



A boy and a girl sit on the edge of a street in Freetown, the capital, by Tanya Bindra

Sierra Leone Ebola Situation Report

11 February 2015



HIGHLIGHTS

- As of 11 February 2015, according to the Government of Sierra Leone, the cumulative number of laboratory confirmed Ebola virus disease (EVD) cases is 8,169. The number of confirmed deaths is 2,998. Total survived and discharged cases is 2,285.
- The UN Secretary-General has appointed Bintou Keita as the new Ebola Crisis Manager (head of UNMEER) in Sierra Leone, replacing Amadu Kamara, who has completed his term in office.
- On 5 and 6 February 2015, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs convened over 75 child protection stakeholders including Government, civil society and development partners to validate the National Child Protection District Ebola Recovery Plans.
- The UNICEF-led Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) network have identified 16,554 children as being directly affected by the Ebola crisis (8,308 girls and 8,246 boys), with 8,360 children having lost one or both parents to Ebola and 679 unaccompanied or separated from their caregiver. 9,668 Ebola-affected children have been provided with psychosocial support.
- UNICEF Sierra Leone requires USD 178 million for its response to the Ebola crisis until end of June 2015. To date, USD 119.1 million has been received – 67 percent of the total.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

11 February 2015

8,169

Confirmed Cases of Ebola

2,998

Confirmed Deaths from Ebola

8,360

Registered Ebola Orphans (latest data
8 Feb 2015)

**3.12 million (1 million
under-5)**

Children living in affected areas

**UNICEF funding needs to June
2015**

USD 178 million

UNICEF funding gap

USD 59 million

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

In the week to 8 February 2015, half of the 14 districts in Sierra Leone did not record a confirmed Ebola case, and three districts in the south/east (Pujehun, Kailahun and Bonthe) have exceeded more than 42 days without a case. Hotspots remain in Port Loko district, the Western Area (Rural & Urban) in and around the capital, and Kambia district. After a rise in cases last week, weekly confirmed cases fell slightly in the seven days to 8 February 2015. 76 new confirmed cases were recorded nationwide, down from 80 the previous week, but still above the 65 recorded in the week to 25 January 2015.

A total of 8,169 people have contracted the virus of whom 2,998 have died. 16,554 children are directly affected by the crisis, around half of whom have lost one or both parents to Ebola.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health

Independent monitors have concluded that during the Mass Drug Administration (MDA) campaign 93 percent of target population was reached. Led by the Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MoHS), through its National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP), with support from MSF and UNICEF, more than 2.4 million people aged above six months were reached with antimalarial drugs during the four day, door-to-door campaign (16 to 19 January 2015), across the Western Area and in hotspot areas in the districts of Bombali, Kambia, Koinadugu, Moyamba, Port Loko, and Tonkolili.

UNICEF continued to support the MoHS in training Peripheral Health Unit (PHU) health workers on the revised 'Guidelines for Appropriate Management of Childhood Illnesses and Immunization in the context of Ebola'. The cascade training process was completed nationwide with an additional 237 staff trained last week, bringing the cumulative number of trained staff to 2,411, surpassing the target of training 2,400 staff.

Following reports of an increased number of stillbirths from Freetown's Princess Christian Maternity Hospital (PCMH), the main referral maternity hospital in the country, UNICEF and MoHS have started the process of conducting an investigation, with the establishment of a perinatal death review committee. In this process, UNICEF supported the MoHS to develop a protocol and to train staff on collecting data retrospectively from the hospital and the community. 10 PCMH and MoHS staff were trained on this process. A final report for PCMH is expected by the end of February 2015. The process will then continue in other maternities across the country.

Suspected measles cases were reported from the districts of Bombali and Port Loko during this reporting week. WHO, MoHS and UNICEF are conducting further investigations to see if an outbreak is confirmed and to decide on appropriate interventions.

Nutrition

In the last week, as part of the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM), a total of 12,320 children under 5 were screened at the community level in 62 out of 149 chiefdoms (327 communities). A total of 183 severe acute malnourished (SAM) children were identified, of which 117 were admitted or treated at the outpatient therapeutic centres (OTPs), while 24 children who had SAM with medical complications were referred to an inpatient facility (IPF) to receive paediatric and nutrition care. The total number of children in the SAM programme by the end of the week was 1,155. About 150 boxes of RUTF were consumed.

UNICEF is providing 18 Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs)¹, 53 Ebola Holding Centres (EHCs), seven ETU/EHCs, 20 observational/interim care centres (OICCs) as well as 55 Community Care Centres (CCCs)² directly with nutrition supplies. Supplies include high energy fortified biscuits (BP100), ready-to-use infant formula (RUIF) and Ultra High Temperature (UHT) whole/full cream milk for Ebola patients and survivors – including for children.

UNICEF continues to support the Food and Nutrition Directorate to ensure a harmonized nutrition response for the EVD outbreak and a nutrition sector response and recovery plan will be finalized by next week.



¹ Previous week reported that UNICEF is providing nutrition supplies to twenty four ETUs, ten ETU/EHCs, 56 EHCs, twenty one ICCs and nineteen OICCs as well as 47 CCCs. This report reflects an updated number of the same.

² UNICEF's, as well as other agencies' CCCs.

WASH

As a lead agency for WASH, UNICEF is coordinating the WASH sector Ebola response. UNICEF continues to support 28 ETUs and EHCs in eight districts, with 533 beds, with an essential WASH package (sanitation facilities, waste management and water supply for drinking, personal hygiene and disinfection). UNICEF has also ensured that a total of 46 CCCs with 404 beds in five districts continues to have adequate access to essential WASH services.

During the week, a total of seven water wells at facilities have been deepened to ensure a continuous water supply in the dry season. In addition 12 x 10,000 litre tanks have been installed to provide water to Ebola affected communities and during the week more than 285,000 litres of water were delivered to the affected communities including to five Ebola centres by the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR).

Additionally, an extra 3,960 persons, totalling to approximately 52,043 people to-date, in quarantined households have benefited from WASH supplies distributed through WFP packages. During the past week, through UNICEF's WASH implementing partners, a total of 14,566 persons including 4,194 children have been reached with Ebola prevention messages including the importance of hand washing with soap. To date, UNICEF's WASH partners have reached more than 645,302 people (approximately 107,550 households) with essential Ebola prevention messages.

Regular monitoring of the functionality of WASH facilities and water quality is being conducted for Ebola centres through MoWR. Similarly, in preparation for the reopening of schools in March, a rapid assessment of WASH needs in schools has started through UNICEF WASH partners.

Community Care Centres (CCCs)

Since 17 November 2014, UNICEF-supported CCCs have triaged 4,873 patients, admitted 492 and conducted rapid ambulance transfers for 183 patients across five districts. The number of patients triaged at UNICEF-supported CCCs increased slightly (7 percent) over the number triaged last week and was the highest weekly number triaged to-date. High triage numbers underscore the important role these facilities play in building community trust and ensuring sick individuals seek professional assessment. Only one of 45 CCCs reporting did not triage any patients last week.

During the period, there were 48 new admissions in CCCs in five districts, representing 32 percent decrease over last week; 21 percent of admitted patients presented within 48 hours of symptom-onset and 49 lab test results from CCC patients were able to be tracked. 88 percent of these lab results were available at the District Ebola Response Centre (DERC) within 48 hours of the patient test. In total, two patients were found EVD positive; one from Kambia and one from Western Rural.



Staff, wearing personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfect a tent in a quarantine area at the UNICEF-supported Newton CCC.

7 day status update – 3 to-9 February 2015

District	Number/ type of CCC	Implementing Partner	Triaged	Admitted	Transfer	% Ebola Suspects	Reporting completeness
Bombali	15 x 8 beds	World Hope	244	22	8	12%	93%
Tonkolili	13 x 8 beds	Concern Worldwide	300	2	0	0.6%	88%
Kambia	12 x 8 beds	Marie-Stopes	281	10	4	5%	82%
Western	2 x 24 beds	Action Aid	10	5	0	50%	71%
Kono	3 x 8 & 1 x 12 beds	Partners in Health	56	9	0	16%	39%
TOTAL	404 beds		891	48	12	7%	83%

Communication for Development (C4D) and Social Mobilization (SM)³

UNICEF supported Hotspot Busters project: During this last week, Health For All Coalition (HFAC) social mobilizers covered 45 hotspot communities nationwide (including nine that were newly identified) reaching 58,557 households through door to door community sensitization. The mobilizers reported 54 suspected cases of Ebola (41 from existing hotspots and 13 from non-hotspot areas). 18 cases were referred to CCCs/holding centres/treatment units within 48 hours. A total of 1,943 traditional healers and religious leaders were engaged in promoting safe and dignified burials and demystifying rumours about Ebola.

CCCs: During the week of 1 to 7 February 2015, social mobilizers from UNICEF's five implementing partners visited 1,022 communities and reached out to 7,060 households around the CCCs in Bombali, Kambia, Kono and Tonkolili districts in support of social mobilization for active case finding, community surveillance, and community dialogues to ensure that sick people are moved to CCCs, as well as focused messages on survivors, safe and dignified burials busting rumours on Ebola and sustaining positive behaviour change. In 1,082 communities the social mobilizers engaged women's and youth groups to promote CCC utilization. Of the 666 cases of sick people referred to the CCCs, half of them (339) were from Kambia and the remaining from Bombali (102), Kono (115), Tonkolili (92) and Western Area (18).



Community Care Centre chiefdom mobilizers at monthly review and planning meeting at the Kono District Ebola Centre.

UNICEF supported the BBC Action Media radio programme 'Kick Ebola Nar Salone', which is aired nationally over 41 radio stations across all 14 districts on Wednesdays at 6pm, and repeated on Sundays and Mondays. The 30-minute Krio language factual radio programme has been actively engaged in increasing the participation of communities through regular features such as the Ebola headlines and audience idea of the week, alongside packages and interviews with medical experts, religious leaders, traditional leaders, survivors, government representatives and the general public. Public Service Announcements (PSAs) have been aired three times a day across a network of 41 radio stations – totalling 11,193 times as of January 2015.

On 11 February 2015, about 50 journalists (including editors) were orientated on media reporting on critical issues related to Ebola and the ethical reporting of the sensitivities around Ebola survivors. CDC, the National Ebola Response Centre, MoHS and development professionals briefed the journalists on facts about survivors to enhance their knowledge and bring about change in the way they report on survivors in the media. They emphasized on the importance of protecting survivors and not exposing them to danger and stigma.

Child Protection⁶

On 5 and 6 February 2015 in Freetown, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA) to convene over 75 child protection stakeholders including Government, civil society and development partners to validate the National Child Protection District Ebola Recovery Plans and establish coordination mechanisms to ensure partners are working towards a common vision.

Registration: 204 additional children (107 boys and 97 girls) were documented by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA), UNICEF and partners during the period 2 to 8 February 2015 as being affected by EVD. Of this number 178 children (96 boys and 82 girls) are in quarantine in their homes as a result of exposure to an infected person and five confirmed cases of EVD have been reported in this period (one boy and three girls). 134 children (72 boys and 62 girls) were identified as having lost one or both parents, and 101 children (56 boys and 55 girls) were documented as being unaccompanied. The cumulative number of children documented by UNICEF through the Family Tracing and Reunification (FTR) network is 16,554 (8,246 boys and 8,308 girls) of which 8,360 (4,188 boys and 4,172 girls) have lost one or both parents, and 679 (313 boys and 366 girls) were unaccompanied.

³ UNICEF is the lead agency for the UN for social mobilization and community engagement and is co-chairing the Social Mobilization pillar with the Health Education Division (HED) of the MoHS.

⁴ HFAC classifies hotspot communities as any community with a minimum of two confirmed positive cases of EVD

⁵ World Hope International, Marie Stopes International, Partners in Health, Concern Worldwide and Action Aid

⁶ UNICEF is the lead agency for the UN on child protection in the Ebola response and is co-chairing the Child Protection, Psychosocial and Gender pillar with MSWGCA.

Family tracing and reunification: In the period 3 to 9 February 2015 the MSWGCA/UNICEF-led FTR network identified 33 children who required support to be reunified with their families all of them were reunified. Cumulatively, 1,868 children since the beginning of the EVD crisis have been identified for FTR and 1,189 children (64 percent) were reunified with their families.

Psychosocial Support: Minimum standards for the provision of psychosocial support (PSS) were drafted by the PSS working group. A total of 134 out of 140 (96 percent) in need of psychosocial services (PSS) received one-on-one counselling and group counselling support within their communities during this reporting period. Counselling support is provided as part of the follow up on children after quarantine, when reunified or placed in alternative care. To date, 9,668 out of 11,775 (82 percent) identified to need PSS have benefited from specific psychosocial support services.

Relief items: As of 1 February 2015, 98 percent of FTR packages that were originally disbursed to partners in mid-November 2014 (980/1,000) have been distributed to children who have been reunified with their families. 60 percent (300/500) of survivor packages have also been distributed to child survivors. A new set of 2,100 FTR packages was recently disbursed to the MSWGCA at district level. For the reporting period, 33 relief items were provided out of 76 additional requests (43 percent). Cumulatively 7,046 relief items have been provided by partners out of 10,560 requests (67 percent).

Observational and Interim Care Centres (OICCs): There are currently 14 open OICCs covering 12 districts with a total capacity of 275 beds. One new OICC was opened during the past week in Western Rural/Kerrytown by Save the Children. The OICCs provide care for asymptomatic contact children with no caregivers. Currently, nine OICCs out of 14 are receiving children. On 7 February 2015, a total of 87 contact children were in quarantine in the nine centres.



OICCs like this one in Kono District, set-up by the government with UNICEF support, provide a safe place to monitor children who may have come in contact with Ebola

There are currently eight Interim Care Centres (ICCs) receiving children, out of eleven that are functional. Between 3 and 7 February 2015, 140 children were counted in the ICCs. The ICCs provide care and support for surviving (non-contact) children with no caregivers as last resort. 13 children were reunified during the same period, four newly admitted and 72 received PSS services.

Child protection district coordination: 292 referrals were made to the seven fully operational desks between 2 to 8 February 2015. This is a 150 percent increase from the previous week. 274 of the cases (93 percent) were immediately referred to appropriate partners for assessment and follow up. 687 units of services (including admission to OICCs or ICCs; placement in other appropriate care; provision of psycho-social services; provision of food; etc.) were provided to referred cases in the course of the week. Four new staff were orientated and deployed to the districts to support district coordination.

Education

On 6 February 2015, UNICEF supported the 'School Reopening' Working Committee, led by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) to organize a validation workshop on the finalization of the Guidance Note and Protocols for Safe Reopening of Schools, where all key stakeholders participated, including the MoHS), WHO and CDC.

On 10 February 2015, a training was organized for Master Trainers on the implementation of the Guidance Note and Protocol for Safe Reopening of Schools. The training was conducted by MoHS, UNICEF and MEST. The 14 Master Trainers from all districts will train 420 Trainers (30 per district), who will then train 7,000 teachers, i.e. one teacher per school – Primary and Junior Secondary - who then will orient all teachers in their schools (reaching 36,000 teachers in total)

This week, UNICEF also supported MEST and key partners to organize a training of trainers on the School Needs Assessment Tool. The training will now be cascaded to the enumerators in all districts so they can start data collection. The result is expected to be made available in early March 2015.

As part of the ongoing listenership rapid assessment of the school radio programmes, this week 1,583 households covering six districts (Pujehun, Kailahun, Kenema, Bo, Bonthe and Moyamba) were visited by UNICEF implementing partners to determine if children were engaging. 40.9 percent of households had children of primary school age listening to the education programmes.

Supply and Logistics

To date, 30 UNICEF supported charters have delivered 1,613 MT of essential supplies in response to the Ebola crisis in Sierra Leone. Supplies have been prepositioned at district medical stores (DMSs) for replenishment to all ETUs, EHCs, CCCs, ICCs and OICCs as well as to support quarantined households countrywide.

Human Resources

As of 9 February 2015, the total number of IP staff in the country office is 61; 13 of these have been deployed in the field. Out of 151 national staff members, 68 are based in the field. The surge and stand-by-partner staff is 26; 20 in Freetown and six in the field. These staff members, including the 942 outsourced third party and government staff continuing to support the CCCs.



UNICEF Personnel in Sierra Leone	Freetown	In the field	Total Staff Strength
International Staff	48	13	61
National Staff	83	68	151
Staff on Surge and SBP	20	6	26
Outsourced third party/ government staff for CCCs	942		

Media & External Communication

This week, UNICEF started facilitating the Communications and PR pillar of the National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) with a Blast SMS on the pillar's 'Big Ebola Idea of the Week', which this week focused on Ebola survivors. The messages are expected to reach hundreds of thousands of people through the Africell, Airtel, Smart and SierraTel networks.

To bring even more reporters to the recently launched [U-Report](#) SMS community, U-Report has teamed up with Scouts Sierra Leone to push out information to their more than 6,000 members.

A lively talk show discussing the impact of Ebola on children, organized by UNICEF and facilitated by BBC Media Action, was recorded on 6 February 2015 and broadcast on radio and television. On the panel were the Deputy Minister from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs (MSWGCA), an NGO partner, an Ebola survivor and a UNICEF staff member. The event was part of a two-day meeting with child protection partners convened by the Ministry, and supported by UNICEF, to validate and finalize the district deployment plans, and district coordination referral mechanisms (see Child Protection section above).

During the period, UNICEF Sierra Leone contributed to an [IRIN](#) article on teenage pregnancy. The national press covered a UNICEF initiative to provide young survivors with [cash grants](#), and two articles on [our work](#) to reduce [Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting \(FGM/C\)](#). There were also articles in the country's Standard Times and Global Times. Social media postings continued on a daily basis on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). During the reporting period on Facebook there were 48 new page likes, 500 post likes, 14 post comments, and 11,337 posts views on the site. On Twitter we gained 52 new followers, and received 48 retweets and 777 mentions. The week also saw the launch of the country office's Instagram account (@unicefsierraleone).

Funding

In line with the UN inter-agency response strategy for the Ebola Outbreak, UNICEF humanitarian action for children (HAC) is appealing for USD 178 million for Sierra Leone to support the needs of women and children affected by the Ebola crisis until end of June 2015. To date, USD 119.1 million has been received, 67 percent of the current appeal.

UNICEF greatly appreciates the contributions that have been received to date including from the Governments of Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands and United Arab Emirates, DfID, ECHO, OFDA/USAID, SIDA, OCHA, the World Bank, and the Swedish, UK and US Fund for UNICEF, as well as the private sector.

Next Situation Report: 18 February 2015

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Who to contact for further information:

Roeland Monasch, Representative
UNICEF Sierra Leone
Tel: +44 2033579278/9 x1001
Mobile : +232 79 250 230
Email: rmonasch@unicef.org

Sandra Lattouf, Deputy Representative
UNICEF Sierra Leone
Tel: +44 2033579278/9 x2001
Mobile: +232 78 989 057
Email: slattouf@unicef.org

John James, Communication Specialist
UNICEF Sierra Leone
Tel: + 232 76 601 310
Mobile: +232 76 102 401
Email: jjames@unicef.org



Programme Results

UNICEF and Pillar/Sector Results for EVD response (11/02/2015)				
Indicators	Pillar / Sector		UNICEF	
	Target	Results	Target	Results
Percentage of EVD cases with onset in the past week		0.92% (75/8,152)		
Percentage of District, Social Mobilization taskforces (SMT) reporting on the dashboard each week (UNMEER)	100% (14)	50% (7/14)	100% (14)	50% (7/14) [1]
Percentage of districts with list of identified key religious leaders (including priests, imams, pastors, tribal leaders) or community groups who promote safe funeral and burial practices according to standard guidelines (UNMEER)	100% (14)	100% (14/14)	100% (14)	100% (14/14)
Percentage of Districts with at least one security incident or other form of refusal to cooperate in past week (UNMEER)	0% (0)	29% (4/14)	0% (0)	29% (4/14)[2]
Percentage of CCCs established after a community dialogue process aligned with Global SOPs or according to norms established in country (UNMEER)	100% (58)	100% (58/58)	100% (46)	100% (46/46)*
Radio stations airing daily messages on Ebola	100% (64)	97% (62/64)	100% (64)	97% (62/64)
Districts where all radio stations air Ebola content every day	100% (14)	100% (14/14)	100% (14)	100% (14/14)
Households receiving Inter-Personal Communication on Ebola prevention messages (in a quarterly bases)	100% (886,480)	74% (652,981/ 886,480)	60% (532,000)	123% (652,981/ 532,000)
Percentage of CCCs functional against target set for the current reporting period (UNMEER)	100% (58)	100% (58/58)	100% (46)	100% (46/46)
Percentage of patients who present at a CCC within 48 hours of becoming ill with any	100%	21% (8/39)	100%	21% (8/39)

[1] Based on reports received from Bombali, Bonthe, Kambia, Kailahun, Kenema, Port Loko and Western Area Urban

[2] Kambia, Kono, Tonkolili and Western Area Urban

symptoms that could be EVD (UNMEER)				
Percentage of all Ebola community treatment and holding centers with essential WASH services	100% (94)	73% (69/94)	100% 52	69% (36/52)
CCCs provided with essential WASH services	100% (58)	100% (58/58)	100% (46)	100% (46/46)
Non-Ebola health centres in Ebola- affected areas provided with hand-washing stations	100% (1,162)	100% (1,162/1,162)	100% (1,162)	100% (1,162/1,162)
People in quarantine households receiving WASH support (as part of "home protection and support" kit)	100% (420,000)	12% (52,043/420,000)	100% (420,000)	12% (52,043/420,000)
Percentage of EVD-affected children provided with care and support, including psychosocial support	100%	82%		
Percentage of children who have lost one or both parents/caregivers or who are separated from their parents/caregivers reintegrated with their families or provided with appropriate alternative care.	100%	64% (1,189/1,867)		
EVD-affected children provided with psychosocial support.	100% (11,769)	82% (9,668/11,769)	100% (11,769)	82% (9,668/11,769)
EVD-affected caregivers provided with psychosocial support.	75% (15,000)	69% (10,416/15,000)	75% (15,000)	69% (10,416/15,000)
EVD-affected children placed in interim care	TBD	421	TBD	421
EVD-affected children reunified with their families	TBD	1,189	TBD	1,189
EVD-affected children and adult survivors who receive non-food items	100% (12,647)	76% (9,583/12,647)	100% (12,647)	76% (9,583/12,647)
Percentage of patients admitted to CCCs with a provisional diagnosis of possible EVD who received a confirmatory positive or negative test (rapid or laboratory test) within 36 hours of admission to treatment facility	100%	88% (43/49)	100%	88% (43/49)
Health structures in EVD affected areas provided with essential commodities package	100% (1,185)	101% (1,195/1,185)	100% (1,185)	101% (1,195/1,185)
Health personnel in health facilities trained in infection prevention and control and Ebola triage	100% (2000)	218% (4,368/2,000)	100% (2000)	218% (4,368/2,000)
Community Health Workers (CHW) trained on revised guidelines on provision of	100% (6,000)	75% (4,527/6,000)	100% (6,000)	75% (4,527/6,000)

community-based maternal, new-born and child health (MNCH) care				
HIV positive women (including pregnant women) continuing to receive ARTs	NA	NA	100% (1,142)	75% (856/1,142)
HIV positive children continuing to receive ARTs	NA	NA	100% (539)	20% (109/539)
Treatment centres providing nutrition support to Ebola patients**	100% (150)	113% (170/150)	100% (150)	113% (170/150)
Children 6-59 months screened for SAM and referred for treatment	70% (18,885)	65.2% (12,320/18,885)	70% (18,885)	65.2% (12,320/18,885)
Radio Lesson Listenership Coverage during EREP monitoring	100%	40.9% (647/1583 HH surveyed)	100%	40.9% (647/1583 HH surveyed)
Teachers trained on psycho social support, Ebola prevention, and safe and protective learning environments	7,000	0.4% (28/7000)	7,000	0.4% (28/7000)
Radio stations broadcasting emergency learning programmes	100% (41)	100% (41/41)	100% (41)	100% (41/41)
Extremely poor households directly affected by the EVD that receive a cash transfer through the national safety net programme	8,000	0	NA	NA

*All CCCs are being established following a community dialogue process.

**= targets set for Jan-February 2015. Result is all the operational centres supported with nutrition supplies.

For some indicators the numbers from the pillar's columns are the same than UNICEF's numbers, because there was no other information available from the Pillar.

In relation to the UNMEER target of functional CCCs, the target has been set here as 58 CCCs according to the list of existing and in construction CCCs.