

# **MoHS Weekly Activity Bulletin**

## 12-18 June, 2022

The MoHS Weekly Activity Bulletin summarises key activities, including meetings, of the preceding week carried out by the Offices of the Minister and Chief Medical Officer, Directorates, Programmes, and Agencies of the Ministry.

## Office of the Minister of Health and Sanitation



In a bid to transform access to health services in Sierra Leone, H.E President Julius Maada Bio and the Minister of Health and Sanitation Dr. Austin Demby, on Thursday 16 June 2022, commissioned two newlybuilt and fully equipped Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEMONC) facilities, in



Masandu and Falaba Towns, Falaba District.

Dr. Austin Demby said the commissioning of these facilities was a laudable venture as it is geared toward bringing healthcare services to people in hard-to-reach communities. Furthermore, for the first time, five fully-equipped new ambulances were presented to the district. The project was funded by the Islamic Development Bank.

## **Directorate of Environmental Health and Sanitation**



The Directorate of Environmental Health and Sanitation on Thursday, 16th June 2022, carried out a Start-up Meeting on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Behavior Survey and Sanitation Policy Implementation Guidelines development, under the National Sanitation and Hygiene Game Plan at Bintumani, Freetown.

The rationale for the WASH stakeholders meeting was to present the Sanitation and Hygiene Game Plan framework, the planned National WASH Services and Behavior Survey, and strategies for the development of a Sanitation Policy Implementation

Guidelines under the African Sanitation Policy Guideline (ASPG).



### **Directorate of Hospital and Ambulance Services**

The Minister of Health and Sanitation, Dr. Austin Demby, and the management of Ecobank on Tuesday, 14th June 2022 officially commissioned the Le 500 million renovated Ward One for children under five at the Connaught Hospital in Freetown.

The pediatric ward caters for children that need urgent care in burnt and other related surgeries. The refurbished facility encompasses 25 pediatric beds, privacy screening, wheelchairs and refrigerators.



#### Directorate of Food and Nutrition



The Directorate of Food and Nutrition, with support from WHO, commenced a six-day training of Medical Doctors & Community Health Officers on the updated protocol of the Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) with medical complications at the Ola During Children's Hospital (ODCH).

The main objective of the training is to build the capacity of medical doctors & CHOs in managing SAM with medical complications while ensuring the quality of care during the implementation of IMAM at the hospital level.

Eight Doctors, five Community Health Officers, and a Community Health Assistant from Kono District were trained in the first session. A total of 45 participants will be trained for six days in three sessions.

#### **Directorate of Policy, Planning, and Information**

The Directorate of Policy Planning and Information, in collaboration with UNICEF, conducted a ten-day virtual and in-person training on the Equitable Impact Sensitive Tool (EQUIST). The virtual training ( $6^{th} - 10^{th}$ ) was conducted nationwide while the physical training was conducted in Makeni ( $13^{th} - 17^{th}$  June 2022) at the WUSUM Hotel. The in-person training catered for over thirty stakeholders including national MoHS Officers, and UHC pilot district Core teams, with EQUIST consultants from UNICEF



The training aimed to build sustainable national expertise in conducting system analysis, developing corrective measures, costed and micro plans to address Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health (MNCAH), immunization, and nutrition equity gaps in Sierra Leone.

DPPI is discussing the possibility to make this tool interoperable with the DHIS2 so that it can be used to conduct health sector analysis including equity assessments and monitor on regular basis (every six months) the performance/effectiveness of strategies linked to identified systemic bottlenecks.