Highlights

- As of 28 August 2014, Guinea has recorded a total of 670 cases and 443 deaths. Ebola confirmed cases and deaths have risen to 507 and 299, respectively.
- As of August 22, 103 children (0-18 years) were among the cases (76 confirmed, 23 probable, 4 suspected); 70 have died.
- UNICEF handed over 100 motorcycles, 430,000 bars of soap, 230,000 bottles of chlorine, 20,000 posters, 500 handwashing stations, megaphones and other communications materials to the government to fight Ebola. The items were valued at more than 650,000 USD.
- UNICEF and partners developed and implemented an action plan with the goal of optimizing operations before the end the first half of September.
- In Nzérékoré city demonstrations occurred on Thursday. The cause was a rumor that officers reportedly went into the local market to spray against Ebola. People panicked, looted, and attacked the Regional Hospital of Nzérékoré. Groups of youths armed with stones, sticks and other sharp objects chanted “Ebola, it’s wrong, there is no Ebola.” Regional and prefectural authorities, elders, religious leaders and local representatives of the UN system, including UNICEF, are conducting advocacy to find lasting solutions to this situation.
- Community sensitization activities continue in Conakry, Nzérékoré Macenta Yomou, Sigui and Kouroussa continue. 220 new religious leaders were trained and gave sermons in 220 places of worship in Conakry and Nzérékoré; 11,050 households were sensitized through door to door visits and public events. This included the distribution of 28,066 pieces of soap, chlorine 15,084 bottles, and thousands of flyers.
- UNICEF and partners also reached 220,500 people via 50 national bus stations, 10 wharves and 10 fishing ports, the placement of 60 handwashing stations in public sites and the distribution of 8,000 bottles of chlorine and 8,000 pieces of soap in various locations;
- 311 traditional healers from associations of traditional healers Kissidougou, Guékédou Macenta have been trained on Ebola.

Quick facts

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

29 August

Ebola

670 cases in Guinea (507 cases of confirmed Ebola)

443 deaths (299 have been confirmed Ebola)

103 children with Ebola*

70 children died*

* 0-18 years

UNICEF funding needs until December 2014

US$ 9,249,257

UNICEF funding gap

US$ 7,118,333
Additional Information

Rumors and Challenges
In reluctant villages in Guékédou it was notable to see the fear caused by the bottles of chlorine among villagers who consider the chlorine to be poison used to introduce the virus or disease.

The reluctance of people makes it very difficult to undertake interpersonal communication and sensitize community leaders. Community sensitizers often face danger and their activities in the field are routinely suspended. Local media is an essential compliment in these cases, but their lack of coverage limits their actions.

Opportunities
Opportunities strongly leveraged by UNICEF advocacy interventions and social mobilization at the community level

- The involvement of rural citizens living in cities who are willing to contribute to the fight against Ebola and the lifting of reservations of visits to their home villages
- The testimony of people who survived Ebola and the celebration of their return at home.

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