

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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

**Update # 41
Week 25
Date: 23 June 2019**

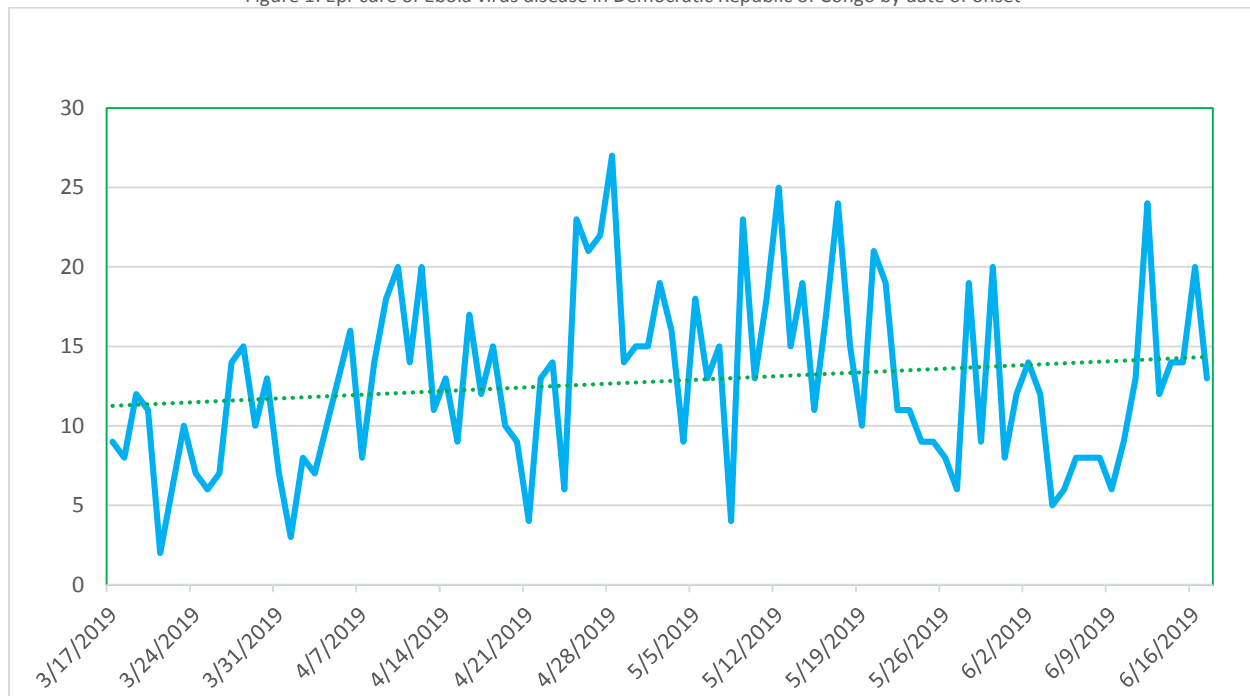
1. Highlights of the week

- A suspected Ebola virus disease (EVD) alert was reported in Nimule, Magwi county on 18th June 2019. The case was investigated and the sample tested negative for both GeneXpert and PCR.
- Some 60,043 screenings were conducted for Ebola virus disease in 31 points of entry. The cumulative number of screenings conducted for EVD is 2,334,059 since August 2018.
- The ministry of health briefed the council of ministers on the Ebola situation. The meeting thanked the ministry of health and partner for ongoing preparedness work while noting that every effort must be made to prevent outbreak in the country. The importance of access to all high risk communities and of rapid clearance procedures for the importation of supplies were acknowledged
- IOM established water supply in 6 primary health care centers in Yei River state.

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

- As of 17th June, 2019, a total of 2,181 confirmed cases and 1,459 deaths (case fatality ratio of 70 %) had been reported.
- Some 101 new cases and 47 deaths were reported from June 11th to 17th indicating that the outbreak is not under control.
- Figure 1 below shows the EPI-Curve of new EVD cases in DRC. Although the recent trend in the number of new cases each week is decreasing this should be interpreted with caution given the high number of unknown contacts within the community.

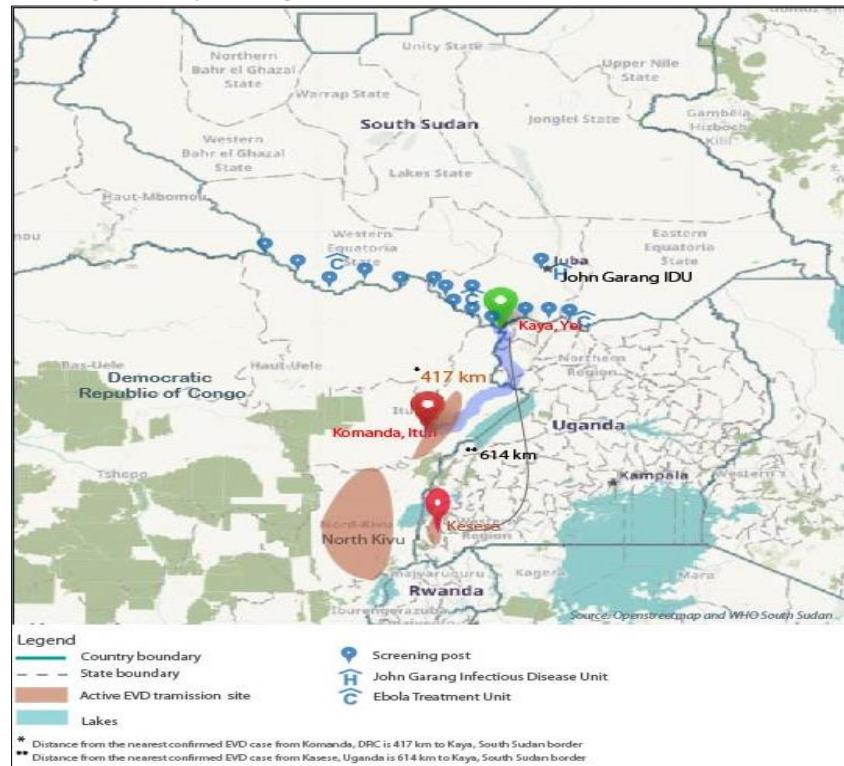
Figure 1: Epi-cure of Ebola virus disease in Democratic Republic of Congo by date of onset



3. Ebola Situation update from Uganda

- An EVD case was confirmed in Ugandan on June 11th 2019, a 5-year-old male child. Subsequently two other family members, a 3-year-old sibling and 50-year-old grandmother, were confirmed positive by the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI). All the 3 confirmed cases died (case fatality ratio of 100 %).
- As of 19th June, there are 93 contacts under follow up of 86 were followed up today with no one developing signs and symptoms suggestive for EVD since the outbreak in Uganda.
- Active case search and death surveillance are ongoing in the health facilities and the communities as the district response team continue to investigate all alerts

Figure 2: map showing Ebola virus disease associated risks to South Sudan



4. Public Health Preparedness and Readiness

4.1. Coordination

- The ministry of health briefed the council of ministers on the Ebola situation. The meeting thanked the ministry of health and partner for ongoing preparedness work while noting that every effort must be made to prevent outbreak in the country. The importance of access to all high risk communities and of rapid clearance procedures for the importation of supplies were acknowledged
- Coordination meetings were conducted by Ebola state task forces in Maridi, Tambura, Yambio, Yei and Nimule/Torit.
- Weekly meetings were conducted by Technical Working Groups to provide technical guidance and support to the respective preparedness pillars.

4.2. Resource mobilization

- The second National EVD Preparedness Plan, April – September 2019, was launched by the Honourable Minister for Health on 13th June 2019. The purpose of the plan is to optimize EVD preparedness and response by implementing prioritized activities. It has a financial requirement of US\$ 12.2 million.
- Of the total financial requirement of \$28.5 million for the first and second preparedness plans covering the period August 2018 to September 2019 some US\$14.2 million (50%) have been secured leaving a gap of US\$14.3 million.

4.3. EPI-Surveillance and Laboratory

- One EVD alert was detected on June 18th from the screening point at Nimule checkpoint. The RRT was deployed the same day to investigate the alert. The sample was received at the national public health lab and test negative for EVD on June 18th 2019.
- Hotline data collection has fully transitioned to electronic format. MoH led data cleaning and analyses for initial 2 weeks of data are underway.

4.4. Border Health and Screening

- Some 60,043 screenings were conducted for Ebola virus disease in 31 points of entry. The cumulative number of screenings conducted for EVD is 2,334,059 since August 2018. See table 1 below for more information.
- The schedule for joint monitoring visits at the Points of Entry (POE) sites was finalised and shared with partners. Assessments and planning continued to establish new POE sites.

Table 1: Summary of screenings from 31 points of entry

Primary screened		Secondary screened		Alerts	
Reporting Week	Cumulative	Reporting Week	Cumulative	Reporting Week	Cumulative
60,043	2,395,479	79	1	0	21 generated, 8 met case definition

4.5. Case Management, Infection Prevention, and Control/WASH and Safe and Dignified Burial

- conducted refresher training for 20 members for safe and dignified burial teams.
- Conducted assessment on IPC/WASH in 35 health care facilities; 15 in Jubek and 20 in Yei river state.
- IOM established water supply points in 6 primary health care facilities in Yei river state.
- Developed and shared guidance document on types and quantity of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements with Logs TWG.
- Received from partners and uploaded IPC/WASH assessment reports from 69 health facilities to kobo tool. Analysis of data and reporting is ongoing.

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

- Completed an EVD KAP Survey and FGDs data collection from 1020 households and 20 FGDs from 10 sites across high-risk areas.
- Radio **broadcasts**, house-to-house visits, community leaders' engagement meetings ongoing. Increased emphasis on areas and audiences prioritized as per recommendations of NTF Emergency Meeting following confirmed EVD cases in Uganda imported from DRC recently

4.7. Logistics

- Completed updating the Logistics TWG Standard Operating Procedures(SOPs)
- WFP Engineers carried out initial technical assessments and progress monitoring visits in Nimule (6 – 8 June), Yambio (10-12 June) and Yei (18-20 June).
- The engineers will conduct their second round of assessments in Nimule from 20 – 27 June 2019, Yambio from 25 June – 2 July and Yei from 27 June to 2 July
 - Expected completion dates for the isolation units (weather and other factors permitting) are as follows; Yambio – week of 24 June, Nimule – by 2 July and Yei – by 2 July. Upon completion an interagency technical assessment mission will assess the functionality of each facility – tentatively scheduled for the 2nd week in July.
- Deployed logistics staffs to Yei & Nimule.

4.8. Vaccines and Therapeutics

- Finalized EVD vaccination exercise in South Sudan, a total of 2, 793 (93%) out of 3,000 frontline health workers have been vaccinated. So far there is no serious adverse effect reported.

5. Challenges/Gaps

- Additional funding is urgently required to fully operationalize the second National EVD Preparedness Plan.
- Limited access to areas within Yei River County due to insecurity.
- Limited joint supportive supervision of health facilities from national to state level. The joint supportive supervision started in Juba last week.
- New cases in Uganda also shifts the threat with the Uganda / South Sudan border now of increasing concern.

Donors and partners involved in EVD preparedness and readiness

MOH, AAH, ACROSS, AMLIMA, AMREF, ARC, Canada, CDC, CERF, CMMB, CONCERN, COPE, CORDAID, CUAMM, DFCA, ECHO, ECSS, GAVI, Germany, GOAL, HELP, HLSS, HPF, IFRC, IMC-UK, Internews, IOM, IRC, JICA, MEDAIR, MSF, OXFAM, REACH, SAC, Samaritan's Purse, Save the Children, Solidarity International, SPLA, Ministry of Interior, SSDO, SSHF, SSRC, SSUHA, TRISS, UK/DFID, UMCOR, UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNMISS, UNOCHA, USAID/OFDA, WFP, WHO, World Bank, WVSS

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