

The devastating impact of Ebola on West Africa's children

On the ground

Ebola is one of the world's most deadly diseases. Having already claimed the lives of 8,249 people in West Africa, this deadly virus is destroying families and leaving a generation of orphans in its wake.

As well as living with the daily risk of catching Ebola themselves, children are facing devastating long-term consequences of this crisis, with 11,000 having lost a parent to the disease.

Our team on the ground has already reached more than 265,000 people – although the need for health workers and life-saving equipment could not be more urgent.

We are training health workers, running treatment centres and providing life-saving equipment. We are also teaching communities how to prevent the spread of the disease through radio broadcasts and distributing invaluable information on hygiene and sanitation.



Photo: Aubrey Wade/Save the Children

Annie*, aged seven, lost her mother, Margaret* and sisters Mary*, 11 and Madeline*, 19, to Ebola. Annie is now taken care of by her brother, Griffith*, 18 and both receive psychological support from Kou, a consultant trained by Save the Children.

* Names have been changed to protect identity.



70%

of those infected are killed by Ebola.



8 million+

children under the age of 20 live in areas affected by the Ebola virus.



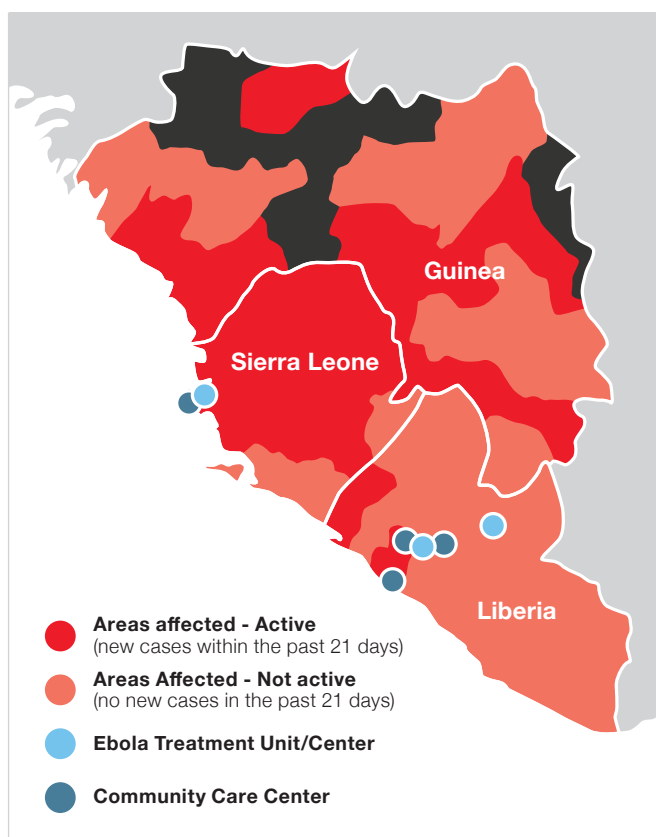
3.5 million

children in the three most affected countries are out of school because they've been closed.



155,762

people including 49,469 children have been reached by Save the Children so far.



Alone and Afraid

Loss is part of the human tragedy of Ebola. Although 13-year-old Joshua* (pictured) survived the disease, he lost his father to the virus, before it spread, killing six more members of his family:

“At the start, people did not think Ebola was real. I had diarrhea, a headache and fever. I did not think it was Ebola, because I also did not believe Ebola was real. But when they carried me to the camp, I saw several symptoms and signs and I believed Ebola is real.

“In the camp...they gave me some food. They told me, if you don’t eat, you are going to die. I was not feeling happy because of the denial of Ebola. My father denied it. I wish he would have called for the ambulance. If he had called the ambulance when he had just headache and fever, they could have treated him. He was sick for six days before he went.”



Photo: Ashley Hamer/Save the Children

Ebola: The tragic facts



21,296
people have
been infected



8,249
people have died



495
doctors, nurses and clinic
staff have lost their lives

Help end the Ebola epidemic

We are doing all we can to fight the epidemic and protect children and their families from its devastating impact.

With your support we can:

- Deploy more than 200 humanitarian staff to support and treat those diagnosed with Ebola
- Provide water, sanitation and hygiene kits
- Ensure unaccompanied, separated and orphaned children are cared for and reunited with their families
- Distribute essential supplies such as IV fluids and antibiotics to facilities
- Re-establish primary healthcare facilities and train new staff
- Provide education for the 3.5 million children across the region who are not being taught as their public schools have closed.

Please give today to help end the Ebola epidemic and save children's lives.

www.savethechildren.org.au/savelivestoday



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