



# Liberia Ebola Situation Report

unicef 

## SITUATION IN NUMBERS

## Highlights

- Since the UNICEF SitRep of 12 September, 610 new suspected, probable and confirmed Ebola cases, and 271 new deaths were added to the official totals for Liberia, indicating a continued steepening of the epidemic curve.
- Montserrado County remains the current epicenter of the outbreak, with the caseload continuing to rise rapidly; 305 new cases were reported in Montserrado over the current reporting period. Bong County also reported a steep rise of an additional 50 cases, and Grand Bassa County reported an additional 55 cases.
- With three cases (including two deaths) reported from Grand Kru County, all 15 of Liberia's counties are now affected.
- The US Government began airlifting supplies and personnel as part of its planned deployment of 3,000 troops to the sub-region to provide medical and logistical support, including establishing additional 17 Ebola treatment units (ETUs) in Liberia and training up to 500 healthcare workers per week. A joint command centre will be based in Monrovia to coordinate the relief effort.
- The Armed Forces of Liberia and US engineers carried out a joint site assessment for the construction of a new ETU in Bomi County. Meanwhile, work progressed on the establishment of additional ETUs at the site of the former Ministry of Defense and the national football stadium in Monrovia.
- Following a review of case management policy, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW) and other partners began planning for a proposed system of Ebola community care centres.
- Together with the Government and other key partners, UNICEF began a training of education staff, with a goal of mobilizing over 11,000 teachers and staff in disseminating Ebola messaging.
- A UNICEF HQ/Regional Office joint mission was deployed to Liberia to assess needs, identify resources and make recommendations to strengthen the Country Office's operational planning.

## Ebola statistics as of 17 September

### 3,017 cases including:

- 817 suspected
- 1,339 probable
- 861 confirmed

### 1,567 deaths including:

- 361 suspected
- 539 probable
- 667 confirmed

### 171 cases and 83 deaths among health care workers

## UNICEF funding needs for next six months

**US\$ 64.77 million**

## UNICEF funding gap

**US\$ 62.47 million**

\*All Ebola statistics in this report are drawn from MoHSW Ebola SitRep #125, which reports cumulative cases as of 17 September 2014.

## Situation Overview

During the reporting period, the number of cases continued to rise rapidly, with steep increases in reported cases from Montserrado, Bong and Grand Bassa Counties. With the emergence of reported cases in Grand Kru County – one of Liberia’s most remote Counties – all 15 counties are now reporting Ebola cases. Meanwhile, despite progress in the establishment of additional ETUs and Ebola labs, the number of beds in ETUs continues to fall far short of the need, and testing facilities remain inadequate. General health services also remain overwhelmed. Consequently, the epidemic continues to increase, and UNICEF’s funding requirement is continuously growing.

## WASH

- UNICEF provided 18 water tanks of 5,000-litre capacity to the MoHSW for water supply purposes at the site of the new ETU under development at the Ministry of Defence. Drilling of boreholes at the site is ongoing.
- UNICEF also hosted a WASH sector technical forum with WHO, WFP, USAID and other partners to discuss the design and construction progress at the two proposed ETU sites at the Ministry of Defense and SKD Stadium in Monrovia. Technical drawings have been prepared for the installation of water supply and waste water systems at both sites.
- As part of its response to improve clean water and sanitation access in urban areas, UNICEF continued its work to connect previously provided water tanks with the municipal water system in Monrovia’s West Point community. Two out of the planned five sites are complete and have been handed over to the community.

## Communication for Development (C4D)

- Together with the MoHSW, WHO and key partners, UNICEF continued trainings on Ebola awareness and outreach for an additional 300 general Community Health Volunteers (gCHVs) in Montserrado County, advancing towards its goal of training over 2,000 gCHVs. Trainings also featured a nutrition component to engage the gCHVs in also identifying severely malnourished children in communities. The trainees have since been deployed, and impact will be monitored in coordination between UNICEF field coordinators and County Health Teams.
- UNICEF facilitated a training-of-trainers in cooperation with MoHSW, WHO and the USAID-funded programme Rebuilding Basic Health Services for 55 educators and 23 representatives of education sector NGOs on Ebola prevention and awareness social mobilization, customized for teachers. A total of 30 Ministry of Education (MoE) staff were assigned to extend the trainings to the county level. Through the cascade training model, over 11,000 education workers are expected to be trained nationwide in the coming months.
- Following UNICEF-led trainings in late August, a total of 500 adolescents (comprised of a majority of girls) began carrying out Ebola outreach and awareness activities in the West Point and New Kru Town communities of Monrovia. In addition to the training, UNICEF provided the girls with protective rain gear, sanitizer and thermometers.

## Child Protection

- UNICEF, in collaboration with ICRC, WHO, and Save the Children, supported the MoHSW to conduct a training of trainers in psychosocial care for children and their families for 15 social workers and 15 mental health clinicians. Trainees will go on to train an additional 80 social workers and clinicians.
- The UNICEF-funded and MoHSW-managed safe home for Ebola orphans provided psychosocial care and support services to 15 children, while family tracing is carried out. To date a total of 45 children have accessed services at the safe home.
- A transit house for children requiring 21-day isolation was established in Kakata, Margibi County. Members of the Kakata Ebola survivors’ network have been hired to staff the facility.

## Education

- The MoE formally launched its Radio Education Programme, which will commence with two weeks of awareness messaging. With technical support from UNICEF and airtime provided by UNMIL, the programme aims to reach all 15 counties (at least 85% of the population) with 2-3 hours of daily targeted educational content, including psycho-social support messaging, interactive recreational activities, and practical academic lessons with integrated content for learners from ECD-Grade 12 levels.

## Funding

UNICEF's funding needs for the next six have been estimated to be around US\$ 64.77 million, as indicated in the Sub-regional UNICEF Humanitarian Appeal for Children (HAC) aligned with the Inter-agency Regional Overview of Needs and Requirements for Ebola Crisis Response. Significant increase in mobilization of resources is urgently needed to rapidly scale up activities to reverse the trajectory of the outbreak.

## 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 SitReps.

	UNICEF TARGET	UNICEF RESULT	% TARGET COVERED
<b>WATER, SANITATION &amp; HYGIENE (WASH)</b>			
Estimated # of people reached with hygiene kits	250,000	45,000	18%
Estimated # of people reached by hygiene promotion messages and awareness	275,000	164,500	60%
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>			
# of children participating in psycho-social activities	300	15	5%
# of orphaned and abandoned children (survivors or contacts) reintegrated into their families or placed into appropriate alternative care	300	45	15%
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
# of education workers effectively trained as Ebola awareness social mobilizers	11,165	78	1%
<b>COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (C4D)</b>			
# of master trainers trained on social mobilization and community awareness	120	40	33%
# of general Community Health Volunteers trained in social mobilization	2,371	300	13%

## Media and External Communications

- UNICEF's Liberia Country Representative recorded a video appeal for more international support to fight Ebola in Liberia: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-s3cterdyM>
- UNICEF headquarters published a news note highlighting the impact of the epidemic on children, including those in Liberia: [http://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_75860.html](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_75860.html)
- UNICEF Liberia published a photo essay on its response efforts on Facebook, focusing primarily on the recent surge of supplies: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.536566869778479.1073741841.269713939797108&type=1>
- CCTV America broadcast an interview with UNICEF's Liberia Country Representative about challenges facing the Ebola response in Liberia, incorporating extensive UNICEF video footage: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VMu32pb3cQ&feature=youtu.be>
- Arise News aired a special report on the announcement of US military support to Liberia's Ebola response, featuring UNICEF's Liberia Country Representative: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYQB08fVri4&feature=youtu.be>
- ABC Australia interviewed UNICEF's Chief of Crisis Communications about the problem of children dying of preventable diseases and the overall situation in Liberia. The interview featured extensive UNICEF footage and was broadcast in multiple slots: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-17/liberian-children-dying-of-preventable-diseases/5751726>  
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-17/liberians-at-the-heart-of-the-ebola-crisis-feel/5751786>
- BBC World interviewed UNICEF's Chief of Crisis Communications as part of a special report on Ebola, where she discussed the impact on children in Liberia: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=2daa24d4-b752-4f48-b3a4-c2e7b634f04f>

- Al Jazeera's The Stream interviewed UNICEF's Chief of Crisis Communications as part of special report segments on the Ebola Crisis in West Africa:  
[https://www.dropbox.com/s/ekljivprfrveyo6/AJAM\\_09-16-2014\\_12.45.05.mp4?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/ekljivprfrveyo6/AJAM_09-16-2014_12.45.05.mp4?dl=0)  
[https://www.dropbox.com/s/9t69z4nxb2ornxw/AJAM\\_09-16-2014\\_12.54.41.mp4?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/9t69z4nxb2ornxw/AJAM_09-16-2014_12.54.41.mp4?dl=0)
- And a number of other global news outlets published articles highlighting Ebola's threat to child health in Liberia, featuring quotes from UNICEF Liberia's Country Representative and/or Chief of Crisis Communications.

Next SitRep: 26/09/2014

UNICEF-Liberia Ebola Outbreak on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Liberia.Unicef>

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

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