

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

07 April 2015

KEY POINTS

- World Bank Group marks World Health Day with a feature story, photos and a podcast about health workers in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.
- Campaign of sensitization and collection of suspected EVD cases to take place in Guinea from 10 to 12 April.
- National Coordination in Guinea raises concerns about the capacity for quick EVD diagnosis.

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. To mark World Health Day today and World Health Worker Week (April 6 -10), the World Bank Group has posted a feature story, photos and a podcast about health workers in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The story and podcast are based on interviews that were conducted during a multimedia mission to the countries a few weeks ago, and the podcast is from one interview with a laboratory technician who survived Ebola. The features are provided in the following link: [Health Workers on Ebola Frontlines Serve Countries, Risk Own Lives](#).
2. UNMEER SRSG Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed returned to Guinea on 05 April and will travel to Liberia later in the week.
3. During a meeting of the National Coordination in Conakry on 02 April, it was announced that, in the context of the new emergency measures declared by President Condé, there will be a new campaign in the prefectures of Forécariah, Coyah, Dubréka, Conakry, Kindia and Boffa. The campaign, called 'Plan de Campagne de Sensibilisation et de Ratissage des Cas Suspects de la Fievre Hemorragique Ebola' (Campaign of Sensitization and Collection of Suspected Cases of EVD), will take place from 10 to 12 April. The main objectives of the campaign are to spread messages about the new emergency measures; to reinforce community participation in the monitoring of potential EVD cases and to identify and collect EVD suspected cases door-to-door. About 500,000 homes will be visited during the three days of the campaign, by teams composed of community agents and health staff. The local population will be requested to stay at home during the campaign.

Response Efforts and Health

4. In total, 25,516 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,573 reported deaths.
5. During a National Coordination meeting in Conakry on 3 April concerns were raised about the capacity for quick EVD diagnosis. Rapid diagnosis has become crucial, including for the implementation of the new emergency measures, which require all recently deceased to be tested.
6. Officials from Guinea and Sierra Leone met in Gbalamouyah, Kambia District to share information on the status of EVD response in their respective communities. Highlights of the meeting include an agreement to share more information on the movement of people and to establish proper screening protocols for people moving across border points. They also agreed to recruit liaison officers on each side to promote a systematic exchange of information. Meanwhile, the US Center for Disease Control (CDC) is expected to begin training on Ebola screening for security personnel on both sides of the border.
7. UNDP Guinea is deploying two autoclaves in two hospitals in Conakry: Kipe Hospital and Ignace Deen. UNDP will train operators and technicians at the hospitals.
8. WHO supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) and County Health Team to deliver a one day enhanced surveillance 'train the trainers' session on 4 April in Grand Gedeh County. 46 officers-in-charge, district health officers and health clinic surveillance officers attended the interactive session, which focused on

understanding case definitions of priority conditions and appropriately completing case investigation forms in a timely manner. Participants are expected to provide similar training to health workers in their respective districts.

9. In Liberia, the WHO, in conjunction with the MoH and the CDC, began the first of five 3-day training sessions on 03 April for laboratory technicians on safe collection, packaging and transport of specimens. The sessions, held at the national reference laboratory in Montserrado, will have 30 people each, covering all 15 counties, and will build on the success of previous training.
10. UNDP Liberia donated 8 vehicles to county administrative offices to help strengthen the county administration's ability to respond to crises.

Logistics

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

Resource Mobilisation

12. 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.
13. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 140 million in commitments. In total nearly USD 142 million has been pledged.
14. 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

15. As a way to address cases of secret and unsafe burials in Bombali District (Sierra Leone), the Social Mobilization pillar has met with all the paramount chiefs, representatives of traditional healers, religious and other leaders in the District. At the meeting, the traditional healers committed themselves to ending secret and unsafe burials. Also, the Pillar has planned to train and empower chiefdom burial teams in the district.
16. Peace Link Liberia through a Quick Impact Project (QIP) supported by UNMEER commenced a 2-day workshop for 40 participants including traditional leaders, women and youth groups, religious leaders and healers from 15 border communities in Quardu-Gboni District in Lofa County. The training focused on enhancing local knowledge and skills in EVD-specific border management and community event-based surveillance activities.
17. UNMEER Liberia with Development Education Network - Liberia (DEN-L) carried out an outreach campaign for social change through an open air theatre to disseminate EVD messages in Kankalata Town in Fuama District, Bong County. It was observed that parents are still wary of sending their children back to school. The absence of a reliable water supply, established community watch teams and a health clinic are some of the challenges that the population faces. The closest health facility is the Kelebay clinic in the neighbouring district of Sanoyea.

Essential Services

18. A delegation from USAID, US Army and Medical Teams International (MTI) visited the Ebola Treatment Unit in Murraysville, Sinoe County, Liberia over the weekend. The primary purpose of the visit was to understand the next steps that are in place in terms of health care services after EVD. The team also visited the E.J. Grante Hospital and visited the isolation area and the triage, both constructed by MSB, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency. They held a meeting with health care workers, director of the hospital, community health department, and other partners. Infrastructure, communication and incentives for the health care workers were some of the main problems highlighted.

Upcoming Events

19. NSTR

Attachments and resources

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