



30 May, 2018

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Ebola Situation Report



SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- Air access to Iboko health zone was established on 25 May 2018 to facilitate the movement of the response team and materials.
- Between 26 – 28 May, the Minister of Health, accompanied by WHO Representative and UNICEF Ebola Response Coordinator in Mbandaka, visited all the affected areas – Bikoro, Itipo and Iboko.
- A hemorrhagic fever alert was notified in Mai Ndombe province, south of Equateur province. The alert is currently under investigation and a UNICEF communication team is being deployed to facilitate awareness raising in the communities.
- As of 29 May 2018, Ebola ring vaccination continues in Wangata and initiated in Bikoro and Iboko, with a total of 561 persons vaccinated. UNICEF provided information on the ring vaccination to 526 of the vaccinated individuals.

53 total reported cases

(MoH, 30 May 2018)

36 confirmed cases

(MoH, 30 May 2018)

25 deaths recorded

(MoH, 30 May 2018)

745 contacts under surveillance

(MoH, 30 May 2018)

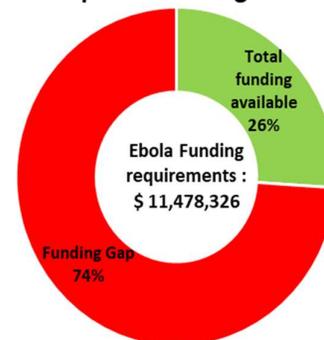
UNICEF Ebola Response Appeal

US\$ 11.5M

UNICEF's Response

	Target	Result
# of at-risk people reached through community engagement and interpersonal communication (door-to-door, church meetings, small-group training sessions, school classes, briefings with leaders and journalists, other)	860,135	318,026
# of listed people, eligible for ring vaccination provided with information on the vaccine in line with protocols.	1,100+	526
# of <u>target schools in high risk areas</u> provided with handwashing facilities	252+	130
# of school children reached with Ebola prevention information	70,200+	53,766
# of <u>affected families of cases</u> , including children that receive protection and psycho social support kit	35+	12

Ebola Response Funding Status 2018



*Funds available include UNICEF regular resources allocated by the office for first response needs.

† Data does not include Iboko where access was just recently secured
‡ reflect Mbandaka only

Situation Overview

Summary Table:

	Epidemiological Situation in Affected Health Zones In Equateur Province of DRC									
	Bikoro		Iboko		Wangata ¹		Ntondo		Total	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Confirmed	10	5	22	4	4	3	0	0	36	12
Probable	11	11	2	2	0	0	0	0	13	13
Suspected	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	4	0
TOTAL	21	16	27	6	5	3	0	0	53	25
<i>Previous Total (23 May 2018)</i>	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>22</u>

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

The Crisis Management Team (CNC – Comite Nationale de Coordination) continued to meet daily under the leadership of the Ministry of Health with all concerned partners and with the chairs of the different technical commissions. UNICEF DRC CO continues to participate actively in the coordination meetings at national, provincial and local levels and co-leads the technical commissions on communication, WASH and psychosocial care; and active in the working groups on logistics and vaccination.

The overall response plan is costed at USD 56 million, which includes the UNICEF response plan of USD 11.5 million.

Response Strategy

The joint response plan of the government and partners has been finalised with an overall goal to contribute to the reduction of mortality and morbidity related to the EVD outbreak in the Equateur province, to prevent the spread of the outbreak to other provinces in the country and neighbouring countries, and to address the immediate humanitarian consequences created by the outbreaks.

In support of the joint response plan, the UNICEF response strategy around the three key areas of communication, WASH and Psycho-social care is defined as follows:

- Risk communication, social mobilization and community engagement with the aim to (1) proactively engage with affected and at risk communities, (2) provide timely and accurate health advice to encourage positive health seeking behaviors and (3) address community concerns and rumors. The strategy is implemented through 5 pillars that include (i) community engagement; (ii) promotion of preventive behaviors; (iii) responding to resistance; (iv) advocacy and capacity building of actors and (v) communication in support of ring vaccination.
- The WASH strategy, as part of the Infection Prevention and control (IPC), aims to stop the spread of the disease through the availability of 1) WASH in health care facilities, which includes providing water supply and WASH kits, 2) hygiene promotion and the provision of WASH kits in schools, including handwashing stations and soap / temperature check points, and 3) WASH in communities, through mass outreach on hygiene promotion to vulnerable communities and

¹ Wangata is a health zone in the city of Mbandaka

the setup of handwashing stations/temperature check points in strategic transit locations, as well as the disinfection of households/neighborhoods of confirmed cases.

- The child protection and psychosocial care to EVD survivors and family members of EVD cases seeks to (1) provide basic services; (2) establish or re-establish social and community networks and support systems; (3) provide focused, but nonspecialized services to especially vulnerable children, women and men; and (4) provide specialized care to a significantly smaller, severely affected, proportion of the population. The key element of the strategy includes (i) psychosocial support activities for children; (ii) support to parents and other community members to better support children; (iii) facilitation of professional help to children and families with more severe psychological or social problems / needs; (iv) coordinate mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Risk Communication, Social Mobilization and Community Engagement

As of 30 May 2018, a total of 501 out of the target 700 members of specific-groups were reached through community engagement and interpersonal communication activities. The groups include members of the *Cellule d'Animation Communautaire* (CAC), religious leaders, opinion leaders, educators, moto-taxi, RECO, military, journalists etc.

Currently, efforts by UNICEF and partners have reached 37% (318,026) of the targeted 860,135 at risk population with information on Ebola prevention and management. The population was reached through community engagement and interpersonal communication, such as door-to-door visits, church meetings, small-group training sessions, school classes, briefings with leaders and journalists, and others.

Ten out of the targeted 11 households that presented resistance (91%) benefitted from personalized home visits to address the misperceptions about Ebola or resistance to vaccination. In addition, 526 out of 1,100 initial listed eligible people (48%) for ring vaccination were informed of the benefits of the vaccine and were vaccinated in accordance with protocols, as the exercise was largely in Mbandaka during the reporting period. The ring vaccination targets front-line health workers, people who have been exposed to confirmed EVD cases and contacts of these contacts.

In a rapid survey undertaken during the week of May 19 in Bikoro, only 41% of respondents knew at least three ways to prevent Ebola virus in the affected communities. Further efforts to improve the level of awareness are on-going, with the aim of achieving the set target of 80% of the population who know three ways of prevention Ebola. In June, a similar survey will be implemented in all the affected health zones.

Key activities in the last seven days:

- Community-based awareness raising on Ebola prevention through 137 local facilitators (29 Itipo², 108 Mbandaka) and village chiefs, 54 school teachers, 120 members from 8 CACs, and 8 trained children reporters in Bikoro
- Mass media information sessions reaching an estimated 94,928 people via radio, churches, television channels; 45,517 people through door-to-door sessions, 2,533 students and 101 persons from 24 women's associations in Bikoro and Mbandaka
- Following UNICEF's advocacy to Bishop Fridolin Ambongo during his visit in Bikoro, he mobilized 23 church / community leaders, along the Bikoro-Ikoko Impenge axis on the importance of their participation to promote prevention information on Ebola
- In Bolenge Health Zone of Mbandaka city, 15 community leaders took responsibility to conduct 183 educational sessions and 112 Ebola prevention awareness sessions
- 160 Community workers (RECO) are operational in 3 hotspot zones in Mbandaka
- 6 video forum sessions were conducted with 550 participants across the affected health zones.

² The Itipo health area of Iboko health zone is highlighted due to the high case load in the area.

Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH) / IPC

As of 30 May 2018, a total of 29 out of the targeted 33 (88%) health facilities in affected health zones were provided with essential WASH services; these include the provision of handwashing points, briefing of staff on hygiene promotion and disinfection, and the installation of chlorination points.³

A total of 130 out of the targeted 252 schools (52%) in high risk areas (Mbandaka, Wangata and Bikoro health zones) were provided with handwashing facilities since the beginning of the Ebola outbreak. In addition, a total of 53,766 school children (77% of target) and 2,428 school teachers (76% of target) were reached with Ebola prevention information.

Since the beginning of the response, (i) 49 out of 58 targeted community sites (85%) (ports, market places, offices, etc.) were reached with hand washing facilities in the affected areas; (ii) 271 houses were disinfected.

22,700 (17%) out of 135,135 targeted people benefited access to a safe water source in the affected areas. A total of 175,688 persons were reached through WASH interventions in households in the three affected health zones.

Key activities in the last seven days:

- In Itipo: 61 handwashing units (54 schools, 6 health centers, 1 health area), over 1,500 bars of soap, 2 bicycles for WASH staff, 78 boxes containing 240 bags of water purifier, were distributed in the communities, schools, and health centers
- In Iboko, 10 WASH volunteers from Red Cross were provided training in Iboko on safe burials and WASH practices
- 14,000 Aquatabs pills, 50 boxes of soap containing 60 pieces each, 80 water containers of 10 liters each, ½ chlorine drum, 2 bicycles for WASH staff, 1000 (500ml liquid chlorine) bottles were provided to the Iboko Health Zone.
- 45 handwashing buckets were pre-positioned in nine primary schools along the Mpenda-Ikoko Impenge axis.
- Temperature checkpoints were installed in ten schools, Onatra port (the largest port in Mbandaka), and seven public spots in the health zones in Mbandaka. In addition, hand washing units are installed in 11 ports in Mbandaka.

Child Protection and Psychosocial Care

In Mbandaka, 12 out of 35 targeted (35%) affected families with EBV case, including children, received food and other essential materials to support them while they are under the follow up period. Each kit includes cooking utensils, clothes, soap, mats, buckets, mosquito nets, along with a ration of food items. To expand coverage of the support, and in discussion with other partners, a target of 963 cases (60% of projected 1,600 cases) is planned to be reached with these kits in all affected health zones and a local partner was identified this week by UNICEF to conduct this intervention.

Key activities in the last seven days:

- 42 contacts listed by the surveillance committee in Bongondjo, in Wangata Health Zone, were visited by the psychosocial care team to address their concerns
- Psychosocial support / counselling was provided to eight people in Itipo (a confirmed case) and Bikoro (seven nurses)
- Awareness raising sessions and psycho-education were provided to 45 households (171 women and girls and 153 men and boys)
- The creation of a network to support children whose families have been affected by Ebola is currently underway through the identification of host families near ETCs

³ Examples of health facilities are Ebola laboratory, Ebola Treatment Centers, and health centers

- 181 psychosocial assistants received training, of which 36 have been deployed in the Bikoro Health Zone. The remaining are prepositioned to support Iboko/Itipo and reinforce response in Mbandaka.

Supply and Logistics

Since the beginning of the response, \$528,000 worth of items have been deployed for the Ebola response.

External Communication

On 25 May, UNICEF released the fourth news note since the beginning of the outbreak: [Children must be at the heart of response to Ebola outbreak](#). Video and photo material produced following a field visit of the UNICEF Representative to the affected region generated large scale media coverage on the status of the Ebola outbreak and UNICEF's response, including [CNN](#), [RFI](#), [BBC Worldservice](#), [BBC Afrique, Il Mundo](#), [Le Figaro](#), [AFP](#), [VoA](#), [UNNews](#), [UN radio French](#), [UNTV](#), [France 24](#), [slate Afrique](#), [Mail Online](#) and [TV5](#).

Communication on social media continues on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). UNICEF posted nine Facebook posts, published 16 pictures on Instagram, and tweeted 71 messages since the beginning of the outbreak.

Human Resources

A total of 45 UNICEF staff members from the DRC were deployed to Equateur Province – epicentre of the outbreak, in addition to a team of ten staff members in Kinshasa who continue to provide central level coordination support.

Rosters of UNICEF staff and resource persons ready to be deployed with previous Ebola experience, especially in WASH, C4D, Health and Emergency, have been established. Three staff are currently being deployed: a C4D expert; a Security Officer and a Supply Specialist. UNICEF is mobilizing additional surge staff including: six communication specialists, a WASH specialist, a child protection specialist, and an information management specialist standby partner to support the response.

Funding

Out of the total UNICEF requirement of USD 11.5 million, USD 3 million is currently funded.

Key donors to the UNICEF response include: CERF (USD 400,000); USAID (USD 2 Million); CIDA (Canadian Dollar 400,000 approximately USD 388,000); and UNICEF DRC RR (USD 200,000).

Funds in the pipeline include Mercury Foundation through US NatCom (USD 400,000); ECHO (Euro 600,000 approximately USD 701,000), and World Bank Pandemic Emergency Fund (USD 4.54 Million).

	Funding Requirement	Total funding available	Funding Gap	Funded %
WASH	\$ 4,939,200	\$ 949,730	\$ 3,989,470	19%
Communication for Development (C4D)	\$ 3,663,686	\$ 1,238,000	\$ 2,425,686	34%
Psychosocial Support	\$ 1,475,440	\$ 390,000	\$ 1,085,440	26%
Operations support and Coordination costs + ICT	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 410,000	\$ 990,000	29%
Total Ebola Response	\$ 11,478,326	\$ 2,987,730	\$ 8,490,596	26%

Preparedness in the Republic of Congo and Central African Republic

In neighbouring Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic, UNICEF is working along with governments and partners to increase Ebola preparedness. UNICEF is particularly engaged in communication and sensitization of populations on the risk of Ebola and in strengthening WASH measures. In Republic of Congo, UNICEF participated in the government led interagency 10-day mission to the northern part of the country. During the assessment, UNICEF conducted a rapid KAP survey targeting 108 adults. Results showed that 42% had never heard of Ebola and 26% did not believe Ebola exists. Communication material and supplies were distributed in Liranga and other border localities: 12,000 flyers; 30 hand washing stations with soap. 62 villages have been reached by sensitization activities by UNICEF in collaboration with decentralized government institutions.

In the Central African Republic, UNICEF provided 20 hand washing stations through the national Red Cross at surveillance sites. Partnerships with Catholic Relief Services, including community radio programming, and working with the Scouts have been reactivated in priority areas. UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Health to disseminate information through radio and other media.

Next SitRep: 07/06/2018

Who to contact for further information:

Gianfranco Rotigliano
Representative a.i.
UNICEF DRC
Tel: + (243) 996 050 399
E-mail: grotigliano@unicef.org

Tajudeen Oyewale
Deputy Representative
UNICEF DRC
Tel: + (243) 996 050 200
E-mail: toyewale@unicef.org

Hamady Ba
Health Specialist (Emergency)
UNICEF DRC
Tel: + (243) 817 096 787
E-mail: hba@unicef.org

Ebola Response Tracking Indicators	Equateur Province 2018		
	Target	Total results	Change since last report ▲ ▼
RESPONSE COORDINATION			
# of affected localities with functioning coordination mechanism	4	3	
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT			
# of members of specific-groups reached through community engagement and interpersonal communication activities. (CAC, religious leaders, opinion leaders, educators, motorists, RECO, military, journalists, meat sellers, drivers, youth groups, other)	700+	501	
# of at-risk people reached through community engagement and interpersonal communication (door-to-door, church meetings, small-group training sessions, school classes, briefings with leaders and journalists, other)	860,135	318,026	
# of households presenting resistance for which personalized house visits was undertaken to address <u>misperception about Ebola</u> or <u>resistance to vaccination</u>	11	10	
# of listed people, eligible for ring vaccination provided with information on the vaccine in line with protocols.	1,100++	526	
% of population surveyed who know at least 3 ways to prevent Ebola infection (from Rapid KAP studies)	80%	41%*	
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE			
# of <u>health facilities in affected health zones</u> provided with essential WASH services.	33+	29	
# of <u>target schools in high risk areas</u> provided with handwashing facilities	252+	130	
# of community sites (port, market places, office etc.) equipped with hand washing facilities	58	49	
# of people with access to safe water in the affected health zones	135,135+	22,700	
EDUCATION			
# of school children reached with Ebola prevention information	70,200+	53,766	
# of teachers briefed on Ebola prevention information	3196+	2,428	
CHILD PROTECTION AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT			
# of <u>affected families of cases</u> , including children that receive protection and psycho social support kits	35±	12	
# of <u>contacts</u> , including children that receive protection and psycho social support kit**	963	0	
† Data does not include Itipo / Iboko, for which access was just recently secured			
†† Vaccination campaign is just starting outside of Mbandaka			
* reflect result from the KAP survey from Bikoro on May 19; a comprehensive survey is planned for June 2018			

‡ reflect data for Mbandaka only

** This is a new decision reached with partners