

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

13 April 2015

KEY POINTS

- The 'campaign of sensitization and early detection of suspected cases of Ebola' got under way in Forécariah yesterday.
- Re-opening of schools in Sierra Leone is scheduled for tomorrow, with approximately 1.8 million students returning to school.

Key Political and Economic Developments

1. UNMEER SRSG Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed visited the town of Maferenya (Forécariah prefecture) with the Guinean Prime Minister, Minister of Health and members of the diplomatic community yesterday to launch the four-day campaign initiated by the Government of Guinea to sensitize communities and actively search for suspect EVD cases in the prefecture of Forécariah.

Response Efforts and Health

2. In total, 25,556 confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD have been reported in the three most affected countries. There have been 10,587 reported deaths.
3. In Sierra Leone, Bombali District has now gone 15 days without any new EVD cases and 10 of the 13 chiefdoms in the district have gone more than 42 days with no new EVD cases. Contact tracers are currently following up 132 contacts and three homes are under quarantine. The success so far is attributed to broader engagement with local communities in addition to a reinforcement of medical check points. UNMEER has provided 20 solar lamps and 14 smart phones to response workers at the checkpoints.
4. The National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) is to send a team of Ministry of Health, CDC and WHO officials to conduct an in-depth investigation into continued EVD transmission in Kambia District. The team will determine if there are gaps in the District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) operations, particularly in terms of skills and the operations of the district Rapid Response Team.
5. The DERC in Pork Loko District, Sierra Leone, has started discussions on a mechanism for dealing with any possible outbreak after UNMEER leaves. The objective is to ensure that a heightened state of preparedness is in place even after achieving zero transmission. One of the proposals is to establish village-level taskforces.
6. During the Guinea National Coordination meeting held on 10 April resistance to the EVD response was reported in Kindia locality; Maneah in Coyah prefecture; and Dixinn and Matoto in Conakry.
7. The prefectural coordination, WHO, UNMEER, UNICEF and the CDC visited Madina-Oula in Kindia prefecture Guinea last week, to monitor cross-border activities related to EVD prevention. CDC and IOM from Sierra Leone also participated at this activity.
8. In Liberia, WHO field staff and health partners in Maryland County supported the County Health Team on 11 April to undertake an assessment of the Doukudi-Pedebo border post in preparation for the planned repatriation of Ivorian refugees. In order to strengthen local capacity for enhanced surveillance and response, a triage and isolation room will be constructed, infection, prevention and control (IPC) supplies will be repositioned and workers will be trained on the triaging of patients.

Logistics

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

Resource Mobilisation

10. 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.

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

13. In Guinea, WHO supervisors went to Tiro, Tindo and Sangoya in Faranah prefecture last week where they witnessed that EVD prevention measures were being correctly applied in the health centres. The link between the heads of health centres and the Comites de Veille Villageois (CVV) also seemed to be improving in the area. In Macenta, the WHO teams found that the EVD prevention measures were not being properly applied in the health centre of Balabolaye in Daro sub-prefecture.
14. On 7 April, Save the Children sensitized 20 people comprising AC, transport unions and health workers hailing from the rural community of Bossou in Lola Prefecture, Guinea.
15. The Ebola Prefectural Coordination of N'zérékoré, Guinea, reported on the training of 88 CVV members of professional and technical schools and universities, which was organized by the INGO Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in collaboration with the coordination office. The training took place on 8 and 9 April.

Essential Services

16. Re-opening of schools in Sierra Leone is scheduled for tomorrow, 14 April, with approximately 1.8 million students expected back at school. Intensified efforts around preparations continue with multi-sectoral involvement including Education, Social Mobilization, Supply and Logistics, Health and WASH in order to prepare for the safe re-opening. Teachers have been trained and hygiene and school preparation kits are being distributed to all schools with the support of UNICEF. While decontamination of schools and provision of hygiene kits have currently focused on government schools, the NERC is concerned that there is no clear position on community and private schools, which can potentially serve as a source of EVD transmission. To forestall such a situation, the NERC intends to immediately communicate with these schools to ascertain the status of available hygiene materials and attend to any gaps.
17. UNICEF continued to support the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) to conduct the second round of the Health Facility Survey. Preliminary results show that the majority of health facilities are open, and utilization trends in all except the heavily affected districts have increased, though still lower compared to the period before the EVD outbreak. The results of this Health Facility Survey are being used to guide the health system recovery and strengthening planning process. In collaboration with other health partners including CDC and WHO, UNICEF continued to support the MoHS in preparing for health campaigns that will deliver a package of essential interventions for prevention of diseases affecting children and their mothers. Three campaigns are scheduled for the end of April, May and June as part of the early recovery process.
18. On 26 March, construction was formally launched on a new \$1.1 million paediatric and maternity hospital in Kailahun. The 100-bed facility will be one of the largest of its kind in Sierra Leone, and has been made possible through funding from UNICEF National Committees in Germany and Italy.
19. On 8 April, Save the Children made a follow up visit to non-licensed medical clinics in the urban community of Lola, Guinea Forest Region, to assess their awareness and knowledge of EVD.

Upcoming Events

20. NSTR

Attachments and resources

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