A woman with dark skin and braided hair is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a vibrant green top with intricate lace detailing around the neckline. She is balancing a large, shallow, light-colored tray on her head, which is filled with numerous bright green citrus fruits, likely lemons or limes. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

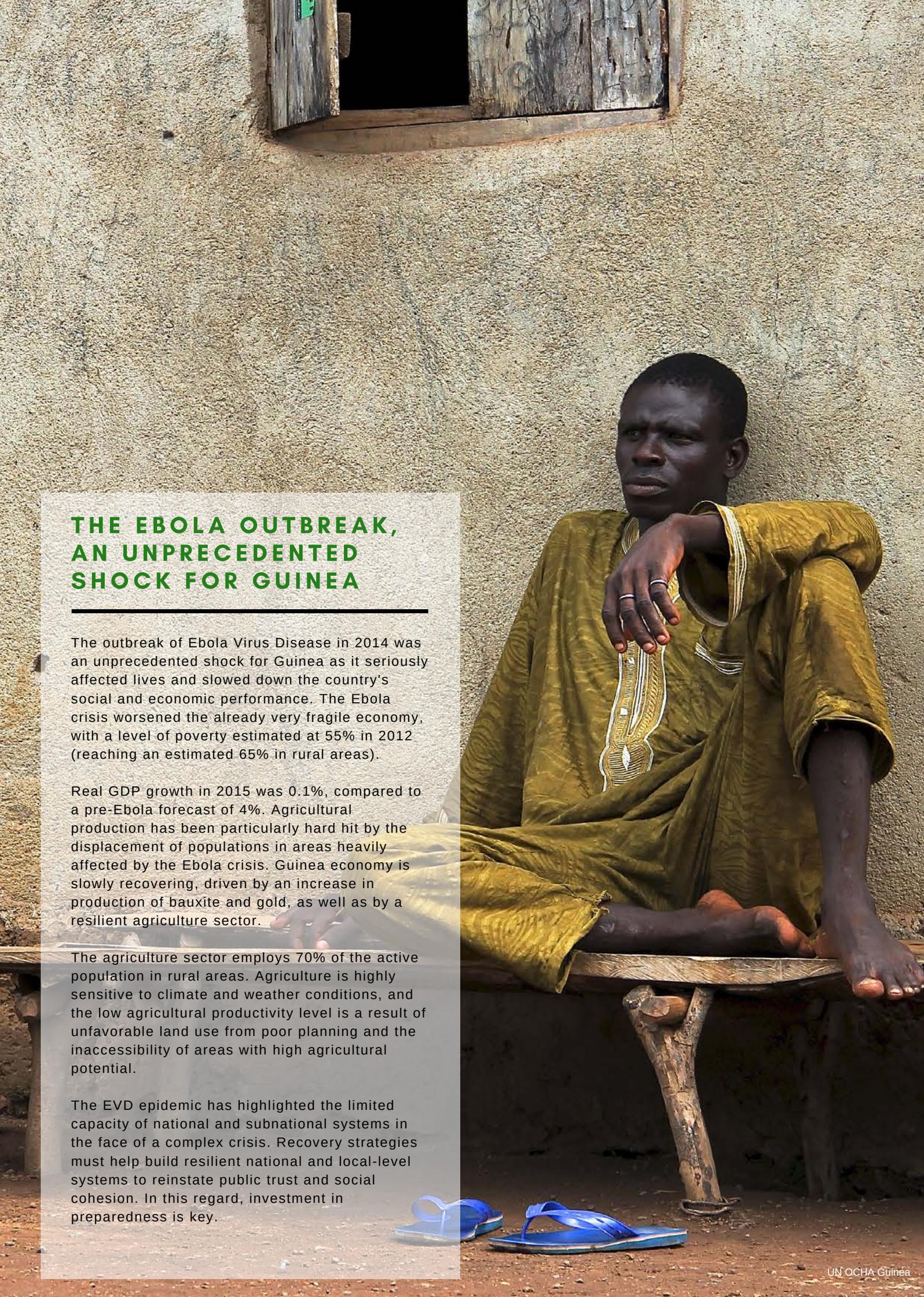
GUINEA

SCALING UP PREVENTION & PREPAREDNESS
ACTION AFTER THE EBOLA CRISIS

A CADRI PARTNERSHIP PUBLICATION

The **cadri**Partnership
Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative

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A man with a somber expression sits on a wooden stool against a textured, light-colored wall. He is wearing a traditional yellow West African garment with white embroidery. His right hand is resting on his left shoulder, and he has several rings on his fingers. A pair of blue flip-flops is on the ground in front of him. A window with a wooden frame is visible in the upper left background.

THE EBOLA OUTBREAK, AN UNPRECEDENTED SHOCK FOR GUINEA

The outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in 2014 was an unprecedented shock for Guinea as it seriously affected lives and slowed down the country's social and economic performance. The Ebola crisis worsened the already very fragile economy, with a level of poverty estimated at 55% in 2012 (reaching an estimated 65% in rural areas).

Real GDP growth in 2015 was 0.1%, compared to a pre-Ebola forecast of 4%. Agricultural production has been particularly hard hit by the displacement of populations in areas heavily affected by the Ebola crisis. Guinea economy is slowly recovering, driven by an increase in production of bauxite and gold, as well as by a resilient agriculture sector.

The agriculture sector employs 70% of the active population in rural areas. Agriculture is highly sensitive to climate and weather conditions, and the low agricultural productivity level is a result of unfavorable land use from poor planning and the inaccessibility of areas with high agricultural potential.

The EVD epidemic has highlighted the limited capacity of national and subnational systems in the face of a complex crisis. Recovery strategies must help build resilient national and local-level systems to reinstate public trust and social cohesion. In this regard, investment in preparedness is key.



PARTNERING TO DELIVER ON AN AMBITIOUS AGENDA

The UN, the Red Cross, and other partners have put a renewed focus on capacity development for preparedness. The UN supported the updating of the national contingency plan and is planning the preparation of simulation exercises, and training of national and local actors.

With respect to the preparedness capacities of the public health sector, the UN, working closely with the National Agency for Health Security, facilitated the development of a training guide, and the training of 38 Emergency Operations Centers, as well as contingency planning for health emergency response, and simulation exercises.

The main challenge remains the scarcity of resources and relatively low implementation capacities in Guinea. The UN and other development partners must pursue long-term capacity development.

SCALING UP PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS ACTION

In the post-Ebola recovery context, the Government of the Republic of Guinea took several steps to enhance the legislative, strategic, institutional and operational frameworks related to crisis prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

In 2016, the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) was deployed at the request of the Government and of the UN Country Team to support the assessment of national and local capacities for disaster risk reduction, including preparedness for response.

The assessment findings and recommendations have informed the National Policy for Disaster and Risk Management (*Politique nationale de gestion des risques et catastrophes de Guinée*) validated in April 2017.

The Policy includes provisions for the development of the legal and regulatory framework for risk management, as well as for a new unified structure, and enhanced coordination across sectors to achieve national development targets and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

One of the main CADRI recommendations, the establishment of a single agency, the future *Agence Nationale de Gestion des Risques et Catastrophes* to coordinate risk management efforts across sectors and levels will significantly improve Guinea's effectiveness in dealing with future shocks.

The post-Ebola recovery period was a breeding ground for re-evaluating disaster management capacities and created a momentum for reform to better integrate prevention and preparedness action.

The ambition of the government is to enhance the national and local capacities to prepare for & respond to emergencies in the future, while also stepping up preventive efforts.

Establishing productive value chains for food and nutrition security, improving early warning systems, and integrating resilience and adaptation practices into local development planning processes are some of the DRM activities prioritized by the UN in 2018-2022



The CaDRi Partnership

Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative

