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IOM Sierra Leone's Head of Office, Mr Sanusi Savage (left) meeting with the Deputy Foreign Minister (far right) and the European Union Representative (second from right) regarding the recent migrant boat tragedy in the Mediterranean on 24 April.

Highlights

- As of 25 April IOM's National Ebola Training Academy in partnership with WHO, US CDC, COMAHS, MOHS and RSLAF has now trained 6,523 health care workers in Freetown (5,733 at the Academy) and via mobile trainings (790 trained).
- A 3-day mobile training on Infection Prevention and Control and clinical care was held for 23 healthcare workers in Kamakwe, Bombali district from 23-25 April. In Pujehun 127 border officials including staff from the Mano River Union were trained in Pujehun town and Jendema along the Liberian border. In Freetown, 44 correctional officers were trained in partnership with UNDP (see map).

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- A total of **12 confirmed cases** were reported in the week to 19 April, an increase on 9 cases from the previous week. Western Area Urban, which includes Freetown, reported 6 confirmed cases in the **Moa Wharf community** (a highly mobile fishing village where IOM has distributed care kits). **Quarantined residents escaped and a confirmed case has now been identified in Goderich community on the outskirts of Freetown. 100 homes are now quarantined in Goderich in response.** Koinadugu, which borders Guinea to the north, reported 1 new confirmed case. Kambia reported 4 and Port Loko 1 .
- Response indicators for Sierra Leone present a mixed picture. The number of EVD-positive deaths that were identified in the community after post-mortem testing was 3 (Kambia 1, Western Urban 1, Koinadugu 1) and the percentage of new cases arising from known contacts was 44% in the week to 12 April. However, 1467 samples were collected and less than 1% tested EVD-positive.
- There has been a significant decline in the number of 'alerts', suggesting there are fewer people presenting for Ebola triaging and testing. The number of alerts for sick patients received was 392, compared to 599 one month earlier. Of the 392, 246 were registered in Western Area, 36 from Bombali and the rest mostly from Port Loko and Kambia.
- 12 Ebola treatment centres (ETCs) continue to operate in Sierra Leone. Three ETCs were closed in the week to 19 April: 1 in Moyamba and 2 in Western Rural. No new health worker infections were reported in the week to 19 April. **A WHO vehicle was attacked for the second time in a remote area of Kambia district.**



- From 21-23 April IOM Sierra Leone participated in the 'Scientific Conference on the EVD in West Africa' held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.
- IOM and implementing partners Oxfam, ACF, MedAir and Partners in Health have now distributed 1,173 total care kits in Western Area, Port Loko and Kambia districts.
- IOM's social mobilizers have been active in the hotspot community of Moa Wharf in response to a recent outbreak of 6 cases. 5,694 persons were reached by IOM mobilizers in the past week.

National Ebola Training Academy

Over the past week two 3-day Ebola basic Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) trainings took place. In total 139 health care personnel were trained. Trainees came from Hastings Holding Center, Police Training School 2, the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, Connaught Hospital, Benguma Health Post, Ola Doring Children’s Hospital, the Psychiatric Hospital, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Concern Worldwide, and the Princess Christian Maternity Hospital.

One 5-day Ebola clinical care course (3 day Ebola clinician IPC + 2 day simulated patient) took place. In total 28 health care workers were trained. Trainees came from Police Training School 1, Ola Doring Children’s Hospital, Rokupa Government Hospital, Cap Anamur (a German NGO), Kerry Town ETU, the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and Partners in Health.

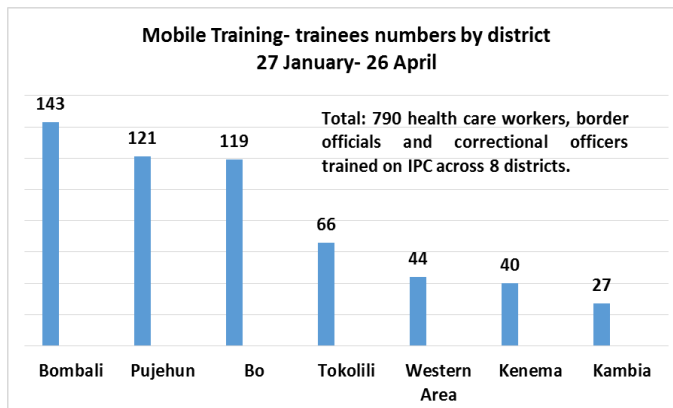
The Ministry of Health and Sanitation training staff continue to conduct entrance exams and registration for the Faculty of Nursing and were absent throughout the week. Mobile trainings planned for Kono, Bo and Kambia have been delayed due to scheduling conflicts with the current country wide vaccination programme.

Mobile training on Pujehun-Liberia border

A 3-day mobile training on Infection Prevention and Control was held for 12 healthcare workers (HCWs) and a separate 3-day course on clinical care for 11 HCWs in Kamakwe, Bombali district from 23-25 April. In Freetown, 44 correctional officers were trained in partnership with UNDP marking the end of 4 nation wide training of prison facility staff on Ebola-centric IPC with modules on human rights as a special add on.

In Pujehun, 127 border officials including staff from the Mano River Union were trained in Pujehun town (71) and Jendema (56) on the Liberian border. Some of the participants in Jendema joined from the Mano River Union’s border initiatives.

In order to incorporate border screening protocols the 3-day basic IPC was modified to: Ensure identification of persons with possible symptoms or risk of exposure and prevent them for travelling; Assess the signs and symptoms of Ebola by observation; Identify the risk of exposure and contact through a questionnaire; Use of non-contact thermometer; Documentation and record keeping.



Captain Bangura, Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces trainer, guiding trainees in Pujehun through correct hand washing techniques during Infection Prevention and Control training on 23 April.

Cumulative Training Academy/Mobile Training operational data for 01 December 2014– 25 April 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	18 (1)	479 (25)	352 (3)	831
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	48 (2)	4644 (139)	50	4694
Mobile Training 3 day IPC/PPE/Clinical Decontamination/2 day modified IPC	25 (5)	790 (194)	0	790
1 day clinical pilot	1	33	24	57
Total	99 (8)	5,997 (358)	526 (3)	6,523

HHBM project manager presents at IOM EVD conference in Burkina Faso



IOM Project Manager Ben Potter presenting HHBM framework.

From 21-23 April, the International Organization for Migration in partnership with the Higher Institute for Human Security (L'Institut Supérieur de Sécurité Humaine) co-hosted the 'Scientific Conference



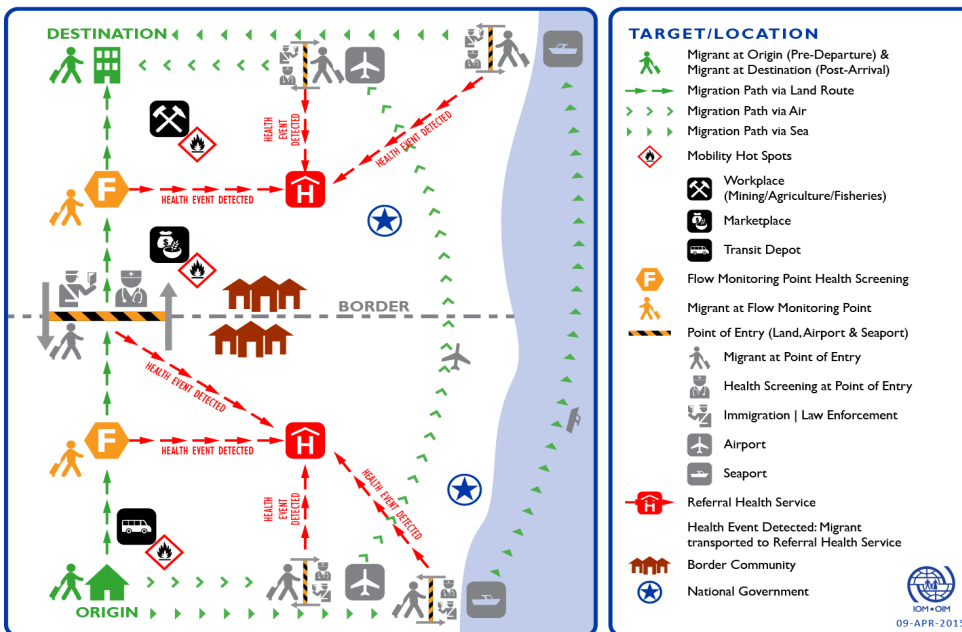
Dr Jean-Francois Aguilera, IOM Regional Health Specialist, responding to questions during the EVD Scientific Conference in Ouagadougou, 21 April.

on the Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa: Preparedness and Response after one year' in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. IOM was represented on the conference steering committee by Regional Health Specialist, Dr. Jean-Francois Aguilera of IOM's Regional Office for West and Central

Africa in Dakar.

IOM Sierra Leone's Health and Humanitarian Border Management Project Manager, Benjamin Potter, presented IOM's border management framework (see the below graphic), the proposed future of the programme and an overview of the current situation in Sierra Leone.

IOM HEALTH AND HUMANITARIAN BORDER MANAGEMENT (HHBM) FRAMEWORK



The conference was attended by approximately 70 high level health and development officials from various West African governments, universities and research institutes, health centers, regional bodies, NGOs, the World Bank and the United Nations. The opening remarks were delivered by Dr David Nabarro, the UN Special Envoy for the Ebola emergency.

Care kit distribution surpasses 1,100 total kits

This week the total number of care kits distributed across Western Area, Port Loko and Kambia districts reached 1,173. IOM social mobilizers dispersed 9 interim care kits in three low income coastal communities across Freetown including Moa Wharf, a small, densely populated fishing community with an outbreak of 6 cases. A number of family members of the 6 confirmed cases have escaped their quarantined homes and are believed to be in hiding in Goderich, another fishing village on the outskirts of the city. Authorities are conducting door to door searches in an urgent attempt to locate the escapees and prevent the risk of further infections. In Port Loko, PIH distributed 37 kits in Kafu Bullom chiefdom while ACF

managed an additional 90 kits in Western Area and 6 in Kambia. A total of **237 kits** were distributed this week.

IOM's care kit implementing partners with total kits distributed 15 December– 25 April

Partner	District	QTY current week	Cumulative Total	Targeted
ACF	Western Area	90	251	200
	Kambia	6	12	45
	Moyamba	0	0	1200
Oxfam	Western Area	0	343	400
IOM	Western Area	9	12	2621
PIH	Port Loko	37	124	500
WBA	Kono	0	0	500
MedAir	Western Area	95	429	544
WHI	Bombali	0	0	500
		Weekly Total	Cumulative Total	
		237	1,173	6500

Care kits continued...

On 18 April, Wellbody Alliance (WBA), IOM's implementing partner in Kono district, completed the transfer of their 500 care kit allotment to Koidu town. They presented the kits with their distribution strategy to the District Medical Officer (DMO) and the Kono District Ebola Response Center Chief of Staff, Dr. Songor, who welcomed the program. WBA began instant distribution of the kits, alongside a District Health Management Team representative, to health facilities in Gbense Chiefdom on 22 April. WBA's distribution strategy is dependent on the size of the 5 chiefdoms where they work and number of Community Health Workers, as well as the distance to the nearest care facility and areas of 'high risk'.

IOM's partners, World Hope International and Oxfam met this week to organize transfer of 500 Interim Care Kits to WHI stores in Bombali for onward distribution.

Social mobilizers reach over 10,000 people

IOM's 32 social mobilizers continued their door to door visits in 8 low income coastal communities around Freetown, where they met with 5,964 persons. The subject of their community engagement included: the do's and don'ts of Ebola, safe burial practices, the importance of calling 117 if someone is showing case definition, sensi-

zation on the safety of ambulances and treatment centers, and the importance of seeking early treatment.

With Kono district now at 60 days without a case, Wellbody Alliance has been focusing on vigilance and the importance of safe practices in social messaging. In Sandor, Gbane, Nimiyama and Fiama chiefdoms, messaging was shared with 3,164 households in 442 community meetings. Working with UNICEF, WBA trained six social mobilization Community Health Worker (CHW) supervisors on qualitative assessment methods and leading focus groups. On 21 April, WBA social mobilizers traveled to the two remaining Community Care Centers (CCCs) in Fiama and Gbane to lead guided discussions with CCC staff, patients and community leaders. In Fiama chiefdom, a meeting was held on 24 April and attended by over 100 community members after a section chief requested an explanation of the work of CHWs and key social messaging.

World Hope International's social mobilizers were able to cover 51 communities in house to house sensitization on EVD prevention, reaching a total of 1,070 people. House to house social mobilization activities were also carried out by the rapid response team reaching a total of 182 homes.

News Headlines (click links for story):

[Why Sierra Leone can't get rid of Ebola, Ebola Deeply, 23 April](#)

[Ebola Lying in Wait, NY Times, 20 April](#)

[Sierra Leone's Stray Dog Population Doubles During Ebola Crisis, VOA, 20 April](#)

[W.H.O. Promises Reform After Criticism Over Ebola Response, NY Times, 20 April](#)

[New Ebola drug clears virus from monkeys, Irish Times, 23 April](#)

[Guinea hands life sentences to 11 in mob slaying of eight Ebola workers, Japan Times, 23 April](#)

[Ebola can be transmitted for weeks after recovery, Guardian, 22 April](#)

[Sierra Leone hunts Ebola quarantine escapees, AP, 22 April](#)

[Ebola survivors face long-term adverse health effects: Study, News Medical, 23 April](#)

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