



© IOM 2015

Sierra Leoneans travelling to Guinea line up for the IOM monitored health screening process at the Gbalamuya international border crossing point in Kambia district on 18 June 2015. IOM is rapidly scaling up activities in support of the Government's 21-day Operation Northern Push in Port Loko and Kambia districts.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- A total of 14 confirmed cases were reported from Kambia and Port Loko in the week to 14 June, compared with 15 cases from the same 2 districts the previous week.
- For the third consecutive week, Kaffu Bullom in Port Loko reported the most cases (6) of any single chiefdom. Five of the 6 cases were contacts of previous cases in quarantined homes located in a densely populated area near Lungi International Airport. However, one case was reported from a new area of the chiefdom, Targrin, after sharing a ward with a confirmed case in a privately run health facility. A total of 20 health workers are registered as medium/high-risk contacts of the case, and are being monitored. All of the remaining 8 cases reported from Sierra Leone were registered contacts of known cases, and were reported from quarantined homes.
- As of 14 June, the Western Urban Area of Sierra Leone, which includes the capital Freetown, had reported no cases for over 16 consecutive days until a fisherman was declared Ebola positive on 17 June.
- All 14 cases in the week to 14 June can be traced back to the secret movement of cases, contacts, and the secret burials of EVD-related deaths during April. To prevent further clandestine movement from prolonging current chains of transmission, a package of enhanced surveillance and response measures, known as Operation Northern Push, was introduced in Kambia and Port Loko on 16 June.
- As at 14 June, a total of 443 contacts were being monitored in Kambia, Port Loko and Western Area Urban.

Weekly Highlights

- As of 20 June, IOM's National Ebola Training Academy in partnership with WHO, COMAHS, RSLAF and MOHS has trained 8,097 health care workers and frontline responders in Freetown (7,024) and via mobile trainings (1073) on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) modules.
- An operational plan for Kambia/Forecariah was agreed upon at a cross border technical meeting held in Forecariah on 18 June 2015 with wide participation from Government, IOM, UN agencies, and NGOs working in the area. Cross border activities will be integrated with patients being able to access treatment in either country irrespective of nationality. All Ebola alerts will be circulated between the Prefectural Emergency Operation Center in Guinea and the District Ebola Response Center in Kambia.
- IOM in collaboration with MoHS, District Health Management Teams, DERCs, International Medical Corps and the Christian Health Association Sierra Leone, has begun a needs assessment of priority private health facilities kicking off in Western Area to evaluate urgent IPC and hygiene requirements.

IOM surpasses 8,000 trainees

Over the past week **one 3-day Ebola basic Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) training** took place. In **total 37 health care personnel were trained** from Kerry Town Ebola Treatment Centre, Connaught Hospital, Emergency, Save the Children, Moyiba and Tombo Community Care Centres and Princess Christian Maternity Hospital.

Two 3-day basic IPC courses for infectious diseases (including Ebola) were

conducted for **86 Defence School of Nursing and Njala University students as well as health care workers from Handicap International** who received lectures combined with practical skills stations (i.e. chlorine preparation, hand washing, gloves removal, PPE on/off, Environmental cleaning/

decontamination and waste management) and group discussions on the following modules: the definition of key terms and the goals of IPC; disease transmission chains; understanding Ebola and other common infectious diseases; standard precautions. **One 3+2day clinical Infection Prevention and**



© IOM 2015

IOM's Dr Yasmin Kandeh addresses clinical IPC trainees (above). Below an IOM expert patient simulator interacts with clinical trainees during a scenario in the mock ETU on 18 June 2015.



Control with simulated patient care training was held for **15 health care workers** from Connaught, Jui, Rokupa and Princess Christian Maternity Hospitals, Hastings and Newton Community Care Centers, Lumley Holding Center, the Police Training School, and the Ministry of Health and Sanitation. A variety of methods was used to deliver the training: lectures, group/case discussions, role playing, return demonstrations and skills enhancement through simulated exercises in the mock Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) on site at the Academy in Freetown.

Competence assessments, including pre- and post training evaluations, were given daily and end of course feedback was received from participants. **The average pre-test and post-test scores were 45% and 79% respectively** demonstrating a major improvement as a result of the training.

In total **139 trainees** received IPC training at Siaka Stevens National Stadium in Freetown over the past week to 20 June.

Since 1 December 2014, IOM and partners WHO, the College for Health and Allied Sciences, the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces and the Ministry of Health and Sanitation have trained a total of **8,097 health care workers**

and frontline responders on specialized Infection Prevention and Control modules.

Cumulative Training Academy/Mobile Training operational data for 01 December 2014– 20 June 2015
(weekly numbers 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	23 (1)	589 (15)	355	944
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/3 day WHO Ebola basic IPC	65 (3)	5,821 (123)	51 (1)	5,872
Mobile Training 3 day IPC/PPE/Clinical Decontamination/2 day modified IPC	30 (1)	1074 (49)	0	1073
1 day clinical pilot	1	33	24	57
Total	125 (5)	7,568 (188)	530 (1)	8,097

Cross border operational plan presented at technical meeting in Forecariah

A technical meeting was held on 18 June 2015 at the Forecariah Prefectural Emergency Operation Center (PEOC) involving IOM Sierra Leone and Guinea, UNICEF, UNMEER, the Kambia District Ebola Response Center, DfID, USAID, US CDC, WHO, ACF, Catholic Relief Services, and the Red Cross. The meeting proposed working strategies with due consideration for cultural, social and traditional issues in the final push to eradicate Ebola in Kambia district, and Forecariah Prefecture, Guinea, two of the last major hotspots in the region.

In Kambia and Port Loko districts, Operation Northern Push was launched on 16 June. The operation requires the deployment of additional Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) units and Sierra Leone Police in both districts and a 6pm-6am curfew in force with exemptions for response workers; Robust quarantine measures with exemptions for farmers; Community to household ownership of

the response; Social mobilizers, surveillance officers, and contact tracers deployed to prevent new infections; and an operational plan developed and implemented. It was agreed that Kambia district and the 4 affected communities in Forecariah should undertake joint cross border surveillance activities. Partners on both sides will mainstream cross border actions in their pillar activities. The operational plan for Kambia/Forecariah was thus presented and endorsed with District and Prefectural Coordinators set for launch on 24 June. A sub-committee will be formed to set timelines on the plan which calls for technical integration of the partners. The plan also allows suspect cases to be treated in either country irrespective of their nationality and all alerts will be directed to and shared between the PEOC/DERCs.

HHBM expands to Freetown seaports

On 17 and 19 June, visiting IOM HQ technical expert Michael Speir and IOM Sierra Leone National Project Officer Mangeh Sesay visited the Sea Coach and Sea Bird Ferry Terminals, the Susan's Bay community and the Kissy Ferry Port to assess the health screening setup and existing infrastructure in each location. Areas were identified for improvement and discussion was begun with the Boat Owners Association (BOA) and the local councilor to allow IOM to set up a Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) to collect

population flow data on a piece of land belonging to BOA. The FMP will produce essential information that will inform both the immediate health screening measures and longer term government strategy on migration health. Dis-

ussions were also initiated with the Sierra Leone Port Authority (SLPA) to seek permission to improve on the health screening setup at the Kissy Ferry Port.

During the coming week, the HHBM Freetown team will focus on infrastructure setup, establishment of supply systems and deployment of staff to operational areas in Freetown.

New project officer at Lungi

New HHBM Project Officer Isaac Munyae arrived in Sierra Leone on 14 June 2015 to assume his duties at Lungi International Airport and oversee IOM operations in

Port Loko district under the overall supervision of Project Manager Ben Potter. IOM HHBM activities in Port Loko are expanding to cover checkpoints along major transport routes and the ferry at Targrin. The Port Loko District Ebola Response Center (DERC) through support from IOM deployed District Health Management Teams (DHMT) comprising 70 persons to conduct health screening at checkpoints throughout Port Loko. Simultaneously, recruitment has been completed for 14 IOM monitors who will form two roving mobile teams to monitor health screening at designated checkpoints commencing the week of 22 June.

IOM mobile training held in Kambia

A 2-day mobile training on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) was held on 19-20 June in Kambia for 21 newly inducted IOM monitors, and a further 28 monitors from the Passenger Welfare Association (PAWEL) on health screening/monitoring on Category B and C border crossing points. A second IPC training will be rolled out during the week ending 28 June for another 50 participants to ensure all monitoring teams acquire the relevant skills and knowledge on health screening. Key elements of the training include hand washing techniques, temperature checks, health monitoring/observation, EVD response mechanisms and disease identification.



IOM Kambia sub-office head and IOM Guinea's HHBM project manager attend the cross border technical meeting at the Forecariah PEOC on 18 June 2015.



IOM will establish a Flow Monitoring Point at Port Loko Wharf for domestic arrivals in Susan's Bay community. Collection of migratory flow data is essential to enabling effective health screening measures.

Emergency care kits in Freetown

On 16 June IOM emergency care kits staff visited four zones in the Western Area- Lumley, Cockle Bay, Aberdeen and Murray Town in support of field monitoring. To date 73 care kits have been prepositioned by IOM field staff and 54 distributed. On 17 June, the National Ebola Response Center confirmed a new case in the Magazine Wharf com-

munity in Freetown of a fisherman coming from the Kaffu Bullom Chiefdom transmission chain in Port Loko district. 9 high risk contacts are currently in isolation and 24 additional contacts are being monitored for symptoms. Emergency care kits continue to play an important role in interim care to quarantined homes and suspect cases.

Communities	Total Kits Prepositioned	Distributed
Oloshoro, Murray town, Congo town	9	4
Kanikay, Culvert and Foure Bay	14	12
Kroo Bay and Kingtom	8	5
Susan's Bay & King Jimmy	9	7
Aberdeen Village	10	8
Lumley Community	5	5
Moa Wharf, Magazine Wharf & Mabela	13	9
Cockril & Cockle Bay	5	4
TOTAL	73	54

WHI's social mobilizers in sensitization drive

World Hope International's Social Mobilizers at chiefdom level and the Rapid Response Team (RRT) are undertaking an inter-district/cross border sensitization drive in villages bordering Port Loko and Kambia. The assessment and mapping of border villages in six identified border chiefdoms in Bombali with Kambia, Port Loko and Guinea is in progress. During the assessment chiefdom and community task forces, and border checkpoints will be assessed and gaps identified. The Social Mobilization Pillar will also include the Yankainsa checkpoint in Makarie Gbanti Chiefdom as this is the main entry point into Makeni.

The Social Mobilization drive is continuing in Bombali despite zero cases of EVD for 85 days as of 19 June 2015. Engagement meetings were held with 400 stakeholders from the Transport Union, Traders Union, religious leaders and Motorcycle association in Makeni on EVD prevention to emphasize the need for continued vigilance as neighbouring Kambia and Port Loko are reporting a rise in cases.

Major News Headlines (click links for story):

[Sierra Leone doubles up efforts to achieve zero cases by mid-July, IOM, 19 June](#)

[Seeking the source of Ebola, National Geographic, July Edition](#)

[Ebola genetic code analysed to show evolution of worst ever outbreak, Guardian, 17 June](#)

[Turn on the taps to defeat Ebola, IRIN, 15 June](#)

[MERS in South Korea: Applying the lessons of Ebola, The Heritage Foundation, 16 June](#)

[Sierra Leone: Employment "returns to pre-Ebola levels", Public Finance International, 16 June](#)

[Sierra Leone launches new operation to eradicate Ebola, Zee News, 17 June](#)

[Ebola cases dip slightly but hotspots persist, CIDRAP, 17 June](#)

[Most affected countries lobby for hospital infrastructure, Sierra Leone Telegraph, 17 June](#)

IOM Sierra Leone's initiatives are supported by:



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

For more information on IOM's Sierra Leone activities please contact:

IOM Sierra Leone Response | jbaker@iom.int | Public Information/Project Development | nbishop@iom.int
Please find IOM Sierra Leone on Facebook at www.facebook.com/iomsierraleone &
www.iom.int/countries/sierra-leone/general-information