

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Weekly Update on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Preparedness for South Sudan

Update # 26
Date: 02 March 2019

1. Highlights

- Three alerts of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) suspected cases were reported from Yambio from 21 - 26 February 2019. Accordingly, the State Rapid Response Team (RRT) investigated, collected blood samples, listed all contacts, and advised the community on the preventive measures.
- The GeneXpert tested negative for all the three EVD suspected cases and Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) results tested negative for the three cases.
- Since the launching of vaccination on 28 January 2019, a total of 944 healthcare care workers and frontline workers from Yei and Yambio have received the vaccine against Ebola. Vaccination is ongoing in both States and will be extended to others soon.
- EVD Implementing partners (AAH, CORDAID, IMC, WV) completed EVD checklist for EVD phase #2 planning.
- Standard Operating Procedure (SoPs) dispatched to EVD high risk states for distribution to various health facilities and points of entry.
- The Laboratory TWG training 16 laboratory personnel in Yei River State on EVD laboratory biosafety procedures from 21 – 23 February 2019.



Practical session during bio-safety training

2. Ebola Situation update from North Kivu of Democratic Republic of Congo

As of 27 February, 2019:

- 879 EVD cases, including 814 confirmed and 65 probable cases were reported in DRC. Among these, 553 deaths were reported (CFR - 62.9).
- As EVD transmission in DRC continues in North Kivu and Ituri provinces. As at 27 January 2019, 26 news cases were identified (from 21-26 Feb 2019) at Katwa (13), Butembo (9), Kalunguta (1), Beni (1), Mandima (1), and Vuhovi (1).
- 22 New Deaths from the same period were reported at Butembo (11), Katwa (9), Mandima (1), and Vuhovi (1).

3. Public Health Preparedness and Readiness

3.1 Coordination

- National taskforce meeting was held on 28 February 2019 at the PHEOC in Juba. The meeting minutes with action points were shared for follow-up and implementation.
- State Task Force meetings also took place in Yei, Yambio, Jubek, and Nimule. The meeting minutes and action points were also shared with the TWGs for follow-up and implementation.
- Joint monitoring mission for Ebola preparedness assessment is scheduled for 4 to 8 March 2019 with the objective of assessing the progress made towards enhancing Ebola virus disease

operational readiness in South Sudan. The assessment mission team members are made up of experts from WHO-HQ, WHO-AFRO, DFID, USAID, OCHA, UNDP, WFP, and UNICEF.

3.2 Resource mobilization

- The National EVD Task Force has mobilized \$12.5 million out of \$16.3 million from donors and other partner agencies (76.7% of planned budget). Additional \$3.7 million is required to support priority activities for the coming six months.
- The 6 months EVD contingency plan and resource mobilisation is being developed. Partners involved in EVD preparedness were requested to submit their plan.

3.3 EPI/Surveillance and Laboratory

- The EPI/surveillance TWG is developing 6 months contingency plan for EVD preparedness.
- The EPI-Surveillance technical working group is currently updating the Rapid Response Standard Operating Procedure (RRT) for the EPI- Surveillance in compliance with the recommendations of the table top simulation exercise that was conducted on 12 February, 2019.

3.4 Port Health and Screening

- The border health and point of entry technical working group finalized the criteria for establishing new points of entry and screening sites. The document was shared with implementing partners.
- Planning for monitoring visits to points of entry is completed by all partners.
- The border health and point of entry technical working group reached out to Juba international airport authorities to enforce usage of the international health arrival forms by airlines that have not yet complied.

A commutative number of screening data at the border crossing points

S/N	Location	State	Cumulative total screened	Average Screening per Week	Secondary Screened (week 4)	Alerts (week 6)
1	JIA	Jubek	102,558	3,536	0	0
2	Nimule River	Torit	58,069	2,765	3	0
3	NimuleCheckpoint	Torit	1,027,939	39,536	36	0
4	Gangura Border	Gbudue	10,717	429	0	0
5	Sakure	Gbudue	6,772	282	0	0
6	Yambio Airport	Gbudue	3,150	126	0	0
7	Wau	Wau	1,059	41	0	0
8	Yei RRC	Yei River	500	23	0	0
9	Kaya	Yei River	54,248	2,466	5	0
10	Yei Airstrip	Yei River	583	25	0	0
11	Okaba	Yei River	21,632	1,030	12	0
12	Makpandu	Gbudue	2,962	148	0	0
13	Ezo	Gbudue	31,231	1,644	0	0
14	Maridi	Maridi	275	14	0	0
15	Tikori	Yei River	2,991	187	0	0
16	Khorijo	Yei River	32,600	2,717	0	0
17	Pure	Yei River	26,931	2,244	1	0
18	Bazi	Yei River	6,510	930	11	0
19	Nimule Airstrip	Torit	216	31	0	0
20	Bangangai	Gbudue	1,534	511	0	0
21	James Diko	Gbudue	360	120	0	0
22	Sangura 1	Gbudue	885	295	0	0
23	Basukangbi	Gbudue	2,258	753	0	0
	Total		1,395,980		68	0

3.5 Case Management, Infection Prevention, and Control

- Implementing partners (AAH, CORDAID, IMC, WV) completed EVD checklist for EVD phase 2 planning.
- Formalities completed for the operationalization of the Dr. John Garang Infectious Disease Unit by IMC.
- Finalized discussion on harmonization of incentives for isolation units' staff.

3.6 Safe and Dignified Burial

- Participation in SDB workshop in Nairobi to agree on regional SOPs and trainings for SDB.
- Action plan and budgeting for the next six months completed.
- Safe and dignified burial emergency stock prepositioned in Yambio, Yei, Nimule and Maridi. Accordingly, each one of them received 20 SDB supplies.

3.7 Risk communication, community engagement and social mobilization (RCCE&SM)

- Ministry of Health/States taskforce preparing locally focused activity plans, budget requirements, and localized mapping of partners.
- A joint assessment mission carried out by GOAL, Internews, Concern, and Save the Children, in Yei (from 19 – 21 February 2019) is providing insights into RSCMCE gaps and potential next steps.

3.8 Logistics and Personnel deployment

- Standard operating procedures have been sent out to the various states and the Logistics TWG will be training state level actors on in the next 2-3 weeks.
- Personal protection equipment dashboard is being developed to capture existing stocks at the state level and central stores in Juba.
- WFP and WHO met to address the level of support required in terms of logistics. Pending an official request from WHO and based on available funding staffing needs to be scaled & trainings held to augment capacity.

3.9 Vaccines and Therapeutics

- The Ebola vaccination continues in Gbudue and Yei River States.

3.10 IPC/WASH

- Training of trainers' training materials available to be shared online at <http://ssdevd.com>.
- Training on infection prevention and control by Samaritan's purse is ongoing in Nimule
- Partners mapping 3Ws completed with support from cluster and 5Ws compilation is ongoing.

3.11 Access, Safety, and Security

- Nothing to report.

3.12 Updates from States

Jubek

- Conducted a fact-finding mission to eight health facilities on display and use of EVD case definitions within Juba City Council.
- Completed and submitted State operational plan.
- Integrated disease surveillance and response (IDSR) training was done in Terekeka and early warning and response system (EWARS) has been rolled out in 33 health facilities.

Yei

- Ebola vaccination exercise extended to Lainya County, 471 health care workers and frontline worker vaccinated in Yei and Lainya Counties.
- Ebola sample collection, packaging, transportation and bio-safety training conducted in Yei, drawing participants (lab technicians) from Yei, Lainya, Morobo and kajo-keji.
- An assessment to establish a new screening point at Lasu Payam checkpoint was done and recommendation was made to set up the screening point.
- SSRC started school sensitization on EVD prevention and control using the School Health Clubs in Yei town.

Nimule (Torit State)

- An orientation was provided to 25 clinicians in Nimule hospital, 1 PHCC, & 1 PHCU on the use of EVD case definition.
- The state task force developed database matrix for all the conducted trainings in Nimule form the past 6 months.

4.0 Challenges/Gaps

- Access to areas outside Yei River County is a challenge due to insecurity.

5.0 Recommendations and priority follow up actions

- Access, Safety, and Security technical working group to continue engaging armed groups to ensure unhindered access.

6.0 Conclusion

- Continue with vaccination of frontline health workers in Yambio and Yei and plan for other high-risk areas.
- Continue with implementation of other EVD preparedness interventions as per national EVD contingency plan.

Partners involved in EVD preparedness and readiness

MOH, WHO, Health Cluster partners, UNICEF, CDC, USAID, DFID, JICA, ECHO, World Bank, UNHCR, UNOCHA, Health Pool Fund, IOM, AWG, WASH Cluster partners, ICRC, IFRC, SSRC, WFP, Min of Interior, AMREF, MSF family, IMC, ICRC, ALIMA, IRC, World Vision, America Refugee Committee, SCI, UNMISS, UNDSS, UNDP, SPLA, LS, DFCA, ARC, Samaritan's Purse, MEDAIR, REACH and UNHASS.

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