WEST AFRICA

Across Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, over 1600 humanitarians have used vital communications services provided by the ETC to support the fight against Ebola.

After an outbreak of Ebola was reported in Guinea in March 2014, the virus rapidly spread to neighbouring Liberia and Sierra Leone, causing a regional crisis.

Although the Emergency Telecommunications (ET) Cluster is not officially activated, the UN Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) mandated the World Food Programme (WFP) to respond as if the cluster was activated and to lead inter-agency Information and Communications Technology (ICT) efforts.

As the number of confirmed cases of Ebola in West Africa has significantly decreased over the past months, health care facilities are closing and the ET Cluster can begin to demobilise services. By the end of October 2015, the ET Cluster will have completely phased out services across the three affected countries.

ET Cluster Response to the Ebola Outbreak

To fight the Ebola outbreak, the ET Cluster has been providing vital communications services to over 90 humanitarian facilities across Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

ET Cluster Services

- **Reliable internet access**: Installation of satellite dishes, access points and wireless equipment.
- **Onsite assessments** and recommendations to access internet and/or radio communications.
- **Security telecommunications**: Installation and programming of radio equipment, trainings.
- **Transition to recovery**: Guidance and support in transitioning to commercial solutions.

The cluster approach strengthens response effectiveness through ensuring predictable and sufficient capacity, leadership, partners, accountability and coordination.

www.ETCluster.org
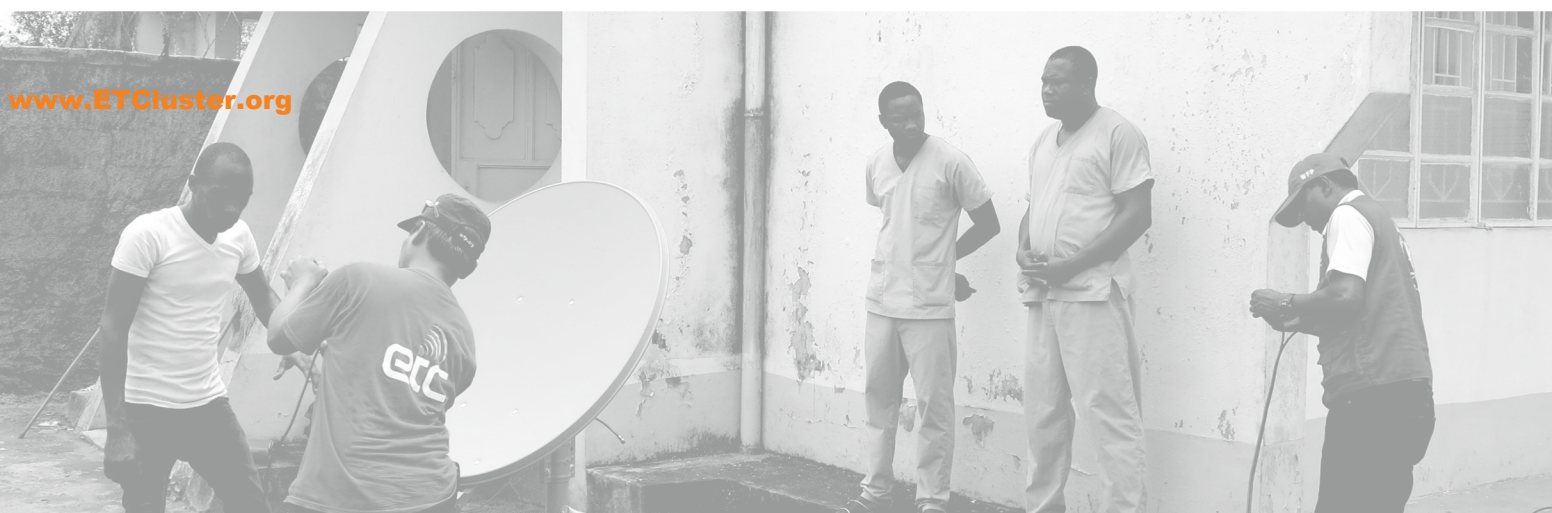
ETC Services

- Reliable internet connectivity provided to over 50 responders at five humanitarian facilities including Logistics Bases and Ebola Treatment Units.
- Security telecommunications for UN agencies and NGOs established in Conakry, Forecariah, Kissidougou, Gueckedou, N'zerekore and Macenta.

LIBERIA

- Reliable internet access provided to over 150 responders at 12 humanitarian facilities.
- Security telecommunications for UN agencies and NGOs established in Monrovia, Buchanan, Gbarnga, Voinjama, Zwedru, Sinje, Bopolu and Saniqeullie.

SIERRA LEONE

- Reliable internet connectivity provided to over 1,450 responders at 11 humanitarian facilities spread across six of Sierra Leone's 14 administrative districts.
- Security telecommunications for UN agencies and NGOs established in Freetown, Bo, Makeni, Port Loko, Koido and Kenema.

Plans

The ET Cluster will phase out from Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone by the end of 2015. In many locations local Internet Service Providers (ISP) will provide internet access to ensure the continuity of services.

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ERICSSON RESPONSE

BT

GLOBAL EBOLA RESPONSE

OCHA

NETHOPE

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

UNDSS

Plan

SOS Children's Villages

The ETC is a global network of organizations that work together to provide common communications services in humanitarian emergencies.

For more information about the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) in West Africa, visit: www.ETCluster.org or contact: WESTAFRICA.ETC@wfp.org

By 2020, the ETC will create an emergency response environment that provides humanitarians, citizens and governments with a seamless, resilient and principled communications experience.