



UNICEF supports EVD-affected children with foster care, psychosocial care and other assistance.

Liberia Ebola Situation Report no. 83

20 May 2015



HIGHLIGHTS

- The EVD outbreak in Liberia was declared over on 9 May 2015, after 42 complete days elapsed since the burial of the last confirmed case.
- To date, 3,323 children are registered as having lost one or both parents/primary caregivers due to Ebola (884 having lost both parents and 2,439 lost one parent).
- UNICEF-supported integrated measles, oral polio vaccine and deworming campaign concluded country wide on 15 May 2015. Preliminary data shows that coverage exceeded 95 per cent of the target population. UNICEF provided key campaign supplies, including measles and polio vaccines, deworming tablets, syringes and needles, and operational funds for the campaign.
- Back-to-School kits containing infection prevention and control supplies were delivered to an additional 611 schools in Montserrado County and 30 schools in Gbarpolu County. 4,619 schools serving approx. 1.2 million children have now received the supplies required for infection, prevention and control in schools.
- UNICEF is a key partner on the team that is responsible for decommissioning Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) in Liberia, starting with five ETUs in Montserrado County in the coming weeks.
- UNICEF continued to support cross-border EVD prevention interventions, including collaborating with a local NGO to implement community engagement interventions in four border counties, namely Bong, Grand Cape Mount, Lofa and Nimba counties.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

As of 20 May 2015¹

10

90-days active surveillance count

60

Number of days without a new confirmed case

53

Number of days since last case expired

52

Number of days since last case was buried

UNICEF funding needs until June 2015

USD 187.1 million

Funding gap

USD 52.9 million

Situation Overview and Humanitarian Needs

The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in Liberia was declared over on 9 May 2015, after 42 complete days elapsed following the burial of the last confirmed case. The country has now entered a 3-month period of heightened vigilance. WHO will maintain an enhanced presence in the country until the end of 2015, with a particular focus on areas that border Guinea and Sierra Leone.

Education

- Back-to-School kits containing infection prevention and control supplies were delivered to an additional 611 schools in Montserrado County and 30 schools in Gbarpolu County. These schools were not included in the original vetted distribution list provided by the Ministry of Education. In total, 4,619 schools serving approx. 1.2 million children received the supplies required for infection, prevention and control in schools.
- The packaging of teaching and learning material for teachers and students began this week in preparation for distribution to more than 5,000 schools countrywide.
- UNICEF is assisting the Ministry of Education and UNDP in strengthening the country's education sector recovery plan by ensuring that key elements are adequately reflected and budgeted. The UNICEF-led Education Cluster has reactivated the Strategic Advisory Group to ensure lessons learned from the EVD response are captured and used to integrate preparedness and resilience into future sector policy and planning, including the development of a contingency plan, and begin the transition phase to a permanent Education in Emergencies working group under the Education Sector Development Committee.

Child Protection

- The Government of Liberia has identified 4,572 (2,372 girls and 2,200 boys) as affected by EVD. The total number of children registered to date as having lost one or both parents/primary caregivers due to EVD is 3,323 (884 having lost both parents and 2,439 lost one parent).
- Of the 3,323 registered children who have lost one or both parents/primary caregivers due to EVD, 2,305 children have received a one-off financial cash grant of USD 150 through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP), representing 69 per cent of registered children.
- UNICEF continued to support the revitalization of birth registration and certification in Liberia, which slowed down or stopped in many health centers during the EVD outbreak. Prior to the outbreak, UNICEF helped increase the birth registration rate from 4 to 25 per cent, but assessments have shown that most of the 73,000 children born during the EVD outbreak have not been registered.
- UNICEF assisted the MGCSP with technical guidance in influencing the National Investment Plan for Rebuilding a Resilient Health System in Liberia by ensuring that it includes a strong social protection component for children within a holistic health package. Simultaneously, UNICEF is working with the ministry to strengthen the sector recovery plan.
- UNICEF continued to provide support to the MGCSP to strengthen its Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS). UNICEF will also fund the position of CPIMS manager for the next ten months, and supply 100 phones and 30 solar charges to facilitate data collection, monitoring and field reporting on key child protection indicators.
- Last week, UNICEF held preparatory meetings to facilitate the rollout of the case management and foster care guidelines, based on the Liberia alternative care guidelines. The interagency accreditation committee will be trained in the coming week on the accreditation tools for orphanages.
- The President of Liberia, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, and the Minister of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Julia Duncan-Cassell, visited the UNICEF-supported Kerlekula Interim Care Center (ICC) in Monrovia last week. The ICC provided interim housing for at least 50 children that came in contact with EVD-positive individuals during the disease's three-week incubation and observation period.
- UNICEF supported the Zwedru Youth Center in Grand Gedeh County with office equipment. The Youth Center offers empowerment programs, life skills training and education programs, and has so far reached around 200 young people in the county.
- UNICEF supported the training of eight social workers within the Child Justice Section of the Ministry of Justice on child friendly practices and psychosocial support for dealing with children in conflict with the law and for children on probation. The trained social workers will also provide support to MGCSP social workers dealing and responding to cases of children facing the justice system. UNICEF is currently planning to expand the training to more than 200 law enforcement officials.

Health and Nutrition

- UNICEF-supported integrated measles, oral polio vaccine and deworming campaign concluded country wide on 15 May 2015. Preliminary data shows that coverage exceeded 95 per cent of the target population. Final results of the

campaign are expected to be released shortly. UNICEF provided key campaign supplies, including measles and polio vaccines, deworming tablets, syringes and needles, and operational funds for the campaign. In addition, UNICEF led and coordinated the nation-wide social mobilization and community engagement efforts to address the negative perceptions of immunization resulting from recent Ebola vaccine trials and educating the general public about the importance of routine immunization.

- The distribution of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLITN) by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and partners is ongoing across Liberia.
- A five-day review of the Family Reproductive Maternal Neonatal policy and protocol workshop is ongoing in Gbarnga, Bong County, with 30 participants from the MoH and key stakeholders taking part.
- UNICEF is providing technical assistance to the MoH in the development of national and county level operational plans based on the country's Resilient Health System Investment and Transition Plan, which was recently finalized.
- From September 2014 to April 2015, 3,637 severely malnourished children from six counties (Bomi, Bong, Lofa, Margibi, Monterrado, and Nimba) highly affected by Ebola were admitted into Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) treatment sites. During April 2015 alone, 606 severely malnourished children were admitted into IMAM treatment sites in Bomi, Bong, Lofa, and Montserrado counties. No reports have been received yet from Margibi and Nimba counties for April 2015.
- During the last six months, Bong, Lofa, and Margibi counties admitted less severely malnourished children than estimated thus there is a need to investigate, engage with county health teams and strengthen active screening for malnutrition in these counties.
- A total of 2,741 cartons of ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF), 45 cartons of F-75 therapeutic milk and 226 packs of mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) tapes are being dispatched by UNICEF to all 15 counties to cover their nutrition supply needs for June and July 2015.
- Nearly USD 40,000 have been transferred by UNICEF to the MoH to support IMAM trainings in Gbarpolu, Lofa, Rivercess and Sinoe counties from June to July 2015. The training will support the establishment of 21 outpatient nutrition treatment sites in Gbarpolu, Rivercess and Sinoe counties where one Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) site will be established in each health district.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- As part of its efforts to strengthen the government's capacity, UNICEF handed over three Toyota Land-Cruiser Jeeps to the Ministry of Public Works to enhance WASH program monitoring, supportive supervision, information flow and system development at both national and sub national levels.
- UNICEF erected a steel water tower at the JFK hospital compound in Monrovia. A 1,500-gallon poly tank will be placed on the tower for supplying water at the National Drugs Service's office.
- UNICEF is sponsoring the participation of eight government officials at the AfricaSan Conference in Dakar this week. These include officials from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of State for Presidential Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation, Ministry of Public Works and representatives from Liberia NGO networks and WASH Reporters and Editors Network of Liberia. The conference is an opportunity for representatives of African states to discuss progress on achieving universal access to improved sanitation and adoption of good hygiene practices.
- With support from UNICEF and key partners, the President of Liberia launched WASH-in-Schools protocols with the aim to harmonize standards for school-based WASH infrastructure improvements and hygiene promotion. An assessment of WASH facilities in schools is being planned.
- UNICEF is a key partner on the team that is responsible for decommissioning Ebola Treatment Units (ETU) in Liberia, starting with five ETUs in Montserrado County in the coming weeks.
- As part of the rehabilitation and improvement of WASH systems in healthcare facilities to ensure Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) compliance, a joint assessment was carried out with the aim to identify key needs for the short and medium terms toward restoring health facilities and making them resilient to respond to similar outbreaks in future. Moving on to the recovery phase, UNICEF is supporting the rehabilitation of WASH facilities in 50 health facilities across Liberia in response to a direct request from the MoH. In addition, UNICEF is supporting the ministry to put in place standard guidelines for WASH in health facilities.
- UNICEF is currently supporting Monrovia City Council to develop a national solid waste policy document to inform and guide all actors on the planning and implementation of solid waste management interventions. UNICEF is also supporting the MoH Health to develop guidelines on a minimum WASH package for WASH in healthcare facilities.

Social Mobilisation

- Social mobilisation efforts by UNICEF and its partners in the recently concluded integrated measles, polio and deworming vaccination campaign were noted in various forums. Across all counties, all key partners worked in concert to support the county health teams in advocacy, mass media and community engagement activities. Part of the social mobilization achievement in the campaign is due to the manner in which the few reported refusal or resistance incidents were dealt with. For instance, in Montserrado County, the principal of Ducor Road Kindergarten School reported that parents did not agree to vaccinate their school children. A meeting was arranged between the parents and the school authority during which representatives of UNICEF and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) explained to the parents the usefulness of vaccinating the children in post-Ebola Liberia. Subsequently, parents agreed to vaccinate their children at the nearest vaccination centre and the following day, 17 children of the school received the vaccine.
- UNICEF continued to support cross-border EVD prevention interventions. UNICEF is also collaborating with a local NGO to implement community engagement interventions in four border counties, namely Bong, Grand Cape Mount, Lofa and Nimba.

Supply and Logistics

- In Liberia, the Border Coordination Group initiated by UNMEER, CDC, WHO and IOM, under national chairmanship, are coordinating the pre-positioning of infection prevention and control (IPC) supplies to secure Liberia's borders. UNICEF played a key role in delivering supplies to key border crossing points across the seven counties sharing a border with Sierra Leone, Guinea and Ivory Coast. In addition, UNICEF prepositioned isolation and triage supplies at key border crossing points in Maryland County ahead of the voluntary repatriation of Ivorian refugees.

Media Coverage

- UNICEF Representative, Sheldon Yett, on [community action that helped stop Ebola transmission in Liberia, and the need for continued vigilance](#) (AP, The Chronicle)
- UNICEF Representative Sheldon Yett: Handover of trucks to Monrovia City Corporation (allAfrica.com)
- Orlando Bloom, UNICEF Global Ambassador, Visits Liberia: Ground Zero for Ebola (CNN)
- UNICEF delegation conducts interactive working visit in several Ebola affected communities (allAfrica.com)

Funding

Funding Requirements, as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of December 2014 (for 6 months)					
Appeal Sector	Ebola Requirements Sept 2014 (USD)	Revised Ebola Requirements Dec 2014 (USD)	Funds received*	Funding gap	
				\$	%
C4D/Social Mobilization	12,915,145	22,588,357	13,850,885	8,737,472	39
Nutrition	7,289,263	10,736,999	3,740,116	6,996,883	65
Health and HIV/AIDS	25,546,857	70,812,058	43,864,429	26,947,629	38
WASH **	22,405,806	45,378,144	29,252,607	16,125,537	36
Child Protection	8,079,681	12,239,127	13,291,579	-1,052,452	-9
Education	4,593,643	14,532,090	9,532,800	4,999,290	34
Cross Sectoral	4,981,002	7,667,614	6,404,090	1,263,524	16
Cluster/Sector Coordination	0	3,117,296	2,601,665	515,631	17
Funds under allocation			2,554,831	-2,554,831	
Recovery cost			9,036,468	-9,036,468	
Total	85,811,397	187,071,685	134,129,471	52,942,214	28

*Programmable amount

**UNICEF received from OFDA a total of USD 47,863,314 specifically for Health and WASH support to ETUs and CCCs. These figures are reflected above in Health and WASH sectors.

Programme Results

UNICEF and Pillar/Sector Results for EVD Response						
Liberia, 20 May 2015						
Indicators	Pillar / Sector			UNICEF		
	Target	Actual	% Achieved	Target	Actual	% Achieved
EPIDEMIOLOGY						
Registered Ebola children who lost one or both parents/primary caregivers		3,323				
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT						
Households reached with interpersonal communication on Ebola prevention	750,000	550,402	73%	500,000	480,402	96%
Sub-prefectures Chiefdoms and/or counties reporting resistance/reticence to cooperating with front line workers in the past week				0	0/15	
Households reached with Inter-Personal Communication for National health campaigns (Integrated Measles, Polio, and Deworming campaign)				200,000	229,031	114%
Proportion of population surveyed who indicated discriminatory attitude towards Ebola survivors				<3%	37% ¹ (435/1,165)	
Proportion of population surveyed who rejected alternatives to traditional burials/funerals				<3%	17% ² (194/1,155)	
Community Care Centres/RITES						
CCCs/RITES established		25			12	
CCCs/RITES functional		-			9	
CCCs/RITES decommissioned		-			0	
CCCs/RITES converted/transformed into Alternate Care Centres		-			0	
RITES pre-positioned for Rapid Response					19	
RITES utilized in hot spot communities					3	
WASH						

¹ KAP Survey, December 2014

² KAP Survey, December 2014

Ebola community, treatment and holding centres with essential WASH services	29 ³	24	83%	14 ⁴	14	100%
Non-Ebola health centres in Ebola-affected areas provided with hand washing station and/or WASH support				270	270	100%
People benefiting from household WASH kits in Ebola-affected areas				450,000 ⁵	308,035	68%
CHILD PROTECTION						
Ebola-affected children provided with minimum package of psychosocial support (PSS) services	7,500	4,572	61%	7,500	4,572	61%
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	3, 323 ⁶	2,305	61%	3, 323	2,305	61%
HEALTH						
Health structures in Ebola-affected areas provided with Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) supplies				470	270	57%
Community Health Workers trained in Ebola prevention and case management				650	102	16%
NUTRITION						
Ebola patients receiving nutrition support				1,088	988	91%
Children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admitted for treatment				4,000	3,637	91%
Infants 0-6 months who cannot be breast fed, receiving ready to use infant formula				32	32	100%
EDUCATION						
Teachers trained in Ebola prevention	6,000 ⁷	5,995	100%	6,000	5,995	100%
Schools equipped with minimum hygiene package for Ebola prevention compliant with	4,400	4,619	105%	4,400	4,619	105%

³ 25 CCCs and 4 transit centres/holding centres

⁴ 12 CCCs and 2 transit centres /holding centres

⁵ Target revised downward as funding has been secured for 90,000 households / 450,000 people.

⁶ To-date, a total number of children registered by the Ministry social workers as having lost one or both parents/primary caregivers due to EVD is 3,323 (884 having lost both parents and 2,439 lost one parent). This number is expected to increase as the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection still continue identifying orphans.

⁷ This target has been reduced as the training was declared completed by the MoE in January.

protocols						
Children enrolled in schools equipped with minimum hygiene package	1,153,316	1,196,010	104%	1,153,316	1,196,010	104%

UNICEF Liberia Humanitarian Performance Monitoring Indicators

Indicator	Target	TOTAL UNICEF RESULTS	
		Results	(%)
Households reached by social mobilization teams	500,000	480,402	96%
Households reached with Inter-Personal Communication for the National Measles campaign	100,000	28,141	28%
HEALTH			
Ebola treatment/care centers equipped with medical supplies	52	28	54%
Health facilities equipped with essential commodities for maternal, new-born and child health care and infection prevention and control	470	270	57%
NUTRITION			
Percentage of Ebola patients who received nutrition support in UNICEF supported ETUs and CCCs	94%	988/1,088	91%
Percentage of children in previously identified Ebola hotspots admitted for SAM treatment ⁸	4,000	2,357	59%
WASH			
Households equipped with hygiene kits in Ebola-affected areas	150,000	59,768	40%
EDUCATION			
Teachers trained on Ebola awareness and prevention	6,000	5,995	100%
District Education Officers (DEO) trained on the use of the EVD Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) kits for the safe reopening of schools	98	98	100%

Next SitRep: 9 June 2015

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⁸ The six (6) priority counties for SAM treatment, which includes Montserrado, Margibi, Bong, Nimba, Grand Cape Mount and Lofa, are the original six counties where high number of EVD cases were recorded during the height of the EVD crisis.