

**WFP News Video**  
**Ebola Crises**  
**Location: Liberia, Sierra Leone**  
**Shot the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014**  
**TRT 02:19**

**00:00-00:05**      **Gbanga, Bong County, Liberia**  
**Shot 29 October 2014**

Check point going into Bong County, people get a temperature test and need to wash the hands in order to get through.

**00:05 – 00:15**      **Gbanga, Bong County, Liberia**  
**Shot 29 October 2014**

View of the village, shot of the local stores

**00:15- 00:42**      **Gbanga, Bong County, Liberia**  
**Shot 29 October 2014**

WFP food distribution to 897 families. Each family receives a 45 day ration of bulgur, beans, oil and a nutritious fortified cereal made with corn and soya

**00:42-01:18**      **Gbanga, Bong County, Liberia**  
**Shot 29 October 2014**

**SOT Denise Brown WFP Regional Director**

*“This is an area in Northern Liberia where there are high infection rates and what we are trying to do is work with the government so that food accompanies the health response. In an area like this, where we are today, where there are high infection rates we want people to stay as close as possible to home so that we avoid the spread of the virus. So WFP’s contribution to this effort is to provide the food so that people don’t have to go to the market, they don’t have to go to shop, they don’t have to go to the fields they can stay home and have something to eat. So, it’s support to the health response in trying to contain that spread.”*

**01:18-01:45**      **Gbanga, Bong County, Liberia**  
**Shot 29 October 2014**

WFP food distribution to 897 families. Each family receives a 45 day ration of bulgur, beans, oil and a nutritious fortified cereal made with corn and soya

**01:45-02:19**  
**Rural Freetown, Sierra Leone**  
**Shot 28 October 2014**

WFP house-to-house food distributions to quarantined families in Western Rural Area including Freetown.

On this day 255 people received vegetable oil, salt and highly nutritious cereal mixture.

**END**

## **WFP Response to EBOLA OUTBREAK Guinea - Sierra Leone – Liberia - DRC**

WFP organizes food distributions to quarantine areas at the request of the government, as a response to the surge of numbers of people affected by Ebola. Distributions are planned with the government and local partners. We are permanently discussing with the authorities to ensure that distributions can happen safely.

- The aim of the distributions in quarantined areas is to stabilize families by giving them enough to eat so that they do not leave their homes to look for food.
  - WFP's first priority is to assist the medical response to the Ebola crisis. We are acutely aware of the risk of propagating the virus when large crowds gather and have changed the traditional way food distributions are organized to minimize the risk.
  - In some places that means we distribute to individual quarantined families rather than groups of people.
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- The spread of the Ebola is disrupting food trade and markets in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia and in the region. In Sierra Leone, local weekly markets have been banned. In Monrovia, Liberia, the price of cassava flour more than doubled after the closure of the border with Sierra Leone, where the commodity is produced.
  - So far, impacts on food prices have been mixed: In Liberia, prices for imported rice have continued to increase beyond their seasonal pattern. In some areas, we see food prices dropping (for example potatoes in Guinea). Food price drops are a problem for producers who are, as a consequence, losing income.
  - More important than the fluctuation of food prices, WFP monitoring suggests that the disruption to food trade and casual labour markets is reducing the purchasing power of households in Ebola-affected districts of Sierra Leone. Many families are already dipping into their savings.
  - Should the Ebola epidemic last another 4-5 months, when farmers begin to prepare their land, there is real concern that planting for the 2015 harvest could be affected. The impact of Ebola is likely to limit food access in affected communities for months to come.
  - WFP is currently conducting food security surveys remotely by mobile phone in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping or 'mVAM' involves contacting hundreds of people by SMS or interactive voice response ('robocalls'). The data gives WFP a real-time read on basic food security indicators, an advantage in the fast-moving Ebola epidemic.
  - The first round of mVAM in Sierra Leone shows that the Eastern districts of Kailahun and Kenema are worse off in terms of food security - these are

precisely the districts most affected by the Ebola outbreak. Interestingly, these eastern districts were the most food secure in the country at the time of the last comprehensive survey in 2010.

- **Supporting the medical response to stop the spread of Ebola, WFP is focusing on meeting the basic food and nutrition needs of affected families and communities – over 1 million people – in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.**
- **The spread of Ebola is disrupting food trade and markets in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and the region. Many families have seen their livelihoods affected. WFP is working to prevent this health crisis from becoming a food and nutrition crisis.**
- **Besides food, WFP is providing crucial transport and logistics support particularly to medical partners, building Ebola treatment centres and storage hubs for the whole humanitarian community from capital cities to remote areas.**
- WFP has distributed food to **776,000 people since April** in urban and rural areas, often on the basis of house-to-house and one family at a time.
- WFP needs **US\$179.6** million for its overall Ebola response - **US\$92.6** million is to provide food to an estimated 1.3 million people over six months.
- World Health Organization - latest figures (19 October) **4,877 deaths** and 9,936 Ebola cases in the three most affected countries.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food in emergencies and working with communities to build resilience. In 2013, WFP assisted more than 80 million people in 75 countries.

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