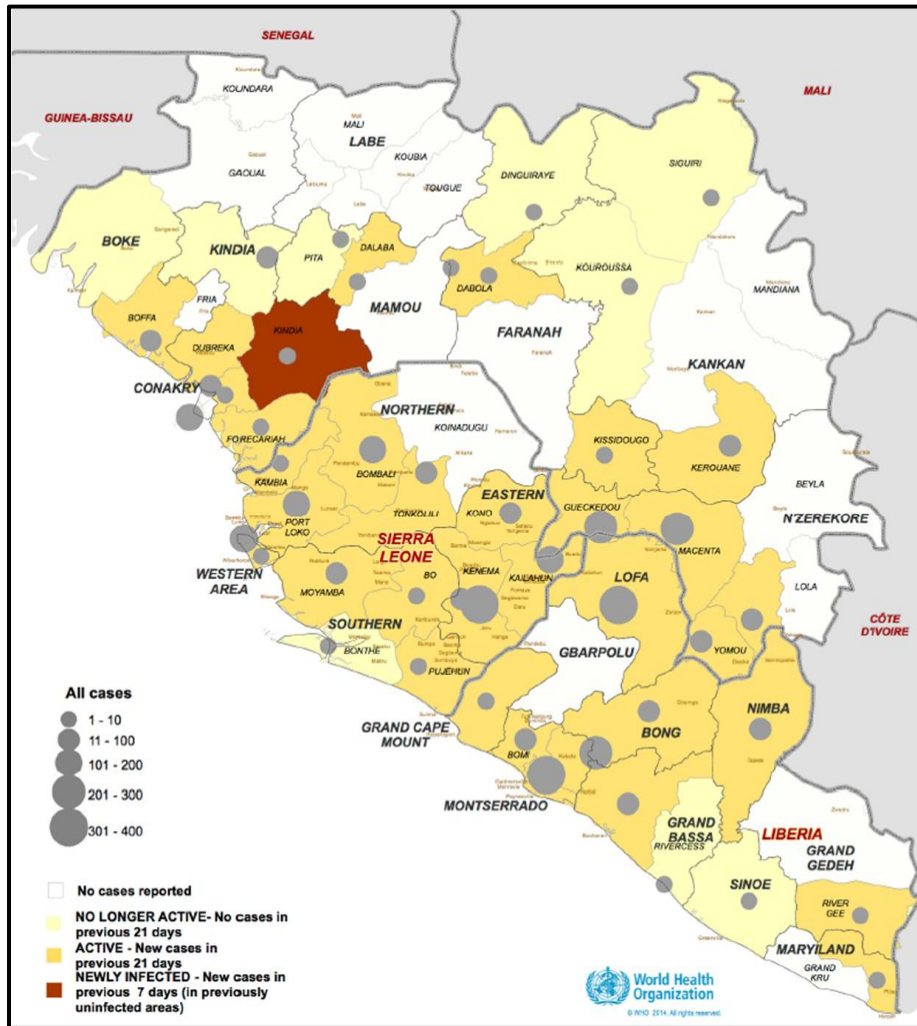


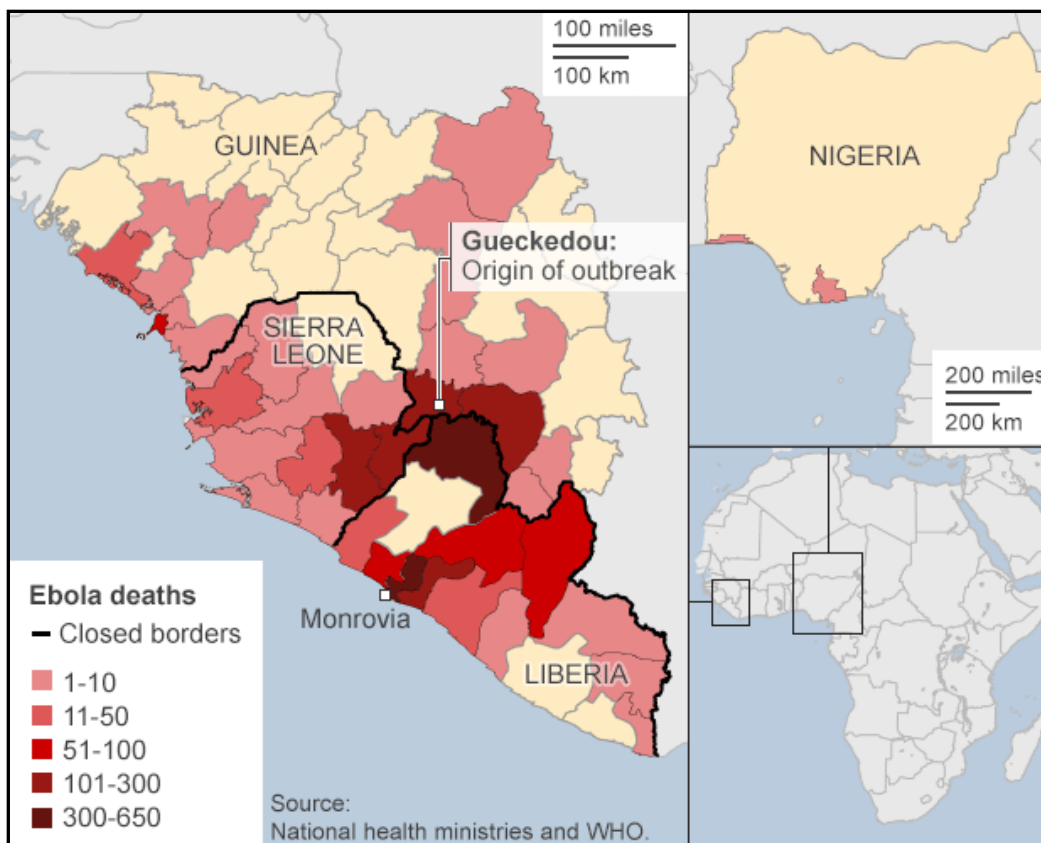
UNITED ASSISTANCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Info Cut-off: 250600L SEP 14

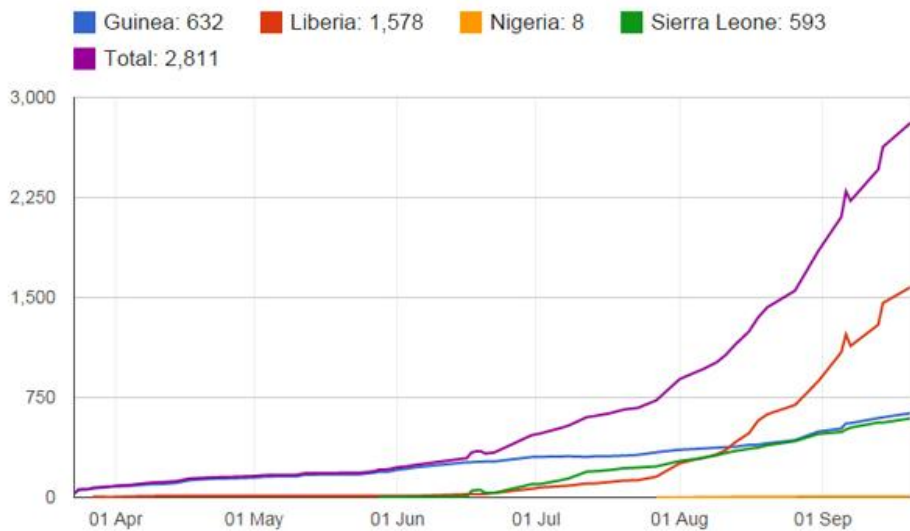
25 September 2014



**Executive Summary:** *There has been no significant reporting in the last 24 hours and the security situation in Liberia is expected to remain stable in the near term. Liberia’s ban on the consumption of bush meat may mitigate further spread of the Ebola, but will likely spark civil unrest if enforced as bush meat is a primary source of protein and part of the daily diet for many Liberians. The international community continues to support West African nations affected by the epidemic, but still lacks necessary resources to become fully effective in controlling the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).*



Cumulative deaths - up to 20 September



Note: Figures are occasionally revised down as suspect or probable cases are found to be unrelated to Ebola

(U) **Social Media Trends and Sentiments on Ebola Outbreak:** Still trending on Twitter in the past 24 hours, there has been no significant change in the local sentiment concerning the Ebola crisis. Remote populations in infected countries such as Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia have poor communication networks, so social media reporting is limited and awareness of the threat

posed by Ebola remains limited. *Due to largely rural populations in the affected countries, the lack of awareness of Ebola will allow the disease to spread and number of cases will likely continue to increase in the near term.* CDC worst-case scenario claims that that 1.4 million people could be infected with Ebola by the end of January were prominent on Twitter. The report of a fourth doctor dying of Ebola in Sierra Leone was also widely reported.

David Brett-Williams @DBrettWilliams			0 Retweets
Fourth doctor dies of Ebola in Sierra Leone - <a href="http://t.co/JL4pugpZ2E">http://t.co/JL4pugpZ2E</a>			
7.7K Tweets	703 Following	2.4K Followers	09/24/2014 8:45 AM (UTC)

Global Health News @GloboHealthNews			0 Retweet
"3 CDC: Ebola could infect 1.4 million in Liberia and Sierra Leone by end of January" <a href="http://t.co/PkVxXumaVI">http://t.co/PkVxXumaVI</a> #HealthNews			
30.3K Tweets	0 Following	82 Followers	09/24/2014 7:59 AM (UTC)

### (U) Liberia:

(U) **Bush Meat Banned:** According to Liberia's *Daily Observer*, the outbreak of the Ebola virus has caused the government to place a ban on the consuming of bush meat, specifically monkey and bats. Effects of the implementation of the ban have outraged meat sellers as they claim it will destroy their businesses, driving some to unemployment. *While the ban outwardly seems to present an effective measure to halt the spread of the virus, efforts exercised to enforce the ban of these widely consumed foods may evoke an angry reaction from many Liberians, contributing to an already-chaotic state of mind as the number of Ebola deaths continues to rise.*

(U) **Norway to Pay Liberia U.S. \$150 Million to Stop Deforestation:** The Government of Norway is partnering with Liberia by contributing \$150 million to end the destruction of Liberia's rainforest. This deal requires Liberia to end any new logging contracts, which will help forest-dependent communities to manage their forest and increase protected areas. It will reduce the incentive for the Liberian government to destroy the rainforest for cash during the Ebola outbreak, which will aid in poverty reduction in the future and also environmental protection. Liberia is home to 43% of the remaining Upper Guinean forest and one-third of Liberia's population lives in this forest with many reliant on it. Norway announced this deal with the intent to cut carbon emissions globally in order to reduce the impacts of climate change. *Partnerships like this will be beneficial for Liberia while propping up an unstable government now and setting opportunities for potential economic growth in the future.*

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

(U) **Numbers Increasing Fast:** After the New England Journal of Medicine released a 23 September publication on the current Ebola outbreak, the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced Ebola could reach a weekly infection rate into hundreds thousands in upcoming months. The current 5,800 Ebola cases in West Africa are on a course to reach an epidemic of 1.4 million people in Liberia and Sierra Leone by the end of 2014. The World Health Organization (WHO) announced that Nigeria and Senegal have halting the spread; however, the numbers are still increasing at an alarming rate. *The CDC released their concern after receiving a study from the New England Journal of Medicine;*

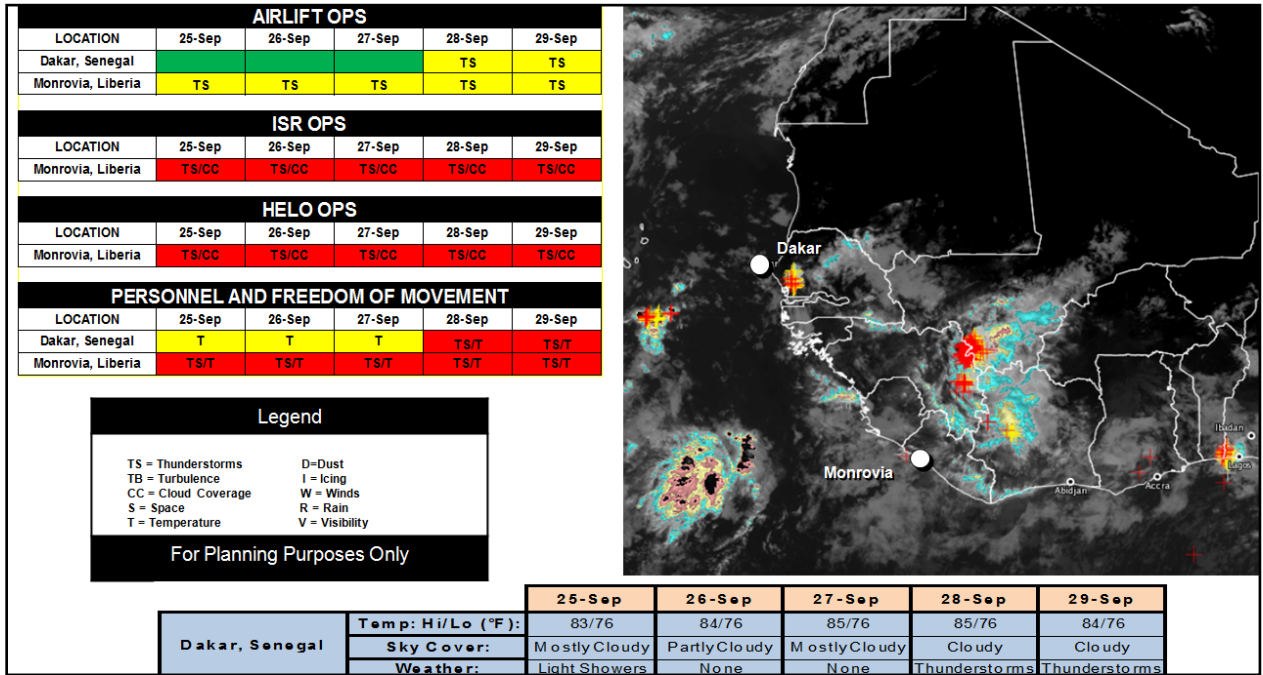
*however, CDC Director Tom Frieden acknowledged the study was concluded in August and only recently released, the study did not consider the mitigations by either the U.S. or UN. It is likely the dramatic ramp-up in international efforts to stop the outbreak will drastically decrease these estimates, with the cooperation of the Liberian, Sierra Leone, and Guinea governments and population.*

(U) **Guinea Arrests 27 Over Ebola Health Team Murders:** Police arrested 27 people who are suspected in the 19 September murders of the 8 members of an Ebola education team. Local villages in Guinea fear that government and international community cannot be trusted, believing the Ebola crisis is a conspiracy to actually spread the outbreak, or to harvest their blood and organs. On 23 September, another violent attack in Guinea happened near a village in Forecariah where protesters threw stones at a burial team, forcing them to flee. This started when a family there had been given wrong information and believed that the Red Cross workers were going to cut up the body of an elderly woman that the workers were trying to bury due to suspected death from Ebola. There has been no immediate information of the size of the crowd or whether there have been any casualties. *Mistrust in the government in Guinea will likely lead to continued civil unrest by the local populace and attacks on humanitarian workers. Attacks like these will lead to concerns and threats regarding the safety of the aid workers, which could hinder the number of volunteers.*

(U) **Canada's New Top Doctor Planning Beefed-Up Ebola Effort:** According to press, Canada has been one of the top supporters of health care in West Africa, their newly appointed chief medical officer wants to dispatch more mobile clinics, and send more medical supplies using military aircraft and aims to dispatch special medical teams to Sierra Leone. *The new chief medical officer is very confident in his efforts to combat the epidemic, more clinics and supplies will help, but without the personnel*

) **Women of West Africa in Danger:** According to VICE News reporting, women in infected West African have a higher chance of contracting the Ebola virus. Reports claim that 55-60% of those who have died from Ebola in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone are women, with Liberia reporting 75%. Females take the traditional role of caregiver in the home when dealing with the ill, which increases their chances of contracting the virus. Due to climate trends, food supply has been scarce, increasing the reliance on potentially infected bush meat. As females are also the predominant preparer of food, this increases their risk of contracting the virus through infected meat. *This reporting suggests medical personnel should target women for education on the virus, progressively helping and teaching women how to prevent themselves from infection.*

(U) Weather:



(U) Monrovia’s weather is forecasted to remain similar throughout the week with cloudy skies, rain, and embedded thunderstorms. One inch of rain is expected over the span of the 25<sup>th</sup>, this will continue to advance road degradation along with localized flooding. Dakar will continue to see partly to mostly cloudy skies. Light showers will remain isolated through the 25<sup>th</sup> while the thunderstorm activity remains inland and to the south. The thunderstorms will return to the forecast on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures will affect personnel in both regions as they climb into the mid 80s daily. These temperatures coupled with high humidity will continue to generate a heat index near 90°F during the afternoon hours throughout the forecast period.