

Office of Food for Peace

Ebola Response

August 5, 2015

Food Security Situation

The Ebola epidemic has had negative impacts on the health systems, livelihoods, and household economies in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. Many households have experienced new or increased food insecurity as Ebola-related fears and restrictions on movement and mass gatherings disrupted trade, increased food prices and eroded household income purchasing power. Economic activity and market function are improving in line with the reduction in the number of Ebola cases across the three countries. However, the lingering effects of Ebola on household access to food are expected to continue to drive acute food insecurity in the coming months, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Between June and August 2015, an estimated 4.65 million people are expected to face stressed levels of acute food insecurity, while approximately 2.22 million people are expected to face crisis levels.

Food for Peace Response

USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has been the largest provider of food assistance support to the Ebola-affected region since the beginning of the outbreak in 2014. FFP is addressing the urgent food needs of persons directly affected by Ebola and those impacted by the secondary, economic impacts of Ebola. Using a mix of targeted cash assistance, food vouchers, and in-kind food assistance, FFP has structured its response to incentivize local and regional trade, promote market recovery, and support agricultural production in the next growing season. FFP implements a variety of market-recovery strategies including cash transfers to improve household access to foods, agricultural input vouchers to improve household access to high-quality seeds, and cash-for-work activities to help households earn an income and build and maintain community assets. FFP also increased its technical capacity through FEWS NET to monitor, analyze, and report on the evolving food security impacts of Ebola.

FFP EBOLA RESPONSE		
COUNTRY	ACTIVITY	AWARD
Liberia	Targeted cash transfers, agricultural input vouchers, direct in-kind food assistance (local and regional procurement and Title II)	\$56,045,133
Sierra Leone	Targeted cash transfers, agricultural input vouchers, direct in-kind food assistance (local and regional procurement and Title II)	\$34,621,714
Guinea	Food vouchers and direct in-kind food assistance (local and regional procurement, and Title II)	\$20,864,050
Regional	In-kind food assistance and food security monitoring, analysis and reporting	\$5,495,348
TOTAL FFP ASSISTANCE		\$117,026,245