Ebola virus disease in West Africa: Current status Lessons learnt and challenges

Training on the prevention and management of public health events in the aviation sector
(Nairobi , Kenya, 13-17 April 2015)



Introduction

- Ebola virus disease: severe fatality rate with 50-90%
- Transmitted by direct contact with liquids, body and organs of infected humans or animals
- Previous outbreaks: villages, 2420 cases / 1580 deaths
- High risk: health workers, parents and people with close contact with sick persons
- Prevention or control by a rigorous application of protective measures and early treatment



Current situation: West Africa

- As of 07 April 2015, a total of 25 747 EVD cases including 10 611 deaths have been reported from six West African countries (Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone).
- 1034 cases including 521 deaths were reported among healthcare workers.
- WHO declared end of Ebola outbreak in Mali, Nigeria, and Senegal.

Cases

3515

10048

8

20

25747

Deaths

2335

4421

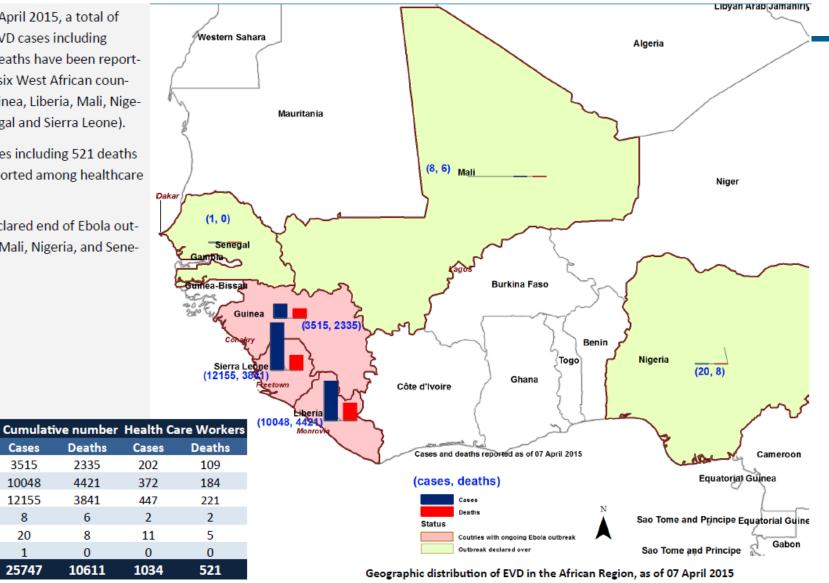
3841

6

8

0

10611



^{*} Ebola outbreak declared over

Sierra Leone 12155

Countries

Guinea

Liberia

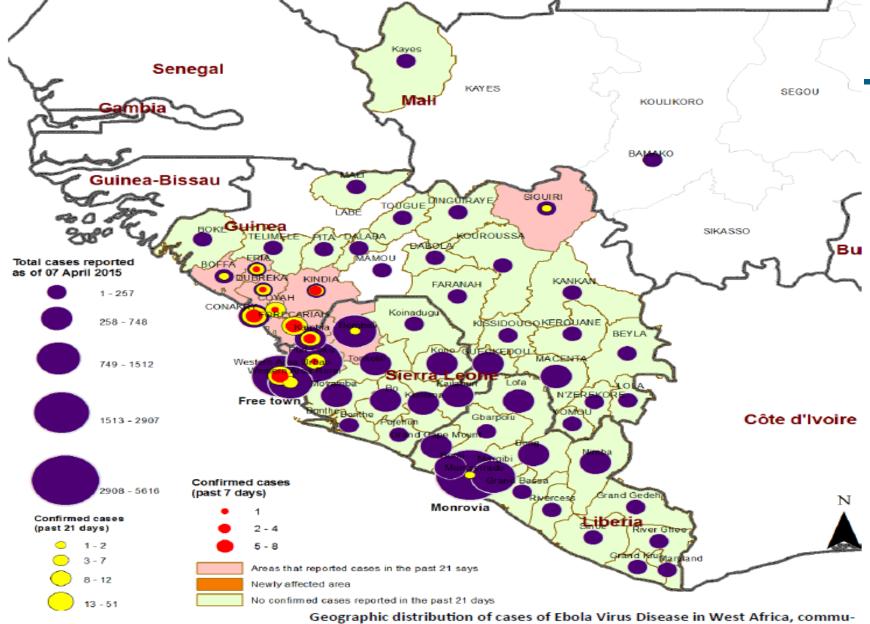
Mali*

Nigeria*

Senegal*

Total

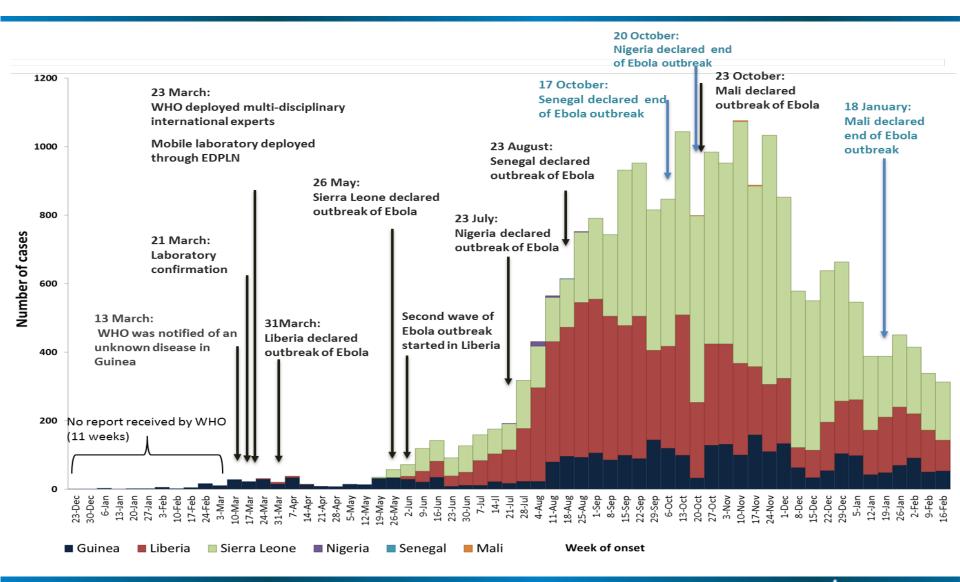




Geographic distribution of cases of Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa, commutative cases as of 07 April 2015; and cases reported in the past 7 and 21 days.

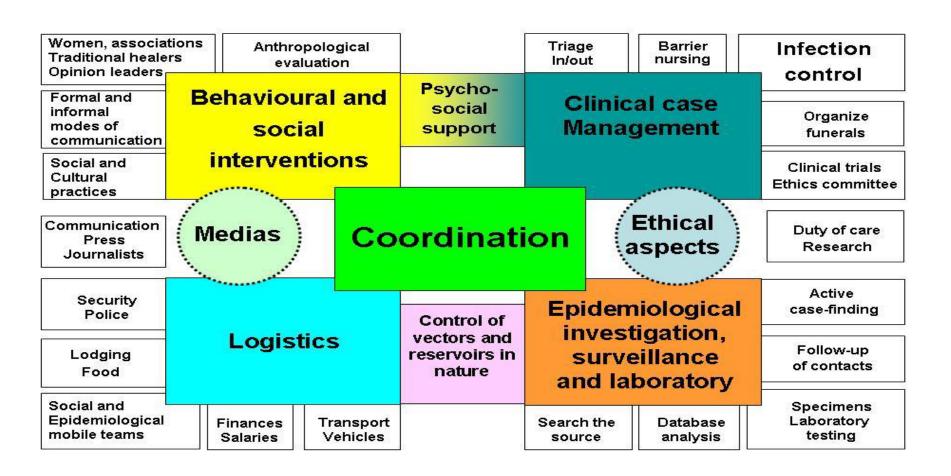


Evolution and trends of EVD



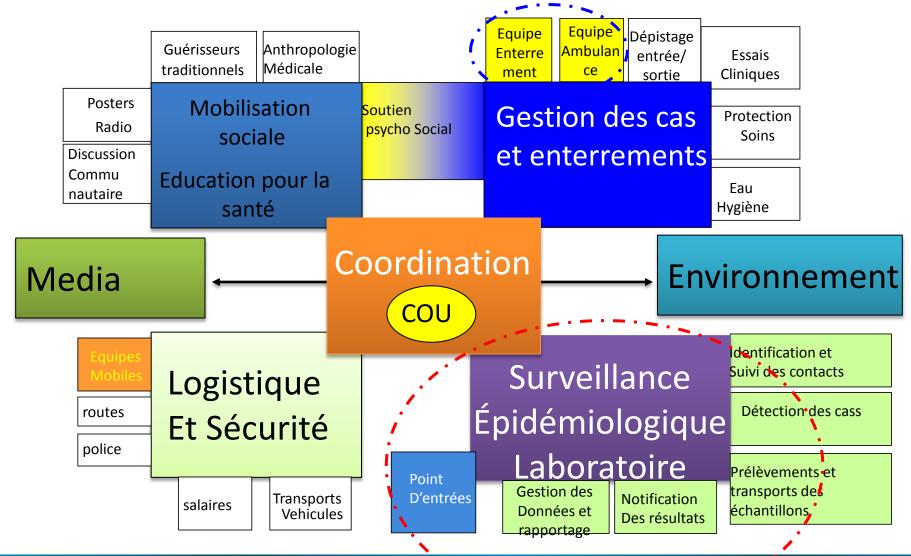


EVD Responses strategies





EVD Responses strategies





Response to the Ebola outbreak

- Response committees Activation
- Development of response plans
- Deployment of over 1200 experts
- Setting up mobile laboratories
- Technical and financial support for affected countries and for preparation of high risk countries
- Establishment of the Sub regional Ebola Operations and Coordination Centre (SEOCC)/July 2014
- UN Mission for the emergency response to Ebola: UNMEER





Issues & Constraints (1/2)

- Health system weaknesses
 - Weak health infrastructure
 - Insufficient number of treatment centers and beds
 - Limited access to labs with technical capacity
 - Failure of national and international health workers
 - Weakness of surveillance system
 - Weak logistical capacities
 - health workers motivation
- Resource mobilization: High demand on scarce adequate resources



Issues & Constraints (2/2)

- Community resistance
 - Denial, fear, panic,
 - Misconceptions / Beliefs and practices
 - Violence against health workers
 - Unsafe burials
- Political environment of affected countries
- Weak intersectoral Collaboration
- International travel restrictions by states



Leçons learnt

 Singularity of this outbreak : first EVD outbreak to hit big cities, unprecedented outbreak

Health systems strengthening in countries

 Importance of community role for an adequate response:ensure the community is part of the solution-does not have 'solutions' imposed on them



Leçons learnt

National leadership and coordination of the response are very important

Prevention and containment are possible:
 importance of early detection and notification



Challenges

- Quick Evolution to "zero cases" in affected countries
- Preserve countries not affected in accordance with International Health Regulation principles
- Health System Recovery in affected countries: support for safe reopening of health facilities, early recovery and build resilient, strong health system
- Strengthening risk analysis, preparation and response to outbreaks
- Strengthening integrated disease surveillance and response.



Thank You

