

French action in the fight against the Ebola epidemic in West Africa

From September 2014 - France at the forefront of the fight against Ebola

1st European country to:

Identify the virus and send researchers to the location of the outbreak (Institut Pasteur in Dakar and French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm) P4 Laboratory in Lyon)

Organize a visit from a Head of State and send a member of the Government to West Africa

Mobilization of hundreds of French personnel in France and West Africa between 2014 and 2015

Response to the 2014-2015 Ebola crisis: over €160 million

- €110 million for Guinea
- €20 million for financing response plans in the subregion (Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Cameroon)
- €30 million to finance research or response projects by international institutions (WHO, UN-UNDP, WFP, UNMEER)

2014 - From the start of the crisis, France launched an immediate, three-pronged response

Medical cover

- financing by France of four Ebola Treatment Centres (ETCs)
- financing and creating several laboratories in Guinea thanks to a partnership (Pasteur Institute, French Red Cross, Expertise France, KPLAN Laboratories)

Training and protection of actors involved in the crisis

- training centres in France (Nogent-le-Rotrou) and Guinea
- the Army Health Service set up a treatment centre for caregivers in Conakry

Support for communities

- actions to raise awareness in the community helped to mobilize populations and thus reduce the number of cases and hidden deaths

2015 - France is adopting a longer term response, based on the progression of the epidemic and to encourage reconstruction

French reconstruction action: €174 million, including

- strengthening the health system
- supporting education and training

- providing access to water and electricity
- revitalizing the economy

At national level in Guinea

- Financing and creating regional teams for warning about and responding to epidemics (PREPARE project)
- Laboratory capacity building in the subregion of Guinea (Labnet)

At subregional level in West Africa

- Building and networking national and regional epidemic monitoring capacities (RIPOST project)
- Building hospital hygiene measures, protocols and capacities in five West African countries (TWIN-2H project)

Research in developing antiviral treatments for Ebola

France is recognized as a world leader in medical research – the research alliance with the French National Alliance for Life Sciences and Health (AVISEAN), the Institute of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (IMMI), the Pasteur Institute in Dakar, the Inserm/P4 Laboratory in Lyon and Foundation Mérieux are all active in the field.