

Sierra Leone: Landslide and Floods

Recovery Bulletin # 4 (3 October 2017)



This weekly update is produced by UNDP in collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Sierra Leone, liaising with UN Agencies, the Office of National Security and development partners.

Situation overview

Following the landslides and floods that hit Freetown and surrounding areas on 14 August 2017, the UN system in Sierra Leone continues to support national recovery.

In addition to addressing the urgent needs of those most affected, medium and long term assessments and Action Plans have been put in place under national leadership to ensure prevention, risk mitigation and protection of the most vulnerable.

For the purpose of information and coordination, relief and recovery efforts are detailed here.

Recovery efforts



Action Against Hunger

- Two jingles, one on cholera prevention and one on handwashing were aired on AI Radio between 6-24 September. Each jingle is being aired three times a day for 19 days.
- Distributed protective gear (raincoats, gumboots) and backpacks for 80 CHWs, completing the kits provided for the CHWs to facilitate nutrition screening and community mobilization activities.
- Reproduced IEC materials on cholera prevention, critical handwashing times and malaria prevention to be used for community sensitization.



Concern Worldwide

- Provided water, Aquatabs and hygiene promotion to affected population in Kamayama, Kaningo and Culvert communities (daily water trucking and constructing 8 water kiosks). To enable the 9,000l water bowser to access the communities, 20 male volunteers were recruited in Kamayama to fix the flood-damaged road.
- Enabled 30 trained Disaster Management Volunteers are conducting a 15-day door-to-door hygiene promotion campaign targeting approx. 6,000HHs with hygiene messages and 3,000HH with Aquatabs distribution.
- Distributed NFIs (1 hygiene kit, 2 jerry cans, 1 mosquito net per HH) for 99 displaced families in Juba Barracks IDP camp. 30 Veronica buckets (buckets with taps) were also distributed at Juba IDP camp.

Action Against Hunger

- Conducted hygiene promotion activities in three communities (Culvert I & II and Pa-muronkoh).
- Daily water trucking of 40,000 liters to 8 established emergency water kiosks at Culvert, Wellington and Calaba town during the month of September.
- Water point caretakers conduct hygiene promotion activities including sensitization on the use of Aquatabs at all 8 emergency water kiosks.
- Hand washing station caretakers conduct hygiene promotion activities at two established hand washing station in Culvert.
- Community mobilization for Emergency cleaning at five communities (Culvert I & II, Water Street, Bottom Oku and Pa-Muronkoh).

Red Cross

- 22 WASH volunteers from the Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, with the support of IFRC, conducted sensitization sessions in three sites of Regent, Culvert and Juba on hygiene promotion, reaching a total of 4010 people (1,182 men, 1,082 women and 1,114 children) with messages on hand washing, latrine cleaning, waste management, oral rehydration salts solutions and personal Hygiene. One of the sessions included using a mobile cinema and drama skit about Cholera prevention which was more informative, exciting and educative to both children and adults.
- Two Hygiene promotion volunteers from Sierra Leone Red Cross attended a WASH training organized by Child Fund in Juba camp which increased their knowledge and skills.



FOOD & NUTRITION

Concern

- Provided support to Street Child for wet food provision at holding centres until mid-September.

WFP

- Working with the National Electoral Commission and Statistics Sierra Leone to harmonize the verified beneficiary list. The Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children’s Affairs is responsible for signing the final beneficiary list, which will facilitate the Government’s distribution of food and non-food items.
- Supporting the registration of households in Bamabayilla, a community in Kamayama, that claim they were not included in the previous registration process.
- Continues to support the Office of National Security to manage and store relief items at the WFP Main Logistics Base in Port Loko.

CARE International

- Supplied 301,000 liters of clean treated water to three affected communities in Kamayama, Pentagon and Kanningo. CARE maintains regular supply of water to eleven 10,000-liter capacity stations (4 in Kamayama, 3 in Pentagon, and 4 in Kanningo).



SHELTER

Concern

- Tents were erected in Juba (6) and Old Skool (3) IDP camps.



ENVIRONMENT

Concern

- A 4-day cleaning campaign was conducted in Kanningo and Kamayama with 100 volunteers (50 per community) to remove debris from the flood/mudslide.

UNDP

UNDP continues to support the Government of Sierra Leone, in working on finding new ways to mainstream climate and disaster risks information into the country’s development planning, for informed decision-making, at local and national levels. The Energy, Environment and Natural

Resource Management Cluster of UNDP, with funding from development partners and support from UNDP, have been supporting the strengthening and/or establishments of systems, frameworks and several capacity building initiatives, at national and regional levels. These have strengthened the capacity of hydro-meteorological and environmental management institutions for improved service delivery in the country.

- Funded by the Global Environment Facility, the UNDP Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems (CIEWS) Project is currently supporting the review of a hazard profile of Sierra Leone and identifying capacity gaps for improved disaster risk management. A validation workshop is planned for Thursday, 5 October and stakeholder representatives from state and non-state institutions are expected to participate.
- The UNDP CIEWS Project is supporting the development of a website for the Sierra Leone Meteorological Agency and a one-stop online Climate Information, Disaster Management and Early Warning Systems (CIDMEWS) web portal. Once fully developed, access to real-time and improved climate and disaster management information will be readily available to end-users. These include national decision makers and disaster-prone communities. The website and CIDMEWS web portal are expected to be launched during the third week of October, 2017.
- The UNDP Environmental Cluster welcomed two Debris Management Specialists to contribute to the Government-led Recovery and Risk Management Action Plan.
- The Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone (EPA-SL), with support from UNDP has developed a jingle on environmental protection in four local languages, soon to be aired on all radio stations around the country. The aim is to raise awareness of human activities that are harmful to the environment and to also sensitize those living in hazard prone areas.



PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT / PROTECTION

Concern

- Engaged former Ebola burial team members to dig 280m of drainage channels in the area designated for the mudslide/flood disaster victims' graves. 224 headstones were also constructed, with installation ongoing.

Save the Children

- Formally handed over three furnished Temporary Learning Spaces (using UNICEF tents and stationery) at Old Skool and Juba camps to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. (92 children have enrolled in Old Skool but we are still awaiting enrolment figures from MEST for Juba.)
- Provided an orientation on Child Safeguarding for 5 formal teachers (3 males, 2 females) at Old Skool and Juba camps.
- Provided support to Child Friendly Spaces in Old Skool, Kamayama and Juba with recreational sessions for 321 children (153 males, 168 females).

- Provided psychosocial support to 1,049 individuals (148 males, 266 females, 247 boys, 301 girls) across Old Skool, Kamayama, Juba and Dwarzack.
- Referred 12 individuals (1 male, 8 females, 1 boy, 2 girls) for treatment of minor ailments to community health centres and hospitals.

Red Cross

- Reached 896 affected people with psychosocial support through one-to-one and group talks. Of these, 252 (28%) were men, 367 (41 %) women, and 277 (31%) were children. 16 households were visited by the volunteers to check on how they are coping. 11 people were referred for specialized care and support.
- Together with Dr Cheedy, a psychiatric specialist from the United States and counsellors from Don Bosco Child Care center, a group counselling session was held reaching 20 women survivors. Of these 10 manifested symptoms of anxiety and depression. These will now undergo more specialized individual counselling by the mental health nurses.
- As one of the agreed approaches from the national technical PSS pillar meeting, a psychosocial support coaching session was conducted for NGO staff and social workers providing PSS at Juba Camp. This session provided hands on skills on recognizing stress reactions and how to make referrals to the mental health nurses. Participants also discussed how to work as a team at the camp, agreeing on making a clear schedule of PSS group talks for survivors.

Bilateral and Private Sector Support

- Japan: Relief items such as 100 tents, 6,395 of blankets, 1,320 sleeping pads, 163 plastic sheets, 30 units of water purifiers and 1,500 of portable jerry cans are distributed across affected regions of the country
- ECOWAS (including WAHO): US\$300,000
- Ghana: 28MT of relief items;
- Liberia: 20 vehicles to bring medical and food supplies
- Togo: \$500,000
- Nigeria: 315MT of assorted relief materials and one million dollars to Sierra Leone
- Côte d'Ivoire: 1.5MT of medical supplies
- Senegal: \$100,000
- Morocco: 66MT of tents, blankets, cholera kits, transported by Royal Armed Forces
- China: \$1 million to the GoSL through its embassy in Freetown.
- Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Sierra Leone: \$83,000
- Chinese Ambassador to Sierra Leone, WU Peng handed over \$100,000 from the Red Cross Society of China to Sierra Leone Red Cross Society (SLRCS) as a disaster relief fund.
- Israel has announced it will send medicine, clean water, and blankets via the embassy in Senegal.
- Spain: EUR 60,000, and deployment of a technical team to help with body identification;
- UK: GBP 5 million
- EU: EUR 300,000 for vulnerable families affected by disaster (through local and international partners)

- Ireland: Direct funding of €360,000 to the emergency response through NGO partners. In addition, under Irish Aid’s Rapid Response Initiative, an airlift of stocks with an approximate value of €65,000 has been approved for distribution by our NGO partner, Concern. The stocks comprise more than eight tonnes of essential supplies including mosquito nets, jerry cans, tents and family, hygiene and dignity kits to be distributed to affected households. The Start Fund has allocated more than €390,000 to six organisations implementing a broad response. Ireland is a key supporter of the Fund, having provided €1.3 million to date in 2017. Ireland also provides core funding to the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) and supports its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund. The IFRC provides direct support to the Sierra Leonean Red Cross.
- Mercury International: \$55,000
- United Bank of Africa CEO: \$500,000 USD to Sierra Leone
- Africell: \$67,000
- Red Cross: Appeal for \$4.8 million
- Switzerland: Pledge of CHF 400 000 to IFCR Appeal (WASH, primary health)
- Qatar: Cargo with medical and surgical supplies
- Germany: EUR 90,000 through Deutsche Welthungerhilfe Freetown (for purchase and distribution of mattresses and blankets and food packages); EUR 135.000 pledge to Caritas International (for purchase and distribution of food, clothes and psycho-social support)
- Netherlands: EUR 580,000 to the International Red Cross Society
- Turkish Red Crescent: Deployment of delegates to Freetown, via an air freighter containing 2.5MT wheat flour; 2.5MT pasta; 2.5MT rice; 100 tents; 100 kitchen kits; 12,300 razor blades and 1MT liquid soap. The relief materials were received by the Sierra Leone Red Cross with \$15,000.00 for additional support.
- UK: Team from the British Geological Survey (BGS) and ARUP to assess the risk of further landslides in the already-affected zone.
- Canadian Humanitarian Assistance Fund: \$275,000 to Care Canada
- South Africa: \$615,000 to WFP Sierra Leone
- IOM: Team of emergency managers to provide technical support to the GoSL
- Norway: The Norwegian Government has provided five million Norwegian Kroner (672,000 USD) towards the appeal for support by the International Red Cross.
- OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID): Approval of emergency assistance and support to emergency operations. A grant will be channelled through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).
- Botswana: \$100,000 to GoSL.

THE SITUATION UPDATE IS ISSUED BY THE UNDP OFFICE ON A WEEKLY BASIS. DEADLINE FOR INPUTS TO THE NEXT ISSUE IS 9 OCTOBER AT 14:00 HRS.

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