

18 June 2014: West Africa - Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Outbreak

SITUATION

OVERVIEW

The outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease continues producing new cases, particularly in Sierra Leone, where effective containment measures have been slow to organise and populations have been resistant to the communication messages of the local Ministry of Health (MoH). Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are now deploying teams into the field to support the MoH.

As of 18 June, the average Case Fatality Rate (CFR) is calculated to be approximately 66%, taking into account only confirmed cases and deaths, since the beginning of the outbreak. However, this rate varies significantly according to location, and timing and quality of treatment. Thus, in Conakry (Guinea), rates for early detection and treatment have reduced CFR to 40%.

RESPONSE

- In Guinea, the measures taken by the MoH and partners seem to be paying off. All response systems have been reviewed and the active tracing system has been re-enforced.
- In view of the new cases in Foya and Monrovia, the Government of Liberia is reviewing and strengthening its containment measures.
- In Sierra Leone, the Government has introduced measures to contain the outbreak in Kailahun district, including closure of crowd gathering sites (theatres, schools, markets). Furthermore, the MoH is in the process of establishing surveillance systems (e.g., tracing, burials, etc.).

Sources:

ECHO, WHO, Local Ministries of Health

