



IOM's team of social mobilizers in Freetown's Crab Town community on 15 May 2015. The social mobilizers were joined in their efforts by IOM Emergency Coordinator Jon Baker (far left), and Head of Mission Sanusi Savage (center). The social mobilizers engaged community members on the importance of regular hand washing and other health promotion messaging.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- A total of 2 confirmed cases were reported in the week to 10 May, compared with 9 the previous week.
- One district reported at least one confirmed case in the week to 10 May, compared with 2 districts the previous week and 3 districts the week before that. Of 14 districts in Sierra Leone that have ever reported a confirmed case since the beginning of the outbreak, 9 have not reported a confirmed case for over 6 weeks.
- For the first time since the beginning of the outbreak in Sierra Leone, the country reported zero confirmed cases for more than 2 consecutive days in the week to 10 May. As at 12 May, Sierra Leone had reported zero cases for 8 consecutive days.
- Both cases reported from Sierra Leone occurred in the Moa Wharf area of Freetown. The cases are a mother and her 10-year old daughter, both of whom are known contacts of a previous case in the Moa Wharf area, and were under quarantine at the time of symptom onset. After treatment at the Ebola Treatment Centre in Hastings, the mother has now tested negative for EVD for a second time. The daughter is still EVD-positive and remains in treatment.
- The Sierra Leonean district of Kambia, which has been the country's main focus of transmission for over a month, reported zero cases in the week to 10 May.
- Laboratory indicators continue to reflect a heightened degree of vigilance, with 1756 new samples tested in the week to 10 May, compared with 1635 samples the previous week. Less than 1% of samples tested positive.
- There are 13 operational Ebola treatment centres (ETCs) in Sierra Leone. One ETC in Tonkolili closed in the week to 10 May. No new health worker infections were reported for the fifth consecutive week.

Weekly Highlights

- As of 16 May IOM's National Ebola Training Academy in partnership with WHO, US CDC, COMAHS, and MOHS has trained 7,046 health care workers and frontline responders in Freetown (6,148 at the Academy) and via mobile trainings (898 trained).
- A 3-day mobile training on Infection Prevention and Control was delivered in Koidu, Kono district to 44 frontline health workers after a request from the District Ebola Response Center from 13-15 May. This week, 200 COMAHS students in Freetown and 75 health care workers from PHUs in Bo will be trained on IPC.
- As of 14 May, IOM is pleased to report that with generous funding from the US Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), the Health and Humanitarian Border Management (HHBM) project will continue its activities at Lungi International Airport while expanding to border crossing points (BXPs) in Kambia and Bombali as well as seaports in the Freetown area.
- In Bombali, IOM and World Hope International, continued community engagement meetings in four chiefdoms on EVD prevention- Makari Gbanti, Paki Masabom, Biriwa, and Magbainba Ndowahun.
- IOM and Wellbody Alliance engaged traditional leaders in 203 communities and women and youth groups in 372 communities across Fiama, Gbane, Nimiyama and Sandor Chiefdoms in Kono.

National Ebola Training Academy

Over the past week **two 3-day Ebola basic Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) trainings** took place. In **total 107 health care personnel were trained**. Trainees came from the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Concern Worldwide, Emergency Hospital, Ola During Children's Hospital, 34 Military Hospital, Murray Town Health Center and Connaught Hospital.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) and the International Organisation for Migration to retain 5 RSLAF trainers to support the Academy's ongoing activities. And the development of new **general Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) modules** to be delivered to faculty and students of the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS) in the coming weeks was completed. On 16 May a 1-day Training of Trainers for all Academy training staff was held on the new modules which will be used in the coming week to train **200 COMAHS students** as part of a wider plan to train all 1600.

Mobile Training in Kono

From 13-15 May, one basic 3-day IPC course was delivered to 44 frontline health care workers in Koidu, Kono district by a team of 4 trainers and 3 expert patient/Ebola survivors. The objective of the training was to equip Ebola frontline workers with up to date knowledge and skills on Ebola clinical management and Infection Prevention and Control so that they can work safely in Ebola care facilities in Kono district.

Trainees received lectures on What is Ebola?, IPC (modified for clinicians), Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), organization of the Ebola Treatment Unit (plan, logic and flow), screening/triage and clinical management of Ebola. Trainees were also exposed to practical sessions which included: Hand hygiene techniques, PPE on and off, gloves on and off and triage/screening with expert patients. The 3-day course was punctuated with case discussions on triage/screening and clinical management of Ebola. Trainees

also practiced triage/screening on expert patients (Ebola survivors). Trainees were evaluated through a pre and post test, competence assessments on practical skills and end of course evaluation. 43 participants passed and were accordingly awarded certificates. One participant missed the competence assessments. The average pre and post test scores were 37.6% and 80.3% respectively and all participants scored above 87% in the practical assessments.

In the coming week after the request of the District Medical Officer in Bo district a mobile training team will deliver a basic IPC and Clinical course to 75 staff from Peripheral Health Units in the area. Similarly, A 2-day tailored IPC training for border units will be delivered to 64 officials at the request of the Mano River Union in Kambia district.

Faculty Refurbishment

The refurbishment of the Faculty of Nursing at the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences is progressing. After the second week, drainage culverts have been constructed, new doors and lights installed, electricity connected to the power grid, and wall painting and toilet renovations continue.



Workers cut rebar beams prior to erecting a security perimeter wall behind the Faculty of Nursing as a part of the ongoing refurbishment process on 13 May 2015.

Cumulative Training Academy/Mobile Training operational data for 01 December 2014– 16 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 | 20 | 540 | 354 | 894 |
| 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 | 54 (2) | 4,996 (107) | 50 | 5,046 |
| Mobile Training 3 day IPC/PPE/Clinical Decontamination/2 day modified IPC | 27 (1) | 898 (44) | 0 | 898 |
| 1 day clinical pilot | 1 | 33 | 24 | 57 |
| Total | 108 (3) | 6,518 (151) | 528 | 7,046 |

IOM initiates HHBM Phase II- expansion to Kambia, Bombali and Freetown seaports

As of 14 May, IOM is pleased to report that with generous funding from the US Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), the Health and Humanitarian Border Management (HHBM) project will continue its activities at Lungi International Airport while expanding to border crossing points (BXPs) in Kambia and Bombali districts on the border with Guinea as well as seaports and ferry terminals in the Freetown area. The basic HHBM model

of monitoring government-led health screening, training border agency staff, and managing health screening stock and data management, has been developed and refined over the last six months at Lungi airport. This basic HHBM model will now be implemented in the land border areas of Kambia and Bombali districts. Additionally, two HHBM teams in Western Area, around Freetown, will cover busy seaports and ferry terminals.

The immediate priority for HHBM Phase II is the main

BXP in Kambia on the Conakry-Freetown highway, bridging the corridor between Guinea and Sierra Leone which is responsible for all remaining Ebola cases in the region. The HHBM team has been gaining political acceptance and authorisation from the National Security Coordinator, the Kambia District Ebola Response Center (DERC), and agency heads at the BXP, in order to deploy an expert HHBM monitoring team. This expert team, led by Charles Williams, will initiate improved health screening operations for the next two weeks until the permanent team is recruited. Williams understands the challenges ahead, but remained confident of success.

“It won’t be easy, but we will take all of the experience we gained from working at the airport and do everything we can to improve the health screening process at the border.”



Expert HHBM monitoring team led by Charles Williams (far left) in Kambia district on the border with Guinea, 16 May 2015.

Total Interim Care Kits Distributed 15 December 2014 - 15 May 2015

| Partner | District | Distributed | | Prepositioned | | TOTAL | |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | | QTY current week | Cumulative Total | QTY current week | Cumulative Total | Cumulative Total | Targeted |
| ACF | Western Area | 1 | 96 | 0 | 160 | 160 | 200 |
| | Kambia | 0 | 0 | 24 | 30 | 30 | 2607 |
| | Moyamba | 0 | 0 | 63 | 570 | 570 | 1200 |
| Oxfam | Western Area | 0 | 343 | 0 | 0 | 343 | 343 |
| IOM | Western Area | 7 | 21 | 0 | 45 | 45 | 100 |
| | Kambia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PIH | Port Loko | 23 | 243 | NA | NA | 243 | 500 |
| WBA | Kono | 57 | 57 | 0 | 475 | 475 | 500 |
| MedAir | Western Area | 0 | 508 | NA | NA | 508 | 550 |
| WHI | Bombali | 0 | 0 | 275 | 275 | 275 | 500 |
| Cumulative Totals | | | | | | | |
| | | 88 | 1,268 | 362 | 1,555 | 2,649 | 6500 |

WBA continues efforts to combat malaria

IOM and implementation partner, Wellbody Alliance, engaged traditional leaders in 203 communities and women and youth groups in 372 communities across Fiama, Gbane, Nimiyama and Sandor Chiefdoms in Kono district this week. In addition, Community Health Workers (CHWs) attended a celebration in Sandor Chiefdom of the paramount chief's 10th anniversary on 13 May 2015. The CHWs were able to support by informing celebrants about Ebola signs and symptoms and the referral and testing process. After the gathering concluded, the chief specifically thanked and praised the team's efforts.

In Kono district, the Government hospital continues to report that many patients show signs of late stage malaria. In response, the CHW program has created and distributed key messages on malaria prevention. A radio program on 17 May 2015 will help to spread this message across the district.

WHI Cultural Liaison Officers begin work

IOM and implementation partner, World Hope International, through support to the Social Mobilization Pillar, District Ebola Response Center, and other partners in Bombali district, continued community engagement meetings in four chiefdoms- Makari Gbanti, Paki Masabom, Biriwa, and Magbainba Ndowahun. The community engagement sessions were headed by paramount chiefs and focused on

EVD prevention and the need to stay safe and vigilant against possible Ebola cases. Specific concerns were raised to highlight the fact that the Bombali DERC is receiving death alerts, but few sick alerts from communities. Thus engagement focuses on early treatment to heighten survival. A total of seven chiefdoms have been reached in the community engagement roll out, and plans are underway for the remaining six chiefdoms.

40 newly trained Cultural Liaison Officers (CLOs) were presented to community leaders in their respective chiefdoms to support the existing burial management structure. Trained cultural liaisons have commenced work, through the sharing of information with the existing Burial Management Team and the DERC Alert Desk. During the past week, CLOs in Sella Limba and Magbainba Ndowahun chiefdoms supported two safe and dignified burials in collaboration with the existing Burial Management Team stationed in Kamakwe. So far a total of 4 ceremonial burials and 3 ordinary burials have been supported by the CLOs over the past month.

Last week a member of the Sierra Leone US Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) team (donor on the IOM social mobilization project) to WHI in Bombali visited a community meeting in Biriwa chiefdom on the certification and presentation of the newly trained CLOs. The OFDA representative gave a brief statement and presented certificates to the 10 CLOs.

Major News Headlines (click links for story):

[Guinea sees spurt of new Ebola cases, Sierra Leone 1, CIDRAP, 15 May](#)

[In Sierra Leone, religious leaders take on role in Ebola prevention, Al Jazeera, 15 May](#)

[It's like the story of Job: Ebola survivors who continue to suffer, National Public Radio, 15 May](#)

[Doctors look to prevent another Ebola outbreak, Voice of America, 14 May](#)

[Nurse who worked in Sierra Leone becomes Italy's second Ebola case, Japan Times, 13 May](#)

[Nurses with tablets and bikers with smartphones join Ebola fight, Reuters, 15 May](#)

[Health minister wants World Bank Ebola money probe, Concord Times, 14 May](#)

[Lessons from Nigeria on Ebola, Mail & Guardian, 15 May](#)

[Nurse reflects on tour treating Ebola patients in Sierra Leone, NY Times, 15 May](#)

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

IOM Department of Operations and Emergencies | ebolaresponse@iom.int |

IOM Sierra Leone Response | jbaker@iom.int | Public Information/Project Development | nbishop@iom.int

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