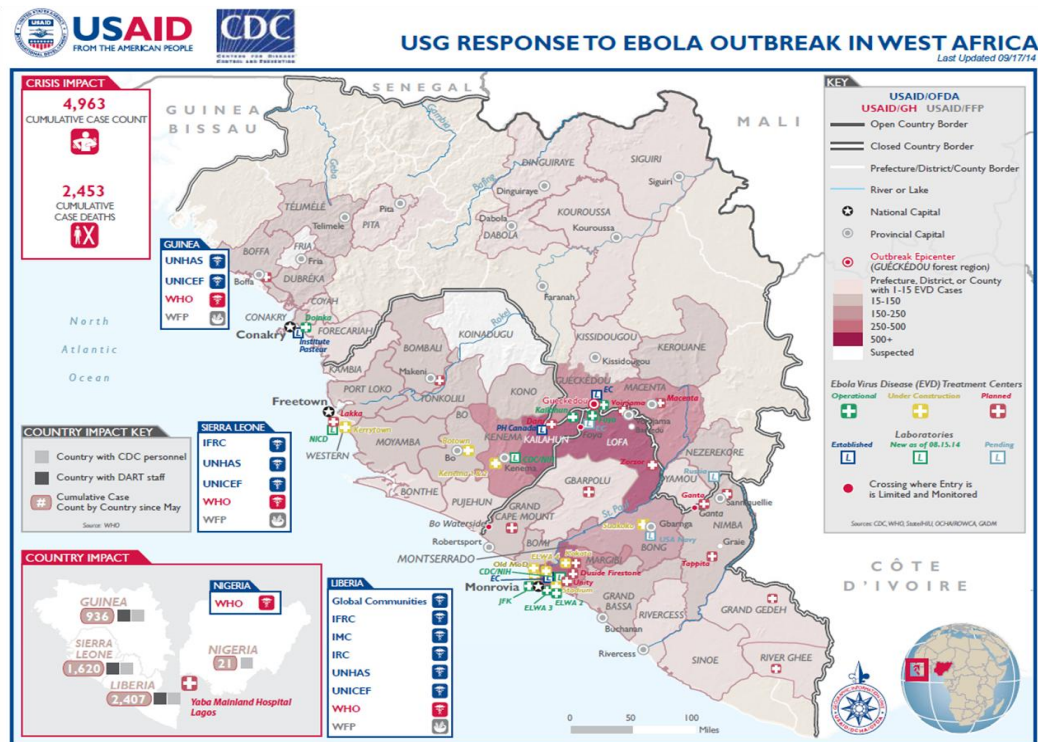


UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Info Cut-off: 220600L SEP 14

22 September 2014



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Table 1: Probable, confirmed, and suspected cases in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone as at end 14 September 2014

Country	Case definition	Cases			Deaths
		Total	Last 21 days	Last 21 days/Total (%)	
Guinea	Confirmed	750	266	36%	435
	Probable	162	21	13%	161
	Suspected	30	25	83%	5
	All	942	312	33%	601
Liberia	Confirmed	812	462	57%	631
	Probable	1233	596	46%	518
	Suspected	675	398	59%	310
	All	2710	1429	52%	1459
Sierra Leone	Confirmed	1513	584	39%	517
	Probable	37	0	0%	34
	Suspected	123	69	56%	11
	All	1673	653	39%	562
Total		5335	2394	45%	2622

Data are based on official information reported by Ministries of Health. These numbers are subject to change due to ongoing reclassification, retrospective investigation and availability of laboratory results.

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¹ (U) United States Agency for International Development, 17 SEP 14, (U)USG West Africa Ebola Outbreak Program Map-Sept 17, 2014, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

(U) **Executive Summary:** *The overall security situation in Liberia is stable and is expected to remain so in the near term. There has been one significant report in the last 24 hours; an attack against a group of health workers burying departed Ebola victims near Freetown, Sierra Leone. The attack resulted in no injuries or death, but left the infected bodies unburied and an exposure threat. The heart of the Ebola pandemic is in Lofa County (north-central Liberia) and the surrounding regions. The spread of Ebola has greatly affected this region due to the ethnic border crossings and underdeveloped rural communities. The densely forested area is also home to jungle animals, such as fruit bats and monkeys that are believed to be carriers of EVD. It is likely to continue to increase in EVD-affected numbers in the long-term. Sierra Leone's national lockdown proved to be effective in identifying infected personnel and bringing EVD awareness and it remains the most proactive and prepared of three principal EVD-infected countries.*

(U) **Liberia:**

(U) **Update on Border Closures:** In July, the government of Liberia closed its borders to prevent the further spread of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). Major entry points remained operational, but require an EVD screening process before being released.³ *Although the border closures controlled the spread to some degree, EVD is already prevalent in Guinea and Sierra Leone. It will likely continue spreading, as the ethnic and tribal groups of the region are interconnected economically and socially. The Mende and Kissi tribes predominately reside in the northern half of Liberia, extending through southern Sierra Leone, Guinea, and parts of western Cote d'Ivoire. Both tribes divide into sub-tribes that trade agriculture and cattle with one another, sectors that have suffered greatly since the onset of EVD.*

(U) **JOA (Sierra Leone, Guinea, Senegal, Liberia):**

(U) **Burial Team Attacked:** A group of young people attacked health workers burying Ebola infected victims in Matainkay, a village 20km east of Freetown, Sierra Leone. During the attack, the health workers fled the scene, leaving infected bodies unburied.⁴ *Intimidation against health workers and foreign aid will continue, especially in rural areas where tribal traditions and leadership override external influence. This region of Sierra Leone is predominately occupied by the Temne tribe, which has a strong cultural norm to take personal initiative. It is likely these youths were trying to exert themselves as adults, since children are given no degree of respectability, and they were protecting their village from foreigners and "foreign contact." Superstition is common in traditional tribal beliefs, regardless if a tribe has converted to Islam or Christianity and it is common to have a blend of such traditional and more mainstream religious beliefs.*

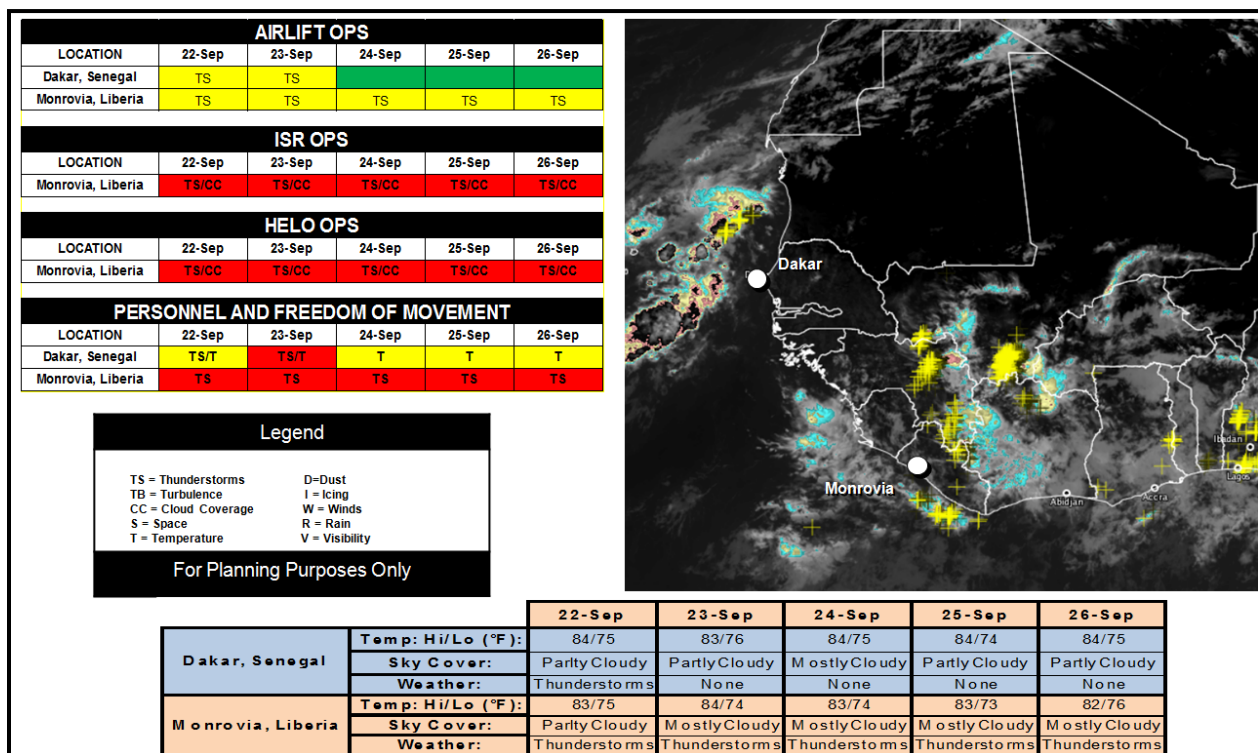
² (U) World Health Organization, 18 SEP 14, (U) WHO: Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

³ (U) Time, 28 JUL 14, (U) Liberia Closes Borders to Curb Ebola Outbreak, cited portion classified: U, overall portion classified: U

⁴ (U) alJazeera, 21 SEP 14, (U) Ebola Burial Team Attacked in Sierra Leone, cited portion classified: U, overall portion classified: U

(U) **Lockdown Proves Effective:** The three-day national lockdown in Sierra Leone 19-21 September has been touted as a success by the government, and uncovered 92 bodies, 56 positive results of Ebola, and 36 suspected cases awaiting results. EVD awareness was brought to the attention of thousands of Sierra Leone nationals. However, larger cities such as Freetown and Kenema, did not complete the door-to-door operation, because of the population-volunteer contrast. Many households welcomed EVD information and handouts, while resistant communities declared the soap handouts to be poisonous. In already impoverished shantytowns, residents were hopeful to receive food items and disappointed when the arriving volunteers came empty-handed.⁵ *Although the enforced curfew experienced some national and international criticism, the containment of infected personnel and nationwide awareness will reap positive results in the battle against EVD. This initiative will serve as the foundation for ongoing awareness and government and civil action to improve the health care system to control EVD and other ailments.*

(U) **Weather:**



(U) Monrovia will continue to see persistent rain with embedded thunderstorms throughout the forecast period. *These atmospheric conditions will make it very difficult for engineering and construction-based activities due to persistent and at times heavy rains throughout the day. Furthermore, travel along all roads classified as “fair-weather” will be nearly impossible* due to the deterioration of ground conditions as 0.25 inches to 1.0 inches of rain is forecasted to occur on the 22nd. Roads classified as “all-weather” will also be difficult to traverse during periods of heavy downpours due to poor drainage and localized flooding. Forecasted thunderstorms and ceilings consistently below 1,500 feet (lower in higher

⁵ (U) BBC, 22 SEP 14, (U)Ebola Crisis: Sierra Leone Lockdown Declared “Success”, cited portion classified: U, overall document classified: U

terrain) will also limit operating times for helicopter operations. Although there will be windows to operate helicopters, these windows may close quickly. According to climological data, the afternoon hours tend to have the highest-based ceilings, which will allow for rotary wing operations. Overall conditions throughout the JOA will begin to steadily improve by mid-October as the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone and its associated precipitation move further south on the African continent.