



Marking the Closure of the Ebola Treatment Unit in Tubmanburg

Three weeks after the IOM-managed Ebola treatment unit (ETU) in Tubmanburg closed to patients, Bomi County local government leaders, traditional chiefs, women and religious leaders, partners, ETU staff and community members gathered to celebrate the closing. The now fully decontaminated 'red zone' hosted the ceremony that also brought together all the ETU's Ebola survivors.

Chief Gballah Gray speaking on behalf of Bomi County's Chiefs expressed the general sentiment at the gathering as he said, "We are overwhelmed with joy and we thank everyone who is responsible for this day." He acknowledged the value of working together with the community and its leaders to tackle Ebola, saying, "You have done well by recognizing us as traditional leaders and involving us." [Read more.](#)



"It is remarkable what has been achieved in such a short amount of time. So much has been learned from all of you about what you have done and it is an inspiration to the world. Our partner IOM did an amazing job with the community to mobilize people and we hope this will provide lessons for public health in the future as you fight other diseases." Brian Heidel, Deputy Team Leader, USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART)

"Even though Liberia is Ebola free, there is a lot to do to make sure Ebola does not come back to Liberia. Let us be reminded that we still have to observe hand washing measures, especially during the rainy season. To IOM, with Guinea and Sierra Leone still having problems, the communities at the border need to be closely monitored so we can control migratory flow and transmission as well. I am looking forward to you working in this area." Dr. GG Logan, Bomi County Health Officer



Health After Ebola: Supporting Survivors' Wellbeing

For two months after Alice was discharged from the IOM-managed Ebola treatment unit (ETU) in Tubmanburg, she was in good health. ETU staff continued to visit her to offer psychosocial support and ensure that she was able to carry on with her usual activities and reintegrate into the community.

[Read more.](#)

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IOM Social Mobilization Assistant Kula Kiazolu-Pusah speaks on Radio Cape Mount about the work of IOM supporting the Ministry of Education, along with other partners to ensure safe school environments in Porkpa and Commonwealth districts of Grand Cape Mount County. [Listen here.](#)



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Highlights

Case Management

- Liberia was declared Ebola free on 9 May 2014. To build resilience to respond to future health-related challenges, IOM is supporting the County Health Teams (CHTs) to build local capacity for safe isolation, triage and referrals.
- IOM is performing clinical and operational management of one Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) in Sinje, Grand Cape Mount (GCM) County.
- Tubmanburg ETU, Bomi and Buchanan ETU, Grand Bassa stopped admitting patients on 15 April, and finalized decommissioning of the ETUs in line with World Health Organization (WHO) protocols. An official closing ceremony was held for both ETUs on 8 May
- Since opening in November 2014, 131 patients have been admitted to the 3 IOM ETUs, 12 Survivors have been discharged and there have been 15 EVD related deaths.

Psychosocial Support

- IOM is providing psychosocial support at schools in areas affected by EVD - students and staff are provided with individual and group counselling sessions.
- From 27 April to 17 May, 145 protection cases were identified (66 in Bomi and 79 in GCM) through PSS outreach activities. These cases (i.e. orphans, disabled persons or other people matching protection criteria) are referred to specialized agencies for tailored support.
- IOM GCM visited 13 communities in Golah Konneh and Garwula districts to tackle stigmatization of EVD survivors in the community and promote survivor integration.

Surveillance, Coordination and Capacity Building

- IOM Grand Cape Mount is supporting the CHT with health screening services at Bo Waterside - the main border crossing point with Sierra Leone. 39,346 travellers were screened between 27 April and 17 May. IOM also provides screening supervision and ensures provision of Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) and triage materials at 6 other identified border crossing points (BCPs)
- IOM is providing the required IPC and Wash supplies and supervising activities at 2 county checkpoints in Bomi County and 2 in Grand Cape Mount County.
- IOM Grand Cape Mount conducted a 4-day

Social Mobilization

- IOM led 5 training sessions (3 in Bomi and 2 in GB); 126 gCHVs and community leaders were trained on community preparedness for EVD.
- Between 27 April and 17 May, 10 radio talk shows were held with medical doctors and nurses from the ETUs participating, informing the public on topics, such as the last mile in fighting against the Ebola outbreak, back-to-schools programme, mobile clinic and immunization campaign awareness
- IOM is airing daily radio jingles in all 3 counties informing the public on matters, such as the importance of hand washing and EVD prevention measures, as well as the immunization campaigns (8-15 May).

refresher training on primary screening and basic PPE at border crossings in GCM in partnership with the CHT and Global Communities. 35 participants from the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (BIN) and district and county health officers, as well as gCHVs were trained and provided with on the job mentorship.

Surveillance, Coordination and Capacity Building

- At the request of the CHTS, IOM GB and IOM Bomi assisted with the integrated measles/polio vaccination campaign (8-15 May 2015). IOM Bomi provided logistical support and 3 nurses joined vaccination teams. IOM GB trained 225 vaccinators and provided supervision during the campaign, as well as delivering vaccines and other materials.
- IOM GCM treated 473 patients at 3 mobile clinic visits. In Bomi, the mobile clinic team provided health care services to 1,471 community members.



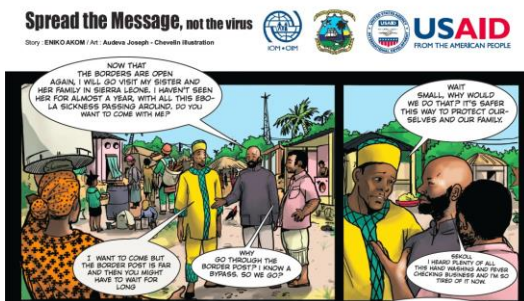
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The third graphic story in the 'Spread the Message, Not the Virus' series targets communities along the borders with key messages for social mobilization. The story focuses on the importance of health screening and adopting preventive behaviours when travelling across the border, both at crossing points and while abroad. [Read the full story](#)



IOM Commends Liberia on the End of the Ebola Outbreak

After 42 days with no new Ebola cases reported in Liberia, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the end of the current outbreak. IOM Director General William Lacy Swing said: “I congratulate and thank all those who have contributed to this remarkable and ongoing success of defeating the scourge of Ebola – an achievement that highlights the ongoing need for partnership to strengthen health infrastructure durably and prevent any future outbreaks.” [Read more.](#)

DASHBOARD November 2014– May 2015

		TOTAL	BOMI	GRAND CAPE MOUNT	GRAND BASSA
 Case Management		* Tubmanburg and Buchanan ETUs red zones have been decommissioned.			
# of ETUs operational		3		1	
 Surveillance, Coordination and Capacity					
# of communities that receive IOM visits for active case finding		28	6	18	4
# of markets and checkpoints supported		13	5	8	0
 Psychosocial Support and Survivor Follow					
# of protection cases identified and referred to OHTs		254	106	143	5
 Social Mobilization					
# of persons trained		1,198	426	522	250
# of persons reached		99,640	30,935	22,660	46,045
 Essential Services Revitalization					
# of border communities assessed		13		13	
# of patient consultations by IOM mobile clinics		3,461	2,323	673	465
# of Border Crossing Points or Checkpoints supported		11	2	9	0
# of border officials trained in health screening		144	0	144	0

Funding for IOM Liberia Ebola Response
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For more information on IOM's Ebola Response in Liberia

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