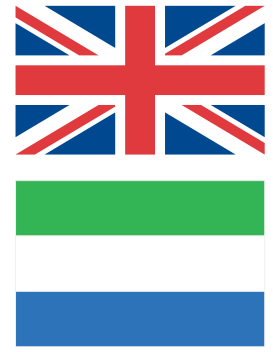
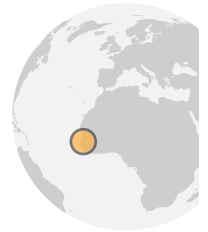


INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT EBOLA FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF SIERRA LEONE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM



Picture: Save the Children



The UK and Sierra Leone urge international partners to contribute to this vital and high profile mission by funding extra beds and contributing staff. All commitments would be clearly badged.

The United Nations has declared the Ebola outbreak in West Africa a crisis needing an urgent international response. Unless checked, the disease could spread well beyond the region with catastrophic consequences.

At the request of the Government of Sierra Leone and under the auspices of the UN, the UK is co-ordinating the international mission in Sierra Leone to control, contain and ultimately defeat Ebola.

The Government of Sierra Leone is asking friends in the international community to work with the UK in assisting millions of Sierra Leoneans in their hour of need.

UK military engineers and medics, alongside health and humanitarian staff, are already on the ground, working rapidly and closely with the Government of Sierra Leone and UN agencies to introduce decisive co-ordination structures and to build effective medical defences against Ebola.

These include a dramatic escalation in public health provision and treatment facilities, with work launched by the UK to support a further 700 Ebola treatment beds, boosting the national total to more than 1,000 to reflect the expected trend in medical need over the coming months.

These plans are a vital and high profile response to this UN emergency. International partners are urged to consider contributing medical staff, funding for beds and in-kind support to this mission without delay.

Please contact the UK co-ordinator by emailing ebola-response@dfid.gov.uk to receive further technical details of the mission. Thank you.

The Facts

- We can defeat Ebola if 70 per cent of cases are isolated
- The average ratio of international clinical staff to local staff is 1:5
- Every month that we delay acting, the cost and requirements for staff will double
- £100,000 will buy a treatment bed for six months including all associated construction and operating costs, salaries and protection equipment.

The governments of Sierra Leone and the UK invite you to join them, and other donors, at an international conference in London on 2 October 2014 to reflect on the scale of the challenge and discuss how the global community can rally to provide an effective international response.