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IOM's Training Coordinator, Jasmine Riley, introduces the mock Ebola Treatment Unit at the National Ebola Training Academy to delegates from the United States Government including the US Ambassador to Sierra Leone, John Hoover and the Associate Administrator of the US Agency for International Development, Eric Postel, on 20 May 2015.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- A total of 8 confirmed cases were reported in the week to 17 May, compared with 2 the previous week.
- Three districts reported confirmed cases in the week to 17 May, compared with a single district the previous week.
- Half of the cases reported from Sierra Leone occurred in three neighbourhoods in the north of Freetown. Of these, three have a proven epidemiological link to a previous case. The remaining case was identified after post-mortem testing. The source of infection is unknown, but the case was found in the Moa Wharf area of Freetown.
- Port Loko district reported cases for the first time in over 3 weeks. All 3 cases were reported from the Kaffu Bullom Chiefdom, and all were linked to a previous case from Kambia.
- Kambia, which borders the Guinean prefecture of Forecariah to the north and Port Loko to the south, reported a case from the Chiefdom of Magbema in the week to 17 May.
- A total of 599 contacts are currently being monitored daily in 3 districts: 47 in Port Loko, 82 in Kambia, and 470 in Western Area Urban, which includes Freetown.
- There were 415 credible alerts of sick people with possible Ebola-like symptoms received in the week to 10 May. Of these 415, 404 were responded to within 24 hours.
- After 5 consecutive weeks without reporting a health worker infection, a Sierra Leone national working at an Ebola treatment centre near Freetown was laboratory confirmed as EVD positive on 14 May. The national was working at the same facility as the recent Italian health worker case.

Weekly Highlights

- As of 22 May, IOM's National Ebola Training Academy in partnership with WHO, COMAHS, RSLAF and MOHS has trained 7,286 health care workers and frontline responders in Freetown (6,329 at the Academy) and via mobile trainings (957 trained).
- On 20 May, a delegation from the US Government including USAID and OFDA visited IOM's Ebola Training Academy in Freetown.
- A 3-day basic Infection Prevention and Control course (44 trainees) and an abbreviated 3-day clinical care course (19 trainees) was delivered in Bo district to health care workers from local health units from 18-20 May.
- To mark the close of Phase I of the HHBM Airport Health Screening project a workshop was held on 22 May at Lungi Airport Hotel with presentations given by US CDC, SLCAA, SLAA, ISAT and IOM.
- Over the past week IOM's social mobilizers reached 4,650 persons with Ebola awareness and health promotion messaging.
- In Bombali, IOM and World Hope International are continuing community engagement sessions to kick off Cultural Burial Liaison teams.

High profile US Government delegation visits IOM's National Ebola Training Academy

On Wednesday, 20 May, IOM was proud to welcome a delegation of the US Government on a tour of the National Ebola Training Academy. 13 visiting delegates from the US Government including the Associate Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Eric Postel, US Ambassador to Sierra Leone John Hoover, the USAID Mission Director in Conakry, Michelle Godette, and the Head of USAID's Ebola Unit for West Africa, Denise Rollins. The USAID and the Office for U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) Sierra Leone teams were also represented.

The delegation was welcomed to the Academy by IOM Head of Mission, Sanusi Savage, Emergency Coordinator, Jon Baker, and Training Coordinator, Jasmine Riley who provided a brief introduction before taking the delegates on a tour of classrooms and skill stations. Delegates were shown how to mix chlorine, proper donning and doffing of gloves, and intro-

duced to nursing students from the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences who were going through Infection Prevention and Control training at the Academy. After skill lab demonstrations the delegates were escorted to the mock Ebola Treatment Unit where lead clinical trainer, Dr James Bagonza, provided a guided tour of the ETU and took the party through live scenarios with IOM training staff, expert patient simulators and clinical trainees.

Following the mock ETU, delegates met with 4 Ebola survivors who work with IOM as expert patient simulators. After hearing stories from survivors the delegates expressed their gratitude for the survivors concerted efforts to turn their negative experience to the benefit of others and stated that the US Government would continue to expand its efforts in the fight against Ebola. In conclusion the delegation thanked IOM for their dedication and commitment to training frontline responders in Sierra Leone.

For more on the Training Academy see page 3...



Representatives of the US Government, USAID, OFDA and IOM staff and Ebola survivors outside of National Ebola Training Academy on 20 May 2015.



Delegates listen to survivors who work at the Academy as expert patients share their experiences with Ebola.

| Cumulative Training Academy/Mobile Training operational data for 01 December 2014– 23 May 2015 (weekly number in brackets) | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Course Name | Number of courses run | Total number of National students | Total number of International Students | Cumulative Total |
| 3 day Ebola clinician IPC 2 day Simulated Patient care | 21 (1) | 554 (14) | 355 (1) | 909 |
| 1 day Ebola clinical IPC 2 day Simulated patient care | 4 | 26 | 59 | 85 |
| 1 day clinical augmentation | 2 | 25 | 41 | 66 |
| 3 day basic IPC/PPE | 56 (2) | 5,162 (166) | 50 | 5,212 |
| Mobile Training 3 day IPC/PPE/Clinical Decontamination/2 day modified IPC | 27 (2) | 957 (59) | 0 | 957 |
| 1 day clinical pilot | 1 | 33 | 24 | 57 |
| Total | 113 (5) | 6,757 (239) | 529 (1) | 7,286 |

IOM marks end of Phase I HHBM activities at Lungi International Airport with workshop

On Friday, 22 May, IOM's Health and Humanitarian Border Management (HHBM) Monitoring of the Entry and Exit Health Screening project marked the end of Phase I activities with a lessons learned workshop and lunch at Lungi Airport Hotel.

In his opening address, the Airport General Manager, Mr Sheik Swaray-Deen commended all involved parties including Kaffu Bullom community (where the airport is located), which has been hard hit with Ebola cases throughout the epidemic. He emphasized the ongoing 'need to fight against complacency', noting the 3 new cases in the Rotifunk community of Port Loko district—the first new confirmed cases in 32 days in the district. Presentations on achievements to date and ongoing challenges were given by the Sierra Leone Airport Authority (SLAA), the Sierra Leone Civil Aviation Authority (SLCAA), the International Security Advisory Team (ISAT), US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC) and IOM. CDC's Blanche Collins highlighted the fact that the Government of Sierra Leone would not declare the country Ebola free until 42 days



Mr Sheik Swaray-Deen, Airport General Manager, gives the opening address at the Lungi Airport Hotel on 22 May 2015.



IOM's HHBM Project Manager, Benjamin Potter presenting on project highlights.

had passed after the last confirmed case tested negative twice plus an additional 90 days beyond that point during which heightened surveillance and notifications would be ongoing.

Other major airport stakeholders including the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces, the Westminster Aviation Security Services, and representatives of the airlines, health personnel at the airport, the Government of Sierra Leone, the Office of National Security, the speaker of the paramount chief of Kaffu Bullom chiefdom and members of the media were in attendance. IOM Project manager, Benjamin Potter concluded his remarks saying, "I hope the assembled delegates leave here with renewed vigor in going forward to fight this horrible disease."

HHBM Phase II will see an expansion of airport monitoring of health screening to land borders with Guinea in Kambia and Bombali districts as well as seaports in the Freetown area. Activities have already begun with the opening of IOM's new Kambia sub-office over the past 2 weeks.

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National Ebola Training Academy

Operational Highlights

Over the past week **two 3-day Ebola basic Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) trainings** took place. In **total 166 health care personnel were trained** from the College of Medicine and Allied Health Science's Nursing diploma, certificate and degree programmes. One 3+2 clinical IPC and simulated patient care course was held for 15 clinicians from United Nations Volunteers, Save the Children, Princess Christian Maternity Hospital and Connaught Hospital. On Saturday, 23 May, a second Training of trainers (ToT) was held for 5 returning trainers from the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces on general IPC modules designed to prepare College of Medicine students for practical activities in hospital wards. The first ToT was held last weekend for all IOM training staff and conducted by IOM's Senior Public Health Coordinator, Dr Aurelien Pekezou and Lead IPC Trainer, Gladys Mbabazi at the Siaka Stevens Stadium site of the Training Academy.

Mobile Training continues in Bo

After a request from the District Medical Officer in Bo district a mobile training team delivered one 3-day basic IPC course to 40 health care workers from local Peripheral Health Units and an abbreviated 3-day clinical course for 19 clinicians were held from 18-20 May.

Faculty Refurbishment finishes third week

Project donor, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DfID) conducted a site inspection at the Faculty of Nursing on Thursday, 21 May. The refurbishment continues and after 3 weeks, offices have been striped and cleared, and work on the painting of walls and ceiling, installation of lighting and new wiring as well as landscaping activities continue. The library is also being cleared out so that the area can be repainted.

IOM supports WHI on safe burials in Bombali

IOM and implementation partner, World Hope International, through support to the Social Mobilization Pillar, DERC, and other partners in Bombali district, continued community engagement meetings to kick off the Chiefdom Cultural Burial Liaison teams. Dr Aurelien Pekezou, IOM's Senior Public Health Coordinator, supported the community engagement session in Sanda Tendaren chiefdom. All partners continue to support the official start of the Cultural Burial Liaison teams by introducing members to the community and reiterating their role and function. Their work includes community mobilization, monitoring and reporting of all harmful acts around burial practices, alerting the burial team if a death occurs in their community, and facilitating the burial through cultural expertise. 10 certificates were handed out to each member in addition to a printed copy of the by-laws, as well as a mobile phone for the team leader.



IOM's Dr Aurelien Pekezou presents a WHI Community Liaison Officer with a certificate at a chiefdom engagement meeting on 21 May 2015 in Bombali district.

IOM's social mobilizers reach 4,650 people

During the past week IOM social mobilizers conducted 1,089 household visits (4,650 persons reached) and 166 community engagement meetings across 8 low income coastal communities in the Freetown area.

Mobilizers will seek to supply interim care kits to Suzan's Bay community and a meeting will be held in Moa Wharf on 25 May to promote Ebola awareness and health promotion after the community continues to be a hotspot for Ebola cases.

WBA trains on Ebola-related food shortages

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IOM and implementation partner, Wellbody Alliance, continue to engage communities in five chiefdoms in Kono district. The Community Health Worker program team members will conduct screening and education on Ebola-related food shortages and malnutrition.

Several meetings were held with the Wellbody Alliance clinical team, who are working with Partners in Health to create a short training for the CHWs in Koidu to be held in two weeks on these issues.

Major News Headlines (click links for story):

[Ebola cases rise, expand in Guinea, Sierra Leone, CIDRAP, 20 May](#)

[Sierra Leone berates quarantine escapees as cases surge, AFP, 20 May](#)

[New chains of transmission spoil race to zero in Sierra Leone, Ebola Deeply, 18 May](#)

[Ebola research: Fewer patients, but far more data, Deutsche Welle, 20 May](#)

[WHO deploys team to border of Guinea/Guinea-Bissau, UN News Center, 20 May](#)

[Heartbreaking tales of Ebola orphans, Daily Mail, 19 May](#)

[Cuban Ebola team nominated for Nobel Peace Prize, People's World, 18 May](#)

[Guinea launches anti-Ebola operation along border with Sierra Leone, Xinhua, 19 May](#)

[Ebola crisis prompts \\$100m WHO emergency fund, BBC, 18 May](#)

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