

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

4 May 2015

KEY POINTS

- Efforts to understand continued Ebola transmission in Kambia (Sierra Leone) gather pace, with a visit from the President on 2 May.
- Guinea makes plans for another sensitization campaign in Forécariah.

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. NSTR.

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 26,298 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of Ebola have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,892 reported deaths.
3. A National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) team that travelled to Kambia District last week to investigate causes of continued Ebola transmission has reported that some communities in the district appear not to be receptive to some Ebola-related messages. Contrary to existing policies on the emergency, the team reported that club houses were open in some towns and people generally appeared to be less concerned about the virus. However, the NERC is developing a plan that will revamp social mobilization, ensuring that the right messages are conveyed in the district. The new plan will also focus on a careful selection of individuals entrusted to convey messages to the community. Along these lines, the NERC plans to enlist the support of prominent and influential people from the district.
4. On 2 May, the Sierra Leone President travelled to Kambia District, as part of the Kambia Community Action Plan, scheduled to be conducted from 1 to 22 May. A presentation of the Plan will be given by the Kambia District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) to the Forécariah DERC on 4 May to invite the Guinean authorities to undertake joint action with Sierra Leone.
5. On 4 May, violent demonstrations in Conakry, Guinea, again impeded operations of Ebola response partners.
6. On 29 April, the National Coordination in Guinea shared plans for an Ebola case finding campaign in Forécariah, with the objective of intensifying case detection and organizing more outreach activities. A team from Conakry will visit Forécariah on 5 May to prepare for the campaign which will target 35,000 people. Sensitization messages will focus on contacts mobility, safe burials and resistance. The new campaign will prioritize active search and detection in the areas where the last Ebola cases have been confirmed.
7. On 29 April, the Communication Cell of the Prefectural Coordination in Coyah visited Dubreka to share best practices from the sensitization and early detection campaign in Coyah.

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.

Outreach and Education

12. The Women's Participation and Engagement in "Getting Ebola to Zero & Staying Zero" in Sierra Leone Campaign was officially launched on 2 May. Initially scheduled to be launched following a street rally on 27 April, Sierra Leone's Independence Day, the launch had to be postponed after the rally was cancelled by the Sierra Leone Police for fear of political demonstrations. The Deputy Minister of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs, the Chairperson of the Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ), the Special Advisor to the President on Gender Issues, also Chair of UNMEER Advisory Board, the Resident Coordinator a.i., the UN Women Representative and a representative from UNMEER spoke at the ceremony. An Ebola survivor also gave a poignant testimony after which the audience pledged to take action for a final push to get to zero.
13. The event was followed by community engagement activities in two Freetown markets conducted by various women's groups and female journalists engaging women on getting to zero. As part of the campaign, a media orientation conducted by UNMEER Gender Advisor and UN Women took place on 1 and 2 May in Southern Province (Bo) and East Province (Kenema), with participants travelling from Kono and Kailahun.
14. In Guinea, a series of sensitization sessions in Forécariah (given to fishermen and fishmongers) and Coyah (given to schools) were carried out by WHO and partners last week.

Essential Services

15. NSTR

Upcoming Events

16. NSTR

Attachments and resources

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