

## SUB-REGIONAL RESPONSE TO THE EBOLA OUTBREAK (20 September 2014)

### Regional Overview

The total number of probable, confirmed and suspected cases in the current outbreak of Ebola virus disease (Ebola) in West Africa was 5,335, with 2622 deaths, as of 14 September 2014. Countries affected are Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. The upward epidemic trend continues in the three countries that have widespread and intense transmission (Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone). In Nigeria and Senegal, the situation remains contained so far with ongoing monitoring of contacts, containment and prevention measures.

There are 2.5 million children under the age of five living in areas affected by the Ebola virus in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, and thousands of children have lost one or both of their parents/caregivers to Ebola; or their caregivers are being quarantined or treated for extended periods in medical centers. Children may find themselves unaccompanied or separated and in urgent need of immediate protection and long-term support. These children also run the risk of rejection due to the stigma attached to the disease, and may be at risk of exploitation and abuse. The epidemic is affecting the delivery of essential non-Ebola related social services in affected areas. Malaria prevention, immunization, malnutrition, water and sanitation services being adversely impacted. About 3.5 million children in the three most affected countries are out of school and the epidemic is impacting the availability of teachers. Innovative and alternate approaches to education will need to be explored to support the continuity of education for children in affected areas.

UNICEF is appealing for US\$200 million over a 6-month period to support the needs of children and women affected by the Ebola crisis in West Africa, in line with the UN inter-agency response strategy for the Ebola Outbreak. The broad objectives are to stop the spread of the virus, treat the infected, support essential services, preserve stability and prevent outbreak in unaffected countries.



### SOCIAL MOBILISATION

**In Guinea**, during door to door and public events, 43,616 households were sensitized through interpersonal communication. 311 traditional healers and 70 religious leaders were trained on Ebola.

**In Sierra Leone**, 28,000 people are being deployed between 19 and 21 September 2014 during the 'House to House Family Sensitization on Ebola Campaign' aiming at reducing the spread of the disease with the help of community members. An initial group of 200 youths in Freetown were trained to sensitize their communities on Ebola prevention.

**In Liberia**, With the support of UNICEF, 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; UNICEF also provided adolescents with protective rain gear, sanitizer and thermometers. In the coming month, UNICEF will be training 11,000 education workers in Ebola message dissemination.



### HEALTH

The **disruption of health services** means that many children are not receiving life-saving vaccinations, and may not be treated for preventable but potentially fatal common childhood illnesses such as malaria, pneumonia, diarrhea, and the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition. **In Sierra Leone**, UNICEF is supporting ARV treatment to children with HIV/AIDS in four districts affected by Ebola, to ensure continuity of care, through a national NGO partner.



### WASH

**In Guinea**, UNICEF is supporting hygiene promotion and the distribution WASH supplies, including soap, aquatabs, chlorine and disinfectants to health facilities and families.

**In Liberia**, UNICEF is distributing hygiene kits and installing water tanks (18) and water support systems in West Point and Ebola treatment centres in Montserrado County. UNICEF has also distributed hygiene kits, reaching an estimated 45,000 people and about 164,500 people have been reached with hygiene promotion messages

**In Sierra Leone**, 10,050 households were reached by the hand-washing campaign integrated with social mobilization efforts; and 171 training events were held with leaders and other community-based WASH groups on Ebola prevention.



### EDUCATION

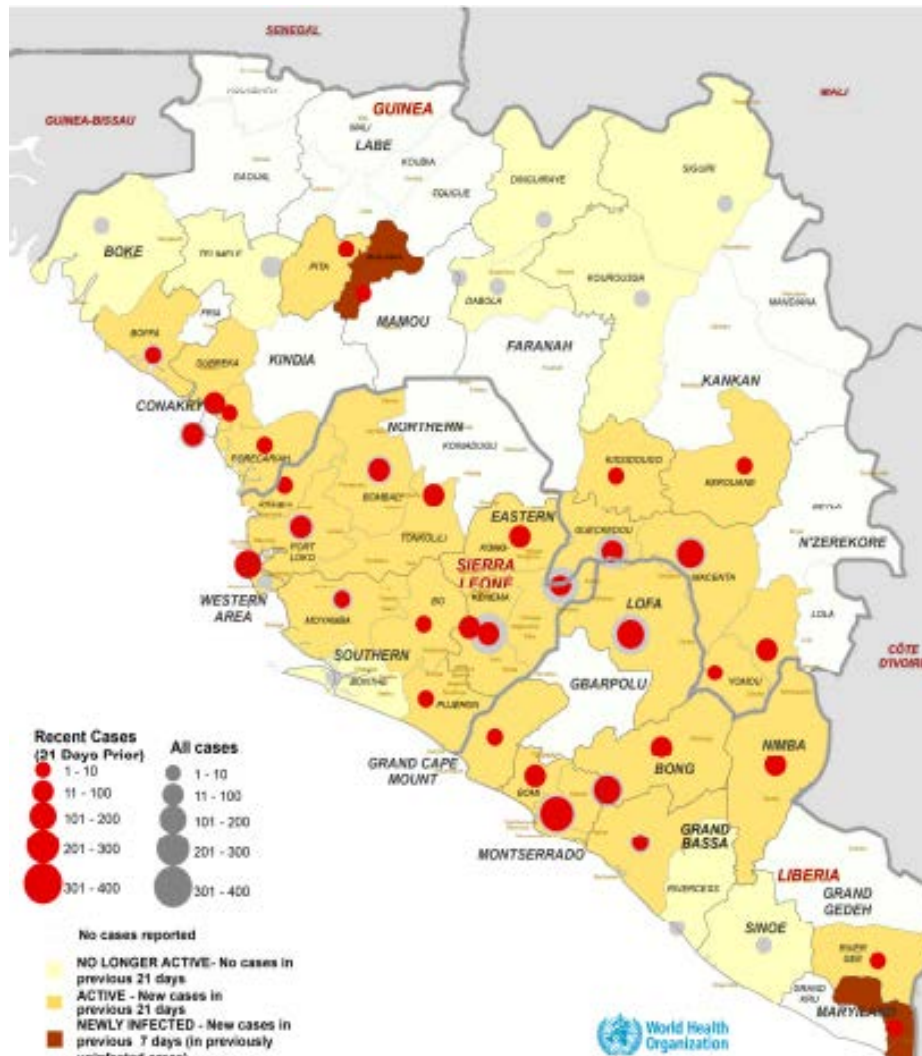
UNICEF is supporting alternative learning forums in Liberia and Sierra Leone, including radio learning, to reach children in affected areas. **In Sierra Leone**, about 109,000 children have been affected by the two postponed 2014 National Examinations.



### PROTECTION

**Psychosocial support** needs are emerging and UNICEF is planning to provide psychosocial support services to children and families affected by Ebola. **In Liberia**, children are receiving psychosocial support through UNICEF-supported projects, and orphaned and abandoned child "contacts" and children of survivors are being reintegrated into their families or placed in appropriate alternative care services.

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COUNTRY UPDATES			
	Case definition	Total	Deaths
<b>Guinea</b>	Confirmed	750	435
	Probable	162	161
	Suspected	30	5
<b>Liberia</b>	All	942	601
	Confirmed	812	631
	Probable	1233	518
	Suspected	675	310
<b>Sierra Leone</b>	All	2710	1459
	Confirmed	1513	517
	Probable	37	34
	Suspected	123	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	All	5335	2622

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## UNICEF Prevention & Preparedness

UNICEF is undertaking preparedness and prevention activities in 18 other countries in the region; including technical support to the development of national contingency plans. UNICEF has prepositioned non-food items, including tents, household WASH items, and hygiene kits in border regions (at risk).

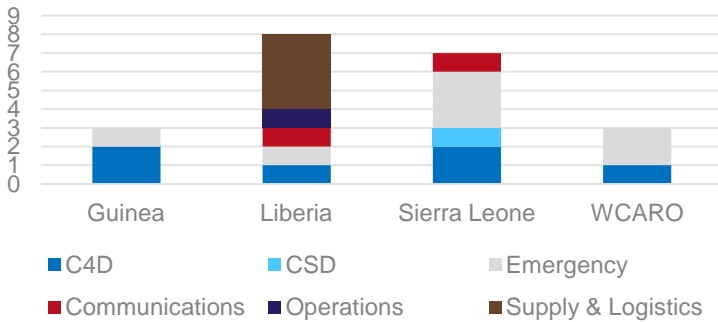
As part of prevention and preparedness efforts, particularly in Nigeria, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal, UNICEF is coordinating with key national and sub-national level partners and stakeholders to implement public awareness and community engagement/mobilization initiatives, including through local radio/television broadcasts, door-to-door campaigns, training of community based workers, teachers and local leaders and cellphone messaging. Messages focus on prevention and response behaviors (including hand-washing) and on the reduction of stigma. Technical and financial support is being provided to national campaigns, via national media and nationwide social networks; and visual information at the entry points (airport, ports, borders).

In the US \$200 million that UNICEF is appealing for, \$10.5 million is to scale up prevention and preparedness activities.



### HUMAN RESOURCES

Support Mission Deployments - On the Ground



### SUPPLY

**In Guinea**, with a USD 13.5M contribution of the World Bank, UNICEF is procuring 178 jeeps, 2 11-tons trucks, 18 ambulances and 300 motorcycles for Ministry of Health response to the Ebola outbreak. Another 100 motorcycles have been purchased to scale up social mobilization/community outreach efforts.

**In Liberia**, UNICEF coordinated the procurement of over 165 MT of medical and WASH supplies through three airlifts this past week, including concentrated chlorine, latex gloves, IV fluids, oral rehydration salts, and ready to use therapeutic food (RUTF) that will be delivered through the MoHSW to health facilities nation-wide.

**In Sierra Leone**, 48 MT of supplies were airlifted 10 days ago and another 100 MT arrived on 17 September with drugs and equipment for community care centres in support of the house-to-house campaign.

111 active surge requests from, DRC CO, Ghana CO, Guinea CO, Liberia CO, Sierra Leone CO, Geneva and WCARO. 45 from Liberia, 31 from Sierra Leone, 17 from Guinea.

## RESOURCE MOBILISATION: \$25.4 MILLION MOBILISED, FUNDING GAP OF \$174.8 MILLION

