

# **ChildFund Sierra Leone**

## **Floods and Landslide Disaster - SitRep #2 of August 2017**

**August, 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

The death tolls continue to rise as more bodies are discovered and some patients dying due to injuries. The Government of Sierra Leone re-categorized the disaster from Level 2 Security/Emergency to Level 3 Security/Emergency; a policy statement has been delivered to the nation and a one week (7 days) period has been declared for national mourning and prayers for the departed. National burial is slated for Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

**NOTE:** The affected area is outside of ChildFund Program area.

### **Coordination and Updates**

Coordination at national level has relatively improved but confusion and other challenges continue to persist within the different pillars / committee thus hampering ability of humanitarian agencies to respond.

- About 50% of displaced persons have been registered. Ministry of Social Welfare has requested additional support to which a host of NGOs have responded including ChildFund with vehicles, manpower and other logistical support.
- Lack of data remains a big challenge thus hampering any response efforts by humanitarian agencies. The anticipated report is yet to be shared by government.
- Government has demarcated 5 response areas and locations where services will be provided to the affected persons and or host communities and they include; Regent, Kamayama, Dwarzak, Culvert and Kaningo.
- A hotline (119) has been activated and the situation room will now remain open only from 7:00 to 22:00hrs instead of the initial 24 hrs.
- The government has developed an emergency response structure (organogram) that will be shared with the humanitarian agencies during the 5pm coordination meeting today Wednesday.
- A ware house and or associated facilities have been identified and manned by the military; most of relief items will be delivered and recorded there.

### **Urgent Identified Needs**

- Temporary shelter materials and accommodation support to host communities. Currently most displaced populations are living in schools, community center and relatives/host families. With the school term commencing within 2-3 weeks, the government would like to relocate all people currently in schools to other encampments.

- **Health and Nutrition needs:** As days go by, there are fears of water borne diseases; food needs especially for infant and lactating mothers and medicines including other medical supplies like gloves, body bags...etc. have been requested. The Health and Nutrition Pillar has suggested the provision of at least 3 months' worth of food for the families and has already reactivated the nutrition taskforce.
- **Protection and Psychosocial Support:** There is urgent need to enhance counselling and psychosocial support to be accompanied by distribution of food, warm clothing, undergarments and dignity clothing for women and girls; others include school supplies as children return to schools, establishment of an interim care center for children who have either lost parents or have been hospitalized, establishment of child friendly or safe spaces, ensuring there is no physical and emotional sexual abuse and violence.
- **Water and Sanitation:** The need for water and sanitation support cannot be underscored.

#### **ChildFund Support this far:**

- National level coordination through the Office of National Security (ONS).
- Continued to support registration and data collection; provided vehicle and man-power.
- A member of child protection pillar and working together with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's affairs.
- Through the Ministry of Social welfare provided some blankets, mosquito nets and P&G water purification sachets.

#### **Needs and or possible areas of Immediate Support by ChildFund**

- Establishment of child-center spaces and psychosocial support.
- Educational support to returning children – books, uniforms....etc.
- Additional blankets, mosquito nets and warm clothing this being the peak of the rainy seasons.
- Medical support/donations if possible.
- Post emergency Livelihood recovery.