

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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

**Update # 40**  
**Date: 15 June 2019**

**1. Highlights of the week**

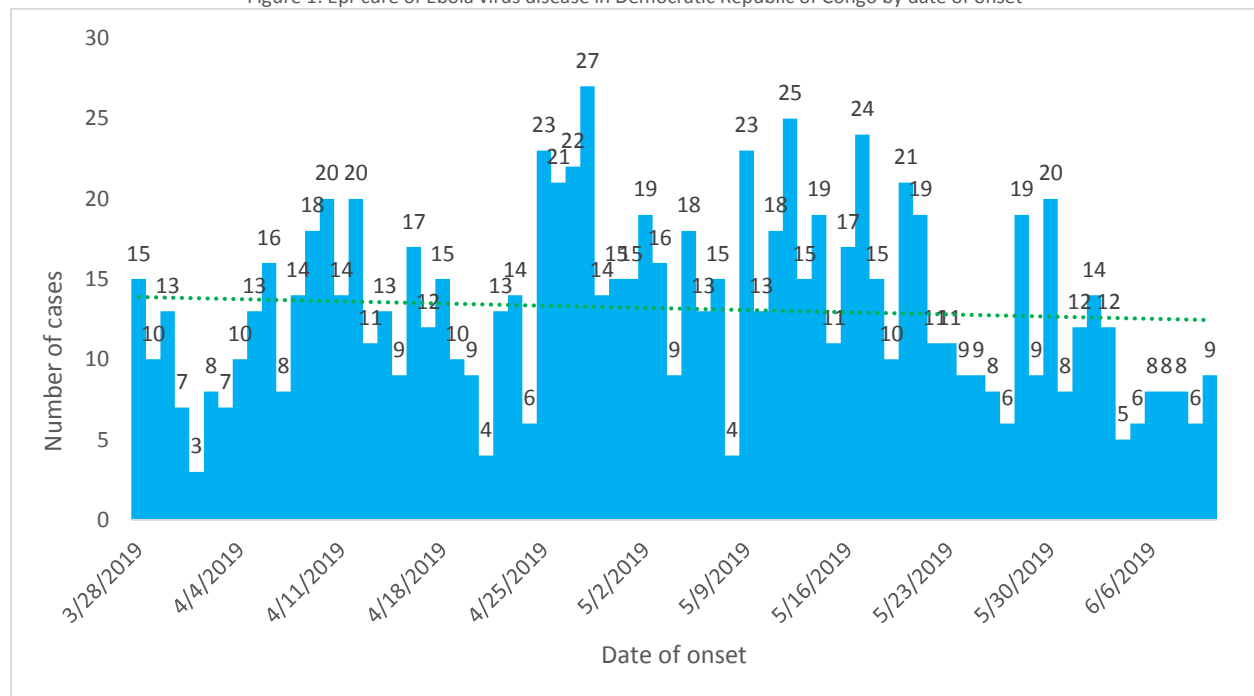
- A suspected EVD alert was reported in Gudele Block B, Jubek county on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019. However, the case did not meet the case definition as reported by the rapid response team that was deployed to investigate the case.
- The Honorable Minister for Health, Dr. Riek Gai Kok, launched the second National EVD Preparedness Plan costing at US\$12.2 million on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The event was attended by Ambassadors, Donor representatives, Heads of UN Agencies and NGO representatives.
- The National Task Force (NTF) for Ebola preparedness and response held an emergency meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 following the announcement of a confirmed EVD case in Uganda. The meeting considered the new context and identified areas for further prioritization within ongoing preparedness efforts in South Sudan.
- UNICEF distributed standard Infection, Prevention and Control & WASH supplies for all isolation units, holding units and 70 health facilities across high risk states.



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

- As of 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2019, a total of 2,071 confirmed cases and 1,381 deaths (case fatality ratio of 67.5 %) had been reported.
- Some 26 new cases and 47 deaths were reported from June 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 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-curve of Ebola virus disease in Democratic Republic of Congo by date of onset

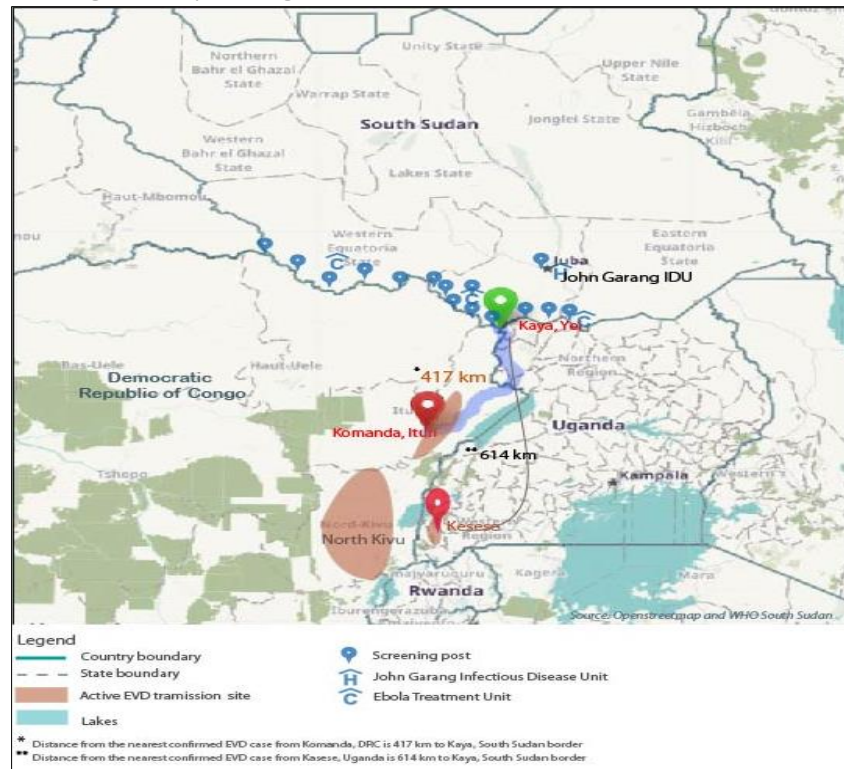


**3. Ebola Situation update from North Kivu of Democratic Republic of Congo**

- An EVD case was confirmed in Ugandan on June 12<sup>th</sup> 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).

- The child and parents had travelled from Democratic Republic of Congo to Uganda through Bwera border post, presenting symptoms including vomiting blood, bloody diarrhea, muscle pain, headache, fatigue and abdominal pain at Kagando hospital and being transferred to Bwera Ebola treatment unit (ETU) for further management. All the 3 confirmed cases died (case fatality ratio of 100 %).

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



#### 4. Public Health Preparedness and Readiness

##### 4.1. Coordination and personnel deployment

- The National Task Force (NTF) conducted an emergency meeting 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at the PHEOC in Juba, following the confirmation of the first EVD case in Uganda.
- Coordination meetings were conducted by Ebola state task forces in Jubek, 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 alert was received from Gumbo on June 8 via the national hotline. The RRT deployed in the morning of June 9 to investigate at Juba Teaching Hospital. However, the patient could not be located.
- One alert was received from Gudele Block B on June 11 via the Jubek State Surveillance Office. The state RRT was deployed for investigation on June 12, but the individual did not meet the case definition
- The national hotline data collection has transitioned to electronic data capture. More specificity has been added for missed calls, caller demographics, reported clinical signs and symptoms, travel history to infected areas, and whether an alert was triggered. These changes will allow for weekly analysis of hotline data to inform response activities.

#### 4.4. Border Health and Screening

- Some 7,714 incoming travellers were screened for EVD at 31 points of entry for the reporting week 23, bringing the cumulative number of travellers screened 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
57,714	2,395,479	59 <sup>1</sup>	1,292	0	19 generated, 6 met case definition

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

- Finalized development of a training guide and SOPs for EVD ambulance teams to stream line operations of ambulances.
- UNICEF distributed standard Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) &WASH supplies for all isolation units, holding units and 70 health facilities across high risk states.
- Completed development of a joint supportive monitoring tool, the tool will be disseminated to state Technical Working Groups.
- Reviewed and adopted new Terms of References (TORs) for the TWGs. The IPC/CM/SDB TWG also resolved to conduct meetings bi-weekly.
- 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.
- Finalized updating of Case Management SOPs.

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

- Conducted Ebola awareness advocacy with religious and community leaders on the occasion of Eid-al-Fitr congregations in Juba, and reaching nearly 25,000 people with 10,000 flyers and 40 banners in multiple languages on routine immunization, Ebola, and cholera messages.
- Continued with Ebola awareness and community mobilization activities through radio broadcasts, house-to-house visits, community leaders' engagement.

#### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 required to fully operationalize the second National EVD Preparedness Plan.

<sup>1</sup> The number may change following additional submission from implementing partners

- 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, UNCHR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNMISS, UNOCHA, USAID/OFDA, WFP, WHO, World Bank, WVSS...and all other entities and individuals that have contributed to the EVD preparedness and readiness activities in South Sudan since August, 2018

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