

Humanitarian funding analysis: Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone



Key points

- The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has allocated US\$235,000 to UNICEF and WHO in response to the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone. The main bilateral donors providing Official Development Assistance (ODA) are the UK and the EC – both have provided funding for the crisis (DFID-US\$340,000 to Sierra Leone; and EC –US\$3.3 regionally).
- From a regional perspective, the majority of funding to the Ebola crisis has been received by Guinea (US\$4.07m). Liberia has received US\$0.18m, while Sierra Leone has received slightly more (US\$0.23m).
- Preparation for an outbreak has been underway since April with the national government playing a lead role supported by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) will be launching an appeal in the coming days – following up on funding already disbursed in preparation for a possible outbreak.
- Additional funding could also be released at an inter-agency (WHO, WAHO, ECOWAS, IFRC) and Ministry of Health meeting (2-3 July) in Accra.
- Sierra Leone is largely on a development footing so humanitarian funding has been minor.

Key humanitarian donors (incl. CERF)	Committed 2014	Key ODA donors	Committed 2008-2012
Switzerland	US\$846,000	UK	US\$464 m
Norway	US\$376,000	EC	US\$366 m
CERF	US\$235,000	Japan	US\$119 m
Denmark	US\$200,000	US	US\$114 m
Luxembourg	US\$163,000	Germany	US\$72 m

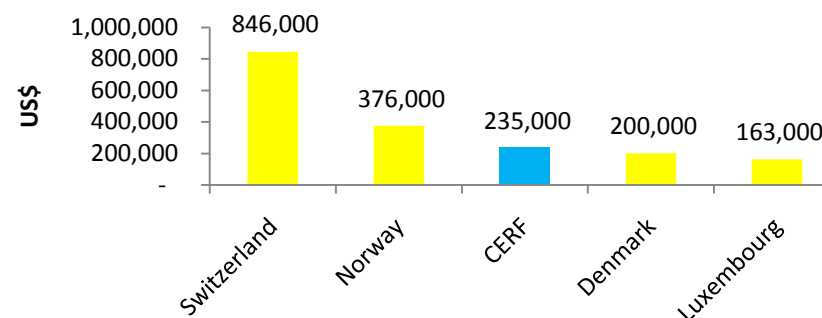
Donor funding for the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone (2014)	Commitment
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	US\$235,000 (to UNICEF and WHO)
UK	US\$340,000 (committed to the WHO Sierra Leone)
Ireland	Media reports, unspecified amount

1. Recent humanitarian assistance (FTS reported)

Switzerland and Norway are the two largest humanitarian donors to Sierra Leone in 2014, but apart from funding from the CERF none of the assistance has been reported as earmarked to the Ebola outbreak.

Overall humanitarian assistance to Sierra Leone in 2014 is relatively low at **US\$1.6 million** as the emphasis has increasingly shifted to development support and strengthening of national government capacity. The three main bilateral humanitarian donors in 2014 are Switzerland, Norway and Denmark, but none of these bilateral donors have distributed funds to the Ebola outbreak. As Figure 1 highlights, only the CERF has disbursed funding for the Ebola outbreak in 2014 through its Rapid Response window.

Figure 1: Humanitarian assistance (by donor) to Sierra Leone in 2014 with funding for the Ebola outbreak highlighted



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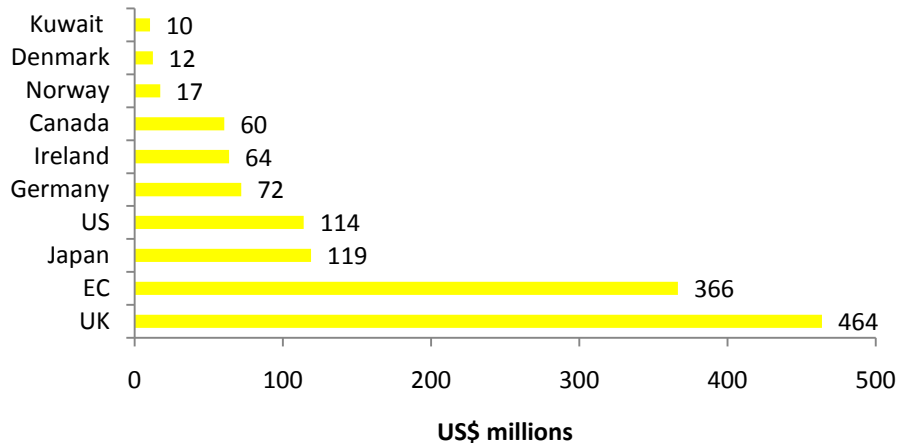
Figures downloaded on 26 June 2014 from UN OCHA FTS. The funding for the Ebola crisis is highlighted in blue. Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand. Additionally, the funding from Luxembourg could be a mistake within the OCHA FTS figures as the description is for Malian refugees in Niger.

2. Recent assistance (not yet reported to FTS)

Traditional official development assistance (ODA) donors to Sierra Leone such as the UK, the EC and Ireland (to be confirmed) have responded to the Ebola outbreak, other key ODA donors are also likely to also provide assistance. The UK has committed US\$340,000 for the Ebola response that has not yet appeared in FTS. Media sources also reported that Ireland has already committed an unspecified amount of assistance. Sierra Leone is a Key Partner Country for Ireland which has a particular focus on the health sector.

The UK has traditionally been the major bilateral provider of official development assistance (ODA) to Sierra Leone. Over a five-year period (2008-2012), the UK committed US\$464 million in official ODA. The EC however, while committing high levels of ODA (US\$366m), is the top humanitarian assistance provider - US\$11.8m in the five-year period from 2010-2014.

Figure 2: Top 10 bilateral donors of ODA (excluding debt relief) to Sierra Leone (2008-2012)



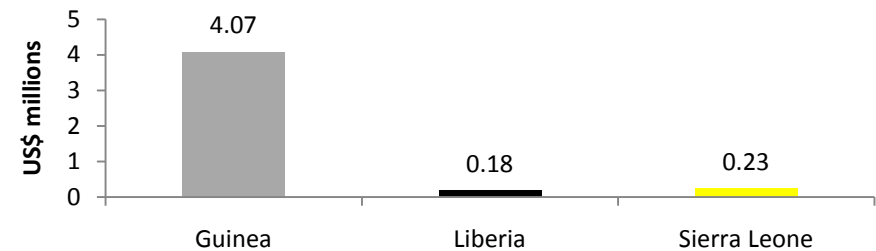
The five-year period from 2008-2012 is shown, as the latest data is only available for 2012. Data downloaded from the OECD DAC CRS database on 26 June 2014.

3. Ebola funding to the region (breakdown)

The majority of funding to the Ebola crisis has been received by Guinea (US\$4.07m). Liberia has received US\$0.18m, while Sierra Leone has received slightly more (US\$0.23m).

From regional information on humanitarian assistance to the Ebola crisis, donors have therefore been engaging with the crisis but have focused efforts to-date on Guinea.

Figure 3: Humanitarian assistance to the Ebola outbreak in 2014 – a cross-country comparison

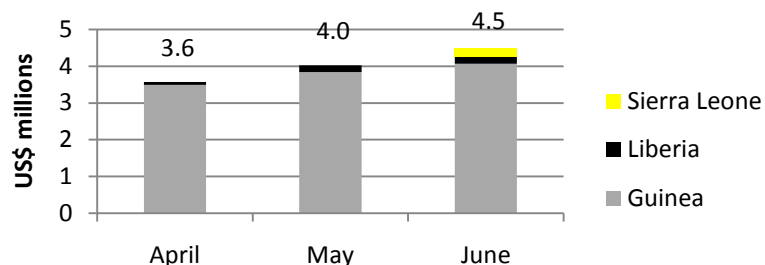


Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 26 June 2014.

Whilst the Sierra Leonean Ministry of Health began preparations for the crisis in late March/ early April, CERF funding was only received in June. Guinea and Liberia, on the other hand, has been receiving small amounts of humanitarian assistance since April.

Figure 4: Humanitarian assistance to the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea – a monthly comparison (2014)

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Source: UN OCHA FTS. Data downloaded on 26 June 2014.

4. Pooled funding as part of the response

The CERF has disbursed funding of US\$235,000 to WHO and UNICEF. There is no other pooled humanitarian funding mechanism active in Sierra Leone at present.

5. Domestic response

Much of the support to the response to the outbreak is likely to be channelled through the national and local government and their capacity will be key.

Sierra Leone has an estimated budget for the response to the Ebola outbreak of US\$1.8m. According to a Sierra Leonean Ministry of Health source the UK, WHO and Ireland have provided assistance to the Ministry of Health in response to the Ebola outbreak.

6. Additional funding information

Additional funding might be released following a high level meeting in Accra on 2-3 July to discuss the regional response to the Ebola outbreak.

An inter-agency high level meeting will take place on 2-3 July 2014 in Accra. This meeting will bring together Ministry of Health representatives along with regional coordinators from UN agencies, multilateral and inter-governmental bodies such as ECOWAS, WHO, WAHO and IFRC and more funding could be released after this meeting.

Because of the regional nature of the crisis there is also the possibility of assistance

from regional inter-governmental bodies although this funding is likely to be small. For example, the Mano River Union (MRU) has provided a small amount of funding (US\$8,000). The Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) has also disbursed US\$250,000 in regional funding, although the majority of that funding was to Guinea. National bodies have also disbursed small amounts of funding such as the National Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (SLCCIA) which donated US\$11,000 to the Ministry of Health.

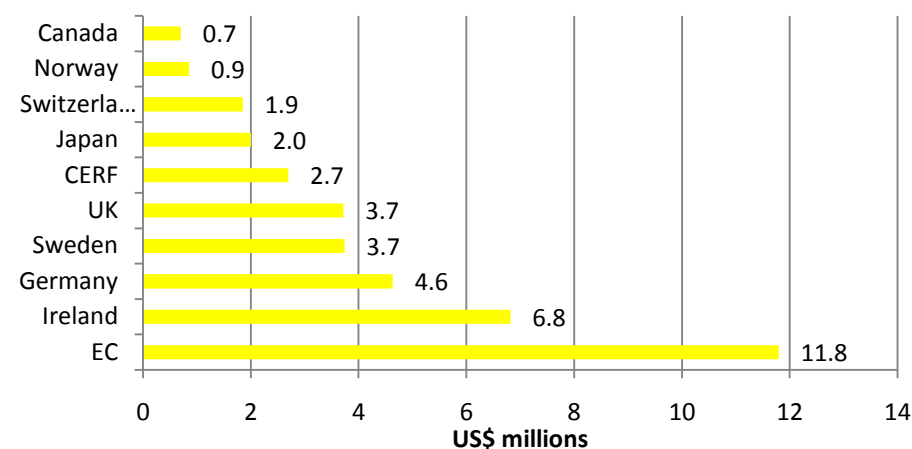
7. Other funding

The IFRC will be launching an appeal for a response to the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone soon although exact details of the appeal amount are not yet available.

The IFRC launched a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) in April this year to prepare for a possible outbreak and will be launching an emergency appeal soon.

8. Historic humanitarian assistance

Figure 5: Top 10 humanitarian donors to Sierra Leone (2010-2014)



Source: UN OCHA FTS. Downloaded on 26 June 2014.