The total number of confirmed cases of Ebola rose to 3,011 this week, according to WHO’s Epidemiological Situation Report. The total number of confirmed, suspected and probable cases climbed to 3,429. The number of confirmed deaths from Ebola rose to 1,865, with a total of 2,263 confirmed, suspected and probable deaths.

As previously reported, the National Coordination for the Ebola Response, together with UNICEF and other partners, have put in place a one-month Interim Plan running until 15 April 2015 during which it is intensifying its activities in six prefectures with the highest number of new cases. UNICEF is supporting the Plan and its main activities that cover social mobilization, community engagement and hygiene promotion.

UNICEF this week increased its presence in Conakry by establishing social mobilization hubs – or “partner platforms” – at the heart of each commune. They are intended to encourage on-the-ground cooperation and partnerships for better implementation of this Interim Plan.

The Guinean Scouts are key rapid response partners and are also involved in the Interim Plan. This week, they conducted sensitization campaigns in Coyah, Forécariah, Dubréka and Boffa. Since 2 March 2015, UNICEF, in partnership with the Scouts, have distributed 11,476 household WASH kits.

Social mobilization teams continued their efforts to sensitize the population about Ebola countrywide, reaching 29,847 people this week.

As results of UNICEF and partners’ social mobilization efforts in Forécariah, two schools which had remained closed due to community resistance to adopting safe back-to-school protocols are now open in Fendéfodéya and Beta. Primary school attendance also increased this week.

**As of 23 MARCH 2015**

3,429 Cases of Ebola (3,011 confirmed)

2,263 Deaths (1,865 confirmed)

580 Cases among children 0-17 (confirmed)

339 Deaths of children and youth aged 0-17 (confirmed)

4,105,926 Children in affected areas

179 Cases among health workers with 93 deaths (confirmed)

USD 93,514,000 UNICEF funding needs until June 2015

USD 13,176,398 UNICEF funding gap (14%)
Leadership and Coordination

- The National Coordination for the Ebola Response has put in place one-month Interim Plan until 15 April 2015 with the aim of ending the disease. During this time, response activities will increase in the six prefectures with the highest number of new cases of Ebola: Forécariah, Coyah, Dubréka, Kindia, Boffa and Conakry. The Interim Plan aims to strengthen a variety of mechanisms that are central to the Ebola response including case management, surveillance and logistics.

- UNICEF is supporting the Interim Plan and its main activities that cover social mobilization, community engagement and getting people to adopt good hygiene habits.

- In the first week since the announcement of the Interim Plan, UNICEF has set about reinforcing its prefectural coordination teams by establishing “partner platforms” in the six prefectures of concern. These platforms are essentially Ebola response hubs situated at the heart of Conakry’s five communes and are intended to encourage on-the-ground cooperation and partnerships for better implementation of this Interim Plan.

- On 17 March 2015, the Government of Guinea issued a seven-point memo concerning the additional or strengthened measures it would take during the course of the Interim Plan, including: closing unofficial medical centres that are not practicing proper safety measures; bringing to justice those who hide sick people; and making sure burials are carried out by response workers such as the Red Cross. It issued a separate memo on community burials on 20 March 2015.

- UNICEF’s social mobilization efforts are bearing fruit: there were no reports of resistance to Ebola messaging in Forécariah this week. Previously, resistance there was highest nationwide.

WASH

- UNICEF constructed one additional water point this week in the N’Zérékoré region. This brings the total number of new water points built since the start of the outbreak to 127 (80 in Faranah, 47 in N’Zérékoré) and the total number of people with improved access to water to more than 38,100.

- UNICEF and partners distributed 37,685 household WASH kits (bucket with tap and soaps) benefitting 263,795 people in affected areas, bringing the total number of household WASH kits distributed to 205,048 and the total number of UNICEF beneficiaries to 1,435,336 people.

- UNICEF, in partnership with the Centre d’Ecoute, Conseil et Orientation des Jeunes (CECOJE), conducted sensitization activities in Kindia as well as distributing 623 household WASH kits, bringing the total number of household WASH kits distributed in the prefecture to 987.

- UNICEF, in partnership with Action Contre la Faim (ACF) and AGIL, carried out hygiene promotion activities in the prefecture of Forécariah, which remains an Ebola hotspot, and distributed 1,814 household WASH kits. This brings the total number of household WASH kits distributed by UNICEF and ACF in the prefecture to 5,927. UNICEF and AGIL distributed an additional 119 household WASH kits. UNICEF has prepositioned 30,000 household WASH kits in the N’Zérékoré region. PRIDE distributed 3,698 of those kits this week in Lola bringing the total number of kits distributed in the prefecture to 13,404. In addition, 18,439 people were sensitized about good hygiene practices.

- UNICEF, in partnership with Plan Guinea, drilled a borehole for a health facility in Macenta. UNICEF and Plan also built twenty latrine blocks at health facilities in Guéckédou.

- UNICEF, in partnership with GOHA, Guinea’s largest association of private businessmen, distributed 3,600 household WASH kits in the border areas in N’Zérékoré region.

- UNICEF, in partnership with the Guinean Scouts, distributed 5,040 household WASH kits in Coyah. This brings the total number of household WASH kits distributed in Ebola hotspots by UNICEF and the Scouts to 11,476 kits since 2 March 2015. The Scouts are also helping to assess areas of resistance to Ebola messaging and to promote good hygiene practices in various communities.

- UNICEF, in partnership with RTI StopPalu, distributed 22,910 household WASH kits in the urban commune of Coyah.
The WASH Cluster made a field trip to Forécariah and Boffa to come up with new ways of distributing household WASH kits, to develop more key hygiene messages, and to look at ways of evaluating the impact of such activities.

Health

Early Recovery Plan

UNICEF is supporting the work to design an Early Recovery Plan for the health sector. Four UNICEF staff members and a consultant are working with the national team which consists of health ministry officials and partners. This is a three-year plan combining response activities to reach zero cases of Ebola and activities to rebuild the health system. The focus is on strengthening the health system at district level and improving community-based care, improving supply chain management, rehabilitating health infrastructure and the WASH facilities, in addition to improving leadership and governance.

Measles

UNICEF continued to be involved in the measles outbreak response. During the week 9 to 15 March 2015, 100 new suspected cases were reported, bringing the total number of suspected cases since 1 January 2015 to 491, with 39 confirmed cases.

The vaccination campaign conducted by UNICEF and the Ministry of Health in the Gaoual and Koundara districts of Boké region has now reached 100,000 children aged between six months and 10 years. This is a coverage rate of more than 95 per cent.

UNICEF and the Ministry of Health completed two measles vaccination campaigns in Gaoual and in Koundara in February 2015. They are planning to extend the measles campaign to 13 other health districts: Dinguiraye, Kankan, Kouroussa, Siguiri, Mandiana, Mali, Lola, Yomou, Télémélé, Guéckédou, Beyla, Nzérékoré and Macenta. The campaign aims to immunize at least 1.7 million children (95 percent of the target) between the ages of six months and 10 years against measles.

Nutrition

UNICEF and partners provided therapeutic food and counselling to 1,794 Ebola patients in treatment centres (out of 2,600 targeted).

UNICEF and partners provided specific nutrition support to 1,019 infants and young children who have lost one or both parents due to Ebola, children in foster care and children in care centres. Of these, 154 children under 6 months old received special therapeutic feeding with ready-to-use infant formula.

UNICEF with the Nutrition and Food Security division of the Ministry of Health, is preparing a costing exercise for the definition of the National Nutrition Plan, and the costing exercise of the nutrition activities in the National Health Plan, including activities for the post-Ebola recovery phase.

Communication for Development (C4D)

Religious leaders

Religious leaders have played an important role in sensitizing the population about Ebola. There were three major activities involving religious leaders this week. Social mobilizers met with religious leaders in Termesse and involved them in the community sensitization about Ebola surveillance. In Kouroussa, 72 religious leaders were disseminating sensitization messages. In Coyah, social mobilizers met with imams to secure their participation in a large sensitization campfire the Scouts will organize on 28 March 2015.

Social mobilization

C4D coordinators, social mobilizers and Community Watch Committees carried out their work sensitizing the population across the country about Ebola. They did this via house-to-house visits, educational talks, mass sensitization sessions, community discussions and counselling sessions. Social mobilizers reached a total of 29,847 people this week including 14,248 women, 11,649 men and 3,950 children.
Radio broadcasts

- Across Guinea, since the start of the Ebola outbreak, UNICEF supported 24 rural radio stations by buying equipment and covering the production costs of creating content. This week, all 24 radio stations continued to broadcast radio spots about Ebola.

Community Forums

- UNICEF is conducting community forums in the most affected districts. This week, eight community forums were held in the prefecture of Boffa reaching a total of 2,000 people.

Child Protection

- UNICEF Child Protection and its partners have put in place an accelerated response plan and this week registered 715 new cases of children who have lost one or both parents due to Ebola. This brings the total number of registered children to 5,457 or 91 per cent of the target of 6,000.
- UNICEF trained 34 new community volunteers in Dubréka bringing the total number to 1,866. This week, the volunteers organized 172 community dialogue sessions nationwide and conducted 814 follow-up home visits to families caring for orphans.
- Community volunteers and social workers also conducted 401 psychosocial support sessions reaching 5,134 children who has not previously been reached, bringing the total number of children who have benefited so far to 60,400 (or 50 per cent of the 120,000 children targeted).
- UNICEF set up five more community counsels for the protection of children (CVPE) and trained their members, bringing the total number of active CVPEs to 454 out of the 500 planned.
- One temporary foster family in Conakry took in one child this week bringing the total number of children in temporary care to three. The increase in the number of children in temporary care signifies an increase in the number of unaccompanied children despite all the prevention mechanisms put in place by the numerous response agencies. As a result, UNICEF partners are increasing the number of temporary foster families available. One additional foster family was put in place in Conakry by Aide à la Famille Africaine (AFA), bringing the total number of temporary foster families to seven out of an anticipated 15.
- UNICEF partners continued distributing the 10,000 family kits (containing hygiene materials, recreation materials and clothes) they received previously. This week, 529 family kits were distributed to caregivers looking after children who have lost one of both parents due to Ebola. Partners also distributed 517 school kits (containing school stationery and a schoolbag) to school-aged children. School kits help school-aged children return to school and are given to all children who have lost one of both parents due to Ebola and are willing to go to school.

Education

- As a result of social mobilization efforts conducted by UNICEF, the Government of Guinea and partner NGOs in Forécariah, two schools which had remained closed due to resistance to adopting safe back-to-school protocols, are open in Fendefodia and Beta. Now that these schools have reopened, there are no longer any schools that remain closed in Forécariah due to Ebola. Some schools, however, have remained closed due to a lack of teachers. The school enrollment monitoring team is now collecting further information.
- Social mobilizers, including UNICEF teams, have recently put an increased focus on quashing Ebola-related rumors across the country, resulting in a significant increase in primary school attendance. The rate of attendance reached of 88 per cent this week (compared with a year ago) up from a rate of 81 per cent in the two previous weeks.
- There are currently 1,749 pre-primary schools open compared to 1,787 in the 2013/2014 academic year. All have hygiene equipment (bucket, soap and thermos-flash thermometers).
Supply and Logistics

- The supply and logistics team supported the WASH unit in distributing 36,500 household WASH kits in Guinea Maritime (Conakry, Forécariah and Boffa) with support of Boffa’s prefectural health department, RTI StopPalu and AGIL. A total of 60,000 bottles of chlorine are being prepositioned in 15 locations of Guinea Costal Region, as part of contingency planning for Ebola and cholera, in support of the Government’s Disease Prevention Division.
- Technical assistance: UNICEF participated in a Ministry of Health workshop in Kindia looking at the development of the national health sector over the next 10 years. UNICEF will be involved in looking at how to strengthen supply chains.
- WFP dispatched two tents (which are on loan to UNICEF) to Kankan. These will increase the storage capacity of UNICEF’s logistics team to 500 m² as part of the Ebola response in Upper Guinea.

Media and External Communications

UNICEF is informing its audiences through regular press releases and social media posts, in English and French. UNICEF Guinea frequently posts updates about the emergency and its response on Twitter, Facebook, Flickr and Tumblr pages.

International media coverage

- UNICEF’s Ebola: Getting to Zero report detailing the impact the disease has had on children’s lives was widely reported in the regional press.
  
  New UN report highlights ‘terrifying’ impact of Ebola on nine million children (Star Africa; Barbara Bentein, UNICEF’s Global Emergency Coordinator for Ebola, quoted)
- Reliefweb published a UNICEF map showing the number of children orphaned due to Ebola

Local media coverage

- The measles outbreak garnered significant coverage in the local press. UNICEF Guinea’s child survival and development chief Tharcienne Ndihokubwayo was featured in an article by Guinea Santé about UNICEF’s vaccination campaign. The story was also carried by AfrikiPress.
  
  Guinée, plus d’un million et demi d'enfants menacés par la rougeole
  Guinée: plus d’1,5 million d'enfants menacés par la rougeole
- Local media also covered the “Ebola: Getting to Zero” report
  
  Une infection par le virus Ebola sur cinq touche un enfant (GuinéeNews)
- GuinéeNews also covered the Scouts campaign, supported by UNICEF.
  
  L’UNICEF a appuyé les scouts dans la riposte contre Ebola
- Former Guinea football stars and the winners of the Miss Guinea competition 2014 and 2015 visited numerous prefectures between 24 and 8 March 2015 to sensitize young people about Ebola. This was a Ministry for Youth initiative and was funded by UNICEF.
  
  Les légendes du Hafia 77 et Miss Guinée en tournée (Aminata)
- UNICEF Guinea also posted a social media report about the event as well as a video. All videos published by UNICEF Guinea are here.
**Funding**

**Funding Requirements until June 2015, as defined in Humanitarian Appeal revised in Dec 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Original Ebola Requirements (USD)</th>
<th>Revised Ebola Requirements (USD)</th>
<th>Funds received (USD)</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C4D/Social Mobilization</td>
<td>12,533,400</td>
<td>15,307,000</td>
<td>16,036,056</td>
<td>-729,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>3,121,200</td>
<td>5,100,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>3,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health + HIV/AIDS + ECCCs</td>
<td>16,699,500</td>
<td>35,233,000</td>
<td>32,876,537</td>
<td>2,356,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>18,343,800</td>
<td>15,639,000</td>
<td>12,434,114</td>
<td>3,204,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>1,345,000</td>
<td>6,620,000</td>
<td>3,381,862</td>
<td>3,238,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>489,013</td>
<td>8,869,000</td>
<td>7,338,062</td>
<td>1,530,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Sectorial</td>
<td>2,599,353</td>
<td>6,746,000</td>
<td>6,270,971</td>
<td>475,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>55,130,866</strong></td>
<td><strong>93,514,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>80,337,602</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,176,398</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>14%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Programme Results**

**UNICEF and Pillar/Sector Results for EVD response (25/03/2015)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Pillar / Sector</th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of EVD cases with onset in the past week</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of county Social Mobilization taskforces (SMT) reporting on the dashboard each week</td>
<td>100% (38/38)</td>
<td>100% (38/38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of counties with list of identified key religious leaders (including priests, imams, pastors, tribal leaders) or community groups who promote safe funeral and burial practices according to standard guidelines</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100% (38/38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of CWCs established and functional</td>
<td>2,935</td>
<td>1,869 (64%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of counties with at least one security incident or other form of refusal to cooperate in past week</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1% (2/342)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Community Care Centres (CCC) established after a community dialogue process aligned with Global SOPs or according to norms established in country</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100% (7/7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of patients who present at a CCC within 48 hours of becoming ill with any symptoms that could be EVD</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>1/1 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Community Care Centres functional against target set for the current reporting period</td>
<td>100% (10/10)</td>
<td>30% (3/10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of patients admitted to CCCs with a provisional diagnosis of possible EVD who receive a confirmatory positive or negative test (rapid or laboratory test) within 36 hours of admission to treatment facility</td>
<td>100% (1/1) (100%)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NUTRITION**

<p>| Provision of nutrition support to Ebola patients (Ebola CTE) | 5,000 | 5,054 | 2,600 | 1,794 |
| Children 6-59 months screened for SAM and referred for treatment | 7,250 | 539 | 7,250 | 539 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WASH</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of all Ebola community treatment and holding centres with essential WASH services</td>
<td>27/27 (100%)</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>20/20 (100%)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of people in EVD-affected areas receiving essential WASH services</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People benefiting from hygiene kits in Ebola affected areas</td>
<td>4,666,667</td>
<td>2,467,184</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
<td>1,435,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children benefiting from hand washing facilities at schools in Ebola affected areas</td>
<td>1,044,000</td>
<td>2,530,000</td>
<td>783,000</td>
<td>1,467,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Ebola Health centres in Ebola affected areas provided with Hand washing station</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROTECTION</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of EVD-affected children provided with care and support, including psychosocial support</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of children who have lost one or both parents/caregivers or who are separated from their parents/caregivers reintegrated with their families or provided with appropriate alternative care.</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EDUCATION</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reopened schools in Ebola-affected district equipped with a minimum package for Ebola prevention</td>
<td>8,929</td>
<td>12,455</td>
<td>3,843</td>
<td>7,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers trained on psycho social support, Ebola prevention, and safe and protective learning environments</td>
<td>82,168</td>
<td>80,657</td>
<td>15,941</td>
<td>15,941</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* N/A = Not Applicable

**Next SitRep: 1 April 2015**

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**Google+:** unicefguinea