UNICEF-Liberia
Ebola Virus Disease: SitRep #32
4 July 2014

Key Points

- As of 11 pm on 03 July, one (1) new suspected; two new (2) probable; and (1) new confirmed EVD cases have been reported. Reported new cases reflect Montserrado County data only. With these changes, the total number of suspected, probable and confirmed cases reported for Outbreak #2 now stands at one hundred-eight (108). A total of ten (10) cases have been reported among health workers, including nine (9) deaths.
- A total of forty-nine (49) confirmed cases, including twenty-seven (27) from Lofa County, one (1) from Margibi County, and twenty-one (21) from Montserrado County are reported.
- The total number of Ebola-related deaths for Outbreak #2 in confirmed, probable, and suspected cases now stands at seventy (70). Thirty-three (33) deaths have been confirmed as EVD positive cases.
- Foya, Lofa County, and New Kru Town, Montserrado County, remain the epicentres of this Ebola outbreak. Priority areas for immediate action are burial procedure and response; comprehensive contact tracing; training of all health workers; and community cooperation and awareness.
- The MOH present a US$5.5 Million draft budget for response efforts through December 2014.
- UNICEF continues to provide active and critical C4D, health and WASH sector support to the national Ebola response in coordination with National Task Force sub-committees. UNICEF also supported the production of the Crusaders for Peace prevention song and is currently supplying CDs to all radio stations.
- UNICEF’s estimated funding requirement for Ebola-related Communications for Development (C4D), Health and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions stands at approximately US$1.59 million. The current funding gap has increased to US$1.27 million.

Situation Overview

- As of 11 pm on 03 July, one (1) new suspected; two new (2) probable; and (1) new confirmed EVD cases have been reported. Reported new cases reflect Montserrado County data only. The Lofa County Response Team attended a cross border meeting with Sierra Leone yesterday preventing submission of the daily report on time.
- With these changes, the total number of suspected, probable and confirmed cases reported for Outbreak #2 now stands at one hundred-eight (108). A total of ten (10) cases have been reported among health workers, including nine (9) deaths.
- A total of forty-nine (49) confirmed cases, including twenty-seven (27) from Lofa County, one (1) from Margibi County, and twenty-one (21) from Montserrado County are reported.
- The total number of Ebola-related deaths for Outbreak #2 in confirmed, probable, and suspected cases now stands at seventy (70). Thirty-three (33) deaths have been confirmed as EVD positive cases. The reported national case fatality rate (CFR) has risen to 75.3%.
- The total number of patients currently in isolation is eighteen (18) including thirteen (13) in Lofa County and five (5) in Montserrado County. Ten (10) specimens await lab testing. No new contacts were reported yesterday. Four hundred twenty-three (423) out of four hundred sixty-three (463) contacts were seen yesterday.
- Foya, Lofa County, and New Kru Town, Montserrat County, remain the epicentres of this Ebola outbreak.
- Reports of hospitals turning away patients persist in Montserrat County creating overload of emergencies at ELWA. Resistance to EVD burials also remains an issue in Montserrat County.

National Task Force Updates

Updates from the sub-committees emphasized the need to improve burial procedure and response; improve standards of care and response at facilities; increase technical support for sub-committees and counties; and increase awareness.
- A TOT for 50 trainers to train health workers was held yesterday. 16 training teams are deploying today to provide orientation and necessary supplies including gloves, chlorine, and masks to health workers at all Montserrat County health facilities.
- Resistance to EVD burials remains high. NFT analysis indicates the highest number of cases are from Lofa County due to resistance to investigation and testing of cases. It further demonstrates that an increasing number of deaths are among probable cases, indicating that people are dying in the community without collection of a specimen for lab confirmation. The social mobilization team is conducting sensitization in Caldwell Community in Montserrat County at the request of a legislator due to community resistance to an EVD burial yesterday.
There is also resistance from some in the Muslim community regarding the burial of Muslims by non-Muslims. The formation of a Muslim burial team is proposed.

- The two probable cases from Lofa County were traced to Catholic and Phoebe Hospitals. Both died. Contacts from the positive case that was stopped in route to Grand Cape Mount Country have also been identified and contacted.
- 38 social workers were trained by the psycho-social committee. Partner support is requested to provide survivor kits for contacts. Each kit includes rice, oils, and a mattress, and is an estimated $200.
- The MOHSW presented a draft budget of $5.5 million for a 6 month EVD outbreak response (through Dec 2014). The largest costs are for supplies ($1.7 million) and case management ($1.2 million). It was proposed that due to the importance of social mobilization, it should be funded in all alert counties at the same level it is in affected counties.
- The report from the SKY News team that visited Lofa County, is available at the following link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FYMOGDl9XkI

**UNICEF Response**

Through its Communications and Child Survival Sections, UNICEF continues to provide active and critical C4D, health and WASH sector support to the national Ebola response in coordination with National Task Force sub-committees. The communications section, supported the production of the *Crusaders for Peace* prevention song and is supplying CDs to all radio stations.

**UNICEF Funding Needs:**

UNICEF’s current estimated funding requirement for Ebola-related C4D, Health and WASH interventions remains approximately US$1.59 million. The office has received the following support to date: US$100,000 from the Japan National Committee for UNICEF; US$100,000 from the US Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance/OFDA (provided through UNICEF Regional Office for West and Central Africa); US$30,000 from the UK Department for International Development/DFID (re-programmed funding); and US$93,000 from the UK Committee for UNICEF. The current funding gap has increased to US$1.27 million.

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