The Ebola Crisis in West Africa

The socio-economic impact of the Ebola health crisis could last long after the disease has been brought under control.

Economies slowing down

- GDP growth in 2013:
  - Guinea: 4.9%
  - Liberia: 5.2%
  - Sierra Leone: 11%

- Potential GDP loss in the three countries: 2% to 3.5%

- Funding shortfall for the governments of Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone: $US 328 million

- Sierra Leone sacrificed worth of infrastructure development: USD 20 mn

- Half of Liberia’s concessions reporting reduced activity: 90%

- Decrease in fruit and vegetable exports from the Northeast of Guinea to neighboring countries

Livelihoods and development under threat

- 12% to 35% loss in household incomes in 6 months.

- Only 1 in 5 people living with HIV in Sierra Leone are still receiving treatment.

Possible food insecurity in early 2015

School closures
UNDP’s Response to the Ebola Crisis in West Africa

UNDP is working with the UN, led by UNMEER, to stop the epidemic and help countries recover from it. We are working at the regional and the country levels to make sure the situation doesn’t escalate into a crippling socio-economic crisis.

UNDP’s Regional Response

Work with **ECOWAS** to maintain open borders among its Member States and avoid a disruption of the sub-region’s integration process.

- Preparedness plans in non-affected countries

**Coordination of UNCT response with Regional Directors**
- Worked with Ghana and Senegal to open humanitarian corridors.

Country Response

**Community mobilization and outreach:**
- Volunteers mobilized to raise awareness of how the disease is spread and what to do to stop it. In Sierra Leone, 500,000 have been reached through door to door campaigns. In Conakry, Guinea, police are trained to educate neighborhoods.

**Stronger coordination and service delivery:**
- Logistical and financial support for national coordination units. In Liberia, provision of medical equipment, vehicles and telecommunications equipment for local counties.

**Socioeconomic impact and early recovery**
- Bi-monthly reports on the socio-economic impact of Ebola. Preparation of a vast cash transfer programme with UNMEER in all three countries to help survivors, households and Ebola workers get back on their feet.