

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

22 April 2015

### KEY POINTS

- Following a month without cases, a new case is confirmed in Koinadugu, Sierra Leone.
- The next phase of the sensitisation campaign in Guinea will be rolled out to Coyah on 24 April.
- UNMEER and UN Women alongside the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists are carrying out a campaign to bring women into the mainstream of EVD Response in Sierra Leone.
- Over 500 healthcare persons have volunteered for the Ebola vaccines trial that started last week.

### Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR

### Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 25,872 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,721 reported deaths.
3. In the week up to 19 April there were 21 confirmed cases in Guinea of which there was one case each in Conakry, Fria, and Coyah, and 18 cases in Forécariah. Over the same period there were 10 cases in Sierra Leone of which two were in Kambia, one was in Koinadugu, one was in Port Loko and six were in Western Urban (Freetown). Koinadugu's case follows over a month of no cases. Liberia continued to have no new cases, bringing it to 34 days without a case.
4. In response to the new case in Koinadugu district, confirmed by NERC last week, more social mobilisation experts, surveillance officers and epidemiologists have been sent to the district to support response efforts. The officials will conduct an assessment of the transmission and establish if more human resource support is required. Preliminary investigations indicate that the patient had not travelled out of the village for the past 10 years before presenting symptoms. Authorities are investigating possible links between the patient and her daughter who resides in Waterloo, near Freetown.
5. The next phase of Guinea's campaign of sensitisation and early detection of EVD cases will be carried out in Coyah from 24 April. The National Coordination visited Coyah on 20 April to plan for, and train staff involved in, the campaign. The campaign plan is being prepared by the Prefectural Coordination in conjunction with international and national partners and should be finalised tomorrow.
6. In Liberia work to strengthen surveillance is continuing with a session in Buchanan on 20-24 April, to seek consensus on key surveillance documents including Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) version II guidelines, IDSR training modules and the five year surveillance road map, all of which are key documents for further development of a comprehensive surveillance system in Liberia. This session is supported with technical assistance from WHO.
7. In response to outbreaks of measles in Nimba and Sinoe counties in Liberia, a measles vaccination campaign will be carried out throughout Sinoe County and WHO plans to support the County Health Team (CHT) on developing next steps in Nimba.

### Logistics

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 1.5 billion, which is around 66% of the total ask.
10. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund currently has USD 140 million in commitments. In total USD 142 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](mailto:fts@un.org).

### **Outreach and Education**

12. UNMEER in conjunction with Development Education Network Liberia (DEN-L), Save the Children, and the CHT has established a Survivor's Network Committee in Bong County to oversee and coordinate livelihood projects and provide vocational skills for members of the group. In addition, UNMEER and DEN-L have carried out outreach for social change open air theatre on EVD in two border areas of (Gbarnga-Shaiquilleh and Garmue) by establishing Community Watch Teams and distributing EVD related materials as support to border clinics.
13. In view of evidence that women are disproportionately more affected by Ebola (56.7%) than men (43.3%), UNMEER is collaborating with UN Women and the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists to bring women into the mainstream of EVD Response in Sierra Leone through a focus on community, youth, religious and women leaders. Between 23 April and 27 April there will be country-wide training of journalists on how to better engage women at the community level and women-themed radio programmes, including a simulcast on 41 radio stations in which representatives from UN Women, survivors, and women's leaders will discuss issues around bringing transmission to a resilient zero.
14. In an effort to better understand the anthropological aspects of resistance to the EVD response in Guinea, the National Commission has launched, on 20 April, field research in Forécariah, Conakry and Boke. On 17 April, a WHO anthropological team carried out research in Lola prefecture aimed at better understanding perceptions and socio-interactions by communities in the EVD context and beyond. The study will take place in three villages of the sub-prefecture of Bossou, and in the town of Bossou itself.
15. Recent sensitisation efforts in Guinea have included: start of work in Faranah prefecture to create a roster of volunteers for communication and sensitisation activities; work by Save the Children to sensitise local traditional healers in the sub-prefecture of Lainé (Lola prefecture) on child protection in the EVD context; and a meeting organised by the Prefectural Coordination, UNMEER and WHO to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Comités Villageois de Veille in Kissidougou.

### **Essential Services**

16. Sierra Leone's Ministry of Health will be conducting a general immunisation campaign from 24 May, in advance of this, the Ebola response Communications Pillar is expected to begin to sensitise the population on the no-risk nature of the exercise. Meanwhile more than 500 healthcare persons have volunteered for the Ebola vaccines trial that started last week. US CDC expects to enrol up to 6,000 volunteers over the next three months.
17. In preparation for the upcoming measles vaccination campaign in Guinea, WHO held a meeting on 16 April with the Prefectural Health Department of Lola to ensure a vigorous mobilisation is done prior to the start of vaccinations. The campaign launched across the entire Forest Region and in Macenta prefecture on 18 April, and a measles vaccination campaign is also underway in Faranah prefecture.
18. UNICEF is supporting the revitalisation of birth registration and certification in Liberia, which slowed or stopped in many health centres during the EVD outbreak. UNICEF has also assisted the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to build a strong social protection component and holistic support for children into the National Investment Plan for Rebuilding a Resilient Health System.
19. UNDP Liberia has turned over eight shelter tents to the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (BIN) as part of efforts to ensure effective monitoring of Liberia's border posts, enhance surveillance for EVD and crimes, and to prevent a resurgence of EVD in Liberia.

### **Upcoming Events**

20. WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr Matshidiso Moeti, arrives in Monrovia on 21 April for a three day visit focused on the efforts that Liberia has put in place to stop EVD transmission as well as efforts to rebuild a stronger and more resilient health system.

### **Attachments and resources**

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