Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak
Red Cross/Red Crescent Response

ACP meeting
Brussels, 25 February 2015
Overview of Red Cross/Red Crescent Response

- 16 countries with Red Cross operations
- 6 emergency appeals (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Senegal, and coordination)
- 370+ international Red Cross Red Crescent staff deployed
- 4,084 trained volunteers (active this week)
- Prepared to help 39 million people
- 1,000+ volunteers and staff have provided safe and dignified burials in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone
Ebola Response

Red Cross/Red Crescent Response Strategy

Regional coordination

All five pillars equally needed

Social mobilization and Beneficiary communication

4.2 million people reached

Safe and dignified burials

Includes unconfirmed Ebola cases

13,590 bodies safely buried

Psychosocial support

78,000+ people supported

Clinical case management

876 admissions

455 discharges

(includes unconfirmed Ebola cases)

Tracing and monitoring contacts

51,092+ people traced

“Little by little, men dressed in white suits invaded my dreams... (but after receiving psychosocial support), my body and soul are well again. I am too engaged to give up this fight.” Antoine Kovanovi Kolié, Red Cross safe & dignified burial team leader, Guinea

Ebola treatment centres

Kenema and Kono, Sierra Leone

Macenta, Guinea (French Red Cross)

Ebola pre-deployment courses:

734 people trained in Geneva in collaboration with MSF; and Spain, Finland, France and Germany

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Saving lives, changing minds.
Respecting local cultures
Communicating with beneficiaries
Key takeaways

- We need to strengthen our engagement with communities to break down barriers of mistrust
- To get to zero cases we must remain vigilant
- As long as one country has one case of Ebola, all three West African countries are at risk
- We cannot allow the Ebola virus disease outbreak to become a silent disaster
- Stopping Ebola is not enough
- Building resilient health systems means listening to local governments and communities
What will happen after Ebola?

Leading causes of death in Africa (deaths in thousands)

Source: WHO 2012 (Ebola 2014)
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