



LIBERIA EBOLA RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

MONTHLY SITUATION REPORT •
1– 31 October 2015



Highlights

IOM Sinje IPC Coordinator explains the decommissioning to community leaders during an ETU tour © IOM 2015

■ IOM completed training 371 clinical (159) and non-clinical (212) health care workers in Bomi as part of the county-based roll out of the Ministry of Health (MoH) Safe and Quality Health Services training package, to improve the quality of health service delivery nationally.

■ IOM established permanent presence in the border counties of Lofa, Nimba, and Maryland, to support activities enhancing surveillance capacity at borders and within border communities, in line with the MoH Integrated Disease Surveillance Response (IDSR) strategy.

■ Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene infrastructure upgrades began at 27 health facilities and 50 schools in Bomi, Grand Cape Mount and Grand Bassa counties, to ensure essential IPC standards in health facilities and safe school environments.

Innovating to Reach Each Health Worker

A few weeks into the Safe and Quality Health Services (SQS) training, a package designed by the Ministry of Health and partners with the aim of ensuring that all who work in health facilities are equipped to provide safe, top quality services, IOM trainers in Sinje noticed a gap in results. Several of the non-clinical trainees such as hygienists, security guards and cooks were either illiterate or had a low level of reading comprehension. The same trainees also scored significantly lower on the pre and post training assessments of learning. Faced with this, the IOM Sinje SQS trainers along with 2 Grand Cape Mount County Health Team (CHT) trainers, developed a supplementary means to test the skills of these participants.

As Dr David Ombeni one of the trainers explains, “Illiteracy does not preclude learning. So the participants were put in groups of eight and assigned trainers who speak local dialects.” The trainers also explained concepts in simple, non-technical terms. He illustrates, “Instead of just using words like standard precautions, we would use examples, saying “you know all the actions you take, such as washing your hands and cleaning your surroundings”.”

During pre and post- training testing, they were each assigned a trainer who used a similar method to individually assess the knowledge they gained during the training. [Read more](#)

CONTACTS

For more information on IOM’s Ebola Response in Liberia:

✉ iomliberiapsu@iom.int  <http://liberia.iom.int> <https://www.facebook.com/LiberiaIOM>

IOM RESPONSE



Case Management

The Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) in Sinje, Grand Cape Mount County (GCM) closed to patients on 30th September with the decommissioning process ongoing. Since early October, IOM has engaged community leaders, supported a community-organized traditional ceremony and is working with the GCM County Health Team (CHT) to finalize an asset and structure utilization plan prior to donation. [Read more](#)

Tubmanburg ETU, Bomi and Buchanan ETU, Grand Bassa (GB) stopped admitting patients (15th April), decommissioned, donated assets and structures (27th and 31st August), and have since transferred EVD health services responsibility to CHTs.

While ETUs were operational, 133 patients were admitted, 12 survivors discharged and 15 EVD-related deaths were registered.



Coordination, Surveillance and Capacity Building

IOM opened sub-offices in Lofa, Nimba and Maryland and following meetings with CHTs and local civil society actors has kicked off community event-based surveillance operations with a call for proposals from prospective implementing partners.

IOM continues to provide operational support and mentorship to CHTs and border screening in GCM. Assessments were conducted in 11 communities, at 9 points of entry and 2 checkpoints in GCM, to thereafter provide necessary screening supplies, data management support and mentoring. 81 border actors in GCM, including community volunteers, received on-the-job training on screening procedures and reporting systems.



Social Mobilization

To increase knowledge, influence attitudes and encourage positive practices, IOM is training teachers and parents to promote positive behavior on toilet use, water treatment and hand-washing. IOM is targeting 60

schools that are benefiting from WASH infrastructure upgrades including latrines, hand pumps and hand washing stations. Hygiene promotion activities have been launched with a Training of Trainers in GB (101) and Bomi (68).



To reinforce the 4-day integrated polio vaccination, vitamin A and deworming campaign in GCM (from 23rd to 26th October), IOM and the CHT Child Survivor Focal Point, educated community members on the importance of child vaccination and debunked existing myths, through 2 radio talk shows.

IOM and CHTs marked Global Hand-washing Day by cohosting a radio talk show in GCM and participating in a town hall meeting in GB, to promote hand hygiene as a 'do-it-yourself vaccine' to prevent disease and save lives.

In support of IDSR community surveillance efforts, IOM broadcast messages on safe burial and the need to test all dead bodies for Ebola through 2 radio talk shows in GCM. [See more](#)

IOM continues to provide communities with messages on ETU decommissioning and the need to remain vigilant, through radio jingles (5 daily), household visits by trained community volunteers as well as community meetings (8) in GCM.



Psychosocial Support

As school in Liberia has returned, Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) in schools has resumed with IOM psychosocial support (PSS) teams reaching 11 schools in Grand Bassa (9) and GCM (2) with training and tools on stress management, peer support, and communication skills, paying specific attention to orphans, pregnant girls and children with disabilities.

During October PSS teams offered psychosocial support to IOM and non-IOM Ebola survivors, their families and communities in the three counties.

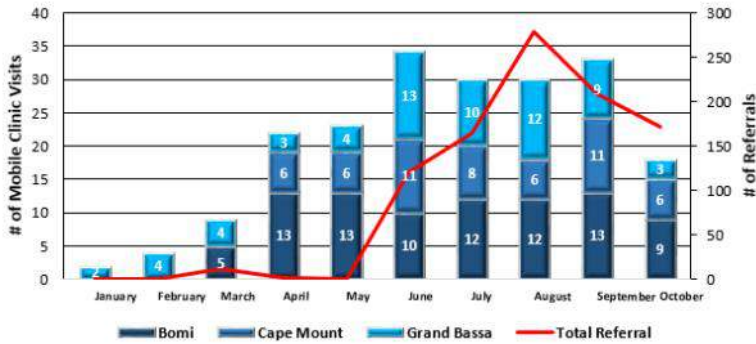


Essential Services Revitalization

IOM continues to partner with CHTs to support restoration of basic health services, including essential vaccinations. IOM conducted 18 mobile clinics in Bomi (9) GCM (6) GB (3) including 118 child vaccinations, 4,618 consultations and 172 patients referred to Liberia government hospitals in respective counties.

To support MoH plans to build countrywide capacity for quality health service delivery, IOM has completed the rollout of MoH Safe and Quality Health Services (SQS) training in Bomi, reaching 371 clinical (159) and non-clinical (212) healthcare workers (HCW) over an 8-week period. Preparations are now complete for IOM trainers to conduct the SQS training in Gbarpolu (250 HCW) and Grand Bassa (312 HCW) beginning in November. [Read more](#)

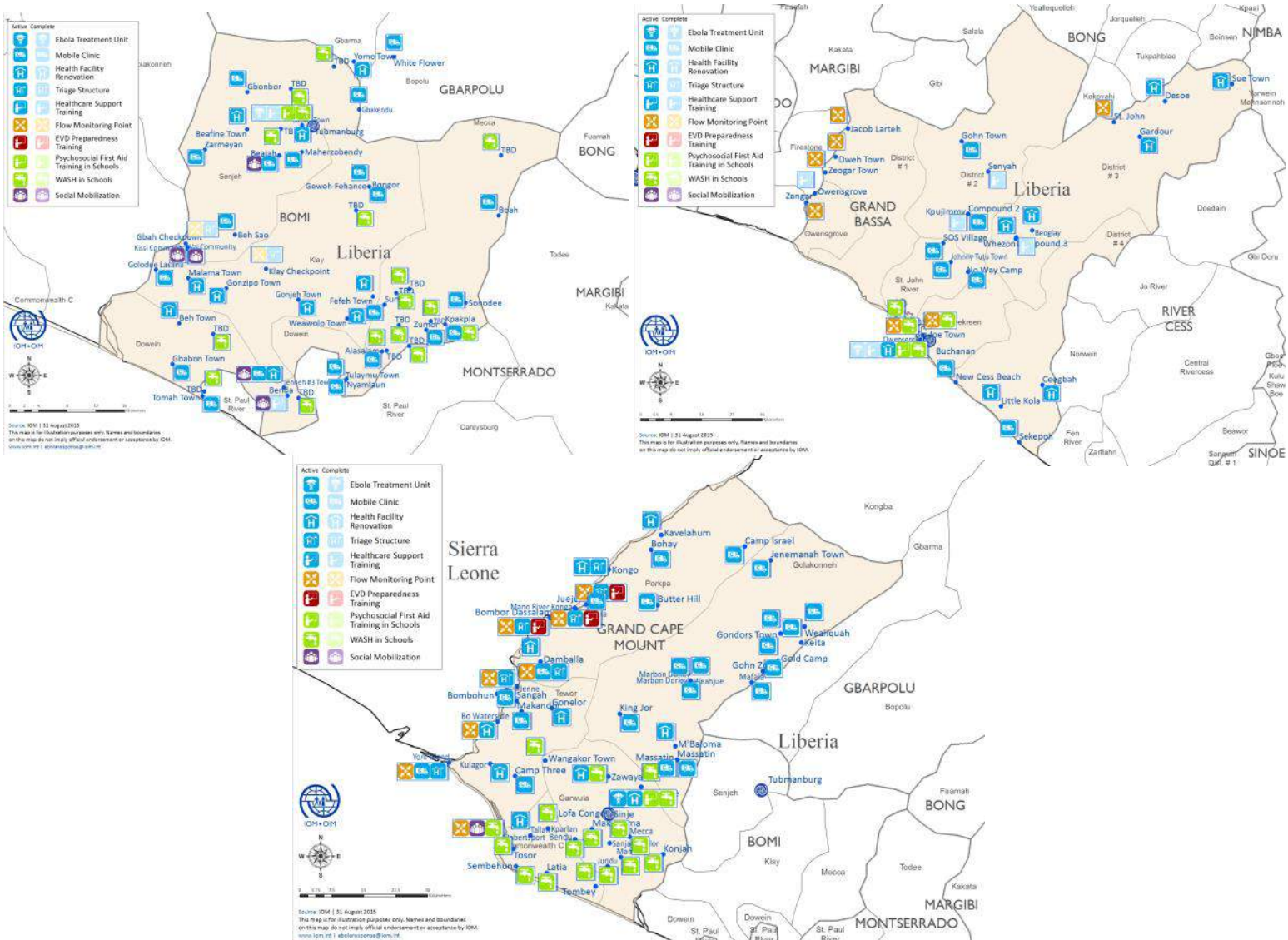
Distribution of Mobile Clinic vs Referrals to Health Facilities








To ensure essential IPC standards, IOM has begun renovation of 27 health facilities in Bomi (10), GB (9) and GCM (8) to include triage, isolation units and WASH infrastructure. In 60 schools, the fabrication of 120 hand-washing facilities is completed and repair of 50 school latrines in Bomi (20) GB (19) and GCM (11) is on-going.

IOM supported the Integrated Polio Vaccination campaign in GCM and GB with logistics support to the mobile vaccination team as well as IOM staff to supervise vaccination, encourage community members to participate and distribute CHT/UNICEF communication materials. [Read more](#)

IOM Ebola Response in Bomi, Grand Cape Mount and Grand Bassa Counties



Dashboard: November 2014-October 2015

	Total	Bomi	Grand Cape Mount	Grand Bassa
 Case Management <p>Tubmanburg, Buchanan and Sinje Ebola Treatment Units have been decommissioned</p>				
# of ETUs operational	3*			
 Surveillance, Coordination and Capacity Building				
# border crossing points / county checkpoints supported	9 BCPs 11 check points	2 checkpoints	9 BCPs 2 checkpoints	7 checkpoints
 Psychosocial Support and Survivor Follow-up				
# of IOM and non-IOM survivors receiving PSS support	77	29	22	26
 Social Mobilization				
# of people reached with household visits (Sept.)	10,513		10,513	
# of persons trained (WASH in schools)	169	68		101
 Essential Services Revitalization				
# of HCWs trained - SQS	728	354	374	-
# of schools supported through repaired hand pumps, new boreholes, and latrine infrastructure	48 (hand umps)	13	20	15
# of mobile clinic visits	205	87	54	64

IOM Operations are supported by:

