



Sierra Leone Ebola Situation Report

11 November 2015



HIGHLIGHTS

- On 7 November 2015, the World Health Organization declared the end of the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone. The end of the outbreak was marked by a ceremony hosted by His Excellency, Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, and attended by UNICEF, international organizations, NGOs and the donor community. Although an important milestone, it was reiterated that enhanced surveillance must continue so that the country is ready for any possible future outbreaks, and work must also intensify to support those affected by the outbreak and to build a resilient recovery.
- UNICEF is supporting the Government of Sierra Leone in the transition and post-Ebola recovery phases in several areas such as strengthening health system resilience and the access to quality learning for all children, reinforcing community engagement and improving survivor engagement.
- UNICEF continued to support the implementation of Project Shield. The mapping of survivors in Bombali district was completed during the reporting period. To date, 1,938 survivors have been registered and verified (900 in Western Area, 418 in Bombali, and 620 in Port Loko). In Port Loko, UNICEF provided technical support to the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) to map existing services for survivors across the 11 chiefdoms in the district.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

As of 11 November 2015

8,704¹

Confirmed cases of Ebola

3,589¹

Confirmed deaths from Ebola

1,459²

Confirmed cases of infected children under age 18 registered by MSWGCA

8,624²

Registered children who lost one or both parents due to Ebola

UNICEF funding needs to December 2015

USD 160 million

UNICEF funding gap

USD 33.7 million³ (21%)

1. Source: Ministry of Health and Sanitation

2. Source: Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA)

3. Funding status as of 21 October 2015

Communication for Development (C4D) and Social Mobilization (SM)¹

Bombali

- UNICEF conducted an orientation programme for implementing partners to familiarize them with the new burial policy that was put in place, following the WHO declaration on the end of the outbreak. The orientation focused on developing a revised community engagement strategy and the dissemination of key messages.
- A peace march organized by survivors was held on 7 November 2015, bringing together over 150 survivors to celebrate the end of the outbreak and remember the victims.

Kambia

- Social mobilizers from UNICEF partner organizations International Medical Corps, Restless Development and Marie Stopes Sierra Leone engaged 7,434 people from 379 communities across the district during the reporting period. Activities were also held in Tawuya, Sanda, Kathalan sections in Gbileh Dixon chiefdom where 52 village headmen participated in section level meetings, leading to the establishment of five-person committees at community level, which form the basis for the Village Development Committees (VDCs).
- Social mobilizers from UNICEF partner organizations are continuing to engage border communities on key Ebola messages and the need to maintain vigilance.

Western Area

- Social mobilizers from UNICEF partner organizations HFAC, Conservation Alliance, Sierra Leone Red Cross, Talented Young People Everywhere, Child Welfare Society and Social Mobilization Action Consortium (SMAC) visited 2,014 communities across 69 wards (over 34,413 people) to encourage them to report illnesses and visit Peripheral Health Units (PHUs) to rebuild their trust in the health system.
- In Lorry Park – a transit area for travelers from neighboring countries, including Guinea – UNICEF partner organizations continued to engage travelers and the communities on key Ebola messaging and the regular monitoring of travelers, while enforcing handwashing and temperature checks in that area.

Port Loko

- With a view to streamlining the number of committees at the village level, UNICEF partner organizations Red Cross and OXFAM continued the assessment and identification of VDCs at community level. Around 230 communities were visited and 20 of them confirmed having a mechanism that resembles a VDC and six out of the 12 PHUs affirmed having functional Facility Management Committees.
- Social mobilizers from UNICEF partner organizations Restless Development and OXFAM continued to engage communities reaching 10,896 people. 8,654 school children, 1,138 community leaders and 452 traditional healers were also engaged during the reporting period, and 90 sick people and 59 death alerts were reported.

WASH

Kambia

- UNICEF continued to focus its activities on the implementation of the DFID funded rehabilitation of WASH in schools and Peripheral Health Units in the district.

Tonkolili and Bombali

- UNICEF continues to monitor and support implementing partners in the early recovery rehabilitation project for WASH at school and health facilities.

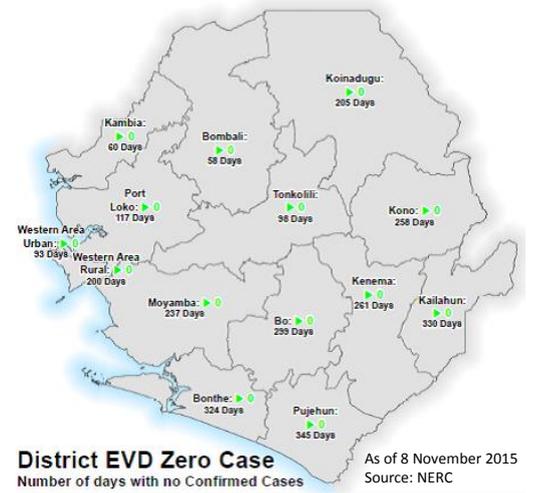
Port Loko

- UNICEF, through SALWACO, delivered 89,000 litres of water to 11 check points, reaching 801,000 people using the hand washing stations.

Western Area

In response to the floods and to ensure proper hygienic conditions for the displaced, UNICEF, through its partners Guma Valley, ADP, MASADA and SLSAV, implemented the following WASH activities up to 31 October 2015.

- In the Siaka Stevens National Stadium



¹ UNICEF is the lead agency for the UN for social mobilization and community engagement and co-chairs the Social Mobilization pillar with the Health Education Division (HED) of the MoHS

- Delivered 180,000 litres of water, benefiting 7,536 people.
 - Facilitated the cleaning and maintenance of 42 toilets, benefiting over 2,000 people.
 - Facilitated daily monitoring and sensitized the displaced communities on good hygiene practices.
 - In the Atouga stadium
 - Delivered 120,000 litres of water, benefiting 1,430 people.
 - Facilitated daily monitoring and sensitized the displaced communities on good hygiene practices.
- These activities have since been handed over to the Ministry of Health and Sanitation.

Pujehun District

As part of the flood response, UNICEF

- Provided 80 households (663 people) with household latrine slabs. To date, 103 households with 916 persons have been provided with household latrine slabs.
- Chlorinated/decontaminated 263 wells in flood affected areas benefitting around 1,893 people.
- Distributed hygiene kits (jerry can, soap, sanitary towels and sanitary kettle) to 116 households, benefiting 663 persons, in the 4 riverine communities of Bandakor, Mano Gbojeima, Gbogboma and Yengain.
- Supported social mobilization and hygiene promotion activities in four communities reaching, 252 out of 378 affected households.

Child Protection

- 2,250 children and parents from 13 districts received psychosocial support (PSS) in the reporting period, including counselling, recreational activities, healing ceremonies and mental health services.
- UNICEF, through implementing partners, registered 363 Ebola-affected children, followed-up on 272 reunified children, reunified 13 children with their families, distributed 82 family tracing and reunification (FTR) kits, engaged 1,066 children in activity planning and monitoring at community level, provided 707 children and families with individual and/or group counselling, while 598 children participated in recreational activities. 1,058 volunteers were engaged in PSS community activities.
- UNICEF and MSWGCA conducted case management trainings for 40 participants in Pujehun, 42 in Kailahun, 45 in Bonthe, 25 in Moyamba, 23 in Bo and 30 in Tonkolili. Trainings for MSWGCA social welfare offices, UNICEF implementing partners and pillar members in Port Loko and Kenema are underway.
- UNICEF partner PLAN has completed the first phase of their cash transfers to 126 Ebola foster families who each received the sum of US\$37.
- All 13 protection desks, supported by UNICEF, are operational and operated by staff from the MSWGCA.

Kambia

- The Child Protection team continued the vulnerability assessment of children who have lost one or both parents due to Ebola. 150 children and their families from post-quarantined homes were provided with psychological first aid (PFA) and 81 FTR Kits were provided to children who have lost one or both parents to Ebola and children survivors.

Bombali

- UNICEF, in collaboration with WHO, provided support to the MSWGCA with the registration of Ebola survivors and the mapping of service providers, which concluded on 7 November 2015. 418 survivors were registered and verified, out of which 144 are males above the age of 15 years.
- UNICEF provided 27 FTR and recreational kits, mattresses blankets and pillows to children who lost one or both parents to Ebola and vulnerable families identified by UNICEF partner Defense for Children International (DCI).
- UNICEF provided psychosocial support, psychological first aid and group counselling sessions to 60 persons (24 men and 36 women).

Port Loko

- As part of Project Shield, UNICEF provided technical support to the MSWGCA to map existing service providers for survivors across the 11 chiefdoms in the district. 15 of them have been mapped - Plan International, GOAL, PIH, ENGEN, Connect SL, COMFORTI, EFSL, Red Cross, Restless Development, Focus 100, OXFAM, IMC, PPASL, Rescue team and CARE. UNICEF also provided technical support to the Ministry to finalize a community/chiefdom based strategy to engage survivors who were not captured during the registration and verification exercise.

Western Area

- UNICEF partner DCI has begun implementing the community healing and recovery programme in the seven high risk wards. The first activity was held at Ferry Junction and its surrounding areas and was launched with Muslim prayers

on Friday and Christian prayers on Sunday for all community members who died of Ebola. Activities are scheduled to continue in the other six wards until 22 November 2015.

Education

- UNICEF and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) continue to support the access to quality learning for all children in all districts. UNICEF is supporting the coordination, school assessment and provision of teaching and learning materials to ensure the safe return of children to schools.
- UNICEF and the District Education Office (DEO) continued supporting the next round of the school based teachers training on Guidance Note and protocol for safe schools in the context of Ebola.
- UNICEF continued to support the MEST with the implementation of the Bridge education program, which will benefit more than 3,000 pregnant girls which will be delivered through 44 Community Learning Centers and 150 schools across the country.
- In an effort to get all children back in school and encourage them to stay in school, UNICEF and MEST, in collaboration with Save the Children, printed and distributed 20,000 posters with *Stay in School* and *Stop Teenage Pregnancy* messages that will be strategically placed across the country. An additional 20,000 posters are still in production.
- UNICEF, through funding support from DFID, is supporting MEST and DEO to implement a Continuous Professional Development (CDP) model in Koinadugu, Bonthe, Tonkolili, Pujehun, Kenema and Western Rural districts. This new initiative, launched in 348 schools, seeks to improve the leadership and management capacities of school administrators. Subsequent supportive supervision exercise will focus on key thematic areas such as numeracy, literacy, and life skills including Ebola prevention.
- UNICEF continues to support the establishment of the situation rooms. Community monitoring, through RapidPro EduTrac is underway. By 2 November 2015, records from 1,369 schools were received, representing 17 per cent of all schools nationally. Out of these, 95 per cent had veronica buckets, 94.2 per cent had thermometers and 80.9 per cent had soap.

Health

Post-Ebola recovery and strengthening of health systems

- In collaboration with WHO, UNICEF continued to support the Expanded Program on Immunization/Child Health program (EPI/CH) of the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) in the introduction of Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) into the routine immunization schedule. UNICEF is procuring the vaccine, and supports the development of communication material and the training of health workers, scheduled for January 2016.
- UNICEF continued in implementing the Cold Chain improvement plan by delivering, with the support of World Bank, 57 solar refrigerators and their accessories to the MoHS. UNICEF also supported the distribution of the equipment from the central level to the districts over the week end.
- UNICEF supported the MoHS in the preparation, planning development of materials and training related to the Maternal and Child Health Week, 26-30 November 2015. Interventions include the introduction of the measles second dose, vitamin A supplementation, deworming, defaulters tracing for routine Immunization and antenatal care cases defaulters. The campaign will also follow-up on birth registrations.
- UNICEF is providing technical support to the MoHS in planning the Free Health Care (FHC) mass distribution and the deployment of Rapidpro Technology for the monitoring and reporting on the distribution from the districts to the PHUs in the Nov/Dec 2015. UNICEF is supporting the training of 26 District Logistics Officers and District Pharmacists who will in turn train over 1,200 health workers on the utilization of the Rapidpro Technology.

Nutrition

- 89,371 children under five were screened at community level in 89 out of 149 chiefdoms (covering 1,248 communities) in the reporting period. 1,449 (1.62 per cent) severe acute malnourished (SAM) children were identified, of whom 1,133² were admitted for treatment at the Out-Patient Therapeutic Programme (OTP), while 102 children who had SAM with medical complications were referred to an In-Patient Facility (IPF)³ to receive pediatric and nutrition care. By the end of the reporting period 5,172 children received treatment and 606 boxes of ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF paste) were consumed. Distribution plans were developed at district level for the OTP PHUs replenishment. This report was analyzed from Kono, Kenema, Moyamba, Kambia, Port Loko, Bombali, and Tonkolili districts (all chiefdoms).

² This represents 78.2 per cent cases that attended after referral from the community. The reason for the low proportion of the SAM cases admitted in the OTP program was due to the fact that fewer caretakers attend the OTP PHUs during the rainy season. Efforts are made to encourage mothers whose children have been identified with malnutrition to attend OTP for admission and treatment

³ Those referred to IPF include cases identified in the community every week, cases coming spontaneously to the OTP and the non-respondent cases, referred by health workers, who have been attending OTP for a while

- UNICEF supported the Food and Nutrition Directorate to preposition and provide nutrition supplies to the persons affected by the floods. 306 cartons of ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF biscuits) were distributed during the period of 18 September 2015 to date. Out of 1,699 children aged 6-59 months that were screened using Measuring Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) tapes, 13 SAM children were identified and referred to the nearby Grey-Bush OTP for treatment. 646 caregivers who had children 0-5 months were given counselling sessions on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices.

Community Care Centres (CCCs)

- UNICEF continues to monitor and support 17 CCCs with essential WASH services including sanitation, waste management and water supply for drinking, personal hygiene and disinfection. Ten CCCs remain functional (80 beds capacity in Kambia and two in Kono), while seven are on standby. Water provision is continuing for the CCCs on standby to ensure that they are ready to receive patients, if required.
- Since 17 November 2014, UNICEF-supported CCCs have triaged 37,968 patients and have detected 1,093 suspected Ebola cases across five districts. 894 of the suspected cases received supportive care at the CCCs and 199 received immediate ambulance transfers to the nearest ETU. 31 per cent of patients admitted at the CCCs came within 48 hours of symptom onset, allowing for rapid isolation and testing.
- In the past two weeks, 1,288 patients were screened for Ebola at UNICEF-supported CCCs, representing an average of 92 patients per day. Of the patients triaged, none met the Ebola case definition but two were admitted for care.

Human Resources

UNICEF Personnel in Sierra Leone	Freetown	In the field	Total Staff Strength
International Staff	57	6	63
National Staff	69	95	164
Staff on Surge and SBP	5	0	5
Total Staff	131	101	232
Outsourced third party / government staff for CCCs	154		

Media and External Communication

The official end of the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone led to a large increase in interest in our social media accounts. A [press release](#) issued by the country office was reprinted in several media, including The Democrat. The Country Representative took part in a live broadcast on BBC 5live two days before the end of the outbreak, and the external relations chief took part in a live evening discussion show on the national broadcaster SLBC on the day of the announcement. UNICEF Health Specialist, Dr Ngozi Kennedy was also featured by [Reuters](#).

The team also published a [web story](#) on using theatre to communicate Ebola messages. Our new project providing education to pregnant teenage girls was also highlighted by [The Guardian](#), [Al-Jazeera](#) and [CCTV](#). Finally a press release was issued to announce an initiative by the Social Protection section to invite children from across the country to participate in the government budget hearings: The story was picked up by the [Salone Monitor](#), [Awoko](#), and The Nationalist.

Funding

In line with the UN inter-agency response strategy for the Ebola outbreak, the revised [UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children](#) (HAC) is appealing for USD 160 million for Sierra Leone to support the needs of children and communities affected by the Ebola crisis until the end of December 2015. As of 21 October 2015, USD 126.2 million (78 per cent of the total funding needs) has been received.

UNICEF greatly appreciates the contributions that have been received to date from DFID/UKAID, OFDA/USAID, ECHO/European Union, the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, SIDA, the Governments of Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, and the United Arab Emirates, OCHA, and the Danish, Japan, Swedish, Swiss and UK Committees for UNICEF, as well as the US Fund for UNICEF, and the private sector.

Programme Results

UNICEF and Pillar/Sector Results for Ebola Response

Sierra Leone, 11 November 2015

Indicators	Pillar / Sector			UNICEF		
	Target	Actual	% Achieved	Target	Actual	% Achieved
EPIDEMIOLOGY						
Registered Ebola children who lost one or both parents/primary caregivers		8,624				
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT						
Households reached with interpersonal communication on Ebola prevention	886,480	2,017,296	228%	532,000	1,089,561	205%
Hotspot communities reached by social mobilizers/rapid response teams within 24 hours of detection of Ebola cases in the past week	100%	0/0	100%	100%	0/0	100%
Chiefdoms reporting resistance/reticence to cooperating with frontline workers in the past week	0	15	8% (15/182)	0	15	8% (15/182)
Ebola-related resistance/reticence incidents reported in the past week	0	19		0	19	
Proportion of population surveyed who indicated discriminatory attitude towards Ebola survivors	<3%	38% 1,286/3,415		<3%	38% ⁴ 1,286/3,415	
Proportion of population surveyed who rejected alternatives to traditional burials/funerals	<3%	12% 437/3,540		<3%	12% 437/3,540	
COMMUNITY CARE CENTRES						
CCCs established		58			46	
CCCs functional		10			10	
CCCs decommissioned		48			36	
WASH						
Ebola community, treatment and holding centres with essential WASH services	94	69	72%	52	36	69%
CCCs provided with essential WASH services	58	58	100%	46	46	100%
Non-Ebola health centres in Ebola-affected areas provided with hand washing station and/or WASH support	1,162	1,162	100%	1,162	1,162 ⁵	100%
People benefiting from household WASH kits in Ebola-affected areas	420,000	260,561	62%	420,000	260,561	62%
CHILD PROTECTION						
Ebola-affected children provided with minimum package of psychosocial support (PSS) services	25,000	42,859	171%	25,000	42,859	171%
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	2,000	2,473	124%	2,000	2,473	124%
HEALTH						
Health structures in Ebola-affected areas provided with Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) supplies				1,185	1,195	101%
Community health workers trained in Ebola prevention and case management				6,000	9,715	162%
Children 6-59 months immunized against measles during the measles campaign ⁶				1,240,601 95%	1,205,865 97.2%	97.2%
HIV/AIDS						
HIV positive pregnant/breast feeding women receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission				1,142	916	80%
Exposed new born provided with antiretroviral (ARV) for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT)				900	155	17%
HIV positive children under 15 continuing to receive ART				539	300	56%
NUTRITION						
Ebola patients receiving nutrition support				3,200	6,165	193%

⁴ KAP Survey, December 2014

⁵ This was a one off activity carried out by UNICEF on behalf of the cluster

⁶ The measles campaign for Sierra Leone targeted children 9-59 months

Children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted for treatment				18,885	20,842	110%
Infants 0-6 months who cannot be breast fed, receiving ready to use infant formula				300	339 ⁷	113%
EDUCATION						
Radio stations broadcasting emergency learning programmes				41	41	100%
Teachers trained in providing psychosocial support (PSS)	36,000	28,338 ⁸	78.7%	19,000	18,997	99.9%
Teachers trained in Ebola prevention				60,000	34,338 ⁹	57.2%
Schools provided with replenishment of minimum hygiene package				2,083	2,187	105%
Children supported to access education in emergency				8,900 (5,000 ¹⁰ Emergency, 3,900 pregnant girls)	8,400 (4,500 Emergency, 3,900 pregnant girls)	94.4% (90% Emergency, 100% pregnant girls)
Children enrolled in schools equipped with minimum hygiene package				416,600 ¹¹	437,400	105%

Next Situation Report: 25 November 2015

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⁷ This figure is not cumulative and instead reflects the current number of children receiving ready-to-use infant formula. The next Sitrep will contain the cumulative figure.

⁸ Complete package of Teachers training in PSS, Ebola prevention including school protocol and guidance notes. The target has been revised.

⁹ The target has been revised from 19,000 to 60,000 teachers. UNICEF and MEST in process of school-based training of teachers. The data from the field on actual # of teachers trained

¹⁰ Teenage pregnancy targeting approximately 3,900 pregnant girls and approximately 5,000 children affected by flood and other emergency

¹¹ Derived from schools equipped with minimum hygiene package during replenishments multiplied by average of 200 students per school