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World Food Programme
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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:

- **Some than 2.5 million people** reached from the end of August 2014 to February 2015;
- **11,314 responders transported** by UNHAS, with four planes and two helicopters in operation; and
- **Over 64,000 m³ of cargo** transported since September 2014.

Joint Collaboration between WFP and WHO

WFP and WHO are joining forces across Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to promote the increased agility and capability of the health response. Through the implementation of this Joint Collaboration, WFP is supporting WHO by drawing on its operational capabilities to facilitate the operationalization of the WHO technical teams across the three ebola-affected countries, at district and county level. This partnership will ensure that the epidemiological expertise of WHO is able to reach further faster, while maintaining operational readiness.

Fifth mVAM Regional Bulletin

In March, the recovery of wage levels in Sierra Leone and parts of Liberia suggests that economic activity is resuming, as previous quarantine measures have been lifted in both countries. Negative coping levels continue to be observed in rural areas that have been affected by ebola, households headed by women, and among the poorest households.

WFP Response

♦ ***Care***: providing nutritious meals to patients in treatment and their caretakers and continued nutrition support to survivors upon discharge and their households.

♦ ***Contain***: distributing food to isolated households and communities with widespread and intense transmission. In isolated communities, assistance is provided at the request of health authorities and partners for an initial period of one month; if required, follow-up assistance is provided.

♦ ***Transition***: providing an initial kick-start of economic and livelihood activities in affected areas once they are declared ebola-free by health authorities, and to ensure nutrition support to orphans.

The smooth *transition* to recovery as areas become free of ebola

In March, WFP assisted more than 10,000 families in former areas of intense transmission with food rations under the *transition* phase. WFP is working to transition to a mixed food/cash ration. The activity targets communities cleared of ebola, but where access to food and the resumption of markets and livelihoods remain significant challenges. On 26 March, WFP launched the *transition* response in former ebola hotspots of Liberia. Under the activity, WFP provided a reduced ration to households in Grand Gedih, Sinoe, Maryland and Grand Kru, mixing food and cash. Beneficiaries receive a half ration consisting of food as well as cash to support households, while stimulating the local economy. So far, more than 1,000 total beneficiaries were assisted in the first week.

Protecting vulnerable groups

In Guinea, as part of the *transition* phase, WFP started distributions of one-month rations to ebola-orphaned children in Siguiri, Kankan, Kouroussa and Kéraouné, reaching approximately 200 orphans in March. The identification and registration of children in other areas of the country is ongoing jointly with partners and UNICEF, to start assistance in April. In Liberia and Sierra Leone, WFP continues to provide support to orphans; so far, more than 3,000 orphans received assistance in the two countries. Additionally, WFP provided food assistance to over 250 survivors across the three countries.

Supporting the government's efforts to "get to zero" in Sierra Leone

In March, WFP provided food packages to about 800 quarantined persons and food support to over

200,000 persons in hot spot communities to support government efforts to contain the virus. In light of these efforts, from 27 to 29 March the government of Sierra Leone promoted a three-day stay-at-home campaign for "Getting to zero Ebola". At the request of the National Ebola Response Centre (NERC), the humanitarian community joined efforts to ensure the basic needs of the most vulnerable populations as identified by the Ministry of Social Welfare and the NERC. As part of the exercise, WFP provided food to community kitchens in more than 150 sites across the country, feeding vulnerable street children, elderly and disabled persons. In coordination with UNMEER and partners, short-term food support was provided to vulnerable households in poor urban communities identified by the NERC.

Reinforcing *contain* alongside health actors in Guinea

Over the past months, stakeholders have come together to ensure a coordinated and rapid response. Now, packages of food and complementary items are distributed directly to the homes of contact cases within 24-48 hours after receipt of the official list given by WHO/ *Diréction Préfectural de la Santé*. In March, WFP reached over 1,000 contact cases in the prefectures of Boffa, Coyah, Forécariah, Siguiri, Conakry and Dubreka. WFP is installing a new Sub-Office in Forécariah to reinforce its presence in the area.

Recruitment of national health advisors

Since the beginning of the ebola response, WFP has been committed to implementing it in a manner that is safe for its staff and beneficiaries alike. WFP established a network of international health advisors across the three countries, coordinated by one health advisor in WFP's Regional Bureau in Dakar, Senegal. In March, WFP consolidated this initiative by hiring national health advisors to succeed to the international ones. So far, WFP has recruited and trained two national health advisors in Guinea, two in Liberia and three in Sierra Leone.

Preparing for the rainy season

In light of the upcoming rainy season, WFP has prioritized the prepositioning of food and non-food items to ensure contingency stocks of sufficient supplies to be able to maintain the same level of operations over the next few months. WFP is structurally augmenting and reinforcing its established storage capacity, which currently amounts to almost 30,000 m^2 in total capacity across the three affected countries.

Common Services

In March, WFP approved a second Budget Revision to its Special Operation 200773, extending its common services activities through to December 2015. WFP remains operationally equipped to meet the needs of partners in the three countries, and will adapt its operational priorities to UNMEER's plan to phase-out of the region by the end of September 2015. Through the SO, WFP is also supporting the WHO-WFP Joint Collaboration initiative.

UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

In the month of March, UNHAS transported over 1,900 passengers between Dakar, Accra and the three affected countries.

UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)

UNHRD in Accra continues to assemble and dispatch Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) kits on behalf of WHO across the three affected countries as a key preparedness measure.

Logistics Cluster

As part of the activities for the reopening of schools, the WFP-led logistics coordination mechanism is supporting UNICEF with the distribution of over 2,000 'School in a Box' units in Forest Guinea.

The Logistics Cluster will continue to provide logistics support to the humanitarian community and the Liberian Ministry of Health, and is working to develop a mechanism to integrate the storage and transport of relevant items into the regular supply chain system.

In Sierra Leone, the Logistics Cluster through WFP is now able to offer temperature-controlled storage to partners, thanks to the donation of a 40ft-refrigerated container. The container was set up at the WFP main logistics hub in Port Loko.

Emergency Telecommunications (ET)

The ET Cluster has been providing reliable internet access for over 2,100 humanitarian staff in 115 locations across the three affected countries.

Contacts

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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	$ 146,655,511	22 %
Regional SO200773	15.10.2014 — 31.12.2015	--	$ 272,145,000	$ 148,415,610	45 %