



# Liberia Ebola Situation Report no. 57

22 October 2014



## SITUATION IN NUMBERS

### Highlights

- Since the UNICEF SitRep of 11 October 2014, 416 new suspected, probable and confirmed cases of Ebola and 247 new deaths were added to the official totals for Liberia.
- Montserrado remains the epicenter of the epidemic, with 288 new cases recorded during the reporting period. While still the county of second-highest incidence, Lofa recorded just 8 new cases, indicating the epidemic curve may be steadying in the county. Bong continued to report a rise, adding an additional 37 cases, with 19 new cases recorded in Margibi and 26 in Nimba.
- UNICEF and key partners are supporting the health ministry to adapt innovative technologies to collect data from frontline health workers and use that to provide the general population with access to basic health services across the country in real time using SMS (text messaging).
- Since the beginning of the outbreak, UNICEF has airlifted 660 metric tons of emergency aid, including essential protective gear, tents, diarrheal kits, treatment for emergency malnutrition cases, and sanitation supplies like chlorine.
- Supported by UNICEF, a group of young girls in West Point are on the front line of the fight against the Ebola epidemic, with an initiative they call "A-Life", or "Adolescents Leading the Intense Fight against Ebola". As of this week, 3,000 households in Monrovia's urban slum communities have been reached with Ebola prevention messages.
- As part of UNICEF's support to the setup of Ebola Treatment Units (ETU) and Community Care Centres across Liberia, six metric tons of chlorine was released to the health ministry last week.

### Ebola statistics as of 18 October:

**4,665 cases, including:**  
**965 confirmed**  
**2,106 probable**  
**1,594 suspected**

**2,705 total deaths, including:**  
**1,241 in confirmed cases**  
**803 in probable cases**  
**661 in suspected cases**

**228 cases and 103 deaths among health care workers**

### Counties of highest incidence:

- **Montserrado: 2,073**
- **Lofa: 822**
- **Margibi: 621**
- **Bong: 481**
- **Nimba: 279**

**UNICEF funding needs for the next six months:**  
**USD 64.76 million**

**UNICEF funding gap:**  
**USD 51.38 million**

\*All Ebola statistics in this report are drawn from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW) Ebola SitRep #156, which reports cumulative cases as of 18 October 2014.

## Situation Overview

During the reporting period, the number of cases continued to rise in all counties. Montserrado County remains the current epicentre of the outbreak, still reporting a high case fatality rate of 91.5 per cent this week compared to the 66.1 per cent national average.

Restoration of routine health and nutrition services remains a top priority for reducing non-Ebola related deaths. President Johnson Sirleaf last week emphasized the need to rebuild Liberia's public health system to prevent similar outbreaks in the future. While acknowledging the international support to the Ebola response, she noted that Liberia would need long-term international support to rebuild its damaged health system.

UNICEF provided technical inputs on Health, Nutrition, WASH and Social Mobilization to inform the UNMEER operational framework, ensuring a unified and coordinated approach to the international support being provided as part of the national response plan.

## Health and Nutrition

- As part of UNICEF's support to the setup of Ebola Treatment Units and Community Care Centres across Liberia, 6 metric tons of chlorine was released to the health ministry last week.
- As part of UNICEF's contribution to re-activating routine essential immunization efforts to curb vaccine-preventable diseases, UNICEF is in the process of procuring supplies to ensure infection prevention and control – in addition to funding training, outreach and field monitoring.
- UNICEF procured sufficient supplies to address the nutrition needs of orphans and infants under 6 months in Ebola Treatment Units.
- UNICEF is supporting the health ministry to finalize guidelines and protocols on providing therapeutic food to Ebola positive and convalescent patients.

## WASH

- In an effort to manage liquid waste from ETUs, UNICEF is supporting the rehabilitation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Fiamah, Montserrado County.
- UNICEF has distributed hygiene kits to 15,579 families in Monrovia's West Point community and in communities residing near SKD Stadium, in an effort to promote hand washing with water and chlorine at the household level as a key pillar to stop transmission.
- UNICEF and its partners carried out a feasibility assessment of two additional sites in Monrovia—one in West Point and the other in Louisiana--identified for Community Care Centers.

## Communication for Development (C4D)

- UNICEF is leading social mobilisation and community engagement efforts in the establishment of Community Care Centres across Liberia.
- UNICEF has been working to strengthen large-scale social mobilisation campaigns throughout Liberia using house-to-house interpersonal communications and radio including call-ins for prevention advice, with the updated mapping of partners' interventions by county and an upcoming release of the Knowledge, Attitude and Practice findings.

## Child Protection

- With support from UNICEF, 595 children (169 in Monrovia and 426 to the other nine counties of high prevalence of the EVD), separated and unaccompanied children affected by Ebola have been registered to receive one-time cash assistance as part of immediate recovery support. The reunification rate of children temporarily placed – 17 in the Interim Care Center and 40 in Transit Center - is 98 per cent, with almost all children having been reunified or placed into foster care. Five children were referred to the ETU after showing symptoms of Ebola, three were

tested positive and are currently undergoing treatment, one died at the Island Clinic ETU and another tested negative and has been put under observation.

- Entirely supported by UNICEF, 110 social workers and mental health clinicians provided psychosocial, family tracing, reunification and reintegration support to 740 children (337 boys, 403 girls) in the ten most affected counties—including in Ebola Treatment Centers. In addition, 20 UNICEF has hired and trained 20 Ebola survivors to provide care in the Interim Care Center and Transit Centre.
- Supported by UNICEF, a group of young girls in West Point are on the front line of the fight against the Ebola epidemic, with an initiative they call "A-Life", or "Adolescents Leading the Intense Fight against Ebola". As of this week, 3,000 households in Monrovia's urban slum communities have been reached with Ebola prevention messages.

## Education

- As part of the Ministry of Education's Ebola Response Plan, UNICEF is supporting the nationwide rollout of training for teachers to deliver door-to-door Ebola awareness, prevention and home protection messages in all 15 counties. As of this week, at least 77 education personnel at national level, 298 at county level and 568 at district level have been trained nationwide through these efforts.
- UNICEF supported the Minister of Education in his official request to the Humanitarian Coordinator for the activation of the Education Cluster.

## Programme Results

UNICEF is currently refining its programme results framework and indicators, while also developing methods and sources for data collection, monitoring and evaluation. Revised or additional indicators for all programmes will be developed and reported in future situation reports.

UNICEF Results Table Period 16 September 2014– 15 March 2015	UNICEF Target	Total Cumulative UNICEF Results	% Target reached
<b>COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT</b>			
Radio stations airing daily messages on Ebola	54	50	93%
Districts where all radio stations air Ebola content every day	88	80	91%
House Holds receiving Inter-Personal Communication on Ebola prevention messages	250,000	65,400	26%
<b>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE</b>			
Ebola care centres are provided with essential WASH services	85	N/A	N/A
Non-Ebola Health centres in Ebola affected areas provided with Hand washing station	470	N/A	N/A
Household benefiting from hygiene kits in Ebola affected areas	150,000	3,000	0.2%
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
Reopened schools in Ebola-affected district equipped with a minimum package for Ebola prevention	4,400	N/A	N/A
Teachers trained on psycho social support, Ebola prevention, and safe and protective learning environments	15,000	568	3.7%
Radio stations broadcasting emergency learning programmes	16	N/A	N/A
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>			
Children provided with psychosocial support.	5,000	740	14.8%
Separated and unaccompanied children (including orphans) identified and receive appropriate care and support	2,000	595	29%

## Media and External Communications

- Spokespersons for UNICEF have been featured in global print, radio, television and online news programming highlighting UNICEF's role in the response, while field visits for international media crew including Reuters, NPR, CCTV have also been arranged. Samples of resulting coverage include:
  - [Country Representative Sheldon Yett speaks to RT International about the situation in Liberia](#) (RTI)
  - [On support to Ebola orphans](#) (CNN)
  - [On Ebola household protection kits](#) (Reuters)
  - [On the use of music for Ebola awareness](#) (CNN), as well as an [interview with one of the Liberian musicians involved](#) (Economist)
  - [On the training of Ebola survivors as caregivers for orphans](#) (Washington Post)
- UNICEF HQ produced a [video highlighting the work of adolescent social mobilizers in West Point, trained by UNICEF Liberia](#)

## Funding

UNICEF's funding needs for the next six months have increased exponentially. The need for the next six months is estimated to be USD 64.76 million. The current funding gap is USD 51.38 million. International support is urgently needed to rapidly scale up activities to reverse the trajectory of the outbreak.

Next SitRep: 29 October 2014

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UNICEF-Liberia Ebola Outbreak on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/UNICEF\\_Liberia](https://twitter.com/UNICEF_Liberia)

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