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*IOM's Dr John Bua instructs 27 newly inducted IOM Health and Humanitarian Border Management (HHBM) monitors and emergency interim care kits field assistants on Infection Prevention and Control measures on 2 July 2015 in Makeni, Bombali district. IOM will open up a new sub-office in the Kamakwie community, northern Bombali in support of its HHBM and emergency care kits activities this week.*

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

- A total of 8 confirmed cases were reported from Kambia, Port Loko, and Western Area Urban in the week to 28 June.
- Both cases in Kambia were reported from Tonko Limba chiefdom, which has been the primary focus of transmission in Kambia for the past 3 weeks. Both cases are registered contacts and were residing in a quarantined dwelling at the time of symptom onset.
- Two cases were reported from Port Loko. The first, from Kaffu Bullom chiefdom, was a registered contact residing in a quarantined home. The second, reported from the chiefdom of Masimera, has an epidemiological link to the Magazine Wharf chain of transmission in Freetown.
- Four cases were reported from the Magazine Wharf area of Freetown. All of the cases have an epidemiological link to previous cases in the cluster, though only one of the cases was a registered contact, and one case was only identified after post-mortem testing. The origin of the index case of the cluster is not known.
- Overall, 4 of the 8 cases reported from Sierra Leone in the week to 21 June were registered contacts of a previous case. As at 28 June, total of 1489 contacts were being monitored in 3 districts: Kambia, Port Loko, and Western Area Urban.
- In the week to 28 June, 99.8% of 520 credible reports of sick people with possible EVD-like symptoms were responded to within 24 hours. 69% of reports came from Freetown and the surrounding rural area. In addition, 1665 reports of deaths were received during the same period, 99.5% of which were responded to within 24 hours.

## Weekly Highlights

- IOM continues to respond to the Magazine Wharf outbreak with 15 staff providing daily mentoring to local healthcare workers and medical supply restock in 7 community Peripheral Health Units 7 days per week. A rapid needs assessment of community handwashing stations was carried out on 1 July and continued community outreach is ongoing.
- On 3 July, the 4th Emergency Simulation Exercise was held at Lungi International Airport and NERC CEO Paolo Conteh paid an informal visit to IOM's Kambia sub-office.
- Over the past week IOM's Health and Humanitarian Border Management (HHBM) project established 5 Flow Monitoring Points in Kambia and in Freetown. Collected data will be shared with the NERC and used to support surveillance and contact tracing activities.
- From 1-2 July, a two day mobile training on Infection Prevention and Control was held for 27 newly recruited IOM emergency care kits field monitors and HHBM monitoring staff in Makeni.

## IOM's Magazine Wharf response begins week 2

Over the past week IOM scaled up its staff presence to 15 to form 7 teams that provide mentoring to local health care workers on the health screening process in 7 Peripheral Health Units that border the Magazine Wharf hotspot area in Freetown. During this period regularly scheduled Academy based trainings on Infection Prevention and Control are postponed. A rapid assessment tool including an inventory checklist is being employed each day by the teams to report back on progress and ongoing needs in the facilities. 6 facilities have since been restocked with medical supplies delivered by the UK Department for International Development.

Teams are in operation during opening hours from 0830-1400 daily. After the facilities close IOM staff in partnership with Concern are linking up with Community Health Workers and other local stakeholders to discuss needs in the community; conduct aware raising; educate on health screening and early reporting of symptoms and other health promotion messaging.

### Health screening needs assessment concluded

On 1 July, IOM's Senior Public Health Coordinator, Dr Aurelien Pekezou conducted a needs assessment of health screening stations in the Magazine Wharf area. It was noted that while handwashing stations are located in strategic areas to capture a high number of local residents, many of the stations were not functioning correctly and very few were using soapy water or chlorine; there were almost no thermometers and a majority of the handwashing stations had no shelter from the sun and rain. A general lack of crowd control was also a key finding— densely crowded streets can make enforcing handwashing and other health screening protocols difficult.

### IOM lead trainers begin support to Connaught

On Monday 6 July, IOM will commence support to the Connaught Hospital Infection Prevention and Control training

programme in partnership with the King's College of London Sierra Leone Partnership. Initially, IOM staff will observe the US CDC/MoHS approved IPC training for clinicians and support staff in order to learn the modules before joining the training team the following week. In close collaboration with MoHS, the Ebola Response Consortium and hospital administrators, IOM will provide similar IPC training support for hospital personnel will later be provided to Ola During Children's, Princess Christian Maternity, Kambia and the Prison and Police Hospitals.

### Mobile training for new IOM inductees

A basic IPC course was delivered to 27 newly-recruited IOM staff members who received training and simulations on "understanding Ebola"; "principles of ETUs and screening"; "hand washing"; "gloving techniques"; "chlorine preparation"; "site and spill clean up and waste management"; and "donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment". Trainees were evaluated through pre- and post-tests, competence assessments on practical skills and an end of course evaluation. The pre and post-test marks showed strong progress in trainees' understanding of key concepts as the average grade rose from 73% to 87%. The next mobile training is in Kambia during the week of 13 July.



Mobile training in Makeni for newly inducted IOM staff on 2 July 2015.

#### Cumulative Training Academy/Mobile Training operational data for 01 December 2014– 04 July 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	589	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	66	5,850	51	5,901
Mobile Training 3 day IPC/PPE/Clinical Decontamination/2 day modified IPC	32 (1)	1,150 (27)	0	1,150
1 day clinical pilot/RING IPC	2	65	33	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>128 (1)</b>	<b>7,705 (27)</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>8,244</b>



#### 4th Emergency Simulation Exercise held at Lungi International Airport

On 3 July 2015 the fourth Emergency Simulation Exercise was conducted at Lungi International Airport to assess preparedness and response of airport agencies in case a person- passenger or staff member with Ebola-like symptoms were to appear at the facility. The main aim of the simulation exercises is to ensure adequate preparedness with timely and appropriate response. More specifically the simulations seek to i) Test and improve the Entry and Exit Health Screening process and general health security throughout the airport; ii) Test the reaction and response of agencies at the airport in case they encounter a EVD symptomatic passenger or staff member working at the airport; iii) Determine the level of coordination and collaboration between respective agencies at the airport in case of an EVD emergency; and iv) Identify gaps in airport health security and further training requirements. Ebola survivors who work at the IOM Training Academy in Freetown in the capacity of expert patient simulators have been involved in all 4 Emergency Simulation Exercises held at Lungi Airport. They are able to provide an otherwise unavailable degree of realism to the proceedings and give staff members the best possible environment in which to hone their response actions. As well IOM doctors were present to provide instant feedback to participants. Before the two scenarios began various airport agency representatives had a brief meeting to highlight the objectives of the scenarios and expected outcomes.

Two scenarios were conducted at the airline check-in counters and the pre-boarding area of the departures lounge. Feedback provided by the participants and observers highlighted training gaps and immediate areas requiring interventions to enhance preparedness and improve inter-agency cooperation. Based on the outcomes of the exercise IOM will develop and deliver a training schedule to train 100 airport personnel ahead of the next emergency simulation.

Lungi International Airport is the main logistical air hub in the country and a vital life line for medical, food and other supplies. Keeping the airport open and commercially viable is the major thrust of HHBM operations in Lungi. Resumption of operations by large commercial airlines such as Kenya Airways in June and Air France in July is an indication of the increased confidence airlines and their passengers have in the efforts made to eradicate EVD and pre-

vent its export. Challenges to airport security remain as the immediate airport vicinity continues to record EVD infections with both Kaffu Bullom and Loko Massama Chiefdoms recording some of the highest national infection rates in recent weeks. As even more airlines consider restarting operations in the near future there is a dire need to ensure that successful health screening operations are sustained.

#### NERC CEO visits Kambia sub-office

On his way to Samu chiefdom the NERC CEO Paolo Conteh, in the company of the District Coordinator paid an unannounced visit to the IOM sub-office and expressed his admiration for IOM's frontline border activities. In a brief conversation, the need for continued health screening/

monitoring at Border and Village Crossing Points was emphasized. His team was supplied with rain boots before they continued into Samu chiefdom; a hotspot in the district. Mr Conteh promised to pay a formal visit in the coming weeks.

#### 5 FMPs set up- 3 in Kambia and 2 in Freetown

Three Flow Monitoring Points have been established at Gbalamuya on the Guinea border and in Mange near the district boundary between Kambia and Port Loko. This migratory flow tracking model will support surveillance along the border and village crossing points. and collect data on points of origin/destination, gender and head count information.

This new wave of data collection in combination with surveillance activities will help determine migratory flows and support contact tracing. IOM has deployed four roving teams of 7 monitors at

the FMPs. The data collected (including daily headcounts) is stored in tablets and forwarded to the database desk at IOM's head office in Freetown. Similarly, the Freetown HHBM team successfully established 2 fully operational Flow

Monitoring Points (FMPs) at Susan's Bay and Port Loko Wharf. Dedicated monitoring and head count data collection continues at the Aberdeen Sea Coach Express, Sea Bird Express, and Kissy Ferry ports. IOM has also given a face lift to health screening points at Kissy Ferry, Susan's Bay and Port Loko Wharf ports.



**IOM's Dr Aurelien Pekezou evaluating a decontamination clean up during the Airport Emergency Simulation on 3 July 2015.**



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**Weatherized Flow Monitoring Points in operation in Kambia.**

### **Training roll out on care kits in Kambia continues**

Over the past week, IOM in partnership with ACF, ABC Development and the District Health Management Teams continued community-based training for community members and community health monitors in Samu (Mapotolon, Mafufuneh, Moribaya, Kychum and Rosinor communities), Bramaia (Shakaya, Barakuya and Kukuna communities) and

Gbinleh Dixon (Mafaray and Tawuya communities) chiefdoms, Kambia district. IOM field assistants have now been posted to their catchment areas. Trainings will eventually reach all 7 chiefdoms across the district and between 1-3 emergency care kits will be pre-positioned in health care facilities where available or with community health monitors for distribution in 880 communities.



**IOM and partners ACF and ABC Development deliver community based trainings on emergency care kits ahead of pre-positioning in Samu, Bramaia and Gbinleh Dixon chiefdoms, Kambia district on 3 July 2015.**

### **Major News Headlines** (click links for story):

[Two new Ebola cases in Liberia, 7 weeks after country declared virus free, Guardian, 1 July](#)

[Sierra Leone's rich and powerful are breaking the Ebola burial rules, New Republic, 30 June](#)

["We were not expecting Ebola to return to Freetown", Ebola Deeply, 29 June](#)

[Ebola survivors may be the key to treatment, Wired, 30 June](#)

[Canadian military medical staff end 6 month mission in Sierra Leone, MacLeans, 30 June](#)

[Guinea quarantines coastal towns to end Ebola, Voice of America, 29 June](#)

[Sierra Leone will jail Ebola law violators, AP, 28 June](#)

[Liberia's new Ebola cases rattle neighbouring Sierra Leone, Guinea, CS Monitor, 2 July](#)

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