

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

09 April 2015

KEY POINTS

- A total of 30 confirmed EVD cases were reported in the week to 5 April, the lowest weekly total since May 2014.
- The National Coordinator of the Ebola response in Guinea announces changes to the forthcoming sensitization campaign strategy.
- Phased safe decommissioning of surplus Ebola treatment facilities in Sierra Leone and Liberia begins.

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR.

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 25,515 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,572 reported deaths.
3. A total of 30 confirmed cases of EVD were reported in the week to 5 April, the lowest weekly total since the third week of May 2014. Case incidence in Guinea decreased to 21, compared with 57 the previous week. Sierra Leone reported a fifth consecutive weekly decrease with 9 cases, compared to 25 the previous week. There were no reported cases in Liberia.
4. 6 Guinean prefectures reported at least one confirmed case in the week to 5 April, compared with 7 the previous week. Affected prefectures were in the western area, around and including the capital, Conakry. In Sierra Leone, cases were reported from 4 western districts: Kambia, Port Loko, Western Area Rural and Western Area Urban, which includes the capital, Freetown. There were no reported cases in Sierra Leone for 3 days during the week to 5 April. Of the 55 districts in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone that have reported at least one confirmed case of EVD since the start of the outbreak, 35 have not reported a case for over 6 weeks.
5. In Liberia, the last person confirmed to have had EVD died on 27 March, 13 days ago. Investigations are ongoing to establish the origin of the infection. A total of 332 contacts associated with the case are being monitored and heightened vigilance is being maintained throughout the country.
6. There were no new health worker infections in the week to 5 April.
7. Following the overall decrease in the number of EVD cases in the country, the National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) in Sierra Leone is developing a strategy to break the chains of transmission in Calaba Town, Freetown. The Ministry of Health, CDC and WHO are expected to discuss and develop a strategy to address the situation.
8. The National Coordinator of the Ebola response in Guinea, Dr. Sakoba Keita, discussed Ebola response with UNMEER SRSG Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed and other partners on 07 April. He informed participants about the latest changes in the sensitisation campaign strategy (see Sitrep 07 April), which is now called '*Campagne de Sensibilisation et de Detection Precoce des Cas Suspects de Fievre Ebola*' (Campaign of Sensitisation and Early Detection of Suspected Cases of Ebola). Changes include: a) social mobilisation will become the key aspect of the campaign; b) there will be no population confinements; c) the teams will be composed of three persons (two community agents and one health staff) instead of four; d) it will be carried out during four days instead of three; and e) the campaign will have two phases: the first in Forécariah from 11 to 14 April and the second in Coyah, Dubréka, Kindia, Boffa and Conakry from 18 to 21 April.
9. At the same meeting, the National Coordinator presented the logistical requirements and constraints faced by the campaign. He explained that, during the first phase in Forécariah, 15 ambulances and

three laboratories will be used, but that current testing capacity may be insufficient to cope with the likely number of cases to be tested. A representative of the French Embassy informed that they would double the number of medical staff at their Kaplan laboratory in Forécariah for the duration of the campaign. With this measure in place, 100 tests per day could be done in this laboratory. The cost of the campaign will be approximately US\$1.45M, financed by UNICEF, WHO, Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Ebola/UNMEER, the French Government and the US CDC.

10. In the context of falling case incidence and a receding zone of transmission, treatment capacity exceeds demand in Liberia and Sierra Leone. Accordingly, and with technical guidance from WHO, national authorities in both countries have begun to implement plans for the phased safe decommissioning of surplus facilities. Each country will retain a core capacity of high-quality Ebola treatment centres, strategically located to ensure complete geographic coverage, with additional rapid-response capacity held in reserve.

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 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. On 7 April, the Guinean Health Minister headed a delegation of the National Coordination to Forécariah. The goal of the mission was to meet with the Prefectural Coordination and EVD response partners to discuss the forthcoming EVD sensitisation and detection campaign. During this visit, the Health Minister recommended carrying out a simulation of the campaign in Senguelen locality.
16. A local NGO Unité Conjointe conducted community sensitisation on the use of thermoflash and hand washing kits on 1 April at the Gbènèmou primary school, Guinea Forest Region. A total of 120 people reportedly attended. The next day, the LNGO held a sensitisation event in Gamayalé, in Lola prefecture, on the use of thermoflash in schools. A total of 36 people reportedly attended.
17. On 6 April, a delegation of the Islamic League arrived in Dubréka and met with the prefectural Imams in order to sensitise them to EVD prevention.

Essential Services

18. In preparation for school re-opening in Sierra Leone, schools that will conduct the Basic Examination Certificate of Education have been identified and decontaminated. In schools where water is a challenge, water tanks have been set up as a temporary measure. Distribution of Infection Prevention Control (IPC) materials to schools has commenced and teachers have been trained on how to use them. However, concerns have been expressed over the increase in the number of schools to be decontaminated, as the list now includes schools that were not used as holding or treatment centres. The NERC is planning to set up independent monitoring of the decontamination and decommissioning process. UNMEER is providing logistical support.
19. UNICEF reported that for the past week, cash and school kits have been distributed to 163 EVD orphans in the prefecture of N'zérékoré.
20. WFP is distributing food to EVD orphans and to family contacts in several localities of Dubréka prefecture.

Upcoming Events

21. NSTR

Attachments and resources

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