



**United States Army Civil Affairs Psychological Operations Command**  
**Civil Information Management Cell**  
**Fort Bragg, NC**  
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CPT Steven F. Hung  
(910) 396-9399

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**Project:** USACAPOC(A) Civil Information Management  
**Subject:** USACAPOC(A) CIM Ebola Update

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**As of 27 OCT 2014 as reported by the World Health Organization (WHO)**

**Guinea:** 1553 Cases (926 Deaths)

**Sierra Leone:** 3896 Cases (1281 Deaths)

**Liberia:** 4665 Cases (2705 Deaths)

**Congo:** 68 Cases (49 Deaths)

**USA:** 4 Cases (1 Death)

**Spain:** 1 Case

**Mali:** 1 Case (1 Death)

\*Nigeria and Senegal have been removed due to the WHO declaring them Ebola free

**EBOLA**

1. New WHO case counts released: 10,141 cases; 4922 deaths.<sup>1</sup> ([WHO](#))
2. “The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is tightening previous infection control guidance for healthcare workers caring for patients with Ebola, to ensure there is no ambiguity. The guidance focuses on specific personal protective equipment (PPE) health care workers should use and offers detailed step by step instructions for how to put the equipment on and take it off safely.”<sup>2</sup> ([CDC](#))
3. “United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) continues to support Ebola response efforts of the WHO, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Irish Aid, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and World Food Program (WFP). Brindisi carried out its first airlift this week, dispatching 58 metric tons of support equipment to Liberia to complete the set up of three logistics hubs in the country. To date, 4.4 million USD worth of protective gear, emergency health kits, relief items and support equipment has been dispatched to the region. Weekly dispatches are ongoing.”<sup>3</sup> ([UNHRD](#))
4. “Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone were already experiencing food security issues before the outbreak, and undernourishment has long been a problem. Now, schools in Sierra Leone have closed, shutting down critical feeding programs for children. And restrictions on the consumption of bush meat, the suspected source of Ebola, have eliminated a traditional source of protein and nutrition from local diets.”<sup>4</sup> ([IFPRI](#))

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<sup>1</sup> [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137185/1/roadmapupdate25Oct14\\_eng.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137185/1/roadmapupdate25Oct14_eng.pdf?ua=1)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/fs1020-ebola-personal-protective-equipment.html>

<sup>3</sup> [http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/9\\_Ebola\\_\\_20\\_10\\_2014.pdf](http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/9_Ebola__20_10_2014.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <http://reliefweb.int/report/liberia/preventing-ebola-related-food-crisis>



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5. "All but one district in Liberia and all districts in Sierra Leone have now reported at least one case of EVD since the start of the outbreak in March 2014. Of the eight Guinean and Liberian districts that share a border with Cote d'Ivoire, only two have yet to report a confirmed or probable case of EVD."<sup>5</sup> ([WHO](#))
6. A total of 450 health care workers (HCWs) are known to be infected with EVD as of 23 October 2014. The totals for each country are 80 in Guinea, 228 in Liberia, 11 in Nigeria, and 127 in Sierra Leone. A total of 224 HCW have died since the initial outbreak.<sup>6</sup> ([WHO](#))

### Civil Analysis

- a. Food security remains a continuing issue for all of the countries affected with EVD. Despite the World Food Program's (WFP) goal to feed a million people in the countries of Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia, food is still one of the primary concerns for aid organizations. The WFP currently has fed 400,000 people in Liberia, but is still reporting massive food shortages in the west Africa.<sup>7</sup> According to the Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET) developed by USAID, local markets are likely to stop functioning, given the significant drop in rice import levels and restricted domestic trade flows. If such a scenario did occur, food shortages in west Africa could deteriorate and be detrimental to the recovery effort and make for a difficult transition back to stability in the EVD stricken region. Poor urban homes and households with family members who have been ill or have died from Ebola would face emergency (IPC Phase 4) food insecurity by March 2015. Emergency food assistance needs would significantly exceed levels currently planned, funded, and likely.<sup>8</sup>
- b. All the countries affected by EVD are not only experiencing a shortage of HCW but also PPE. Despite shipments of supplies by international aid organizations, there is still widespread reporting of equipment shortages. The United Nations has laid out a three pillar plan to support the Ebola crisis. The pillars are food, healthcare response, and logistical and infrastructure support. PPE remains one of the main issues and is needed to help control the epidemic. Part of the issue is a weak logistical infrastructure and lack of a reliable government infrastructure throughout the region to help deliver necessary supplies and food.<sup>9</sup>
- c. Information on current household income levels is limited in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. Informal reports from partners such as WFP indicate that non-essential government employees in Liberia have been furloughed. It is not clear if they are continuing to receive wages. The international media is also reporting that the economies

<sup>5</sup> [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137185/1/roadmapupdate25Oct14\\_eng.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137185/1/roadmapupdate25Oct14_eng.pdf?ua=1)

<sup>6</sup> [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137185/1/roadmapupdate25Oct14\\_eng.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137185/1/roadmapupdate25Oct14_eng.pdf?ua=1)

<sup>7</sup> [M.wfp.org/node/3506/3816/643563](http://M.wfp.org/node/3506/3816/643563)

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.fews.net/west-africa/alert/october-10-2014>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.fews.net/west-africa/alert/october-10-2014>



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in all three countries have slowed, as many major industries scale back operations. Finally, governments have encouraged people to quit eating bush meat as a way to prevent a further spread of the disease. Consequently, demand and incomes from bush meat sales may have contracted. Purchasing power may be affected for households currently earning below-average incomes.<sup>10</sup> Currently there is evidence of rising food prices in Sierra Leone and Liberia (Greater than 15 percent in some regions) Guinea has not seen as dramatic a price increase as Sierra Leone and Liberia. If the Ebola outbreak is not contained it is assumed that prices for food will increase significantly which will make for more hardship on the local populous.<sup>11</sup>

### Guinea

1. "There is evidence of an increase in the intensity of transmission in Guinea. Compared with the previous week, a very slight drop in the number of new confirmed cases reported from the capital Conakry has been more than offset by a sharp rise in the number of new cases in the neighboring district of Coyah, with 25 cases reported between 6 and 12 October ... In the east of the country, on the border with Côte d'Ivoire, the districts of Beyla and Lola both reported new cases, emphasizing the need for active surveillance at local border crossings. To the north, the district of Boke, on the border with Guinea-Bissau, has reported active transmission for the first time in more than 21 days. The central district of Mamou has reported a confirmed case for the first time."<sup>12</sup> ([WHO](#))
2. "International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are supporting 42 safe burial teams in Guinea. IFRC plans on increasing the number of burial teams and training new volunteers for psychosocial support services and social mobilization activities, particularly in Conkary, Gueckedou, and Nzerekore prefectures."<sup>13</sup> ([IFRC](#))
3. "France's presidential office said on Monday it had agreed to set up new treatment centers for Ebola in Guinea after the United States asked for further assistance to fight the deadly epidemic in West Africa."<sup>14</sup> ([Reuters](#))

### Sierra Leone

1. "One hundred and fifty British Army soldiers, mostly medics from 35 Squadron, 5 Medical Regiment of the Royal Army Medical Corps, are due to arrive in Freetown, Sierra Leone on 21 October. They will run the Ebola Training Academy; teaching local healthcare workers and hygienists how to protect themselves from infection and how to prevent it in others."<sup>15</sup> ([DID](#))
2. "The WFP has offloaded 400 metric tons of rice as food aid to help boost Sierra Leone's fight against the deadly Ebola epidemic. According to local press reports from 21 October 2014 the UN

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.fews.net/west-africa/special-report/september-8-2014>

<sup>11</sup> <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/West%20and%20Central%20Africa%20Markets%20Update%20Special%20Issue%20on%20the%20Ebola%20Outbreak%20August%202014.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.fews.net/west-africa/alert/october-10-2014>

<http://bigmedicine.ca/wordpress/category/africa/nigeria/>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.dw.de/ifrc-ebola-response-in-guinea-explaining-why-we-do-what-we-do/a-17998441>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/13/us-health-ebola-france-idUSKCN0I224W20141013>

<sup>15</sup> <http://reliefweb.int/report/sierra-leone/more-uk-troops-deploy-sierra-leone>



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food agency on Monday also offloaded 15 vehicles, bringing the total number of vehicles brought in within the last two weeks and donated to the anti-Ebola effort to 30.”<sup>16</sup> ([UNWFP](#))

## **Liberia**

1. “A report from Gbarpolu County speaks of the spread of the Ebola Virus Disease in Gounwulala District. An Executive of the Gbarpolu Citizens Association-Bong Chapter told our Bong County correspondent on Wednesday that the virus has seriously hit the region thereby threatening the lives of ordinary people in the absence of medication.”<sup>17</sup> ([AllAfrica](#))
2. “A new device similar to a simple pregnancy home-test could allow doctors to diagnose a patient with suspected Ebola in less than 15 minutes, its French developers said 21 October 2014. Trials at a high-security lab have validated the technique and prototype kits should be available in Ebola-hit countries by the end of October for a clinical trial, France's Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) said in a statement.”<sup>18</sup> ([CEA](#))
3. “A community organization in Liberia, where health officials have recorded more than 2,400 Ebola deaths, is trying to fight the disease by informing local communities and stopping the spread of rumors and misinformation. Community Action Against Ebola (CAAEB), an Internews sub grantee led by nurse Aaron Debah and Roosevelt Dolo, is made up of professional nurses, church members and other community members who spread information through radio programs and face-to-face interactions with the public.”<sup>19</sup> ([InterNews](#))

## **Mali**

1. "On 23 October, Mali reported its first confirmed case of EVD. The patient was a two-year old girl who travelled from the Guinean district of Kissidougou with her grandmother to the city of Kayes in western Mali, which is approximately 600 km from the Malian capital Bamako and lies close to the border with Senegal. The patient was symptomatic for much of the journey. On 22 October, the patient was taken to Fousseyni Daou hospital in Kayes, where she died on 24 October. At present, 43 contacts, of which ten are HCWs, are being monitored; efforts to trace further contacts are ongoing. A WHO team was already in Mali to assess the country's state of readiness for an initial case. A rapid-response team will also arrive in the coming days." ([WHO](#))

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<sup>16</sup> <http://en.starafrica.com/news/wfp-boosts-sleone-food-reserve.html>

<sup>17</sup> <http://allafrica.com/stories/201410201142.html>

<sup>18</sup> <http://reliefweb.int/report/liberia/french-scientists-devise-fast-track-test-ebola>

<sup>19</sup> <http://reliefweb.int/report/liberia/liberia-volunteers-use-radio-and-face-face-interactions-spread-word-about-ebola-local>



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2. "Mali will not close its border with neighboring Guinea after a two-year-old girl infected with Ebola was brought across the frontier by her grandmother and died in Mali this week, President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita (Mali's President) said on Saturday. The girl travelled hundreds of kilometers through Mali - including a stop in the capital Bamako - on public transport, potentially exposing many people to the virus, before she died in the western town of Kayes on Friday. Keita said that the incident showed it was impossible to completely seal his country off from Ebola in neighboring Guinea, but said he remained calm as the girl's journey and potential contacts had already been traced. "Guinea is Mali's neighbor. We have a shared border that we did not close and we will not close," he told France's RFI radio station. Land-locked Mali relies on the ports of neighboring Senegal, Guinea and Ivory Coast as gateways for much of its import needs."<sup>20</sup> ([Reuters](#))

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<sup>20</sup> <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/World/2014/10/25/Mali-to-keep-Guinea-border-open-despite-Ebola-death--president/>