

**SEED-SIERRA LEONE AND BONTHE YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER FIGHTING EBOLA VIRUS
DISEASE THROUGH EDUCATION AND AWARENESS**



MESSAGE FROM BYRC CENTER MANAGER



Dear Friends of BYRC and Adakavi Bank,

Since the outbreak of the deadly Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in our country Sierra Leone, health authorities, local and international organizations has been struggling to contain the virus which has infected almost 454 victims and killed 206 people. Due to disbelieve rumors and misconception among local people the virus has continued to spread claiming and threatening more lives across the country.

Bonthe Youth Resource Center students and SEED-Sierra Leone microloan clients have been at risk of contracting the virus. The reductions in business operations carryout by our clients have also seriously affected the microloan operations in our organization since the beginning of the outbreak. In an extremely difficult circumstance we cannot sit down and watch our people continue to suffer and community work threaten by the disease. Therefore we lunch the campaign **“Education and awareness raising on Ebola virus disease and Prevention** to help raise local community people awareness about Ebola virus and prevention methods, also break the cycle of misconception and disbelieve.

We cannot thank enough! The Social Business Foundation, all supporters of Bonthe Youth Resource Center and Adakavi Bank for their generous donation of 3,500 Euros to support our first campaign effort against Ebola Virus. After almost four weeks into our campaign we are glad to bring you in this report result of our action

INTRODUCTION

Since May 2014 Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia has been hit by a deadly Ebola virus disease (EVD) with 1,201 cases and 672 deaths now reported across the three West Africa according to [WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION\(WHO\)](#). As the number of cases in Guinea declined significantly, in neighboring Sierra Leone and Liberia, more and more people are being infected with the virus.

In Sierra Leone alone almost 454 cases has been recorded with 224 deaths across the country. As the virus continue to spread at an alarming rate across the country, mistrust and resistance in especially rural communities have made it very difficult for government health authorities, local and international organizations to bring the outbreak under control. Therefore education and awareness about transmission and treatment of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) is crucial especially among the illiterate population in rural communities.

Key effects of the current situation on our work are; our microloan weekly payback at SEED-Sierra Leone (Adakavi Bank Project) has been seriously affected as many of our clients have been unable to do their business as normal. Also we are in a scared mood for our students at Bonthe Youth Resource Center to not contract the the virus during their travelling in public transports and visitation to public facilities like game centers, football matches etc.

Our German partners Lutz and Britta, the Social Business Foundation and all supporters of Adakavi Bank and Bonthe Youth Resource Center has been more than generous to support us with seed funding of 3,500 Euros to support our sensitizations and awareness raising effort on Ebola Virus prevention, and provision of first Aid kits (hand sanitizer, hand Soap, and water disinfectant chorine) to 300 women and youths at community level. We are have been extremely happy to complement the effort of Government and other partners in the fight against Ebola prevention.



CONDUCT AWARENESS RAISING WORKSHOP ON EBOLA PREVENTION

Since the beginning of the Ebola Virus Disease(EVD) outbreak in Sierra Leone, the virus has continued to spread from one person to another mainly due to disbelieve, rumors and misconception among local community people. Educating the local community people especially the women and youth population is one of the most effective tools to fight the virus.

SEED-Sierra Leone in collaboration with the Bonthe Youth Resource Center organized an awareness raising workshops on Ebola Virus and its prevention. During the workshops the community health facilitator play information clips on Ebola awareness and prevention and show data on the effect of the virus to participants with the goal to show the effect of the virus. Participants also encouraged to role plays how the virus is transmitted from one person to another for better understanding. The workshop mainly targeted youths of Bonthe Youth Resource Center and SEED-Sierra Leone microloan women.

Participants were also encouraged to downstream knowledge gain from the workshop to their individual households and their society in General.



DISTRIBUTION OF FIRST AID KITS (sanitizer, hand Soap, and water disinfectant chlorine) TO RURAL COMMUNITY PEOPLE

Though a counter-cultural as it may be;” do not touch people unnecessary, wash your hands regularly and use hand sanitizers and chlorine!”. Is an effective way to avoid the spread of Ebola Virus disease from an infected person to non infected person especially in villages.

Unfortunately local community women and youths who cannot afford especially **hand sanitizers, chlorine and Hand wash soaps** due to poverty are at risk from protecting themselves from getting the virus from others at homes and public places.

SEED-Sierra Leone in collaboration with Bonthe Youth Resource Center provided first aid packages including hand sanitizers, water disinfectant chlorine, and hand wash soap to women and Youths for use against Ebola.

To better understand how to use the package, a sensitization session was conducted. The women and youths who benefited from the training have started using their individual packages at their home with their family and friends. We are confident this approach could minimize the spread of the virus.





INSTALLATION OF HAND WASH FACILITY AT BYRC AND RURAL HOMES

SEED-Sierra Leone and Bonthe Youth Resource Center through its sensitization and awareness raising program support provided water cans with tap facility (picture left) for hand wash purposes. Chlorine tablets are dropped into the water fill cans, which is us for washing hands after using toilet, before eating and greeting people.

The water cans are placed outside participants' homes for visitors to wash their hands before entering their homes and children to wash their hands before and after using the toilet or touching harmful substances.

One hand wash facility is also placed outside BYRC center for students and visitors to wash their hands before entering and leaving the facility.

The used of the hand wash facility has increased the knowledge of personal hygiene among our participants and other community members. Other members of the communities have also started copying from our participants by washing hands in their homes.

Our hope is to decrease the chances of no infected person from contacting the virus by body contact through greetings.

COMMUNITY LEVEL SENSITIZATION MEETINGS AND MEDIA OUTREACH ON EBOLA PREVENTION

[MISCONCEPTION AND RUMORS](#) about Ebola patients been ill-treated and left to die by health workers in hospitals is contributing to the spread of Ebola across the country. Many local community people are refusing to take their relatives with symptoms of Ebola Disease to medical center for treatment, leaving their community in great danger of contracting the virus. At some points health workers are even been attacked by community people during visit to communities.

In order to help break the misconceptions and rumors surrounding the treatment of Bola patients at medical centers, SEED-Sierra Leone in partnership with Bonthe Youth resource center volunteer team embarked on village level sensitization about the Ebola virus infection and the need for communities to report infected patients cases to the nearest hospitals for treatment. Our action is helping raise community awareness about Ebola virus and building the confidence between health authorities' and relatives of Ebola victims.

Sensitizations through production of jingles and radio panel discussion on the issue of Ebola virus and its effects have also been carried out in local community radio stations. During radio discussion programs community people are given the opportunity to ask questions on ebola and answers are provided by panelist.





FINACIAL REPORT

Description of Activities	Actual Budget for 3 months implementation Period	Actual Total spent on project implementation	Percentage utilization	Total Budget for project implementation	Cumulative actual	Percentage utilization
RECEIVED	EURO	EURO	%	EURO	EURO	%
Total Donation Received	3,500	3,500	100%	3,500	3,500	100%
SPENT	Euro	Euro	%	Euro	Euro	%
DIRECT PROJECT COST						
Community Health Worker- Stipend	244	244	100%	244	244	100%
Hand Sanitizer packet	1,200	1,200	100%	1,200	1,200	100%
Water Chlorination Chorine packet	1,500	1,500	100%	1,500	1,500	100%
Hand Gloves used during sensitization purposes	6	6	100%	6	6	100%
Development of sensitization jingle on Ebola Prevention in two languages	100	100	100%	100	100	100%
Airing of composed Radio jingle on Ebola Prevention	80	80	100%			100%
Feeding for participants during meeting	400	400	100%	400	400	100%
Printing of sensitization materials on Ebola	50	50	100%	50	50	100%
GRANDTOTAL	3,500	3,500	100%	3,500	3,500	100%