



Sierra Leone Ebola Situation Report

4 February 2015



HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 4 February 2015, according to the Government of Sierra Leone, the cumulative number of laboratory confirmed Ebola virus disease (EVD) cases is 8,098. The number of confirmed deaths is 2,936. Total survived and discharged cases is 2,204.
- UNICEF convened the first Social Mobilization implementing partner's forum, in cooperation with MOH, and UNMEER, on Friday 30 January 2015. More than 80 partners convened in Freetown to recognize social mobilization achievements in the Ebola response and agree on the way forward at this stage in the epidemic.
- The Government is leading intensive planning to re-open more than 8,000 schools by the end of March 2015. A shutdown caused by the Ebola crisis has left 1.8 million children out of school.
- The UNICEF-led Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) network have identified 16,351 children as being directly affected by the Ebola crisis (8,212 girls and 8,139 boys), with 8,226 children having lost one or both parents to Ebola and 578 unaccompanied or separated from their caregiver. 9,534 Ebola-affected children have been provided with psychosocial support.
- UNICEF Sierra Leone requires USD 178 million for its response to the Ebola crisis until end of June 2015. To date, USD 115.7 million has been received – 65 percent of the total.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Just four new Ebola cases were recorded nationwide on 2 February 2015, and three districts (Pujehun, Kailahun and Bonthe) have now exceeded more than 42 days without a case. New cases continue to concentrate around the capital Freetown, and the nearby Port Loko district, the latter of which has seen more cases in the last 21 days (73) than any other part of the country. The majority of districts reported fresh cases in the seven days to 2 February 2015 emphasizing that much work remains nationwide to stamp out the disease. During this last week, 80 new confirmed cases were recorded nationwide as of 2 February 2015.

A total of 8,098 people have contracted the virus of whom 2,936 have died. 16,351 children are directly affected by the crisis, around half of whom have lost one or both parents to Ebola.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

4 February 2015

8,098

Confirmed Cases of Ebola

2,936

Confirmed Deaths from Ebola

8,226

Registered Ebola Orphans (latest data
2 Feb)

**3.12 million (1 million
under-5)**

Children living in affected areas

**UNICEF funding needs to June
2015**

USD 178 million

UNICEF funding gap

USD 62 million

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

UNICEF continued to support the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS) to train Peripheral Health Units (PHU) health personnel in the revised guidelines for the appropriate management of childhood illnesses during Ebola outbreak. An additional 204 health care workers from 102 PHUs in Bonthe (13) and Kono (89) were trained. This brings the cumulative number of trained health workers to 2,174, which amounts to 91 percent of the targeted 2,400 health workers from 1,200 PHUs.

In addition, there were planning sessions with the remaining District Health Management Teams (DHMT) of Moyamba, Koinadugu and Bo on training 3,000 Community Health Workers (CHWs) on revised community health worker guidelines including the "No Touch Policy".

UNICEF continued to support the MoHS in the process of planning for early recovery and building a resilient health system with participation in the sub-committee meetings on service delivery and patient and health worker safety. The Basic Package of Essential Health Services has been revised and updated.

The MoHS, UNICEF, WHO and other partners, started discussions on implementing a multi-intervention mass campaign to catch up with low coverage in essential interventions during the Ebola outbreak, including Vitamin A supplementation, deworming, polio and measles vaccination among others.

Nutrition

In the last week, as part of the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM), a total of 12,288 children under 5 were screened at the community level in 61 out of 149 chiefdoms (557 communities). A total of 208 severe acute malnourished (SAM) children were identified, all of which were admitted for treatment at the outpatient therapeutic feeding programmes (OTP), while 30 children who had SAM with medical complications were referred to an inpatient facility (IPF) to receive paediatric and nutrition care. A total of 175 boxes of RUTF were consumed.

UNICEF is providing 24 Ebola Treatment Units (ETU), 56 Ebola Holding Centres (EHC), 10 ETUs/EHCs, 21 interim care centres (ICC)¹ and 13 Observational Interim Care Centres (OICC) as well as 46 Community Care Centres (CCC) directly with nutrition supplies². Nutrition supplies have been prepositioned at district medical stores (DMS) for replenishment to all ETUs, EHCs, CCCs, ICCs and OICCs as well as to support quarantined households countrywide.

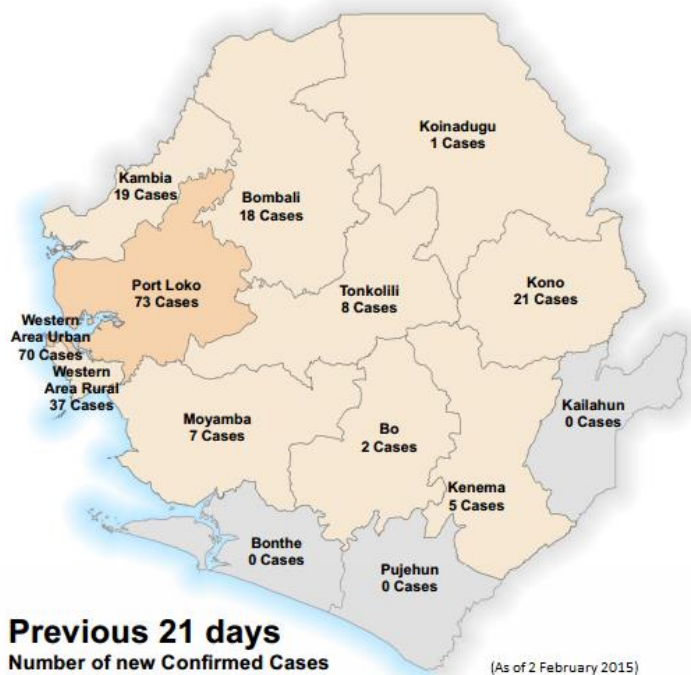
WASH

As a lead agency for WASH, UNICEF is coordinating WASH sector Ebola response. UNICEF continues to support 28 ETUs and EHCs in eight districts, with 533 beds, with essential WASH package (sanitation facilities, waste management and water supply for drinking, personal hygiene and disinfection). UNICEF has also ensured that a total of 46 CCCs with 404 beds in five districts continue to have adequate access to essential WASH services. A piped water supply connection to the national water supply network for three Ebola treatment centres was restored through the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR).

Additionally, 3,162 people, totalling to approximately 46,139 people to-date, in quarantined households have benefited from WASH supplies distributed through WFP packages. A total of 150,000 litres of water was also delivered by MoWR to

¹ One centre operates as an OICC and ICC.

² Supplies include high energy fortified biscuits (BP100), ready-to-use infant formula (RUIF) and Ultra High Temperature (UHT) whole/full cream milk for Ebola patients and survivors, including children.



four Ebola care centres including one OICC. Through UNICEF's WASH implementing partners a total of 14,625 persons including 3,696 children have been reached with Ebola prevention messages including the importance of hand washing with soap. To date UNICEF's WASH partners have reached more than 630,736 people (approximately 105,122 households) with essential Ebola prevention messages.

Community Care Centres (CCCs)

Since 17 November 2015, UNICEF-supported CCCs have triaged 3,962 patients, admitted 439 and conducted rapid ambulance transfers for 171 patients across five districts. The number of patients triaged at UNICEF-supported CCCs remained consistent with the number triaged last week, which is about a 100 percent increase in the number of patients triaged since the first week of January 2015. High triage numbers underscore the important role these facilities have played in building community trust and ensuring sick individuals seek professional assessment. Five of 46 CCCs reporting did not triage any patients last week, an increase from one last week.

During the period, there were 71 new admissions in CCCs in five districts, representing a 31 percent increase over last week. 21 percent of admitted patients presented within 48 hours of symptom onset during the reporting period. 44 lab test results from CCC patients were able to be tracked during the period. 96 percent of these lab results were available at the District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) within 48 hours of the patient test. In total two patients were found EVD positive; one from Kambia and one from Western Rural.

TABLE 1: 7 day status update 27 January – 2 February 2015

District	Number/type of CCC	Implementing Partner	Triaged	Admitted	Transfer	% Ebola Suspects	Reporting completeness
Bombali	15 x 8 bed	World Hope	233	12	3	6%	88%
Tonkolili	13 x 8 bed	Concern Worldwide	263	0	0	0%	89%
Kambia	12 x 8 bed	Marie-Stopes	230	16	1	2%	95%
Western	2 x 24 bed	Action Aid	33	15	1	48%	79%
Kono	3 x 8 & 1 x 12 bed	Partners in Health	64	28	3	47%	57%
TOTAL	404 beds		823	71	8	10%	87%

For the period 25 to 31 January 2015, UNICEF's five implementing partners visited 276 communities and reached out to 4,335 households around the CCCs in support of social mobilization activities for active case finding, community surveillance, and community dialogues to ensure that sick people are moved to CCCs and focused messages on survivors, safe and dignified burials and sustaining positive behaviour change.

In anticipation for the reopening of the schools in March 2015, preparation is underway for the decommissioning of eleven CCCs that are situated in or within 200m of school compounds. A total of 16,200 hand washing facilities have been ordered for the back-to-school initiative.



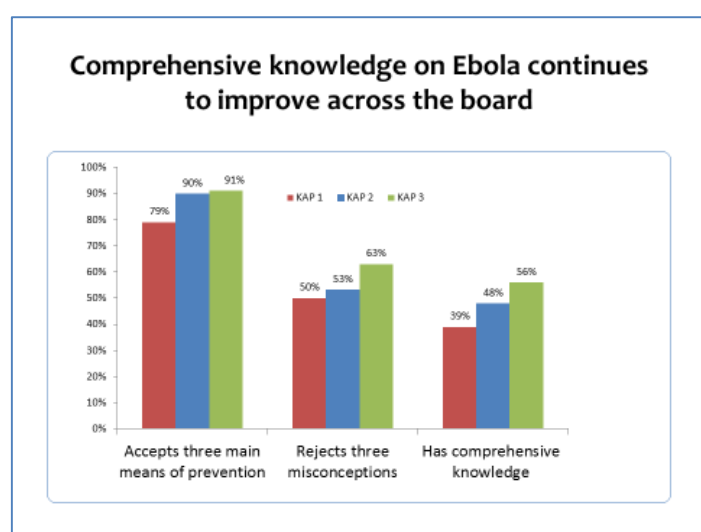
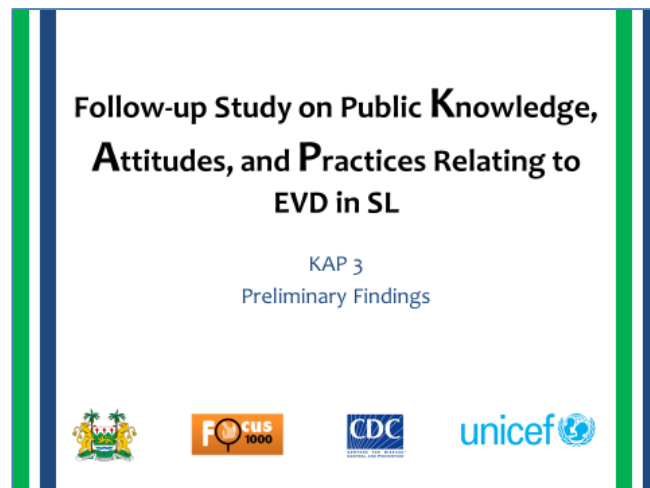
Social mobilisation close to a UNICEF supported Community Care Centre.

UNICEF Sierra Leone 2015

Communication for Development (C4D) and Social Mobilization (SM)³

As the co-chair of the national social mobilization (SM) pillar, UNICEF convened the first **Social Mobilization implementing partner's forum**, in cooperation with MOH, and UNMEER, on Friday 30 January 2015. More than 80 partners convened in Freetown to recognize social mobilization achievements in the Ebola response and agree on the way forward at this stage in the epidemic. Results from the third **Knowledge, Attitudes & Practices Survey** related to Ebola were presented.

The Forum agreed on three key commitments, (i) included intense integration of SM across other pillars to focus on cases, contacts and burials, (ii) targeting at chiefdom level to improve quality and rapid results, and (iii) harmonization and increased utilization of strategic information. The District Plans will be rolled out during February to support the implementation of these commitments. The first of the District level meetings was held in Kenema on 31st January to implement the key commitments.



For the period 26 January to 1 February 2015, Health For All Coalition (HFAC) social mobilizers working on the UNICEF supported **Hotspot Busters project** covered 50 hotspots (including 19 that were newly identified) communities, reaching 72,462 households through door-to-door community sensitization. The mobilizers reported 103 suspected cases of Ebola (39 from existing hotspots and 64 from non-hotspot areas); of these 38 cases were referred to CCCs/holding centers/treatment units within 48 hours. A total of 2,175 traditional healers and religious leaders were engaged in promoting safe and dignified burials and demystifying rumours about Ebola.

Child Protection⁴

Registration: 583 additional children were documented by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) / UNICEF and partners during the period 26 January until 2 February 2015 as being affected by the Ebola Virus disease. Of this number, 438 children (228 boys and 210 girls) are in quarantine in their homes as a result of exposure to an infected person; nine were in treatment as Ebola positive (5 boys and 4 girls). Forty-one children (23 boys and 18 girls) or 7 percent of the children, are single or double orphans, and none were documented as unaccompanied or separated. The cumulative number of children documented by UNICEF through the FTR network is 16,351 (8,139 boys and 8,212 girls) of whom 8,226 (4,116 boys and 4,110 girls) have lost one or both parents, and 578 (257 boys and 321 girls) are unaccompanied.

Family tracing and reunification: In the period 26 January to 2 February 2015, the MSWGCA/UNICEF led FTR network identified 54 children who required support to be reunified with their families and 18 (43 percent) were reunified. Cumulatively 1,835 have been identified for FTR since the beginning of the outbreak and 1,156 (63 percent) were reunified with their families. Given that the FTR process is a labour-intensive process, and oftentimes caregivers are reunified informally, it is not unusual for the actual FTR needs to be lower than the services provided.

³ UNICEF is the lead agency for the UN for social mobilization and community engagement and is co-chairing the Social Mobilization pillar with the Health Education Division (HED) of the MoHS.

⁴ UNICEF is the lead agency for the UN on child protection in the Ebola response and is co-chairing the Child Protection, Psychosocial and Gender pillar with MSWGCA.

Psychosocial Support: A total of 111 out of 256 (43 percent) children in need of psychosocial services (PSS) received one-on-one counselling and group counselling support within their communities during this reporting period. Counselling support is provided as part of the follow up on children when they are reunified or placed in alternative care. To date 9,534 out of 11,635 (82 percent) identified to need PSS have benefited from specific psychosocial support services.

Relief items: As of 1 February 2015, 98 percent of FTR packages that were originally disbursed to partners in mid-November 2014 (980/1,000) have been distributed to children who have been reunified with their families. 60 percent (300/500) of survivor packages have also been distributed to child survivors. A new set of 2,100 FTR packages was recently disbursed to the MSWGCA at district level. For the reporting period, 33 relief items were provided out of 76 additional requests (43 percent). Cumulatively 7,046 relief items have been provided by partners out of 10,560 requests (67 percent).

Observational and Interim Care Centres (OICCs): There are currently 13 open OICCs covering 12 districts with a total capacity of 262 beds. Currently, only eight OICCs have children due to decreased need. On 1 February 2015, a total of 87 contact children were in quarantine in the eight centres including: 24 children in Bo, 8 in Tonkolili, 28 in Bombali, 6 in Kenema, 2 in Kono, 13 in Port Loko Town, 1 in Port Loko Lunsar, and 4 in Western Urban. Between 28 January and 1 February 2015, 15 children were newly admitted to the centres (13 boys over 5 years, 1 girl below 5 years, 2 girls over 5 years). Twenty-three children were reunified with their families and two symptomatic children had to be referred to holding/treatment centre. Six children were kept longer than 21 days in the OICC's due to re-quarantine obligations after children in the same cohort became symptomatic. Data is daily reported on the status of the OICC through the RapidPro SMS service.

There are currently eight Interim Care Centres (ICCs) receiving children out of eleven that are functional. During the operating period, 138 children were counted in the ICCs: Bo (1), Moyamba (26), Bombali (7), Kenema (4), Port Loko (39), Kailahun (1), Western Rural (32), Western Urban (42). One new ICC was opened this week in Bombali, under the management of the MSWGCA, and received seven children. 13 children were reunified over the last week and 14 newly admitted.

Child protection district Coordination: Seven protection desks are fully functioning in 13 districts. 117 referrals were made to the desks between 28 January and 1 February 2015. 87 of the cases (74 percent) were immediately referred to appropriate partners for assessment and follow up. 218 units of services were provided to referred cases in the course of the week.

Education

President Ernest Bai Koroma has appointed Dr Christiana Thorpe appointed as Coordinator of the high level Steering Committee for the reopening of Educational Institutions in Sierra Leone. Dr Thorpe will be responsible for the day- to-day management, administration and coordination of all activities and interventions and will be answerable through the steering committee to the president. The steering committee will be chaired by the Minister of Education, Science and Technology.

As part of the ongoing listenership rapid assessment of the school radio programme, this week 950 households covering two districts (Western Urban and Rural) were visited by UNICEF implementing partners to determine if children were engaging. About 55 percent of households had children of primary school age listening to the Emergency Radio Education Programmes. This Week UNICEF, along with the Freetown Teachers' College (FTC) and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, completed training for 28 master trainers who will now train other trainers who will in turn instruct school teachers in EVD prevention, social mobilization and psychosocial support.

Supply and Logistics

This week, one charter flight delivered 50MT of medicines and personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies for the Ebola response. To date, 30 UNICEF supported charters have delivered 1,613 MT of essential supplies in response to the Ebola crisis in Sierra Leone. A total of 107,960 bed nets were distributed to all 13 districts. Also, 36 MT of specialized nutrition supplies (ready to use infant formula and BP-100) were distributed to seven districts for use in Ebola centres and as part of nutrition supplementation for survivors.



CCC workers in Bombali District beside supplies.
UNICEF Sierra Leone 2014

Human Resources

As at 3 February 2015, the total number of IP staff in the country office is 60; 11 of these have been deployed in the field. Out of 148 national staff members, 69 are based in the field. The surge and stand-by-partner staff is 23; 20 in Freetown and 3 in the field. These staff members, including the 942 outsourced third party and government staff continuing to support the CCCs.

UNICEF Personnel in Sierra Leone	Freetown	In the field	Total Staff Strength
International Staff	49	11	60
National Staff	79	69	148
Staff on Surge and SBP	20	3	23
Outsourced third party/ government staff for CCCs	942		

Media & External Communication

A [web story](#) produced by the External Relations and Advocacy team for the UNICEF website highlighted the work done through the social mobilisation pillar to react quickly to Ebola hotspots. The report was widely shared on social media. The team continued to handle media queries; setting up interviews, visits and providing information to journalists. In the past week, the national media highlighted our work on the [mass distribution](#) of anti-malarials, and the UNICEF [global appeal](#).

Social media postings continued on a daily basis on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). During the reporting period on Facebook there were 52 new page likes, 304 post likes, 5 post comments, and 5,713 posts views on the site. On Twitter we gained 43 new followers, and received 39 retweets and 21 mentions.

Funding

In line with the UN inter-agency response strategy for the Ebola Outbreak, UNICEF humanitarian action for children (HAC) is appealing for USD 178 million for Sierra Leone to support the needs of women and children affected by the Ebola crisis until end of June 2015. To date, USD 115.7 million has been received, 65 percent of the current appeal.

UNICEF greatly appreciates the contributions that have been received to date including from the Governments of Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands and United Arab Emirates, DfID, ECHO, OFDA/USAID, SIDA, OCHA, the World Bank, and the Swedish, UK and US Fund for UNICEF, as well as the private sector.

Next Situation Report: 11 February 2015

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Programme Results (Period 27/01 – 02/02/2015)

UNICEF and Pillar/Sector Results for EVD response (04/02/2015)				
Indicators	Pillar / Sector		UNICEF	
	Target	Results	Target	Results
Percentage of EVD cases with onset in the past week		0.93% (75/8,077)		
Percentage of District, Social Mobilization taskforces (SMT) reporting on the dashboard each week (UNMEER)	100% (14)	71% (10/14)	100% (14)	71% (10/14)) ¹
Percentage of districts, counties etc. 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 (UNMEER)	100% (14)	100% (14/14)	100% (14)	100% (14/14)
Percentage of Districts with at least one security incident or other form of refusal to cooperate in past week (UNMEER)	0% (0)	14% (2/14)	0% (0)	14% (2/14) ^[2]
Percentage of CCCs established after a community dialogue process aligned with Global SOPs or according to norms established in country (UNMEER)	100% (100)	50% (50)	100% (46)	100% (46/46)*
Radio stations airing daily messages on Ebola	100% (64)	97% (62/64)	100% (64)	97% (62/64)
Districts where all radio stations air Ebola content every day	100% (14)	100% (14/14)	100% (14)	100% (14/14)
House Holds receiving Inter-Personal Communication on Ebola prevention messages (in a quarterly bases)	100% (886,480)	66% (587,364/ 886,480)	60% (532,000)	66% (587,364/ 886,480)
Percentage of CCCs functional against target set for the current reporting period (UNMEER)	100% (100)	53% (53/100)	100% (46)	100% (46/46)
Percentage of patients who present at a CCC within 48 hours of becoming ill with any	100%	21% (15/71)	100%	21% (15/71)

^[2] Base on reports from all districts except Bo, Kono, Tonkolili and WA Rural.

^[2] Bombali and Western Area Urban

symptoms that could be EVD (UNMEER)				
Percentage of all Ebola community treatment and holding centers with essential WASH services	100% (94)	72% (69/94)	100% (50)	72% (36/50)
CCCs provided with essential WASH services	100% (100)	NA	100% (46)	100% (46/46)
Non-Ebola health centres in Ebola- affected areas provided with hand-washing stations	100% (1,162)	100% (1,162/1,162)	100% (1,162)	100% (1,162/1,162)
People in quarantine households receiving WASH support (as part of “home protection and support” kit)	100% (420,000)	11% (46,139/420,000)	100% (420,000)	11% (46,139/420,000)
Percentage of EVD-affected children provided with care and support, including psychosocial support	100%	82%		
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.	100%	63% (1,156/1,835)		
EVD-affected children provided with psychosocial support.	100% (11,635)	82% (9,534/11,635)	100% (11,635)	82% (9,534/11,635)
EVD-affected caregivers provided with psychosocial support.	75% (15,000)	69% (10,416/15,000)	75% (15,000)	69% (10,416/15,000)
EVD-affected children placed in interim care	TBD	421	TBD	421
EVD-affected children reunified with their families	TBD	1,156	TBD	1,156
EVD-affected children and adult survivors who receive non-food items	100% (12,609)	76% (9,545/12,609)	100% (12,609)	76% (9,545/12,609)
Percentage of patients admitted to CCCs with a provisional diagnosis of possible EVD who received a confirmatory positive or negative test (rapid or laboratory test) within 36 hours of admission to treatment facility	100%	95% (42/44)	100%	95% (42/44)
Health structures in EVD affected areas provided with essential commodities package	100% (1,185)	101% (1,195/1,185)	100% (1,185)	101% (1,195/1,185)
Health personnel in health facilities trained in infection prevention and control and Ebola triage	100% (2000)	218% (4,368/2,000)	100% (2000)	218% (4,368/2,000)

Community Health Workers (CHW) trained on revised guidelines on provision of community-based maternal, new-born and child health (MNCH) care	100% (6,000)	75% (4,527/6,000)	100% (6,000)	75% (4,527/6,000)
HIV positive women (including pregnant women) continuing to receive ARTs	NA	NA	100% (1,142)	75% (856/1,142)
HIV positive children continuing to receive ARTs	NA	NA	100% (539)	20% (109/539)
Treatment centres providing nutrition support to Ebola patients**	100% (150)	117% (176/150)	100% (150)	117% (176/150)
Children 6-59 months screened for SAM and referred for treatment	70% (18,885)	65.1% (12,288/18,885)	70% (18,885)	65.1% (12,288/18,885)
Radio Lesson Listenership Coverage during EREP monitoring	100%	54.0% (520/950 HH surveyed)	100%	54.0% (520/950 HH surveyed)
Teachers trained on psycho social support, Ebola prevention, and safe and protective learning environments	7,000	NA	7,000	NA
Radio stations broadcasting emergency learning programmes	100% (41)	100% (41/41)	100% (41)	100% (41/41)
Extremely poor households directly affected by the EVD that receive a cash transfer through the national safety net programme	8,000	0	NA	NA

*All CCCs are being established following a community dialogue process.

**= targets set for Jan-February 2015. Result is all the operational centres supported with nutrition supplies.

For some indicators the numbers from the pillar's columns are the same than UNICEF's numbers, because there was no other information available from the Pillar.