

Sierra Leone: Landslide and Floods

Recovery Bulletin #6 (17 October 2017)



This weekly update is produced by UNDP in collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Sierra Leone, liaising with 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 are being put in place under national leadership to ensure risk mitigation and protect the people of Sierra Leone from future tragedy.

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

Recovery efforts



HEALTH

WHO

- WHO supported the Ministry of Health and Sanitation in planning health workers' sensitization on surveillance of and response to cases of cholera, diarrhea with severe dehydration in children under 5, measles, dysentery, typhoid and malaria in eight selected hospitals in Western Area Urban and Western Area Rural districts. Planning included the identification of the eight hospitals, identification of the health workers, and scheduling of sensitization visits. This sensitization aims to increase the index of suspicion of the selected priority diseases or conditions, and the capacity to respond to cases among health workers.

ChildFund

- Provided a truck full of assorted medical items to the Office of National Security and Ministry of Health on 12 October, to support response efforts in the country and promote health and wellbeing of IDPs.
- Distributed 505 blankets and 205 bed nets to IDPs at Old Skool, Juba, Kaningo camps and St Georges Foundation, respectively, to ensure they are safe from Malaria.



WASH

CONCERN

- A door-to-door campaign is being carried out by 30 Disaster Management Volunteers in Kamayama and Kaningo. 2,487 households (12,810 people) have been reached so far. Aquatabs were distributed to 1,234HHs. The activity will continue until the 19 October.

ChildFund

- ChildFund through Hope International (WHI) and Living Water Sierra Leone (LWSL) has distributed P&G Water Purifiers to Juba old Skool, Kaningo and surrounding communities.
- Provided WASH materials to provide adequate water and sanitation in the two Camps: four Large Trash cans, two five thousand litters Milla Tanks and 19 Veronica Buckets to ensure adequate water supply and for the promotion of hygiene and Sanitation in Old Skool and Juba emergency Response centres.
- Supporting 12 Hygienists at Old Skool for 45 days to ensure the Camp continue to be clean and tidy at all times.

CARE International

- Distributed a total of 1,530 Aquatabs (tablets) to 132 households in the affected communities of Kaningo (54 households) and Pentagon (78 households). The household beneficiaries received between 10-40 Aquatabs, or an average of 12 Aquatabs per household (6 – 12 October).
- Distributed a total of 230,000 liters of clean water to twelve 10,000-litre capacity water tanks located in Kamayama (3 tanks), Kaningo (6 tanks), Pentagon (2 tanks) and Juba Barracks (1 tank). CARE also monitored the water's Free Chlorine Residual (6 – 12 October).



FOOD & NUTRITION

FAO

- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has donated 1000 cooking stoves, commonly known as “Wonder Stove” to the Office of National Security (ONS). This donation was to reduce the burden of cooking utensils on affected households that are being repatriated to their communities as most of their property were washed away by the floods. The use of the stoves, as they are smaller in sizes, is expected to reduce the amount of charcoal used for cooking and, thereby, help decrease deforestation.
- Also, as a show of solidarity, the FAO Staff Association donated food items and used clothes to the affected families.



SHELTER

WFP

- To date, 1,822 affected households have been registered and verified, while approximately 300 households claimed to have been left out of the initial registration and biometric verification. There are currently 132 households residing in camps, including 500 individuals in Old Skool and

486 in Juba. (The ministry of social welfare, as lead of the registration pillar, was supported by WFP and other UN agencies and NGOs to verify beneficiaries, and also NEC conducted a biometric verification following the first verification exercise).

CARE International

- Continued providing support to Juba IDP Camp through solid and liquid waste management and monitoring of water usage in one 10,000-litre water tank that CARE installed in the camp premises. CARE deployed eight volunteers for purposes of ensuring efficient, timely and regular collection of solid wastes in eight small bins and two gravel bins that are strategically located in the camp and the prompt waste disposal by MASADA to the final disposal site. CARE ensured that waste from five mobile latrines that CARE rented to serve the camp residents were collected and disposed of properly and regularly. Also, latrine users were taught about proper use of latrines and proper handwashing techniques. The support for Juba IDP Camp was to serve the 132 households (268 women, 217 men and 268 children) living in the Camp (9 – 13 October).
- Part of the FIs and NFIs donated by CARE to ONS (18 September) to support a centralized distribution system was being distributed on site in Juba IDP Camp from 12 – 13 October. Beneficiaries from the affected communities of Juba, Kamayama, Kaningo and Pentagon received items at the distribution site. CARE was an observer in the distribution process (12 – 13 October).

ChildFund

- Distributed 64 flasks to Juba and Old Skool Camps for lactating mothers to support them with hot water and end the undying need to provide baby food at night for their children.
- In collaboration with FTR pillar, ChildFund has verified and registered eight survivors (children) based at the St. George's Foundation and Grafton Scout Camp, and are working on reunifications.

IOM

- Daily care and maintenance of 50 tents by IOM technical staff and volunteers at Juba campsite.
- Provision of awareness campaign to tent dwellers by IOM technical staff and volunteers, enabling them to use the tents in a self-sufficient manner.
- Repair and maintenance of the site's drainage system in order to prevent flooding of the campsite after torrential downpours.
- Provision of technical support on camp coordination and camp management to Camp Managers from the ONS as well as other Pillar focal points overseeing affairs at the Juba camp site.
- Completion of washing space, soak away and an equipped kitchen for serving hot meals for IDPs.



EDUCATION

UNICEF

- In order to support rehabilitation of affected schools, UNICEF in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) assessed three schools so as to be able to determine the extent of the landslide and flood damage to the schools and also determine the bills of quantities (BoQs). The schools will be rehabilitated with UNICEF support.
- UNICEF also supported MEST and the Psychosocial Support Pillar to conduct the training of teachers on basic psychosocial support. The training targeted two teachers from 1,923 schools in both Western Urban and Western Rural districts. In total 3,846 teachers, 1,908 of whom are female were trained. The trained teachers are supporting affected students with psychosocial counselling and related services.

- MEST with the support of UNICEF and other NGO partners distributed school materials including exercise books, pencils and pens, bags and bursaries to the affected children in the seven sites (Culvert, Kaningo, Dwarzark, Kamayana, Regent, Kroobay and Mountain Court). The distribution is still on-going.
- UNICEF through Action Aid supported 30 mobilisers, who were provided with education specific awareness cards on going back to school. These community cards are being used to create awareness and mobilize populations and communities to send their children back to school. 125 community conversations have been held focusing on education related messages around affected schools, teaching learning materials, psychological and emotional support to children and teachers. Ten Community Development Committees have met to discuss key issues focusing on back to school. 132 community leaders have been actively engaged on the education key messages, widely disseminating the messages through community meetings and megaphones.

ChildFund

- Provided 1000 children with Educational Materials through the Ministry of Education Science and Technology to support their smooth return to schools.
- To ensure the Learning package is complete, ChildFund also provided financial support for the provision of Le 200,000 per child for a pair of shoes and two sets of Uniforms for 1,000 children.
- Provided the St. George Foundation, who is also hosting survivors (children) with a range of learning materials (1 carton of chalk, 6 dozen slates, 2 dozen blackboard dusters, 1 carton of pens) including 10 body wash and 100 toothbrushes.



ENVIRONMENT

UNDP

- Through its Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems (CIEWS) Project, funded by the Global Environment Facility, UNDP continues to support the review of a hazard profile of Sierra Leone, identifying capacity gaps for improved disaster risk management.
- Through the same project, UNDP supports 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.

IOM

- Collaborated with the Mobile telephony operator, Airtel, to diffuse “Select a safe site for your building” message in commemoration of International Day for Disaster Reduction 2017 through SMS to over 70 percent of Airtel customers.
- Teamed up with Radio Democracy on the occasion of International Day for Disaster Reduction to broadcast a programme, entitled “Good Morning Salone” on 13 October. The programme featured Mr. John V. Rogers, Disaster Management Directorate, ONS, Mr. Samuel Mohamed Kamara, Assistant Director, Geographic Information System Department, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Mr. Daniel Bob Jones, Chairman, Disaster Management Committee from Kolleh Town.
- Mobilized 60 volunteers for four days to remove a large boulder rock inhibiting the smooth flow of water from a stream at the Mountain Cut area of Freetown as well as the cleaning of garbage blocking the main water channel at Kolleh Town, Freetown. On that occasion, and towards the promotion of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) message of “Together we can prevent disasters”,

materials were donated to the community. These included: shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows, heavy duty gloves, face masks, eye goggles, waste bags, pick axes, rain boots, sledgehammers, iron bars and head pans.



PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT / PROTECTION

WHO

- Other activities are on-going and include mental health sector support, with further rollout of training and workshops for additional frontline responders and health workers, and disease surveillance.

UN Women

- UN Women continues to work with the government of Sierra Leone and partners in co-facilitating a Gender analysis of Primary and Secondary data provided on Survivors and the Response Agencies, developing systems with the Family Support Unit of the Sierra Leone Police in ensuring protection of women and girls from SGBV in the affected communities.
- UN Women is also facilitating and contributing to Coordination of the Social Protection Pillar and ensuring that Gender, Responsiveness is adhered to in all Pillars of the Inter-Agency Response. Alongside its implementing partners through the Gender Technical Team, UN Women is generating Gender Alerts and supporting the generation and use of sex-disaggregation at all stages and among Pillars of the Response.
- UN Women has conducted up to fifty interviews with women survivors telling their stories and expressing themselves, sharing their encounters and experiences during the flood and mudslide.
- It has also:
 - Supplied 1500 Dignity kits, consisting of medicated soap, sanitary pads, toothpaste/toothbrush, cotton cloth, towel, underwear and other items, to women survivors at Regent, Kamayam, Culvert, Gbangbayila, Juba, Wellington, Kaningo, Old School Camp
 - Trained MSWGCA staff and partners on Gender-in-Emergency
 - Given technical Assistance to the Registration and Data Collection Pillar
 - Contributed to Gender impact survey assessment

UNICEF

- From 9 – 17 October, 1,540 children attended the child friendly spaces in the four locations (Regent, Kamayama, Old Skool, and Juba Camp), and 219 children received psychological first aid in Juba Camp.
- UNICEF, through the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) sub-committee, supported the coordination of a training workshop on stress management and positive coping mechanisms, conducted on 12 October for caregivers at Don Bosco.
- 15 protection-related cases have been reported to the eight protection desks, established with the Police's Family Support Unit and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) for field-level presence in Regent, Kaningo, Kamayama, Pentagon, Dwarzark, Culvert, Old Skool, and Juba Camp.

UNFPA

- On 17 October, UNFPA launched the State of World Population report entitled, "World Apart: Reproductive health and rights in an age of inequality" at Juba Barracks, IDP camp. The launch,

which was supported by the Office of National Security and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development was attended by over 400 people. Three hundred dignity kits were distributed to women and girls of reproductive age. A community dialogue was held and family planning factsheets were also distributed.

- On 18 October, UNFPA delivered training on gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response in the camp settings, as part of Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) training conducted by International Organization for Migration (IOM) at the Bintumani Hotel. The training was attended by 24 participants from organizations such as the Office of National Security (ONS), Red Cross, Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA), National Commission for Social Action (NACSA), Trocaire, Child Fund, IOM and United for the Protection of Human Right (UPHR). The training session covered the basic concept of gender and GBV, GBV consequences, prevention activities, multi-sectoral approach in responding to GBV, guiding principles and referral pathway.

ChildFund

- Conducted Training on Psychosocial Support Services (PSS), child friendly space and codes of conduct for humanitarian workers. The training supported humanitarian workers and camp management team on dos and don'ts to professionally manage issues. Knowledge acquired by trainees helps them to address perpetration of GBV against women (pregnant and lactating mothers) and promotes respect for child rights in emergencies.
- Provided furniture to ensure PSS and Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) are rendered appropriately in the protection pillar.
- Mobile phones were provided with sim and credit to ensure support reporting and referrals of GBV issues
- ChildFund together with partners operates the PSS in collaboration with Family Homes Movements (FHM) established child centre spaces
- ChildFund takes part in daily recreational sessions with the child centre spaces at Juba and Old Skool.

Issues raised in the weekly meeting, hosted by the Office of National Security

- In anticipation of camp closures on 15 November, ONS is preparing an "exit strategy," to be presented on 18 October.
- According to the ONS, 1,359 household heads have received early-recovery cash transfers (Le 870,000) while 362 are yet to receive it.
- Some IDPs have expressed concern over delayed early recovery packages - and that this affects the amount of time available to them to organise alternative accommodation before 15 November.

Bilateral and private sector support

- USAID: \$100,000 to IFRC for Shelter and WASH
- Japan: Relief items such as 100 tents, 6,395 of blankets, 1,320 osleeping 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: \$500,00 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 (672000 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

BASED ON A DECISION OF THE UN COUNTRY TEAM, SUBSEQUENT BULLETINS WILL BE ISSUED EVERY SECOND WEEK.

TO ENSURE REPRESENTATION OF CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES, REMINDERS WILL BE ISSUED.