand washing kits and cleaning materials to all 1,020 Junior Secondary Schools (JSS) reaching out to more than 275,234 learners across the country. JSSs are expected to resume schooling on 24 March 2015 in preparation for Basic Education Certificate Examinations (BECE). Distribution of the remaining supplies will follow in preparation for all schools to re-open on 14 April 2015. UNICEF with participation with the Community Health Officers supported various trainings, including for 140 chiefdoms across all districts aimed at reaching 7,000 teachers with training on EVD prevention, social mobilisation, psychosocial support and protocol implementation. The child-friendly Ebola and Back-to-School related education materials and tools, which will be used by the trained teachers in their social mobilisation activities, were also distributed to the various districts.
14. UNMEER held a meeting with the CHT and implementing partner, Development Education Network (DEN-L) to map the roll-out strategy for the Quick Impact Project (QIP) (titled 'Operation Stop and prevent Ebola transmission across border areas') in Bong County. The 3-month project (March-May 2015) aims to raise awareness on EVD across international and local border areas, the establishment of Community Border Watch Teams, reintegration of EVD survivors into their communities and strengthening health care facilities at the border areas. An open-air theatre on EVD, as outreach for social change, is expected to begin on 25 March at Fonitoli town of Panta-kpai District of Bong County. Additionally, DEN-L was requested to supply batteries for thermos flashes already in use across border areas for monitoring and screening.
15. WFP is supporting UNMEER and the Government of Liberia on the QIP to renovate the Massaquoi Public School, which is the only public school in West Point area in Monrovia with a total number of 1,100 students. WFP is providing technical engineering expertise and donating a new 20 kva generator to facilitate the rapid completion of all necessary renovation works before the onset of the rainy season.
16. On March 23, Peace Link Liberia continued its community awareness activities on EVD, under UNMEER QIPs, by conducting door-to-door sensitization on the use of IPC and hygiene materials to a targeted 2,715 people in the border districts of Voinjama, Kolahun and Quardu-Gboni, Lofa County.

### **Upcoming Events**

17. NSTR

### **Attachments and resources**

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