



#5

**UN EBOLA RESPONSE MPTF
FINAL PROGRAMME NARRATIVE REPORT
DATE: DECEMBER 2015**

<p align="center">Project Number(s) and Title(s)</p> <p>#00093086 – Support to Detention Centres in Sierra Leone <i>full title: Support to prevent spread of Ebola in Detention Centres in Sierra Leone</i></p>	<p align="center">Recipient Organization(s)</p> <p>RUNO(s) Project Focal Point: UNDP Name: Pious Bockarie; Orla Kelly E-mail: pious.bockarie@undp.org; orla.kelly@undp.org</p>
<p align="center">Strategic Objective & Mission Critical Action(s)</p> <p>SO 1: Stop Outbreak SO 5: Prevent Further Spread MCA 1 Identifying and tracing people with Ebola MCA 13: Multi-faceted preparedness</p>	<p align="center">Implementing Partner(s)</p> <p>UNDP Ministry of Internal Affairs Prison Watch Sierra Leone</p>
<p>Location:</p> <p>Sierra Leone</p>	<p>Sub-National Coverage Area:</p> <p>Nationwide</p>
<p align="center">Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</p> <p>Total approved budget as per project proposal document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPTF¹: 1,201,725 • <p>TOTAL: 1,201,725</p>	<p align="center">Programme Duration</p> <p>Overall Duration (<i>months</i>) Project Start Date² (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>) 15/10/2014 Originally Projected End Date³ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>) 28/02/2015 Actual End date⁴ (<i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>) 31/10/2015</p> <p>Agency(ies) have operationally closed the programme in its(their) system Yes X No</p> <p>Expected Financial Closure date⁵: 05.12.2015</p>
<p align="center">Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</p> <p>Evaluation Completed <input type="checkbox"/> Yes X No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i> Evaluation Report - Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p>	<p align="center">Report Submitted By</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Name: Annette Nalwoga o Title: Governance Unit Team Leader o Date of Submission: 15 December 2015 o Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP o Email address: Annette.nalwoga@undp.org <p><i>Signature:</i></p>

¹ The amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)
² The date of the first transfer of funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. The transfer date is available on the online [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#).
³ As per approval of the original project document by the Advisory Committee.
⁴ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the originally projected end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date, which is the date when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved project have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see [MPTF Office Closure Guidelines](#).
⁵ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent funds and the submission of the [Certified Final Financial Statement and Report](#).

PROJECT/PROPOSAL RESULT MATRIX

See Annex 1.

FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are 1,500 corrections service staff responsible for around 3,600 inmates in 17 facilities around the country. Given the extreme overcrowding in most facilities, even one case entering the prisons could have spread rapidly through the inmate and staff leading to tens or potentially hundreds of deaths. The project's key result was in stopping EVD entering prisons.

A key part of UNDP's Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) response focused on ensuring prisons remained free of Ebola. As a result all 17 prisons in the country were equipped and furnished to prevent the spread of Ebola and staff trained to prevent and respond as needed; the prisons remained free of the virus throughout the outbreak.

The project included the construction of four EVD isolation units in some of the countries most overcrowded facilities. Through the project, UNDP provided staff in 17 prisons nationwide with necessary hygiene and other materials to protect themselves and inmates and to prevent an EVD outbreak in their facilities. 201 staff nationwide were trained to fully understand the nature of the Ebola virus – its origins, signs and symptoms and modes of transmission – and to use the prevention kits supplied in order to keep the facilities EVD free.

This has gone hand in hand with concerted efforts to de-congest prisons through indirect support to address some of the causes of overcrowding through improved case management, monitoring of prisons through the Implementing Partner, CSO Prisons Watch Sierra Leone (PWSL), and provision of legal aid.

The project also fostered good relations between UNDP and the Sierra Leone Correctional Services. Poor conditions and over-crowding in prisons, where the majority of inmates face pro-longed pre-trial detention for minor offences, is one of the gravest human rights violations facing Sierra Leone today. UNDP has now committed to working with the Correctional Services to improve prison conditions and to assist in the conversion of facilities from focusing on punishment to a focus on rehabilitation. Both interventions have already begun as a result of this project.

Overall, the programme was successful in preventing the spread of EVD in to prisons, which, given the overcrowding and poor medical and sanitation, could have potentially infected dozens of inmates and prison staff.

Background and Situational Evolution

Sierra Leone's prisons are notoriously overcrowded: it is estimated they are operating at over 200% capacity (and rising up to 500% at Pademba Rd High Security prison), with most inmates sharing poorly maintained toilet facilities and without access to clean water or reasonable quality healthcare. It is a neglected and underfunded sector. Medical facilities are poor or non-existent, with no Infection Prevention and Control procedures in place.

The nation's prisons were therefore a potential breeding ground for a catastrophic outbreak of Ebola. In order to prevent such an outbreak, UNDP Sierra Leone designed this intervention based on a pilot at Freetown central male and female correctional facilities. The aim was to reduce risks of EVD prevention using a three-pronged approach: a. ensure new inmates were separated and screened before they were introduced to the main prison population: b. equip prison staff with the skills and knowledge needed to

help prevent or identify an outbreak; and c. work towards the decongestion of the overcrowded facilities in order to reduce risks.

This intervention had a significant impact on the preparedness of all 17 of the country's prisons and contributed to the fact that they remained Ebola free throughout the outbreak.

Narrative section:

- **Key Achievements:**

- Three new isolation units were constructed in Bo, Kenema and Makeni, while in Port Loko, the disused female facility – which was in a state of disrepair – was rehabilitated in order to be used as a holding unit. The facilities have since been handed over to the Sierra Leone Correctional Services (SLCS) and are in use. Post EVD, in Bo and Makeni, the holding units are being re-fitted to be used as separate female facilities where there previously were none, thus ensuring a legacy effect of this intervention. A water pump was built next to each observation unit in Port Loko, Makeni, Bo and Kenema where there were previously no access to clean water.
- Prevention kits including basic PPE, laser thermometers, safety goggles, boots etc, chlorine powder and other hygiene materials were procured by UNDP and distributed to all the adult 17 prisons nationwide, (3,600 inmates) in partnership with SLCS. The juvenile homes were not reached on this occasion as the Ministry of Social Welfare – the relevant line Ministry – deemed this activities necessary at the time.
- Training of SLCS staff was carried out in partnership with IOM and the Human Rights Commission in Freetown and in the regional headquarter towns of Bo, Makeni and Kenema. 201 staff were reached through the trainings, which focused on raising awareness about EVD, symptoms, signs and modes of transmission; preventative measures such as proper use of the prevention kits; and human rights of inmates. The average score in the post-test evaluation was 85%, revealing that as a result of the training, the majority of staff targeted were well equipped with knowledge and skills to contribute to the prevention of a potentially catastrophic Ebola outbreak in the nation's detention centers.
- The introduction of a simple spreadsheet-based electronic case management system at Freetown and Kenema prisons, and training of 60 SLCS staff on record-keeping and data-management has enabled better tracking of inmates. This system has helped to ensure that inmates are released when they are supposed to be, rather than (as sometimes happens) languish in prison indefinitely, and has therefore contributed to decongestion of facilities. Plans to improve and expand upon this will be explored in 2016. It was not possible to expand this across all 17 facilities due to, the lack of an enabling environment in most of these facilities, such as computers, regular and reliable electricity, internet, a secure room. Time and costs constraints meant the project could not feasibly address these in all the facilities.
- UNDP worked with PWSL to provide legal aid to almost 500 inmates. Between January and June 2015, through MPTF support, legal assistance was provided in 496 cases. Of these cases, 163 inmates were discharged due to lack of or insufficient evidence for the prosecution to proceed; 219 were granted bail pending a hearing; 106 were convicted and fined; and 4 were mediated and settled out of court with assistance of PWSL. Out of the cases handled, 12 women have been released (women make up roughly 3% of the total prison population).
- Prison Watch regularly monitored the 17 prisons nationwide during the crisis in order to assess the health climate, to help ensure that training and prevention kits were being used in practice and to identify inmates eligible for legal assistance.
- As a result of the intervention, all 17 adult prisons were equipped and furnished to prevent the spread of Ebola. This is evidenced by the fact that the prisons remained free of the virus throughout the outbreak.

- **Delays or Deviations**

The project required several no cost extensions in order to allow for the completion of the holding units, which took longer than anticipated due to procurement processes. Although the construction was delayed, some of the holding units will be useable for future outbreaks even after being re-purposed at the end of this EVD outbreak. In locations with no separate female accommodation, the isolation units have been converted to female housing, because the female prisoners were being held in very poor conditions and the national authorities have used them to reduce the severe overcrowding. This had been agreed as an acceptable re-purposing at the start of the intervention. It was not possible to ensure these would not be re-purposed for accommodation and given the severe and growing overcrowding it was seen as a legitimate decision by national authorities to use them this purpose.

The prevention kits were not distributed to juvenile homes as planned, due to the fact that this was deemed unnecessary by the relevant line Ministry.

- **Gender and Environmental Markers** *(Please provide disaggregated data, if applicable)*

No. of Beneficiaries		Environmental Markers
Women	Approx. 100	N/A
Girls		
Men	Approx. 3,200	
Boys		
Total	3,300	

- **Best Practice and Summary Evaluation** *(one paragraph)*

The project strongly contributed to preventing an outbreak of EVD in the nation's detention centers. The project benefitted prisoners, a particularly vulnerable group which was neglected buy other DPs and Government. This makes the project unique, and puts UNDP at the forefront of human rights based approach to programming.

Despite the delay in the construction of the holding units, interventions such as the training of Corrections staff proved very effective. It was also extremely fruitful to partner with IOM, as part of the UN country team. IOM already had a team of trainers on the ground and a suitable curriculum. The trainers were excellent and the average post-training test score of 85% (in a context of general misinformation and confusion about the causes and treatment of EVD) shows that staff benefitted. The fact that the training was coupled with the supply of necessary materials (prevention kits) in order to put knowledge learned into practice, was also very effective. The regular monitoring of prisons and the legal aid work was key to uphold human rights of prisoners during the crisis, keep the peace and also help to decongest overcrowded facilities.

There has been strong national ownership and sustainability of the project as a result of the close planning with the Sierra Leone Correctional Services, for example to determine how to use the units after EVD. It was agreed that one would be used for rehabilitative purposes in the future, such as workshops, but planned in such a way that they could, if necessary, be re-purposed again as isolation units if required. Where there was no suitable accommodation for women it was decided that the priority was to re-purpose the units to house female inmates. The project has paved the way for a longer term, post-EVD partnership with the Sierra Leone Correctional Services, in order to help implement the 2014 Corrections Act, which transforms the nation's prisons from punitive to rehabilitative facilities.

Evaluation: the project was relevant to the needs at the time and proved effective. By ensuring longer term use of the isolation units, and equipping staff to understand IPC, the project has had an impact in preventing EVD and other diseases entering prisons.

- **Lessons learned**

Due to delayed procurement, the isolation units never worked as isolation units per se (although IPC and isolation practices were introduced etc.) The work which has been done in 4 facilities has however strengthened preparedness for future outbreaks.

In future, more time needs to be allowed for large procurement such as construction. Rainy season also delayed progress, which is a lesson learned for the future.

Close cooperation with SLCS ensured that isolations unit designs were appropriate to serve educational and skills training purposes, and that the intervention therefore has longer-term impact.

The project was over-ambitious in setting the target of establishing case management system in all 17 facilities. This was due to the lack of time and EVD travel restrictions which prevented the project from undertaking a proper localised needs analysis to ensure that there was absorption capacity in SLCS in the time available.

The prisons are an underfunded institution that would benefit from strategic assistance from UNDP. Interventions such as the establishment of a basic case management system can be improved and upskilled to have a big impact on human rights of inmates.

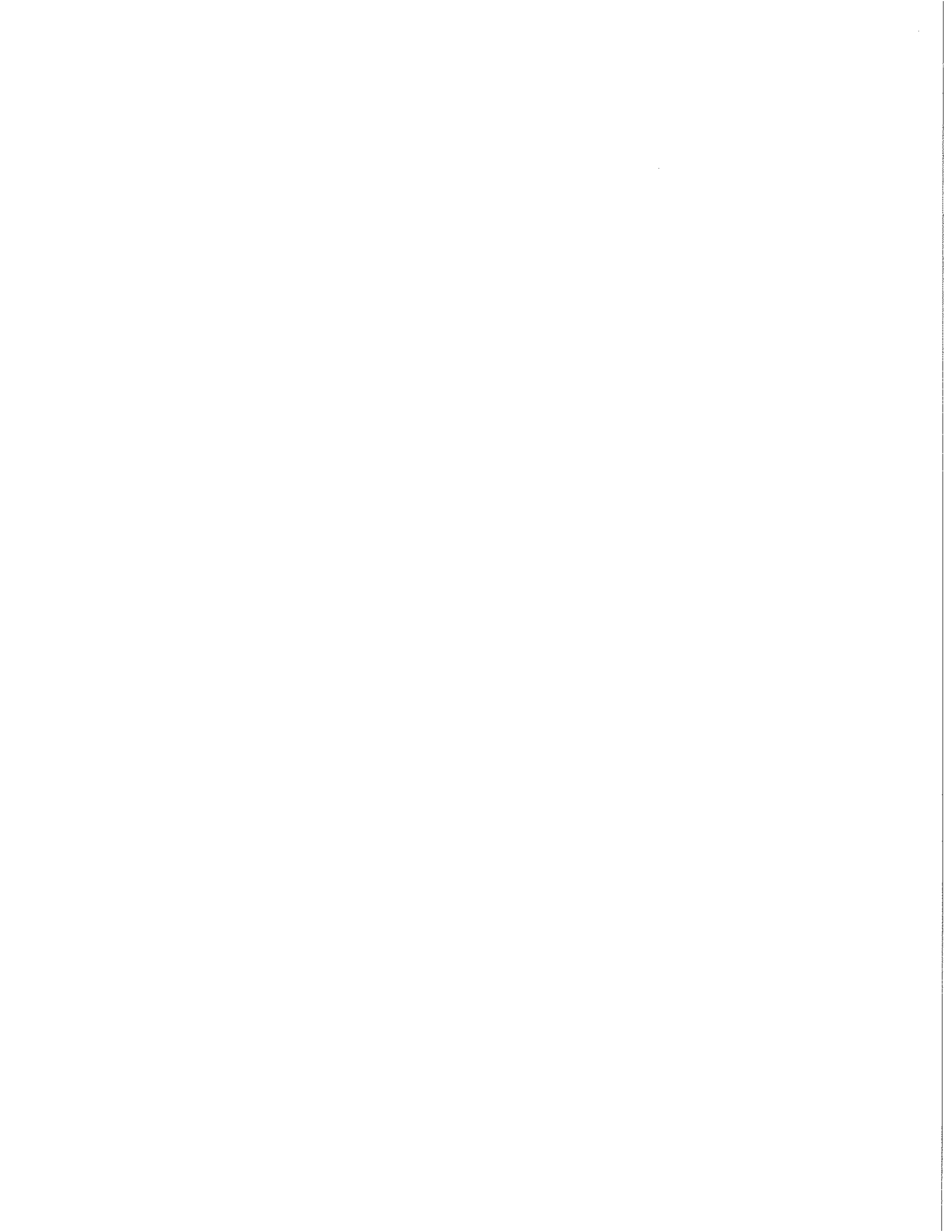
- **Story on the Ground**

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/articles/2015/05/25/sierra-leone-s-prisons-tough-but-ebola-free.html>

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

- Name: Kurtmolla Abdulganiyev
- Title: UN Ebola Response MPTF Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
- Date of Submission: 15 December 2015
- Email address: kurtmolla.abdulganiyev@undp.org

Signature:



Project Proposal Title:					
SO 5 Prevent Further Spread MCA 13: Multi-faceted preparedness					
Strategic Objective to which the project contributed					
MCA 1 Identifying and tracing people with Ebola ¹					
Output Indicators	Geographical Area	Target ²	Budget	Means of verification	Responsible Organization(s).
# of Detentions centers equipped and furnished to prevent Ebola spread	Nationwide	17 prisons & 3 juvenile detention centers equipped and furnished to prevent Ebola spread	1,201,725	Achieved in 17 prisons, but not in juvenile detention centres, which are under the control of the Ministry of Social Welfare who did not require UNDP assistance within this project framework.	Field monitoring reports
MCA 13 Multi-faceted preparedness					
Effect Indicators	Geographical Area (where the project directly operated)	Baseline ³ In the exact area of operation	Target	Final Achievements	Responsible Organization(s)
# Observation units set up for new detainees before entering main prison	Bo, Kenema, Makeni, Port Loko	Two prisons (Freetown Central Male and Female facilities) are equipped with observation units	4 prisons equipped with Ebola holding units	The holding units have been constructed in Bo, Kenema and Makeni, while in Port Loko, the unused female facility – which was in a state of disrepair – was rehabilitated in order to be used as a holding unit. The facilities have	UNDP monitoring visits; BTORs; photos

¹ Project can choose to contribute to all MCA or only the one relevant to its purpose.

² Assuming a ZERO Baseline

³ If data is not available, please explain how it will be collected.

				been handed over to the Sierra Leone Correctional Services (SLCS). Post EVD, in Bo and Makeni, the holding units will be used as separate female facilities where there previously were none		
<i># of Prevention kits provided to 17 prisons, 3 juvenile homes and key detention facilities</i>	<i>Nationwide</i>	Detention facilities in Sierra Leone underfunded and ill-equipped to prevent against the spread of EVD	17 prisons, 3 juvenile homes and key detention facilities	Prevention kits including basic PPE and hygiene materials were procured by UNDP and distributed to the 17 prisons nationwide, in partnership with SLCS. The juvenile homes were not reached on this occasion; they are the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Welfare, which did not feel that this support was needed at the time.	UNDP records and monitoring	UNDP
<i># Detention centres' staff trained to prevent outbreak and to oversee holding units while upholding human rights</i>	<i>Nationwide</i>	The sector neglected in the fight against EVD and staff ill-prepared	170 staff trained nationwide	201 staff were trained. Training was carried out in partnership with IOM and the Human Rights Commission, in Freetown and in the regional headquarter towns of Bo, Makeni and Kenema. It focussed on raising awareness about the EVD, symptoms, signs and modes of transmission; preventative measures and use of the prevention kits; and human rights of inmates. The average score in the post-test was 85%, revealing that as a result of the training, the majority of staff targeted were well equipped with knowledge and skills to contribute to the prevention of a potentially catastrophic Ebola outbreak in the nation's detention centers.	UNDP monitoring and reporting; photos	UNDP, IOM, Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone
<i># Basic records management systems in place to</i>	<i>Freetown</i>	Outdated paper system in place –	1 central electronic record management	Simple excel system in place at Freetown prison, and 60 staff trained on record keeping and data	Prison Watch Sierra Leone narrative	UNDP and Prison Watch Sierra Leone

<p><i>ensure health and Ebola segregated data management</i></p>		<p>files often damaged and lost</p>	<p>system established in Freetown central prison and staff trained accordingly</p>	<p>management through Prison Watch Sierra Leone. This system has helped to ensure that inmates are released when they are supposed to be and has therefore contributed to decongestion of facilities during the outbreak. Plans to improve and expand upon this will be explored in 2016.</p>	<p>reports and UNDP monitoring visits</p>	
<p><i># of detention centres monitored and data recorded in the central RM system</i></p>	<p><i>12 districts and central</i></p>	<p>Prisons monitored regularly by PW and other stakeholders</p>	<p>20 detention centers with activities monitored and recorded centrally</p>	<p>Prison Watch regularly monitored all 17 prisons nationwide during the crisis. This helped to decrease congestion and therefore decrease risk of outbreaks. Juvenile detention centres are under the control of the Ministry of Social Welfare, hence they do not come within the same records management system.</p>	<p>Prison Watch Sierra Leone narrative reports and UNDP monitoring visits</p>	<p>UNDP and Prison Watch Sierra Leone</p>

