

WFP News Video
Ebola Crises
Location: Sierra Leone
TRT 02:24

Shotlist:

00:00-00:46

Hasting Ebola Treatment Centre, Freetown

Shot 5 november 2014

Managed by medical personnel from the Sierra Leone Armed Forces. The 120-bed treatment center has treated 395 Ebola patients, 165 of whom have survived and 121 died. Currently, 109 Ebola patients are admitted at the treatment center. WFP has provided 20 mt of food to Ebola patients and survivors of the deadly disease since the opening of the center in September.

Various of treatment centre personnel putting on protection gear
Personnel passing hot meals made with WFP food: rice, oil, salt, corn and soya blend

00:46-01:01

Mataska Community School, Port Loko district

Shot 4 November 2014

WFP and its Cooperating partner CIDO distributed food to more than 100 quarantined households at the Mataska Community School in Maforki chiefdom, Port Loko district. The food package consists of rice, pulses, vegetable oil, CSB and salt.

Various of WFP food distribution, WFP's Executive Director Ertharin Cousin talking to WFP staff

01:01-01:36

Freetown

SOT Ertharin Cousin WFP Executive Director

Shot 5 November 2014

"We can't wait to see what happens in the future. We can't wait to see if the scale up occurs at the speed that we all want. What we need to ensure is that everyone joins together today to make the difference that is required for us to meet the needs of those who are the unfortunate victims of this crisis, who without our help, without us coming together, will continue to suffer. We can make the difference here. We can change lives. But it's going to require all of us working together now."

01:36-02:24

Mataska Community School, Port Loko district

Shot 4 November 2014

WFP and its Cooperating partner CIDO distributed food to more than 100 quarantined households at the Mataska Community School in Maforki chiefdom, Port Loko district. A food package consisting of rice, pulses, vegetable oil, CSB and salt was distributed.

Various of WFP food distribution, before distributing food people wash their hands and get their temperature tested.

END

WFP News Release

6 November 2014

WFP COMMITS TO WORK WITH PARTNERS TO INTENSIFY EBOLA RESPONSE: “TOGETHER WE MUST DO MORE”

FREETOWN – At the end of a three-day visit to Sierra Leone, during which she met with government officials and key actors in the fight against Ebola, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Director Ertharin Cousin today called upon partners all over the world to work together to address the critical needs of those affected by the health crisis.

In support of a unified response under the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER), WFP has to date provided food assistance to 1.3 million people and is ramping up services to the whole humanitarian effort in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

“What I have learned in Sierra Leone is that the international community has made a lot of progress in meeting the needs of the victims of this crisis,” Cousin said. “But we all have more work to do. We need to scale up, we need to get better, we need to perform faster. We need to ensure that everyone joins together today to make the difference that is required to stop the spread of this deadly disease.”

During her visit to Sierra Leone, the WFP Executive Director met with President Ernest Bai Koroma, Assistant UN Secretary General and Ebola Crisis Manager, Amadu Kamara and a number of partners including donor representatives, UN agencies and NGOs. She also met traditional leaders and survivors of the deadly Ebola disease in Freetown.

“We hear about those who are infected and about those who die. We hear about the things that are not being done,” Cousin said. “What we don’t hear about are the stories of the

women who have worked to address the challenges of the crisis. Because they are nurses, they are student nurses, they are community activists, they were infected but now they are well. Now, they are back to work to fight this medical emergency.”

WFP’s food assistance is provided to patients in Ebola treatment centres, survivors of Ebola who are discharged from treatment centres and communities with widespread and intense transmission – including the families of people infected with Ebola who are in treatment, deceased, or recovering. This assistance helps to stabilize affected communities by enabling them to limit unnecessary movement.

Besides food, WFP is also providing crucial transport and logistics support, particularly to medical partners, building Ebola treatment centres and storage hubs for the entire humanitarian community, in both capital cities and remote areas. In Sierra Leone, WFP is establishing logistics bases in four strategic locations including Port Loko, Makeni, Kailahun and Kenema to accommodate the influx of humanitarian supplies expected to scale-up the capacity of Ebola treatment centres.

The Ebola virus disease has killed nearly 5,000 people and there have been more than 13,000 cases reported by the World Health Organisation across the three most affected countries.

This health crisis is starting to have a negative impact on education, food security and livelihoods. Since the outbreak, schools have been closed, farms remain unattended and market and trade activities are disrupted in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

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

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