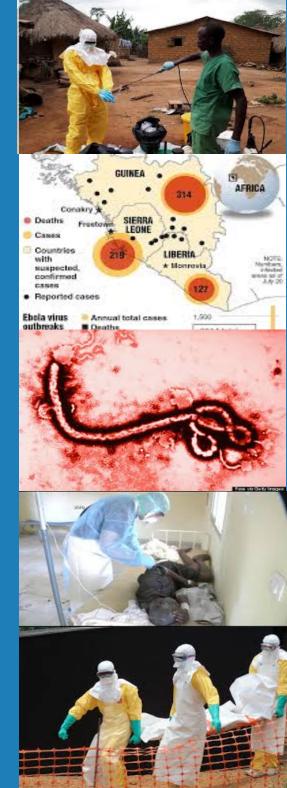
Ebola Virus Disease Preparedness

EVD Preparedness Meeting: Taking Stock and Moving Forward

Wifi username: OMS

Password: WHO





EVD Preparedness: Strategic Approach

- All countries urgently ensure that they are operationally ready to effectively and safely detect, investigate and report potential EVD cases and to mount an effective response.
- Accelerate and intensify longer term capacity building and health system strengthening
 - Renewed attention to the IHR
 - Commitment to address weaknesses highlighted by EVD outbreak
 - Sustainable partner engagement
- All WHO Regions have intensified EVD preparedness activities and support to countries



Strategy - Accelerating Ebola Operational Readiness

- Partners convened by WHO in Brazzaville 8-10 October 2014
- Identified15 priority countries
 - 1. Guinea Bissau, Mali, Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire (bordering countries with widespread and intense transmission)
 - Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Mauritania, Nigeria, Togo, Niger, Ethiopia, South Sudan
- All other countries in Africa
- Countries in other regions
- Constantly re-assess risk and prioritize based on risk assessment



Methods

1. Engage major international partners

2. Build on previous assessment, existing work and plans

- EVD preparedness checklist, tools, guidance
- Country Visits
 - EVD plans
 - Exercises to test existing plans, identify & close specific gaps
 - Tailored support through 30, 60, 90 day plans
 - Partner communications & outreach

3. Preparedness Strengthening Teams (PST)

- 5 -10 persons per team
- WHO and partners (CDC/US, ECDC, USAID, PHE, INSPQ, UNICEF, OCHA, John Hopkins, Suisse Tropical Public Health Institute, Erasmus Medical Centre-Holland, French Foreign Affairs, and others)

Current Status

- Country Visits completed between October and December 2014 :
 - Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mauritania, Cameroon, Guinea Bissau, Benin,
 Senegal, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Togo, CAR, Ethiopia, Niger (14)
- Further visits
 - Nigeria and DRC, approach oriented towards lessons learnt
 - South Sudan planned
 - Other country requests (e.g. Tchad, Equatorial Guinea)
- Visited countries have:
 - Developed national operational plans with 30, 60, 90-day requirements
 - Partially/fully costed plans
 - Received technical support in identifying key areas for improvement, and initial capacity building in urgent areas (e.g. contact tracing, IPC, Case Management, logistics, etc.)



EVD Missions: Strengths

- Multi-agency, Multi-disciplinary Partnership
- 30/60/90 Plans based on different perspectives existing country EVD plans review, discussions, field visits, desktop exercises, field exercises.
- 30/60/90 operational plans Prioritization of actions and budgets
- Country involvement and ownership
- Mobilization of immediate support logistics, training, setting up EOCs



Some Challenges

Addressing country readiness & preparedness gaps

- Strategic: Overlapping agendas & initiatives
 - Ongoing Priorities
 - New initiatives ex. vaccines and logistics
- Immediate: Ebola budget & funds, HR support
 - Scale of operational demands
- Strengthening WHO CO readiness
 - Country offices role in coordination and leadership HR, training, guidance, tools
 - Interagency operational arrangements for integrated preparedness and response
- In-country challenges:
 - Coordination, logistics, surveillance, Infection Control and prevention.....



Some Issues highlighted

- Engagement of the donor community at the country and international levels to support budgeted 30,60,90 plans.
- Provision of tailored technical support in priority countries and engage local and international partners in implementing activities.
- Identification of support across groups of countries
- Need for documentation and fora to exchange/share experiences and lessons learnt



Some Issues highlighted

- Inter-country/cross-border capacities strengthening
- Need for repeated testing and improving of procedures through field exercises and drills.
- Strengthen WHO readiness within countries.
- Need to use Ebola awareness to accelerate & intensify longer-term strengthening of health systems, health security & the IHR
- Monitor progress and evaluate outcomes



Thank you

evd_prep@who.int