



WFP / Vigno Hounkanli



World Food Programme

WFP West Africa Ebola Response

4 pillars of WFP support:

1. Delivering food and nutrition support alongside the health response;
2. Mitigating the impact of the health emergency on food security;
3. Ensuring the movement of partner staff and materials; and
4. Providing common services and infrastructure support for health partners.



In numbers

To date, in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone:

- **Almost 2.7 million people reached** since the end of August 2014;
- **5,600 responders transported** by UNHAS, with four planes and two helicopters in operation; and
- **33,300 m³ of cargo** transported since September 2014.

Highlight — Staff protection in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone

WFP is committed to the implementation and monitoring of its emergency response in a manner that is safe for its staff and beneficiaries alike. Since the beginning of operations, WFP has developed safe distributions measures jointly with WHO that were put in place with the support of health advisors. Preliminary results from Guinea show that these measures have greatly contributed to the confidence of affected people during food distributions.

The health advisor network has now been further strengthened with two health advisors in each country, who are coordinated by one health advisor and a public health specialist in WFP's Regional Bureau in Dakar, Senegal.

Looking ahead, WFP will expand the health advisor network by recruiting national advisors.



WFP Response

WFP's primary focus is to support the evolving medical response to *care* for the infected (food rations and nutrition support to patients and survivors) and *contain* the spread of the virus (food distribution to isolated households and in areas of intense and widespread transmission). In addition, recognizing that the impact of the virus goes beyond the immediate containment or treatment period, WFP has introduced a *transition* phase to provide an initial kick-start of economic and livelihood activities as ebola-affected areas are declared free of the virus, and to ensure support to orphans. In areas of intense transmission, assistance is provided at the request of health authorities and partners for an initial period of one month.

Discussions are ongoing in all three countries on school reopening. Some schools in Guinea have already opened, while in Liberia the president has set up a Presidential Advisory Committee on Ebola (PACE) to plan the reopening of schools according to their level of preparedness. PACE has requested for WFP to provide logistics assistance to preposition equipment through the Logistics Cluster. In preparation for schools re-opening in Liberia, WFP is prepositioning food to planned schools (127,000 school children in nine counties).

Guinea

Last week, WFP assisted 61 patients in Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) across the country. Patients receive three hot meals a day with food from the local market; WFP is now also providing all patients with one bag of Plumpy 'Sup per day as a snack, in line with nutrition guidelines. Support to survivors began last week: on 17 January, six discharged patients from N'zérékoré ETU received individual in-kind food rations through door-to-door delivery; the ration is completed with in-kind rice, until WFP is able to transition to cash.

To contain the spread of the virus, WFP reached more than 2,000 people with a first round of food distribution, including 462 contact cases, in Kankan, Telemélé and Fria, new ebola hotspots. Distributions in Forécariah,

People reached by WFP in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone since August

CARE	<i>Treatment</i>	9,900
	<i>Survivors</i>	12,300
CONTAIN	<i>Isolated persons</i>	133,600
	<i>Areas of widespread transmission</i>	2.53 million
TRANSITION	<i>Orphans</i>	1,400

another hotspot, are on hold due to serious security concerns in the area following the killing of a policeman and driver 10 days ago.

WFP has so far provided support to build the ETUs in N'zérékoré, Coyah and Beyla for a total capacity of 200 beds. Works are almost complete at a fourth ETU in Kéraouéné with a 50-bed capacity. In addition, WFP is augmenting storage capacities of the Regional Health Directorates of Kankan, Mamou, Labe and Boke, not covered by WFP's Forward Logistics Bases (FLBs).

WFP is finalizing and testing the Standard Operating Procedures for MedEvac with the UNHAS helicopter. Training sessions with interested humanitarian organizations will soon be organized.

Liberia

Last week, WFP reached 16,000 beneficiaries across the country. In addition, 60 mt of locally produced rice were delivered by the Ministry of Agriculture to a WFP warehouse.

On 13 January, a fire broke out in WFP's Country Office in Monrovia. Fortunately, all staff were evacuated and no one was hurt. After assessments on the building, it was confirmed safe for regular resumption of work.

Sierra Leone

WFP is supporting 102 treatment centres, holding centres and community care centres. To date, WFP has distributed food to more than 7,400 patients in these facilities. Following the identification of Lokomasama chiefdom as a new hotspot and its lockdown, WFP provided food to the population of Thigbono village. Registration of households in the wider hotspot area continues ahead of distributions. Lokomasama, Masimera and Kafu Bullom continue to be epicentres in Port Loko District: approximately 80 percent of all ebola cases originate in these chiefdoms. In Kafu Bullom, which is still under lockdown, WFP has so far assisted almost 400 quarantined homes. Meanwhile, the Northern Province has seen a decreasing trend of new cases. Here, WFP continues to support isolated homes and treatment and holding centres in the province; last week 4,715 beneficiaries were assisted.

At Kissy and Kenema warehouses, the construction of reinforced foundations has continued for the Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) for food storage; improvement works are also ongoing at the Port Loko and Makeni FLBs. In Freetown, an assessment is ongoing with UNICEF and WHO to identify suitable sites for additional warehouses.

✈ Common Services

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

Last week, UNHAS transported 459 passengers and 1.7 mt of cargo; UNMEER air assets transported 514 passengers and 1 mt of light cargo.

The arrival in Sierra Leone of the helicopter equipped for MedEvac of aid workers with ebola symptoms was delayed by poor weather conditions.

📦 UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)

Last week, UNHRD dispatched 2 mt of Personal Protective Equipment to Liberia on behalf of WHO.

Logistics Cluster

Last week, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 1,746 m³ of humanitarian cargo and storage of 4,572 m³ of humanitarian cargo across Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia.

As a result of high demand, the Logistics Cluster, through the Air Coordination Cell (ACC), will provide three free-to-user inter-agency flight between 21-27 January from the Europe Staging Area at Cologne Bonn Airport, serving Freetown, Conakry, and Monrovia.

The Logistics Cluster, with support of Germany, airlifted 61 motorbikes from Accra to Freetown and Conakry.

📶 Emergency Telecommunications (ET)

The ET Cluster is providing internet connectivity in 43 locations across the three affected countries, ensuring internet access for 741 inter-agency and humanitarian staff.

In Guinea, internet connectivity for health workers was installed at the ETU in Beyla. In Liberia, the ET Cluster completed the set up of a radio channel in Buchanan and Monrovia to be used by NGOs staff to communicate nation-wide. In Sierra Leone, internet connectivity was set up in Bo and is now available to nine inter-agency sites.

📧 Contacts

Denise Brown, Corporate Response Director
WFP Regional Bureau, Dakar, Senegal

WFP Operations					
	Project Duration	Planned number of people	Total requirements (in US\$)	Total received * (in US\$)	Shortfall (%)
Regional EMOP200761	25.08.2014–31.05.2015	2,958,160	\$ 189,132,000	\$ 127,078,963	33 %
Regional SO200773	15.10.2014 - 31.05.2015	--	\$ 178,533,000	\$ 127,133,779	29 %

* At the onset of the crisis, WFP advanced significant internal funds to allow for the rapid response and scale-up required: USD 3 million under the EMOP and USD 3 million under the SO are yet to be repaid as of 29 December 2014.