



## **FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Developed thanks to a cooperation agreement between IFRC the UNDP, this project main goal was to “contribute to the stopping of Ebola epidemics in Guinea by (1) Conducting the Safe and Dignified Burial activities in eight target prefectures of the lower guinea region namely Guinea Conakry, Boffa, Dubréka, Forécariah, Coyah, Kindia, Fria and Boké, and (2) support the federation’s smooth Coordination mechanisms at the regional level.

To reach this objective, the IFRC office in Guinea in collaboration with Guinea Red Cross Society (GRCS), has engaged consistent resources both in terms of logistics, human resources and capacity building. Until December 2015 (the end of the reporting period), the IFRC and GRCS have engaged around 220 vehicles in the operation, 420 full-time national staff and 31 international staff and 12 operational bases run by 63 SDB<sup>9</sup> and sanitation teams. The teams were supported by psychosocial and community mobilization volunteers who operate under the coordination and supervise of field managers and international emergency health delegates.

During the reporting period 16,831 SDBs were conducted, 16,964 swabs taken and 12,613 houses and other facilities or public places disinfected. Whereas disinfection is linked to hygiene promotion in households where Ebola patients or bodies were found, the activity also aims at prevention of the virus spread amongst the community members, and swabs are taken to test the virus on suspect patients or bodies to ensure the case is Ebola negative or positive to take appropriate action. In addition to the above mentioned key achievements, the volunteers involved in SDB activities and hygiene promotion benefited several capacity building trainings as well as refresher trainings with regard to proper body management and hygiene promotion in the communities. A number of regional and international meetings and activities equally were achieved to support the implementation and coordination of the operation in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia.

By the end this project, i.e. 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015, the Government of Guinea has strengthened surveillance mechanisms in cross bordering areas with Liberia and Sierra Leone due to the latest case detected in Sierra Leone, (Mainly Forécariah) to prevent any resurgence in Guinea. It is reportedly said that the woman who washed the body of the Ebola victim person early January 2016 crossed the border to Guinea but no one knows so far her hide outs. Note that on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December, the government officially announced the end of the Ebola crisis in Guinea. At the same occasion, a period of 90 days dedicated to heightened surveillance was declared in Guinea to counter any resurgence of the disease.

#### **I. Purpose**

The overall objective of this project was *to contribute to stopping the Ebola outbreak in Guinea*. To achieve this goal, the outcome had two Outputs:

- **Output 1:** To ensure adequate management of safe and dignified burials (SDB) increasing response capacities in hotspot areas including rehabilitation of infrastructures, training health staff, capitalizing lessons learned, sharing knowledge and focusing on National society capacity building.
- **Output 2:** Enhanced regional coordination mechanism through coordination and cross border meetings. This output was focusing at strengthening the regional capacities in coordination of the

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<sup>9</sup> Safe and Dignified Burials

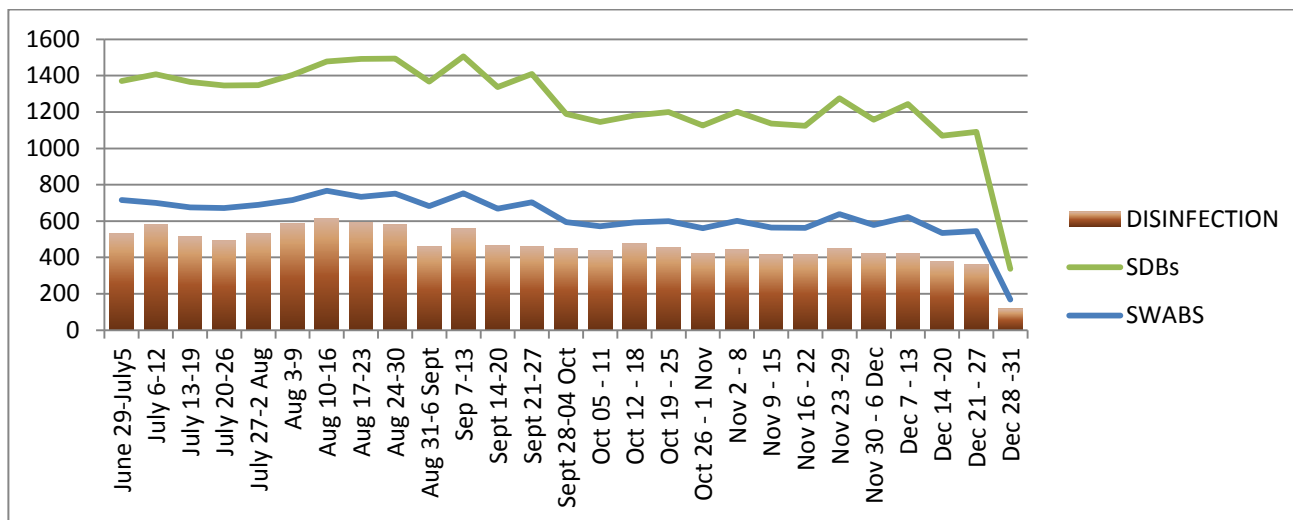
implementation of activities in the three countries affected by the Ebola epidemics (Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia) whereby a number of coordination meetings and regional activities were successfully conducted.

## II. Assessment of Programme Results

### i) Narrative reporting on results:

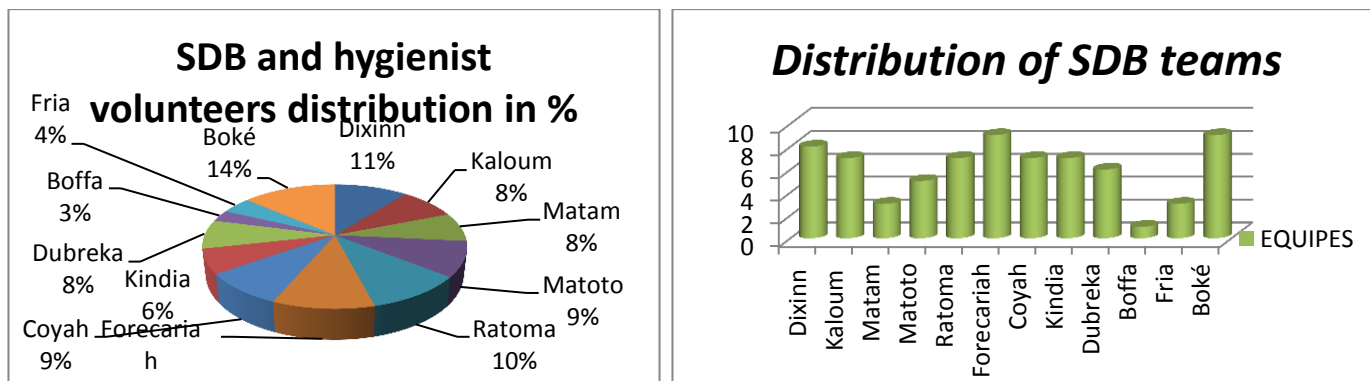
During this six month period, GRCS has been able to conduct all community related SDB, disinfection and swabs in accordance with the WHO and Guinea Government strategy in the eight target prefectures. All in all, the following achievements can be highlighted

- 16,831 SDBs were conducted,
- 16,964 swabs taken
- and 12,613 houses and other facilities or public places disinfected.



Graph1: The trend of SDBs Vs Swabs and Disinfection of houses and other places during the reporting period

This achievement has been made possible thanks to the involvement and dynamism of the well trained and equipped 63 SDB teams dispatched in the target 8 prefectures of the lower Guinea as the following chart illustrates:



Graph2: Distribution of SDB and hygienist teams per the implementation areas

The effectiveness of the Red Cross mission during the implementation of this project was highly facilitated by the integration of community members into the SDB process through the ABC-Biosecurity approach. The ABC strategy consists of ensuring the participation of key community leaders (religious leaders, local

representatives) and family members to the SDB process alongside with Red Cross volunteers. This way of doing reduced stigma to volunteers, enhanced trust and collaboration and boosted the efficiency of the functioning system.

Find below summary of the main training activities done during the period reported contributing to the Output 1.1 “Stop Ebola”:

**Summary of the activities implemented during the reporting period:**

	<b>Location</b>	<b>Training</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>
9 trainings/workshops and refreshing sessions.	Conakry, Boffa, Dubréka, Forécariah, Kindia, Boké, Fria,	6 refresher SDB trainings were successfully organized	536 volunteers have benefited SDB refresher trainings
	Coyah, Boko (crossborder area between Guinea and Guinea Bissau)	- 1 additional refresher SDB training was conducted in Coyah,	- 40 volunteers attended the refresher training on Hygiene promotion and the correct use of SDB equipment.
		- 1 crossborder learning experience was conducted in Boko in collaboration with the Guinean Red Cross in Bissau	
Conakry and Forecariah	1 refresher SDB session on the use of the Ebola Rapid Test kit (OraQuick):		

Find below a summary of the main activities done during the period reported to enhance Ebola coordination mechanism (Output 1.2):

**Summary Output 1.2.:**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Responsible person</b>	<b>Purpose of the activity</b>
Cross-border planning meeting	September 2015	Dakar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Head of EVD coordination</li> <li>- Deputy EVD coordination</li> </ul>	Ensure good integrated approaches and cross order activities considered in the planning

Crossborder and inter country workshp (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea) held in SL to discuss the regional community event based surveillance strategy.	October, 7-9, 2015	Sierra Leone	- Focal points for each point for each county, plus the Deputy Regional EVD ops manager	Discuss the component of the regional strategy and contribute to the first draft
Attend a meeting organized by the WHO with its partners on EVD. The IFRC took the opportunity to present the role of the volunteers' network on the Community based surveillance approach	5-6, October 2015	Liberia	- Deputy Regional EVD ops manager	- Clarify the role of the Red Cross on the surveillance strategy-phase III - IFRC contributed to finalizing the strategy and clarify her role
Regional Meeting	October 2015	Nairobi	- Head of EVD coordination - Deputy EVD coordination	To present the EVD operation planning for 2016 to be integrated in IFRC Africa plan
OSIWA lesson learnt meeting	October 2015	Seychelles	Deputy EVD coordination	Present lesson learnt from 3 affected countries
Technical support to crossborder activities in Sierra Leone	14 Oct. 2015	Freetown	- Deputy Regional EVD ops manager	Harmonize BenCom tools and approaches as part of the crossborder strategy
PSS lessons learning workshop	9-10 Dec	Dakar	- Deputy Deputy Regional EVD ops manager	- Draw lesson learnt from Ebola operation in the area of PSS, make recommendation on how to integrate more systematically PSS in future similar epidemics (refer to attached study)
Community and health promotion assessment	14-20 Dec	Sierra Leone	Deputy Deputy Regional EVD ops	- Understand community engagement drivers vis-à-vis health messaging or the reasons of resistance in order to build community engagement for future epidemics

## ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

Using the **Programme Results Framework from the Project Document / AWP**s - provide details of the achievement of indicators at both the output and outcome level in the table below. Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, clear explanation should be given explaining why.

	<b><u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
<b>% of unsafe burial within reported community death in Conakry, Boffa, Dubréka, Forécariah, Coyah, Kindia, Boké, Fria</b>	16,831 SDBs conducted (i-e, 646,46 SDBs/week. This represents 99,53% of notified community deaths.	0,47% (or equivalent of 3 deaths per week) could not be handled by the Red Cross SDB teams following the community's refusal.	IFRC/Guinea RC databank and weekly reports.
<b>Outcome 1<sup>10</sup> Stop the Outbreak.</b> <b>Indicator:</b> <b>Baseline:</b> <b>Planned Target:</b>	The Epidemic is stopped	N/A	- WHO SitReps, - Guinea government health report
<b>Output 1.1:</b> To ensure adequate managing of safe and dignified burials (SDB) increasing response capacities in hotspot areas including rehabilitation of infrastructures, training health staff, capitalizing lessons learned, sharing knowledge and focusing on National society capacity building.  <b>Indicator 1.1.1:</b> # of district with trained SDB teams <b>Baseline:</b> 8 prefectures of the lower cost of Guinea <b>Planned Target:</b> 8 prefectures of the lower cost of Guinea  <b>Indicator 1.1.2:</b> # of districts with properly equipped SDB teams. <b>Baseline:</b> 8 prefectures of the lower cost of Guinea	- 63 SDB equipped, trained and operational teams, - 12 operational bases run by Guinea RC and IFRC (5 in Conakry and 7 in the field)  8 prefectures of the lower cost of Guinea with 63 SDB operational teams: Forécariah (9), Coyah (7), Kindia (7), Dubreka (5), Fria (3), Boké (8), Boffa (2), Conakry (22)  - 63 SDB teams equipped with PPE (Personal Protection Equipment), - 12 operational bases provided with necessary material	No variance to be reported  No variance to be reported  No variance to be reported	- IFRC monthly operation reports, - Guinea RC field supervisors' reports  - IFRC monthly operation reports, - Guinea RC field supervisors' reports  - IFRC monthly operation reports, - Guinea RC field supervisors' reports - Logistics invoice and procurement copies

<sup>10</sup> Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be as outlines in the Project Document so that you report on your actual achievements against planned targets. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.

<p><b>Planned Target:</b> 8 prefectures</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1.3:</b> # of trainings/workshops and refreshing</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 8 prefectures of the lower cost of Guinea</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 18 trainings</p>	<p>and equipment: water supply equipment, fuel for incinerator, wheelbarrows, spades, water tanks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At least 9 workshops or refresher workshops run at the local level</li> </ul>	<p>No variance to be reported</p> <p>18 trainings were indicated as a target into the original proposal. SDB volunteers were grouped by geographical area to do training activities. As a consequence, the number of trainings was less than initially planned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IFRC workshop reports,</li> <li>- Photo files,</li> <li>- List of participants,</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.2 :</b> Enhanced Regional coordination mechanism through coordination and Cross border meetings</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.2.1 :</b> No initial indicator had been calculated here</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> No baseline had been for this Output</p> <p><b>Planned Target:</b> 2 workshops initially planned</p>	<p>At least 8 regional/international meetings or activities held or attended to: In Dakar, Nairobi, Victoria (Seychelles), Conakry, Monrovia and Freetown<sup>11</sup></p>	<p>Phase III Ebola response lead to strengthen coordination mechanisms with local partners and stakeholders to coordinate last efforts to get Ebola to zero cases. IFRC focus on strengthen cross border components of the response and community engagement throughout the affected countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IFRC workshop reports,</li> <li>- Copy of invitation letters,</li> <li>- List of participants,</li> </ul>

<sup>11</sup> Meeting in Nairobi: Attended by the head of EVD regional coordinator, the purpose of this meeting was to present the 2016 EVD operation Plan of Action and ensure its integration into the global IFRC Africa plan.

-Meeting in Seychelles: Attended by the deputy head of EVD regional coordinator, the purpose of this meeting was to present and discuss lessons learnt from the 3 affected countries. The purpose of the second meeting in Seychelles was to Integrate African Red Cross National Societies into the future regional response mechanisms for similar epidemics

### iii) Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

Due to the short implementation period (6 months), there is no formal evaluation that had been planned for the project. However, a technical visit was achieved by the operations manager the end of the project phase (4- 5 February 2016), and the following findings could highlighted:

- The project has had a very high implementation rate and has achieved project objectives in a timely manner.
- Conducting SDB for all community deaths had been a crucial component in managing the Ebola virus disease and had made a significant contribution to stopping the virus spread in Guinea.
- A preliminary audit was done by UNDP before starting the project to assessing financial procedures and systems according to the international standards. Regarding this we remind that the financial proceedings of the International Federation of Red Cross are recognized by implementing partners as they are in accordance with the international humanitarian standards
- A final independent audit has been going on and the report will be shared aby concerned parties

All in all, the project implementation has been going on as planned and no changes, variances or major constraints were encountered.

### iv) A Specific Story (Optional)

N/A

#### **Problem / Challenge faced:**

- Community's resistance to collaborate with the SDB team due to erroneous beliefs that humanitarian workers are the ones responsible to propagate Ebola or that simply Ebola does not exist
- Red Cross volunteers facing stigmatization in the community

#### **Programme Interventions:**

- There has been an intensification of sensitization through Radio campaign and community awareness session to achieve behaviour change from reluctant communities (hand washing practices, psychosocial support to those affected)
- The approach consisting of ensuring the participation of key community members improved the acceptability of the Red Cross work

#### **Result (if applicable):**

- The Ebola crisis has been stopped and the country declared Ebola free by 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2015 partly thanks to the determination and engagement of volunteers in SDB

#### **Lessons Learned:**

- From Ebola emergency, Red Cross volunteers acquired a tremendous experience which will help them to respond to other emergencies with enough skills and competencies
- The approach consisting of ensuring the participation of key community members to the SDB process improved the acceptability and efficiency of the Red Cross work



**Report reviewed by** (*MPTF M&E Officer to review and sign the final programme report*)

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*Signature:*