

CASE STORIES from Tearfund

CASE STORY 1 -

Singbe Family

Community: Barclay Farm

Lucky Singbe is the caretaker for the above four children. According to her story, she is a survival of Ebola Virus Disease, certificated from the ELWA hospital in Monrovia.

As a survival, Lucky also lost some family members to Ebola and she narrated the story as follows: 'I lost my mother, two brothers, uncle and my husband to Ebola.' 'These people were very helpful to me especially my mother.' Says lucky. 'I am taking care of three children left behind by my late parents including my own child making the total number of children 4 under my care.' She explains.

'When my mother died, her boyfriend claimed all her properties including the house she built; he put me, my brothers and my child outside and now we are renting a house.' Says Lucky. 'There was no support for all of us again, I lost hope, but with God above Equip Liberia came into my life and first gave us food.' She explains. 'Equip Liberia also gave me grant which has enabled me to make business to support the children.' She noted.

'I stopped in 8th grade and cannot continue my schooling because I have to sell to provide food for me and my little brothers and sisters; I am sending them to school, providing food, medication and shelter for them.' Lucky says.

'My biological father, 'James Singbe' died before Ebola Virus Disease could surface in Liberia.' She explains. 'After his death, my late mother got in relationship with my step father, they were together when she contracted Ebola and died.' She narrated. 'When my mother, 'Yatta Singbe' died, my step father, 'named withheld' claimed my mother's properties. Lucky lamented. 'My step father used to call us Ebola children in the community.' He stigmatized us so much that he didn't want to see us.' She says. 'My late mother was working with the Weala Rubber cooperation (W.R.C); things were fine with us.' She continues.

'I thank god for Equip Liberia for their counsellors they send on the field to counsel us and heal our past wounds.'



CASE STORY 2 -

FodaySwarray receiving his seed supply from EFSL at Makeni.

Photo taken/credit: John B. Sesay

Location:Bombali District

Name: FodaySwarray

In one of the monitoring visit by the project team to get first-hand information of how cash grant beneficiaries have been investing what was given to them by EFSL, the project team caught up with FodaySwarray from Kathirie Village in Makeni, Bombali District and asked him the impact of the seeds provided to him. He said this to the project team.

“I am FodaySwarray. Today am very happy because I am beginning to gain what has been lost due to the Ebola Virus Disease. To build and own a house has been one of my dreams. I am a farmer and my proceeds from my farming activities has not been enough to upkeep me up to the next planting season. But today the story has changed. When we were given the rice and groundnut seeds by EFSL, we were instructed on what to do with it. Resultantly I obeyed and made a determination that this will be my turn around and indeed it has happened. I planted the rice and groundnut seeds given to me by EFSL. Now I have harvested my groundnut and rice seeds with another remaining. From my first harvest, I had processed 15 bushels of rice. I had sold 10 bushels of rice at \$9 (Forty Thousand Leones-Le: 40 000) making a cumulative total of \$69 (Four Hundred Thousand Leones-Le 400 000). At the moment I am using the proceeds to build this mud-block house (photo above), send my

children to school and feed my family. I can tell you that I have got an access to food that will sustain me close to the next planting season because the fifteen bushels of rice is not the only seeds I have harvested. There are more seeds that I have prepared for final harvesting from the seeds you gave to me and will save more for the next planting season. So I am happy because I know I will complete my house and will come out of house rent[CF2] ”.

3 - Faith Leaders are 'Game Changers' against Ebola (saved as PDF)

4 - Ebola: Responses to a public health emergency (IDC)
(Tearfund mentioned on P.16 + 17 + p.23)

5 - Time to move on, national perspectives on transforming surge capacity. (saved as PDF)