



Children take part in an event to promote handwashing in schools/Jallanzo

Liberia Situation Report on Ebola

14 October 2015



HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 13 October 2015, Liberia has gone 98 days since the last confirmed Ebola case, and officially remains Ebola transmission free. As of 3 September 2015, the country is observing 90 days of active surveillance.
- UNICEF has been supporting the logistics team for the distribution of all supplies for the forthcoming integrated polio campaign (23-26 October 2015). Targets for the campaign are: 955,400 children 0-59 months to be vaccinated against polio, 851,750 children between 6-59 months to receive vitamin A and 738,184 children between 12-59 months will receive mebendazole tablets for deworming. UNICEF is supplying the mebendazole tablets and vitamin A capsules.
- Community engagement activities continue on maintaining vigilance against Ebola, encouraging reporting of all deaths, and promoting routine immunization. An estimated 17,940 houses were reached through door to door visits, and 570 community group discussions reached 33,810 men, 44,670 women, 68,160 children and 1,080 community leaders.
- A two-day UNICEF Lessons Learned workshop on Child Protection Response during the Ebola crisis was held in Monrovia bringing together 35 participants from Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia to share experiences and best practices to inform future Child Protection Ebola response. Standard operating procedures from the three countries will be drafted and critical components of the response included like similarities and differences between the three country responses and issues related to the cultural contexts.
- A validation of the UNICEF supported Ministry of Health's WASH and environmental health package for health facilities in Liberia was held on 8 October 2015 with participation of over 60 participants drawn from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Public Works, WHO, CDC and other partners. The document provides guidance to all partners implementing WASH and environmental health interventions in health facilities. The package will contribute to improve the quality of health service delivery and infection, prevention and control measures.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

As of 13 October 2015

98

Days since last confirmed case

84

days since last case discharged

0

laboratory confirmed cases over past 21 days

0

contacts under follow up

6,594

children registered as directly affected by Ebola¹

2 million+

children living in affected areas

USD 149 million

UNICEF funding needs until December 2015

USD 13 million

UNICEF funding gap (9%)

¹The overnment of Liberia has defined the number of children 'affected' as quarantined, orphaned, unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), in treatment and discharged.

Situation Overview

As of October 13 2015, Liberia has reached day 40 on the countdown towards completing 90 days of active surveillance without any lab confirmed cases.

Health and Nutrition

- UNICEF has been supporting the logistics team for the distribution of all supplies for the forthcoming integrated polio campaign to be held 23–26 October 2015. During this campaign, 955,400 children 0-59 months are expected to be vaccinated against polio, while 851,750 children between 6-59 months will receive vitamin A, and 738,184 children between 12-59 months will receive mebendazole tablets for deworming.
- Refresher training on Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) is ongoing in Grand Kru County for 110 general Community Health Volunteers (gCHVs). Close to 11,400 under-five children will be served by the health workers and volunteers against the three major killer diseases - malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhoea.

Education

- The distribution of teaching and learning materials for children in Montserrado is ongoing. To date, 1,097 schools received learning materials, benefiting 235,828 students (20 per cent of all students in Liberia) and 9,132 teachers.
- Distribution in Margibi County began this week. Modalities for distribution to the hardest to reach schools are being finalised with the Ministry of Education and the District Education Officers.

Child Protection

- Local partners LAPS and RESH, the Ministry of Health (MoH) mental health clinicians and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) social workers continue to provide psychosocial services (PSS) to survivors and children living in heavily Ebola affected communities across Liberia. They offer supportive talks to those in need, conduct community dialogues engaging key members of the community in discussions about the impact of the epidemic and encouraging social connections as part of the way forward, and provide recreational activities for children. These recreational activities are run by trained facilitators to teach children coping skills and encourage healthy interaction with peers following the many months out of school and sometimes isolated at home. To date, 13,822 children (6,107 boys and 7,715 girls) and 1,550 adults (625 men, 925 women) have received PSS services.
- A two-day UNICEF lessons learned workshop on child protection response during the Ebola crisis was held in Monrovia bringing together 35 participants from Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia to share experiences and best practices. Standard operating procedures with comprehensive learning from the three countries will be drafted including critical components of the response like similarities and differences between the three country responses and issues related to cultural contexts.
- During this reporting period, two orphanages were closed and 13 of the children were reunified while 22 are currently at the Hawa Massaquoi transit home undergoing family tracing and reunification services. To date, three of the five orphanages recommended for closure have been closed.
- The International Day of the Girl Child was celebrated in Paynesville City Hall on 12 October 2015 under the national theme “Ensuring Quality Education for Girls”. An estimated 500 girls from Montserrado County participated. Key points were: the need for more concrete actions to empower adolescent girls to reduce their vulnerabilities and promote their aspirations, and systems strengthening to stop sexual and gender-based violence in schools and communities. The issue of ensuring boys too are educated and engaged in order to prevent violence was addressed.

Social Mobilization and Communication for Development (C4D)

- As the transition to the recovery phase continues, UNICEF C4D section organized an orientation workshop in Monrovia on 7-8 October 2015 for the 17 newly recruited County Social Mobilization Coordinators (CSMCs). These have replaced the County Mobilization Coordinators (CMCs) and they have been deployed in all counties. Participants were oriented on the basics of C4D and had practical hands-on peer-review sessions on inter-personal communication skills and writing human interest stories.
- Social mobilization activities have started for the integrated national polio, vitamin A and deworming campaign that will be held from 23-26 October 2015, and leaflets, posters, banners and T-shirts have been dispatched. Support to counties is based on their levels of risk with more intensive social mobilization activities slated for the five high risk counties of Montserrado, Margibi, Bomi, Lofa and Sinoe. An additional five counties fall within important and moderate risk categories. Levels of risk are based on levels of parents’ awareness, non-compliance and coverage during the last campaign.
- On 2 October 2015, UNICEF C4D signed a four-month partnership cooperation agreement with Women Campaign International for the project “Liberia Post-Ebola: Women Leading Communities to Recovery” that will be implemented in Bomi County. The project aims at improving women’s knowledge and attitudes towards preventive health care in target communities and supporting communities’ efforts to recover and rebuild from the Ebola crisis by changing local norms that are harmful to children, families, and communities.

- Across all counties, community engagement activities are being conducted on maintaining vigilance against Ebola, encouraging reporting of all deaths, and promoting routine immunization. To that end, an estimated 17,940 houses were reached through door to door visits, and 570 community group discussions reached 33,810 men, 44,670 women, 68,160 children and 1,080 community leaders.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- UNICEF supported WASH and environmental health package for health facilities was validated 8 October 2015. The document provides guidance to all partners implementing WASH and environmental health interventions in health facilities. The package will contribute to improve the quality of health service delivery, and infection, prevention and control measures.
- Under the UNICEF supported community water supply project, an additional 2 boreholes have been drilled in Maryland, Nimba, River Gee and Grand Gedeh counties. To date, 39 boreholes have been drilled and approximately 8,755 people now have access to an improved drinking water source.
- Through UNICEF NGO partners, hygiene promotion campaigns focusing on ending open defecation and increasing handwashing were delivered to approximately 69,000 people in Maryland and River Gee counties.
- As part of the UNICEF supported WASH in Schools interventions, 4 boreholes and 15 wells were constructed/rehabilitated in Maryland, Nimba, River Gee and Grand Gedeh counties. Through these, 4,750 more students now have access to improved drinking water.

Programme Results

UNICEF and Pillar/Sector Results for EVD Response						
Liberia, 14 October 2015						
Indicators	Pillar / Sector			UNICEF		
	Target	Actual	% Achieved	Target	Actual	% Achieved
EPIDEMIOLOGY						
Registered Ebola children who lost one or both parents/primary caregivers	7,500	5,329	71%	7500	5,329	71%
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT						
Households reached with interpersonal communication on Ebola prevention	1,000,000	737,871	74%	750,000	662,330	88%
Sub-prefectures Chiefdoms and/or counties reporting resistance/reticence to cooperating with front line workers in the past week				0	1/15	
Households reached with Inter-Personal Communication for National health campaigns (Integrated Measles, Polio, and Deworming campaign)				350,000	360,744	103%
Proportion of population surveyed who indicated discriminatory attitude towards Ebola survivors				<3%	37% ¹ (435/1,165)	
Proportion of population surveyed who rejected alternatives to traditional burials/funerals				<3%	17% ² (194/1,155)	
COMMUNITY CARE CENTRES/RITES						
CCCs established		25			12	
CCCs functional		14			8	
CCCs decommissioned		4			4	
CCCs converted/transformed into Alternate Care Centres		4			2	
RITES pre-positioned for Rapid Response					16	
RITES utilized in hot spot communities					3	

¹ KAP Survey, December 2014

² KAP Survey, December 2014

WASH						
Ebola community, treatment and holding centres with essential WASH services	29 ³	24	83%	14 ⁴	14	100%
Non-Ebola health centres in Ebola-affected areas provided with hand washing station and/or WASH support				270	270	100%
People benefiting from household WASH kits in Ebola-affected areas				450,000	450,000	100%
CHILD PROTECTION						
Ebola-affected children provided with minimum package of psychosocial support (PSS) services	189,630	13,822	7%	189,630	13,822	7%
Registered children who lost one or both parents/primary caregivers due to Ebola and child survivors of Ebola who received a minimum package of support/nationally agreed package, including family tracing and reunification or placement in alternative family based care	3,691	4,436	120%	3,691	4,436	120%
HEALTH						
Health structures in Ebola-affected areas provided with Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) supplies				470	270	57%
Community Health Workers trained in Ebola prevention and case management				650	591	91%
NUTRITION						
Ebola patients receiving nutrition support				1,088	988	91%
Children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted for treatment				13,925	7,737 ⁵	56%
Infants 0-6 months who cannot be breast fed, receiving ready to use infant formula				40	38	95%
EDUCATION						
Teachers trained in Ebola prevention	12,114	11,082	91%	6,000	5,995	100%
Schools equipped with minimum hygiene package for Ebola prevention compliant with protocols ⁵	4,400	4,619	105%	4,400	4,619	105%
Children enrolled in schools equipped with minimum hygiene package	1,153,316	1,196,010	104%	1,153,316	1,196,010	104%
Children enrolled in schools benefiting from the distribution of learning kits	1,196,010	235,828	20%	1,196,010	235,828	20%
Teachers trained in providing psycho social support				10,000	6,163	62%

Next SitRep: 28 October 2015

Who to contact for further information:

Sheldon Yett
Representative
UNICEF Liberia
Cell: +231-770-26-7100
Email: syett@unicef.org

Deirdre Kiernan
Sr. Emergency Coordinator
UNICEF Liberia
Cell: +231-770-26-7926
Email: dkiernan@unicef.org

Web: [UNICEF Liberia](#) Twitter: [@UNICEF_Liberia](#) Facebook: [Liberia.Unicef](#) Soundcloud: [Unicef-liberia](#) YouTube: [UNICEFLiberia](#)

³ 25 CCCs, 4 transit centres/holding centres

⁴ 12 CCCs, 2 transit centres /holding centres

⁵ Reports received were from 3 counties (441 new admissions from Bong, Lofa and Nimba counties for the month of September 2015)

⁶ The higher number of accomplishment is due to the inclusion of schools that were not included in the original validated list, and schools that were not officially registered with the MoE but have enrolled students for this school year.