



## Response to Ebola: Mapping religious networks and FIOs

This document includes information we have assembled (public sources and private communications) that illustrate responses to the Ebola epidemic in West Africa by a range of faith-inspired organizations (FIOs) and communities.

In addition to these resources, several events have been held with faith actors including a USAID conference call<sup>1</sup> October 3 with faith-based and community partners implementing programs in response to Ebola.

### Faith-Inspired Organizations

- Action by Churches Together (ACT Alliance Liberia Forum)
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)
- Afro-Medical Community Health and Welfare Service
- Against Ebola in Guinea Conakry
- Assemblies of God World Missions
- Baptist Convention of Sierra Leone
- Baptist Global Response
- Caritas International - *Monsignor Robert Vitillo*
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH)
- Church of Latter Day Saints
- Community of Sant' Egidio
- Cooper Adventist Hospital
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
- Curby Memorial Presbyterian Church in Liberia
- Episcopal Church of Liberia
- Episcopal Relief & Development
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- French Development Agency (AFD)
- IMA World Health
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- Kenneth Hackett, US Ambassador to the Holy See
- Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention (LBMEC)
- Medical Teams International
- New Water in the Desert Assembly Church
- Religions for Peace
- Samaritan's Purse
- SIM (Serving in Mission)
- The Free Pentecostal Global Mission Church
- The Lutheran Church of Liberia
- The Religious Leaders Task Force on Ebola
- Tony Blair Foundation - *Banke Adetayo and Ian Linden*
- United Methodist Communication
- United Methodist Committee on Relief
- USAID
- Waterloo Adventist Hospital
- Women of Hope International
- World Council of Churches
- World Health Organization
- World Relief partners Association of Evangelicals of Liberia and the Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone
- World Vision

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<sup>1</sup> USAID speakers included **Patricia Radar**, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in Policy, Planning & Learning Bureau, former Mission Director in Liberia; **Erica Navarro**, Deputy Assistant Administrator in our Africa Bureau; and **Wade Warren**, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Global Health Bureau.

<b>Action by Churches Together (ACT Alliance Liberia Forum)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian, Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Lutheran Church in Liberia and ACT Alliance donated personal protective equipment (PPEs) and other medical supplies that allowed the Phebe Hospital and Curran Lutheran Hospital to reopen. <sup>2</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: medical supplies, personal protective equipment</i>	

<b>Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Seventh-Day Adventist, Country focus: Sierra Leone, Liberia</i>	ADRA has partnered with Loma Linda University, Adventist Health International, and Global Medic to provide medical equipment and supplies to the Cooper Adventist Hospital and the Liberian Ministry of Health. <sup>3</sup>  ADRA has been providing psychological counseling and support to victims of Ebola and their families. They are also training staff and volunteers to spread messages around the community in public spaces - markets, churches, and bus stations. <sup>4</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Medical supplies, psychological counseling, training, community awareness and sensitization</i>	

<b>Afro-Medical Community Health and Welfare Service</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: n/a Country focus: Liberia</i>	Afro-Medical Community Health and Welfare Service runs three community health clinics in Liberia and facilities are mainly addressing non-Ebola health cases, such as malaria, delivering babies, treating typhoid and more. They also engage in identifying Ebola orphans, quarantined families, and survivors, linking them with other NGOs and the government to provide supplementary feeding. They provide food and other basic supplies to families because while in quarantine, they have no means of finding food. These people are stigmatized. The organization is also seeking help to improve infection control at their facilities to continue to address primary health cases. <sup>5</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: food, support for orphans and families, non-Ebola healthcare</i>	

<b>Diallo: Against Ebola in Guinea Conakry</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Islam, Country focus: Guinea</i>	600 Imams and Christian clergy in Conakry are receiving training to teach their congregations to protect themselves from Ebola. <sup>6</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Religious leader training</i>	

<b>Assemblies of God World Missions</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian -</i>	Assemblies of God World Missions is sending medical and food

<sup>2</sup> <http://crofsblogs.typepad.com/h5n1/2014/09/ebola-in-liberia-phebe-hospital-gets-large-donation.html>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.adra.org/site/News2?page=NewsArticle&id=12773&security=1581&news\\_iv\\_ctrl=1584](http://www.adra.org/site/News2?page=NewsArticle&id=12773&security=1581&news_iv_ctrl=1584)

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.adventistreview.org/church-news/adra-teams-up-with-4-adventist-groups-in-ebola-outbreak>

<sup>5</sup> Report from Patience Flomo, CEO, Afro-Medical Community Health and Welfare Service, posted on <http://www.ccih.org/ccih-connector-october-2014#news>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.helpoint.net/5192.html>

<i>Assemblies of God, Country focus: all</i>	supplies through Convoy of Hope and HealthCare Ministries to AG leadership in Sierra Leone, who will distribute goods to pastors and churches. <sup>7</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: supplies</i>	

<b>Baptist Convention of Sierra Leone</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Baptist, Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	A Baptist Ebola Task Force has been formed in Sierra Leone. The Baptist Convention of Sierra Leone coordinator of social ministries, Samuel Conteh, reports that the Task Force will “coordinate the sensitization of Ebola outbreak in its various churches and other public places” and that chlorine tabs and sanitation buckets are being provided to churches to encourage hygienic practices. <sup>8</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Sanitation buckets and chlorine</i>	

<b>Baptist Global Response</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Southern Baptist Country focus: Togo</i>	The Southern Baptist Convention has left its missionaries in place in Guinea and Liberia. <sup>9</sup> Southern Baptists are responding through an education campaign in Togo, West Africa, ahead of any reported cases there; the Baptist Convention of Togo intends to distribute 15,000 Ebola brochures across Togo, utilizing local Baptist associations and pastors to get the information to church members. Outreach will include televised public service announcements nationwide, and local evangelists will distribute pamphlets to outlying villages. <sup>10</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Community awareness and prevention</i>	

<b>Caritas International - Monsignor Robert Vitillo</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Catholic, Country focus: all</i>	Father Vitillo, based on a recent visit to Liberia, emphasizes that "Liberians are faith-filled people and will listen to their priests, ministers, and lay leaders." In Monrovia, HIV educators have been enlisted to raise awareness about Ebola, because they already have established networks in communities. Local musicians are working with Caritas to make jingles, which have been distributed to 3,000 taxi drivers. The Church is encouraging people to alter their burial practices and reach out to orphans. <sup>11</sup>  Caritas has published a guideline handbook prepared by Father Vitillo that provides accurate information on Ebola treatment and prevention, as well as relevant pastoral perspectives and scripture references on Ebola. <sup>12</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: social mobilization</i>	

<sup>7</sup> <http://worldmissions.ag.org/details1.cfm>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.bwanet.org/news/news-releases/413-2014-ebola-outbreak>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/ebola-virus-outbreak/ebola-epidemic-poses-dilemma-church-aid-groups-n171116>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.bpnews.net/43477/ebola-kills-6-in-baptist-womans-family>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/caritas-official-gives-inside-look-at-ebola-fight>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.dropbox.com/s/pesckks8j7iz8kg/CI%20guidelines%20-%20as%20of%2026sept2014.doc?n=22637231>

<b>Catholic Relief Services (CRS)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Catholic, Country focus: all</i>	<p>Catholic Relief Services is providing PPEs, essential medicines, and other supplies to ensure that Ebola and routine health care services are available. They are also training health care workers to screen for Ebola. CRS is placing handwashing stations in public locations, developing radio and TV health messages, and mobilizing volunteers to conduct house-to-house sensitization campaigns. By educating priests and imams, CRS hopes to expand Ebola education into churches and mosques.</p> <p>CRS funded a household survey on public knowledge, attitudes, and practices relating to Ebola in Sierra Leone. They discovered that, while there is a high level of knowledge about the disease, including prevention methods, high levels of stigma persist.<sup>13</sup> In addition, the study found that radio is the preferred means for receiving messages and that 95 percent of respondents reported some behavior change (washing hands with soap and water).<sup>14</sup></p> <p>CRS is conducting a needs assessment on the impact of the Ebola crisis on food supplies and agricultural productivity in the coming planting season.</p>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Supply provision, training health care workers, handwashing stations, social mobilization, radio, food assistance, research</i>	

<b>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: n/a, Country focus: all</i>	<p>Monique Tuyisenge-Onyegbula of CDC worked on community sensibilization and education on Ebola in Guinea. CDC will work to engage religious leaders in order to gain access to communities resisting health messaging. They will also work to dispel rumors, including that individuals buried by the Red Cross will not go to heaven.<sup>15</sup></p>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i>	

<b>Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian, Country focus: all</i>	<p>CCIH and several of its members have been involved or are planning to explore how to best mobilize FBOs and community groups. Along with Accord Network, CCIH held a conference call on September 23 to hear from members engaged in the Ebola Crisis, featuring Ken Isaacs from Samaritan's Purse and Roger Sandberg of Medical Teams International.<sup>16</sup> They have also established an Ebola-specific listserv<sup>17</sup> for disseminating ideas and posing questions, as well as a webpage<sup>18</sup> for posting FBO Ebola resources.</p>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Coordination of Christian actors</i>	

<sup>13</sup> <http://newswire.crs.org/new-report-shows-ebola-misconceptions-stigma-persist-in-sierra-leone/>

<sup>14</sup> "Study on Public Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Relating to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Prevention and Medical Care in Sierra Leone." UNICEF, FOCUS 1000, and Catholic Relief Services. Sept 2014.

<sup>15</sup> Email from Monique Tuyisenge-Onyegbula

<sup>16</sup> Full audio of the call available [https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/28332247/Accord-Ebola\\_Conference\\_Call-23Sep2014.mp3](https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/28332247/Accord-Ebola_Conference_Call-23Sep2014.mp3)

<sup>17</sup> To join, send a blank email to [ebola-join@ccih.org](mailto:ebola-join@ccih.org)

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.ccih.org/ebola/581-fbo-ebola-resources.html>

<b>Church of Latter Day Saints</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Latter Day Saints, Country focus: Sierra Leone and Liberia</i>	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has evacuated all 274 missionaries that were in Sierra Leone and Liberia. <sup>19</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: n/a</i>	

<b>Community of Sant' Egidio</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian, Country focus: Guinea</i>	The Community of Sant' Egidio is working on "Depistage" at a clinic in Conakry, Guinea, which serves 2600 circulating patients and family members. Through a combination of monitoring, sensitization, and information dissemination, experts are hoping to reduce risky behaviors and stigma associated with Ebola. <sup>20</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Community awareness, patient monitoring</i>	

<b>Cooper Adventist Hospital</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Seventh-Day Adventist, Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Cooper Adventist Hospital, which is currently free from EVD, has foreign staff on missions. They need basic supplies to ensure that safety of physicians and patients is maintained. The Hospital will be treating EVD patients once it received isolation tents and other necessary supplies. <sup>21</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Direct hospital treatment and care</i>	

<b>Curby Memorial Presbyterian Church in Liberia</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Presbyterian, Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Presbyterian Church is focussing on building effective partnerships and educating its congregations about Ebola. <sup>22</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Community awareness</i>	

<b>Episcopal Church of Liberia</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Episcopal, Anglican Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Episcopal Church of Liberia is distributing food packages, hand washing stations, and posters about Ebola prevention. The Church is an active participant of the government-initiated National Ebola Task Force to coordinate relief services and health messaging. The Church also operates 3 hospitals. <sup>23</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Posters, hand washing buckets, food donation, contact/case</i>	

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=30963187>; <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865608240/LDS-missionaries-evacuated-due-to-Ebola-outbreak-safely-underway-to-new-assignments.html?pg=all>; <http://www.mormonnewsroom.org/article/missionaries-serving-two-african-nations-reassigned>

<sup>20</sup> Email from Gianni Guidotti

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.ahiglobal.org/main/ebola-crisis/>, [https://secure2.convio.net/ccadra/site/Donation2.jsessionid=7CDE7E24C3F88373779CF61B8DC62549.app262a?df\\_id=4420&4420.donation=form1](https://secure2.convio.net/ccadra/site/Donation2.jsessionid=7CDE7E24C3F88373779CF61B8DC62549.app262a?df_id=4420&4420.donation=form1)

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.pcusa.org/news/2014/9/12/battling-ebola-prayer-and-accurate-information/>

<sup>23</sup> <http://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/75/75th-celebration-stories/responding-to-the-ebola-crisis-a-collective-effort>

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<b>Episcopal Relief &amp; Development</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Episcopal, Anglican</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	Episcopal Relief & Development is partnering with the Episcopal Church of Liberia and the Anglican Diocese of Bo in Sierra Leone to deliver food and sanitation supplies to households, and working with health volunteers on messaging and promoting accurate information dissemination. Both Churches work in collaboration with government-initiated coordination mechanisms at national and district levels. The Church is successful in reaching remote communities due to the extensive network and groundwork laid from previous programs.
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Bumper stickers, Community awareness, sanitation supplies, food parcels, personal protective equipment</i>	

<b>Evangelical Lutheran Church in America</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Lutheran,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has sent \$100,000 to support the Ebola response in Liberia and Sierra Leone. This money will be used for food rations, knowledge dissemination, and the construction of an isolation unit at Phebe Hospital in Liberia. <sup>24</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: isolation unit, food assistance, community awareness</i>	

<b>French Development Agency (AFD)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: n/a</i> <i>Country focus: n/a</i>	The French Development Agency is planning a meeting with the College des Bernadins in Paris in November to discuss the cultural and religious dimensions of Ebola interventions.
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Host meeting on religious dimensions</i>	

<b>IMA World Health</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian,</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	IMA World Health, along with the Lutheran World Relief, American Baptist Churches USA, Week of Compassion, and Church of the Brethren are providing management support to the Christian Health Association of Liberia (CHAL), which is directly responding to Ebola. CHAL is both distributing personal protective equipment to health facilities and heading a public awareness campaign. <sup>25</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: personal protective equipment, public awareness campaign.</i>	

<b>International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: n/a,</i> <i>Country focus: all</i>	Miscommunications and misunderstandings regarding Ebola are challenges to responders because the public widely believes that isolation centers are places that people only enter, not leave. Moreover, leaders may spread untrue statements, such as a religious leader in Sierra Leone who told people that washing with salt and water at night could prevent Ebola. IFRC is cohosting a forum dedicated to sharing lessons on ways to improve messaging and
<i>Keywords and Interventions: training, mass communication through religious leaders</i>	

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7699>

<sup>25</sup> <http://imaworldhealth.org/ima-responds-to-ebola-outbreak/>

	debunk myths surrounding Ebola. IFRC is pushing for a multistakeholder effort in mass communication strategies, that involve the private and public sectors, as well as media and community leaders. <sup>26</sup>
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<b>Kenneth Hackett, US Ambassador to the Holy See</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Catholic, Country focus: all</i>	While the US and UN are now ramping up their response to Ebola, with a command center being set up in Monrovia, the response will have to be prolonged and diverse in capacity. Education is key - for example Caritas is using their structure to get the message out there, but it is not enough. Similar to when polio reemerged in Pakistan a few years ago, a lack of information and reasonably understood approaches hindered the response effort. Responders need to use radio, traditional healers, and churches to get the word out. Ebola and hemorrhagic fevers have been around for decades - both Ambassador Hackett and his wife witnessed outbreaks in the 1970s during their work in Sierra Leone and Cameroon, respectively. However, people did not move around as freely, so outbreaks were limited to small villages. Today, with improved roads and international airports, viruses can hop continents. Hackett's biggest lesson from his past experience is to "move quickly, don't wait." <sup>27</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: n/a</i>	

<b>Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention (LBMEC)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Baptist, Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention (LBMEC) is using mass electronic text messaging to leaders of Baptist churches in Liberia, encouraging them to follow all preventive practices that have been communicated by health experts and the Government of Liberia. <sup>28</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Text messaging</i>	

<b>Medical Teams International</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian Country focus: Liberia</i>	<u><a href="#">Medical Teams International</a></u> (MTI) has been working in Liberia for the last 10 years with a focus on health systems strengthening. It provide monitoring and supervision to 240 health clinics in Liberia and is currently working to improve Ebola prevention and infection control and to provide supplies to clinics. MTI also monitors and supervises the health clinics at three refugee camps in Liberia for refugees from Côte d'Ivoire. MTI plans to begin emergency home-based care for Ebola patients, which is a stop-gap measure until treatment centers can be built. MTI had a doctor working at the ELWA hospital until the end of July,
<i>Keywords and Interventions: prevention, supplies to clinics, home-based care</i>	

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.devex.com/news/the-problem-with-ebola-communication-84283>

<sup>27</sup>

[http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2014/09/22/us\\_ambassador\\_to\\_holy\\_see\\_talks\\_about\\_ebola\\_outbreak\\_lessons/1107087](http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2014/09/22/us_ambassador_to_holy_see_talks_about_ebola_outbreak_lessons/1107087)

<sup>28</sup> <http://www.bwanet.org/news/news-releases/413-2014-ebola-outbreak>

	but is no longer working in Ebola treatment units, and is instead focusing on prevention. <sup>29</sup>
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<b>New Water in the Desert Assembly Church</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Pentecostal,</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Special Ebola Response Team of New Water in the Desert Assembly Church conducted an Ebola training for young people. The church is working on increasing community awareness, providing food and PPEs. <sup>30</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Training and community awareness</i>	

<b>Religions for Peace</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Interfaith,</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Inter-Religious Council-Religions for Peace is working with senior religious leaders, women, and youth to disseminate messages in Liberia about Ebola through radio, posters, and DVDs. Christian and Muslim religious leaders are provided orientations that equip them to offer psychosocial support, dispel misinformation, and discourage traditional burial rituals. <sup>31</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Training religious leaders, radio, posters, DVD</i>	

<b>Salesian Missions</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Catholic,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	Salesian Missions has opened a new orphan home for children affected by the Ebola crisis in Sierra Leone. <sup>32</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>OVC home</i>	

<b>Samaritan's Purse</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian,</i> <i>Country focus: all</i>	Samaritan's Purse has sent 100 tons of PPE and supplies to Liberia, most of which will be directed towards Community Care Centers in high-transmission areas. They are training community members and distributing care kits, in addition to scaling up an education program that includes radio broadcasting and church-focused initiatives. <sup>33</sup>  Samaritan's Purse is leaving all front-line doctors and critical staff in place in Liberia, but has pulled nonessential personnel out of the country for safety. <sup>34</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Supplies, community care centers, education campaign</i>	

<b>SIM (Serving in Mission)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian,</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	SIM is running the ELWA 2 Ebola Treatment Center in Monrovia is showing increasing survival rates. <sup>35</sup> 80 patients are receiving care

<sup>29</sup> Report from Roger Sandberg, Director of Emergency Relief and Global Security, Medical Teams International posted online at <http://www.ccih.org/ccih-connector-october-2014#news>

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.liberianobserver.com/education/nwida-educates-youths-ebola>

<sup>31</sup> Press release

<sup>32</sup> From USAID call on October 3

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.samaritanpurse.org/article/fighting-ebola-in-west-africa/>

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/ebola-virus-outbreak/ebola-epidemic-poses-dilemma-church-aid-groups-n171116>



<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Direct hospital treatment and care</i>	with the assistance of the Ministry of Health. <sup>36</sup> SIM is leaving all front-line doctors and critical staff in place in Liberia, but has pulled nonessential personnel out of the country for safety. <sup>37</sup>
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<b>The Free Pentecostal Global Mission Church</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Pentecostal,</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	At the Free Pentecostal Global Mission Church, handwashing stations are placed at the doors. For those that are afraid to attend church for fear of Ebola transmission, sermons are broadcast over the radio. The preachers advertise the national hotline number and act out symptoms and proper responses. <sup>38</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Sermons, handwashing stations</i>	

<b>The Lutheran Church of Liberia</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Lutheran,</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	The Lutheran Church of Liberia is carrying out an awareness campaign on the dangers of Ebola and malaria - especially the difference between the two. <sup>39</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Community awareness</i>	

<b>The Religious Leaders Task Force on Ebola</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Interfaith,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	United Methodist Bishop John Yambasu is chair of the Religious Leaders Task Force on Ebola in Sierra Leone. Christian and Muslim leaders and health workers are being trained on efforts to control Ebola. Pastors and imams that take the training are expected to return to their congregations and preach about Ebola at every prayer session. The task force has eight goals to carry out Ebola awareness, including: radio and TV jingles, recorded CD messages, PA systems on vehicles, work with paramount chiefs and community leaders, place huge banners in public places, organize district networks, train religious leaders and health workers in faith-based health facilities, and work with government and NGOs to provide adequate equipment for health workers. <sup>40</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Radio, TV, PA systems, banners, training religious leaders, training health workers</i>	

<b>Tony Blair Foundation - Banke Adetayo and Ian Linden</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Interfaith,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	Through a Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices survey recently conducted in Sierra Leone it is clear that, while most people recognize the threat of Ebola, many do not know the causes of the disease. There is also building stigma against survivors of Ebola. The study shows that radio jingles and discussions are the most effective
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i> <i>Social mobilization, radio, religious leaders</i>	

<sup>35</sup> <http://pressreleases.religionnews.com/2014/09/16/sim-president-encouraged-president-obamas-new-plans-combating-ebola/>

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.ccih.org/ccih-connector-october-2014#news>

<sup>37</sup> <http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/ebola-virus-outbreak/ebola-epidemic-poses-dilemma-church-aid-groups-n171116>

<sup>38</sup> <http://time.com/3418173/liberia-monrovia-ebola-church/>

<sup>39</sup> <http://allafrica.com/stories/201408280138.html>

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/sierra-leone-task-force-targets-ebola>

	<p>messaging platform. Additionally, churches and mosques are encouraged to echo the same messages in a focused and identical manner.<sup>41</sup></p> <p>Ian Linden, from the Tony Blair Faith Foundation, reports that the Faiths Act SL infrastructure used to spread anti-malaria health messaging to 2 million people through Christian and Muslim communities in Sierra Leone is now being used to carry out Ebola prevention messaging.<sup>42</sup></p>
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<b>United Methodist Communication</b>	
<p><i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - United Methodist,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone and Liberia</i></p>	<p>United Methodist Communications is leveraging emerging technologies to get clear messages about Ebola prevention and encouragement into the hands of clergy in Sierra Leone and Liberia so that they can share these messages in their communities. Text messages are sent daily via FrontlineSMS, reaching pastors who do not have access to the Internet. Freeplay Assist Radios/Cellphone Chargers have been sent to these same pastors to keep phones charged by solar energy, and provide access to radio communications by hand-crank energy. Grants for traditional communications have also been provided to Sierra Leone and Liberia to cover the costs for posters, banners, radio announcements and data bundles. The United Methodist radio station in Monrovia is also being supported, and FrontlineSMS will soon be used to engage the radio listening audience. A behavior-change-communications animation will be released in October in West Africa dialects.<sup>43,44</sup></p>
<p><i>Keywords and Interventions: Text messaging, radio</i></p>	

<b>United Methodist Committee on Relief</b>	
<p><i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - United Methodist,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone, Liberia</i></p>	<p>In Liberia, UMCOR is supporting the construction of an isolation unit. The Ganta United Methodist Hospital also functions as the center of a public awareness campaign. Hospital staff are both emphasizing the threat of Ebola and encouraging citizens to seek care through pamphlets, radio, and word of mouth. Additionally, Bishop John Innis of Liberia urged United Methodist Pastors, District Superintendents, and Sunday School Teachers to share medical advice with their local churches and districts.<sup>45</sup></p> <p>UMCOR has a three-prong approach to confront Ebola, which includes community education about the disease, protection of health workers, and psychosocial counseling for patients and their families. One of the major concerns are belief systems - people are distrustful of health systems, government officials, and foreign</p>
<p><i>Keywords and Interventions: Direct hospital treatment and care, pamphlets, radio, Sunday school, sermons, community education, protection of health workers, psychosocial support</i></p>	

<sup>41</sup> Email from Banke Adetayo

<sup>42</sup> Email from Ian Linden

<sup>43</sup> <http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/life-saving-ebola-messages-in-160-characters-or-less>

<sup>44</sup> <http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/message-superstition-wont-cure-ebola>

<sup>45</sup> <http://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2014/august/0807ebolaemergency>

	organizations. Messages from the church are deemed as more reputable and trustworthy. There is huge potential for religious leaders to impact behavior, so UMCOR is emphasizing the need for prevention. <sup>46</sup>
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<b>US Agency for International Development (USAID)</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: n/a</i> <i>Country focus: Liberia</i>	<p>USAID hosted a conference call<sup>47</sup> October 3 with faith-based and community partners implementing programs in response to Ebola. During this call, USAID relayed that US-based volunteers are being asked to register on one central website (Medical Practitioners<sup>48</sup> or non-Medical Volunteers<sup>49</sup>). NGOs match volunteers with needs and USAID is not involved in the vetting or placement of volunteers. If an organization has a larger group (e.g. over 20 qualified volunteers) interested in collectively joining the effort, they can contact <a href="mailto:pwville-staples@usaid.gov">pwville-staples@usaid.gov</a> directly.</p> <p>USAID has also worked on burial practices in Liberia.<sup>50</sup> Burial team support includes organizing burial teams within each county and providing training to ensure safe management of corpses, equipping teams with vehicles for the transfer of corpses, providing decontamination materials and personal protective gear, as well as providing compensation.</p>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: volunteer coordination; burial practices</i>	

<b>Waterloo Adventist Hospital</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian - Seventh-Day Adventist,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	<p>The Waterloo Adventist Hospital has police stationed at the hospital which take suspect cases of EVD to hospitals that will care for EVD patients. The Hospital will be treating EVD patients once it received isolation tents and other necessary supplies.<sup>51</sup></p>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Direct hospital treatment and care</i>	

<b>Women of Hope International</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian,</i> <i>Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	<p>Women of Hope is training groups of women on Ebola prevention and early detection. WHI has observed that mass communication desensitizes communities from receiving differing messages, so they</p>
<i>Keywords and Interventions:</i>	

<sup>46</sup> [http://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2014/september/0926umcorrespondebola?utm\\_content=buffer259d0&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](http://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2014/september/0926umcorrespondebola?utm_content=buffer259d0&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

<sup>47</sup> USAID speakers included Patricia Radar, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in Policy, Planning & Learning Bureau, former Mission Director in Liberia; Erica Navarro, Deputy Assistant Administrator in our Africa Bureau; and Wade Warren, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Global Health Bureau.

<sup>48</sup> <http://www.cidi.org/health-sector-volunteers/#.VDSFGitdV18>

<sup>49</sup> <http://www.cidi.org/tools-for-giving/organizations/donations-registry/technical-assistance/#.VDSFVytdV19>

<sup>50</sup> <http://www.globalcommunities.org/ebola-response>

<sup>51</sup> <http://www.ahiglobal.org/main/ebola-crisis/>,  
[https://secure2.convio.net/ccadra/site/Donation2.jsessionid=7CDE7E24C3F88373779CF61B8DC62549.app262a?df\\_id=4420&4420.donation=form1](https://secure2.convio.net/ccadra/site/Donation2.jsessionid=7CDE7E24C3F88373779CF61B8DC62549.app262a?df_id=4420&4420.donation=form1)

<i>Pamphlets, training, preventative kits, radio, emergency relief</i>	<p>are hoping to emphasize one-on-one education so that people can ask questions and not misinterpret information. They are providing educational materials for low-literacy populations and preventive kits.<sup>52</sup> One lesson plan provides a Biblical response to Ebola.<sup>53</sup></p> <p>The organization also has Ebola resources available online<sup>54</sup> which they developed for doing community-based education on Ebola in Sierra Leone. These materials have been used in over 10 countries throughout the region and have been translated into dozens of languages. They are designed to be done one-on-one or in small groups to allow people to interact with the material for greater understanding and implementation.</p>
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<b>World Council of Churches</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian, Country focus: all</i>	The World Council of Churches convened a meeting that included the United Nations and Christian aid organizations. Women should be empowered in the Ebola response, since children and women are 75% of patients. They encourage sensitivity to local culture and traditions while churches and FBOs communicate messages about Ebola. <sup>55</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: female empowerment</i>	

<b>World Health Organization</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: n/a, Country focus: all</i>	The WHO and UN Human Rights Council held an event where authorities highlighted the importance of religious leaders in the fight against stigma. <sup>56</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: Reduce stigma</i>	

<b>World Relief</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian, Country focus: Sierra Leone, Liberia</i>	World Relief Canada partners, the Association of Evangelicals of Liberia and the Evangelical Fellowship of Sierra Leone are working with churches and community members to improve awareness and understanding of Ebola among their communities and to help prevent the spread of the disease. <sup>57</sup> In Monrovia, the Association of Evangelicals of Liberia administration made some hand washing buckets, Chlorax and powdered soap available for the farming groups within project communities; these have been distributed by the field staff. <sup>58</sup>
<i>Keywords and Interventions: community engagement</i>	

<b>World Vision</b>	
<i>Faith Affiliation: Christian,</i>	Using the Channels of Hope methodology for HIV/AIDS, World Vision

<sup>52</sup> <http://www.womenofhopeinternational.org/ebola>

<sup>53</sup> <http://www.ccih.org/ccih-connector-october-2014#news>

<sup>54</sup> [www.WomenofHopeInternational.org/ebola-resources](http://www.WomenofHopeInternational.org/ebola-resources)

<sup>55</sup> <http://www.eturbonews.com/50966/world-council-churches-response-ebola>

<sup>56</sup> <http://www.ecumenicalnews.com/article/religious-leaders-a-key-cog-to-combat-ebola-says-who-official-26600>

<sup>57</sup> <http://www.worldrelief.ca/ebola-partners-repsond>

<sup>58</sup> <http://www.worldrelief.ca/ebola-notes-from-the-field>

<i>Country focus: Sierra Leone</i>	<p>has coordinated and implemented Chiefdom Level Ebola Strategy Meetings in all areas in which World Vision works throughout Sierra Leone. Chiefs and key stake holders gathered to develop action plans that can be implemented at the village level. They discussed topics including perceptions of Ebola, fears and concerns about Ebola, ways to prevent Ebola, and how to help the community fight against Ebola.<sup>59</sup></p> <p>World Vision is working with Christian and Muslim religious leaders to follow the advice of health professionals. They present prevention messages during sermons and prayers to worshippers, including washing hands, not shaking hands, even if it is against their culture.<sup>60</sup></p>
<p><i>Keywords and Interventions:</i>  <i>Village leader meetings,</i>  <i>community engagement,</i>  <i>training religious leaders</i></p>	

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/WorldVisionSierraLeone>

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.dropbox.com/s/wlmnbk7dqlodkhh/Interfaith%20Reworked..mp4?dl=0>