



Ebola preparedness and response in West Africa

The EU health sector Approach and Support

*Conference on
Health Crisis Prevention, Preparedness and Response
Brussels, 2nd December 2014*



EU Response to Ebola affected countries: focus on Guinea Conakry

- A. Propose activities for DEVCO support.
- B. Partial re-programming of the PASA (Projet d'Appui à la Santé) to
 - *support the country response to the epidemic (emergency / short term response)*
 - ***rehabilitate and strengthen the health systems*** to better respond to epidemic risks AND to the health needs of the population (long term, re-building confidence)



Ebola preparedness in West Africa - **Elements / objectives**

- **Early case detection** (presumptive /confirmed)
- **Adequate response at health facility** (public & private):
 - Safe procedures / infection control
 - Contact tracing
- **Safe and dignified burials**
- **Waste management**
- **Risk Communication and social mobilization**

Ebola preparedness in West Africa

10 Preparedness Areas (WHO CheckList)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <i>1. Overall Coordination (+/-)</i> | <i>6. Safe burials (-)</i> |
| <i>2. Rapid Response Teams (-)</i> | <i>7. Epidemiological surveillance (--)</i> |
| <i>3. Public awareness (+/-)</i> | <i>8. Contact tracing (-)</i> |
| <i>4. Infection prevention / control (-)</i> | <i>9. Laboratories (+/-)</i> |
| <i>5. Case management / transport / ETC (+/-)</i> | <i>10. Capacities at entry point (+/-)</i> |



Ebola preparedness in West Africa **WHO assessment missions**

- In **15 countries** in Nov / Dec 2014
- Tool: the **10 components** CheckList
- **Mission reports**, including checklist **assessment** and stress test, to be shared (also as early drafts) to **inform partners' contribution** to response.
- Using contributions from EU **FPI**



Ebola preparedness in West Africa - EU **First Priority on 5 first line countries**

1. Senegal

2. Gambia

3. Cote d'Ivoire

4. Guinea Bissau

5. Mali

6. Benin

7. Burkina Faso

8. Cape Verde

9. Ghana

10. Mauritania

11. Niger

12. Nigeria

13. Togo



Ebola preparedness in West Africa

Different roles

- **WHO: technical preparedness.**

Tools, assessment, guidelines, specifications of drugs and medical supplies, overall technical quality assurance.

- **EU contribution: operational aspects.**

Support on sequencing and prioritization of activities, quantification and budgeting, coordination and operationalization of the plan.

- **Country Government / MoH.**



Involvement of EU Delegations, EU Member States, DEVCO Health

- EUDs in local Ebola preparedness **coordination**
- Assessment on 13 at-risk-countries (Oct-Nov and continuous update)
- In-country **adaptation** of on-going projects to Ebola response
- EU MS H&P experts meeting Nov 12/13: Enhance coordination at HQ level for **complementary** support to WHO assessement of preparedness



Involvement of EU Delegations, EU Member States, DEVCO B4

- EU FAC Nov 17: " strengthen coordination and **information sharing on regional preparedness gaps** ... to prioritize key risks, in close coordination with WHO and other international actors
- EU DEVCO B4: establishing the ***Ebola helpdesk function*** for specific support to the EUDs/countries on operationalization of the Plans.
 - *temporary, collaboration with WHO / UN*
 - *contact: EuropeAid-EBOLA-PREPAREDNESS@ec.europa.eu*



Involvement of EU Delegations, EU Member States, DEVCO B4

Approach should be based on:

- **Alignment** to country context and **harmonization** among partners (Aid **Effectiveness Principles**).
- **Health Systems Strengthening.**
 - Sequencing and prioritization of activities able to balance between urgent needs and Health Systems Strengthening
- Involvement of Local Authorities and communities as actors in the response.



EU preparedness involvement so far – some examples

- *Guinea Bissau: Adapted a water and sanitation programme with hygiene messages for Ebola prevention*
- *Burkina Faso: Protective equipment has been purchased to support the preparedness plan.*
- *Côte d'Ivoire: Refurbish and equip an Ebola treatment unit at the central hospital*
- *Nigeria: Posting of a mobile laboratory EMLab for early diagnosis and lab staff training; further EUWAMLab posting in preparation (country tbd.)*
- *Regional support: adapt AWARE programme for preparedness; FPI funding for preparedness via FPI WHO and IFRC under preparation*



EC way forward country level (all ST)

- *Continue strengthen local coordination mechanisms – participate and align (3 Ones)*
- *Get quantities and budgets right – Identify gaps*
- *Support WHO to ensure that plans are robustly budgeted and can be prioritised and gap filling sequenced appropriately*
- *Monitor adjustment and implemenation*

Way forward regional / global level

- *Identify opportunities at regional level (combine a regional mandated organisation with a strong implementer)*
- *Explore possibilities of a demand-driven gap-filling facility to complement global (UNMEER etc.) support to country demand (ST)*
- *Link urgent preparedness to medium term HSS (11.+12. December Geneva) (LT)*



Thank you