



JICA Supports Community Awareness Training in Monsterrado County Ebola Response



Ex-Trainee talks on sign and symptoms and mode of transmission of Ebola virus in zone 300(Clara Town)

Ebola is a rare and deadly disease and it is caused by infection with one of the Ebola virus species. The most recorded fatality of the disease immemorial is the Ebola virus epidemic in West Africa specifically in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone in 2014. The cumulative death incident of Liberia alone constitutes over 3,000 persons. Monrovia, the capital city of Liberia, has become the most hid terrain in the entire epidemic trend of the disease virulence. Zuma Town (zone 100) and Clara Town (zone 300) are subdivisions in the capital that were also hot spots for the epidemic consideration.

About JICA

JICA is the governmental agency responsible for undertaking the Japanese bilateral assistance of technical cooperation, concessionary loans (ODA loans), and grant aid. JICA has about 100 overseas offices all over the world.



Based on these resources information, the management and staffs of Clara Town and Redemption Health Centers with support from JICA Liberia Field Office conducted four community awareness trainings in zones 100 and 300 in February to March 2015 that are inclusive of training and supervision for community based volunteers and mobilizers which have been introduced by other agencies and Ministry of health.



Participants at zone 300 (Clara Town) training awareness

The trainings were held for four consecutive weekends on the 14th and 21st of February in Clara Town, and the 28th of February and 7th of March 2015 in Zuma Town respectively. There were an inclusion of Trained Traditional Midwives (TTMs), General Community Health Volunteers (GCHVs), Community Leaders, Monsterrado County Health Team and health workers of Clara Town and Redemption Health Centers.



Participants at zone 100(Zuma Town) training awareness



Ex-training teaches about Ebola in zone 100 (Zuma Town) training awareness

During the training and awareness, Mr. Adolphus Kenta (Ex-trainee, participated JICA training "Health System Management" in 2012) spoke precisely on Ebola virus disease, signs and symptoms and its mode of transmission. Other speakers Ms. Frances K. Thomas (Registered Nurse/Trainer), Ms. Yarmah Yarpazuo (Registered Nurse/Screenener), Mr. Alphonso Massaley (Officer in Charge, Clara Town Health Center), Mr. Melvin P. Johnson (Ex-trainee, participated JICA training "Nursing Management" in 2010) and Mr. Emmanuel Kamara (Officer in Charge, Redemption Hospital) talked on infection prevention control in Ebola which entails definition, goals and principles of Infection Preventive and Control (IPC). Another topic interestingly discussed and demonstrated was safe hand washing, chlorine mixture for hand washing and other preventive purposes, and safety measures for dead bodies (handling and burial).



Health center staff teaches the safe usage of gloves



Community members discuss about how to prevent Ebola

The 270 participants are from health facilities from Clara Town and Redemption, and community members from zones 100 and 300. Participants were provided with fair knowledge of the mortality and morbidity of Ebola in Liberia and zones 100 and 300 specifically. They have the overview and general ideas about Ebola and its impact in West Africa with respect to the affected countries. The trained volunteers will continue awareness activities in the respected zones.



JICA staff hands over hygiene items to Mr. Lassana Kamara (OIC Redemption Health Center)