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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA) Regional Plan of Action for Ebola Virus Disease Preparedness in East Africa and Indian Ocean Islands

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Ebola Preparedness Fund (EPF)	Operation n° MDR64007
Date of issue: 13 April, 2015	Date of disaster: Ebola Preparedness
Operation manager:	Point of contact: Willy Amisi
Operation start date: 25/02/2015	Operation end date: 25/06/2015
Operation budget: CHF 181,050	Expected timeframe: 4 months
Number of people affected: 200,000	Number of people to be assisted: 200,000
Host National Society presence: East Africa and Indian Ocean Islands (Burundi, Comoros, Madagascar, Rwanda, Somalia and Sudan)	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: French Red Cross	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: None	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

An Ebola epidemic that started in March 2014 in Guinea has relentlessly continued to claim lives and to spread to other countries in West Africa. The current Ebola outbreak is the largest in history and the first to affect multiple countries simultaneously. There have been over 24 000 reported confirmed, probable, and suspected cases of EVD in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone (table 1), with almost 10 000 reported deaths (outcomes for many cases are unknown). A total of 58 new confirmed cases were reported in Guinea, 0 in Liberia, and 58 in Sierra Leone in the 7 days to 8 March (4 days to 5 March for Liberia). Many experts believe that the official numbers substantially understate the size of the outbreak because of families' widespread reluctance to report cases. Because of the fluidity of movement of people between West Africa and several countries in the East African countries, especially Kenya and Ethiopia (who in turn have extensive interaction with other countries in the region in terms of human movement), the risk of an outbreak of Ebola in East Africa is as eminent as in any of the countries bordering the affected countries. The IFRC regional office intends to support National Societies to raise their Ebola preparedness and response capacity through training, technical support in planning and implementation of Ebola related activities, and coordination both within and outside the movement.

Summary of the current response

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement

Activities related to coordination of Ebola preparedness and response, within and outside the RCRC movement, will be part of the support pillars that the IFRC will offer to National Societies that are involved in Ebola preparedness and response. We will liaise and consult regional and country partners on current and future Ebola initiatives that are likely to benefit National Societies in our the region. Linking NS to available Ebola resources in their countries and in the region will be an integral part of the coordination support.

At regional level, the IFRC EAIOIRRO provides:

- participation in external regional coordination meetings,
- development and update of mapping of ongoing and planned initiatives,
- sharing of relevant information with NSs and PNSs,
- PNSs mobilization for country level support

At national level, the IFRC EAIOIRRO provides:

- Support to NSs in key national coordination meeting to help them define their role within the national plan and influence the strategy where needed/possible

Needs assessment, Beneficiary selection, Risk Evaluation and Scenarios Definition.

Risk analysis

The risk of an Ebola event in any of the countries in the EARRO and IOI is in composite terms the same as in any countries in West Africa and beyond. The importation of the disease in countries as far out as America and Europe is a characteristic illustration of how real the risk of an Ebola spread in EAIOI is.

We analyse and grade the actual risk of Ebola in the region based on the following set of considerations:

1. Air traffic connection with West Africa: the region has two major airline hubs in Addis Ababa and Nairobi that serve as transit points for passengers to and from West Africa. Kenya Airways and Ethiopia airlines together make more than 100 rotations to and from West Africa every week. This represent a potential risk of Importation of the Ebola infection from its current epicentre to EA.
2. High fluidity of movement of people between countries in the region with most of them transiting either in Nairobi or in Addis Ababa: Passengers travelling to other countries and passing through the two exchange airports may be exposed to contamination with Ebola if a case does occur there.
3. Lack of adequate preparation against Ebola outbreak: Most countries in the region are inadequately prepared to prevent or respond to an Ebola outbreak. Apart from a few countries that have established screening and quarantine facilities at some point of entry for travellers from selected origins, the majority of countries in the region have no systematic procedure to detect suspected Ebola patients at point of entry. Some countries in the region have developed contingency plans for Ebola but most have no identified or adequate funding to implement their plans.
4. Lack of knowledge and myths about Ebola: though Ebola outbreaks have occurred before in the region there is still a considerable amount of misconception and lack of awareness about the manner in which the disease is transmitted, its natural history as well as its treatment.
5. Weak Public Health Systems: Most of the public health systems in the region are weak and under-funded for some and dysfunctional for others. One case of Ebola could easily spread to infect several other people before it's contained. A case notified away from the capital city may infect many other people before it's detected and isolated, this is because of lack screening and testing facilities outside capital cities as well as lack of trained personnel.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

To improve the level of preparedness against Ebola virus disease in six National Societies in East Africa and Indian Ocean Islands.

Proposed strategy

Train staff and volunteers on Ebola transmission and prevention at branch level in six NS

Organize and conduct one training of trainers and training for volunteers in each of the six National Societies

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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- **In IFRC Ebola Regional Coordination Hub:** Terry Carney, Ebola Resource Mobilization Coordinator; Accra ; phone:; +233 266 444 14 email: terry.carney@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting):

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture

EMERGENCY APPEAL

13/04/2015

MDR64007-Regional Ebola PoA

Budget Group	DREF grant budget	Expenditure CHF
Shelter - Relief	0	0
Shelter - Transitional	0	0
Construction - Housing	0	0
Construction - Facilities	0	0
Construction - Materials	0	0
Clothing & Textiles	0	0
Food	0	0
Seeds & Plants	0	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0	0
Medical & First Aid	30,000	0
Teaching Materials	0	0
Ustensils & Tools	0	0
Other Supplies & Services	0	0
Emergency Response Units	0	0
Cash Disbursements	0	0
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	30,000	0
Land & Buildings	0	0
Vehicles Purchase	0	0
Computer & Telecom Equipment	0	0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	0	0
Medical Equipment	0	0
Other Machiney & Equipment	0	0
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	0	0
Storage, Warehousing	0	0
Distribution & Monitoring	12,000	0
Transport & Vehicle Costs	0	0
Logistics Services	0	0
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	12,000	0
International Staff	0	0
National Staff	0	0
National Society Staff	0	0
Volunteers	4,000	0
Total PERSONNEL	4,000	0
Consultants	0	0
Professional Fees	0	0
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0	0
Workshops & Training	48,000	0
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	48,000	0
Travel	20,000	0
Information & Public Relations	56,000	0
Office Costs	0	0
Communications	0	0
Financial Charges	0	0
Other General Expenses	0	0
Shared Support Services	0	0
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	76,000	0
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	11,050	0
Total INDIRECT COSTS	11,050	0
TOTAL BUDGET	181,050	0
Available Resources		
Multilateral Contributions		
Bilateral Contributions		
TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES	0	
NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS	181,050	0