



13 July, 2018

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Ebola Situation Report



SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- As of 11 July, 2018, no new confirmed or probable cases of Ebola were reported in the affected health zones, i.e. the number of reported cases remained 38 confirmed and 15 probable cases.
- While the overall response to the Ebola outbreak in Equateur Province continues, the follow up of the last contact after 21 days were completed on 27 June, 2018, while field level surveillance continues.
- A joint transition plan to sustain the ongoing Ebola response is currently under development, led by the Ministry of Health with support from WHO, UNICEF and other partners.

57 total reported cases
(MoH, 12 July 2018)

38 confirmed cases
(MoH, 12 July 2018)

29 deaths recorded
(MoH, 12 July 2018)

0 contacts under surveillance
(MoH 12 July 2018)

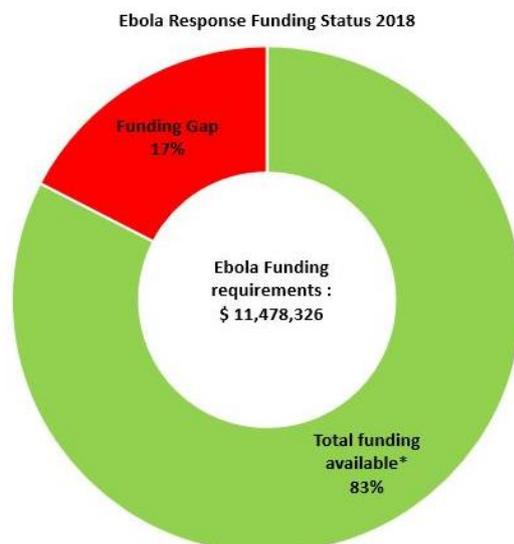
UNICEF's Response

	Target	Result
# of at-risk people reached through community engagement and interpersonal communication approaches. (door-to-door, church meetings, small-group training sessions, school classes, briefings with leaders and journalists, other)	942,713	1,050,000
# of listed eligible people for ring vaccination informed of the benefits of the vaccine and counselled on accepting the vaccine within required protocols.	3,330‡	3,330
# of people with access to safe water in the affected health zones	206,500	168,262
# of school children reached with Ebola prevention information	130,790**	130,790
# of affected families of confirmed and probable case, including children, that receive protection and psycho social support kit	53	53

‡ Adjusted with the number of contacts and contact of contact identified for ring vaccination

** Students in two other health zones in Mbandaka, other than Wangata health zone, where suspect cases of Ebola were reported were targets for Ebola prevention information, following realization of the original target of 119,680 students and 4,452 teachers

UNICEF Ebola Response Appeal US\$ 11.5M



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

Epidemiological Overview

Summary Table:

	Affected Health Zones in the Equateur Province of DRC									
	Bikoro		Iboko		Wangata ¹		Ingende		Total	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Confirmed	10	7	24	4	4	3	0	0	38	14
Probable	11	11	4	4	0	0	0	0	15	15
Suspected	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
TOTAL	23	18	30	8	4	3	0	0	57	29
<i>Previous Total (27 June 2018)</i>	24	18	29	8	4	3	0	0	57	29

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

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

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 Ebola Virus Disease (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 revolves around the three key areas of communication, WASH and Psycho-social care 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 station and soap/temperature check points, and 3) WASH in communities, through mass outreach on hygiene promotion to vulnerable communities and the setup of handwashing stations/temperature control in strategic transit locations, as well as the disinfection of households/neighborhoods of confirmed cases.
- The child protection and psycho-social support 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

¹ Wangata is a health zone in the city of Mbandaka

children; (iii) facilitation of professions 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

Overview of the key elements in the response with a special emphasis on UNICEF's response in the affected health zones.

Risk Communication, Social Mobilization and Community Engagement

As at the last report, the target of 1,937 members of specific community groups, including members of the *Cellule d'Animation Communautaire* (CAC), religious leaders, opinion leaders, educators, moto-taxi, community relays (RECO), military, journalists, etc enlisted to facilitate Ebola awareness creation at the community level was achieved. During the reporting period, and as the situation in the communities is improving, UNICEF and partners continued to provide follow-up information on Ebola prevention to the enlisted community actors. Additional 194 pygmy population leaders, outside of the affected areas in Iboko and Bikoro health zones, were also reached through UNICEF and partners' effort to consolidate information on Ebola prevention and care in the population.

A mix of the community level awareness creation activities and mass media campaign on Ebola prevention and care has reached during the reporting period additional 257,052 at-risk population in the affected health zones. Considering the current phase of the response, the information provided to the population focused largely on supportive re-integration of the families of Ebola victims and contacts, continued promotion of hand washing, and community level surveillance of people with Ebola symptoms. These interventions were carried out through community sessions, door-to-door visits, church meetings, public animations, and radio broadcasts. At present, a total of 1,099,553 people, beyond the target of 942,713 at-risk population have been reached in the three affected health zones of Wangata, Bikoro and Iboko.

An additional 20 households that presented with resistance to secure burials in the affected health zones benefitted during the reporting period from personalized house visits to address their concerns, thus resulting in reaching a total of 166 households presenting with resistance / concerns related to the Ebola response.

No new vaccination was undertaken during the reporting period, after a total of 3,330 eligible persons reached through the ring vaccination were also reached with information and counselling by UNICEF communication experts. According to the protocol, the ring vaccination targeted front-line health workers, people who have been exposed to confirmed EVD cases and contacts of these contacts.

Based on the findings from the last Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey in the affected health zones, 87% (N=1,200) of the respondents knew at least three ways to prevent Ebola infection. About 40% of the respondents reported they got information on Ebola from frontline workers; and 91% knew dead animals in the forest might be contagious of Ebola. The media survey undertaken by UNICEF in the affected health zones in June, 2018 indicated that 93% of the listeners in Mbandaka received at least 3 key messages on Ebola through the local radio stations; and 98% of the listeners can recite at least 3 of the messages disseminated. As part of the Ebola response, UNICEF worked closely with 14 community radio stations and over 1,250 radio messages were broadcast in the three local languages through the radio stations.

Key activities in the last two weeks:

- 280 RECOs and 13 CACs implemented awareness raising activities in households in Iboko health zone
- 55 persons participated in an interactive session through a local radio in Bikoro health zone.
- 239 women and 13 girls raised awareness on the use of Aquatabs for water treatment in Bikoro health zone.
- 9 video forums were projected in Mbandaka, Itipo and Bikoro, reaching 438 persons.
- 880 pamphlets, 256 posters, and 306 tee-shirts on Ebola prevention were distributed in Itipo and Iboko health zones.

Due to improvement in access, the target of the health facilities targeted for WASH facilities was increased from 75 to 96 to accommodate 21 additional health zones identified in Iboko and Ingende² health zones during the reporting period. Thus, a total of 96 health facilities in the affected health zones, and beyond, were provided with essential WASH services; that includes handwashing kits, briefing of staff on hygiene promotion and disinfection, and the installation of chlorination points. There are ongoing efforts to consolidate on the achievements through the installation of water bore holes in strategic health facilities in the affected health zones. At the community level, an additional 139 hand washing facilities were installed in community sites (port, market places, offices, etc.) during the reporting period, reaching 570 community sites³ since the onset of the response. In addition, an additional 26,759 persons gained access to safe water in the affected health zones, thus UNICEF's support has enabled access to safe water sources to a total of 168,262 (81% coverage) since the beginning of the response.

In the last two weeks, ten schools in the affected health zones were provided with handwashing kits, resulting in a total of 323 schools (79% coverage) out of the targeted 410 schools reached since the beginning of the response. Prior to the closure of the current school year on the 2nd of July, a total of 130,790 students and 5,486 teachers in the affected health zones⁴ were reached with Ebola prevention information.

Key activities in the last two weeks:

- UNICEF supervised 20 chlorination points in the affected communities to provide access to safe water in the three affected health zones.
- The construction of 11 manual boreholes out of 88 targeted are ongoing in Mbandaka, Bikoro, and Iboko health zones in schools, communities and health facilities.
- 32 m³ of water trucking were provided to Wangata Regional General Hospital and Wangata health facility in Mbandaka, and the Mbandaka airport.
- In the Itipo health area of the Iboko health zone, a 10,000-liter water bladder was installed to provide water to the community. In addition, four health facilities in the Iboko health zone were provided with one kilogram of chlorine each for water treatment.
- In the Iboko health zone, 337 bicycles, 152 motorbikes, and 38 cars were disinfected.
- In the Bikoro and the Iboko health zones, a total 13,509 persons were reported to have washed their hands and got their feet disinfected at entry points.
- In the Bikoro health zone, 564 Aquatab boxes were distributed to 282 households.
- Eight latrines and eight showers were constructed in Itipo health area of Iboko health zone and ten latrines/showers in Mbandaka.

Child Protection and Psychosocial Care

With no new confirmed cases identified since 6 June 2018, no new families of Ebola cases, including children, received food and other essential materials to support them while they are under the follow up during the reporting period. Overall, UNICEF had already supported the 53 families (100% coverage), including children, of Ebola cases since the beginning of the response.

In relation to support to contacts, however, UNICEF provided support to 383 contacts, including children, during the reporting period. The support included psychosocial counselling and kits to support their reintegration into the community. Thus far, a total of 594 contacts have received protection and psychosocial support through UNICEF's assistance. At the

² Ingende health zone is adjacent to Iboko Health zone

³ Adjusted to reflect additional community sites for hygiene promotion identified during implementation following the complete coverage of the original set target of 336 sites

⁴ Students and teachers in two other health zones in Mbandaka, other than Wangata health zone, where suspect cases of Ebola were reported were targets for Ebola prevention information, following realization of the original target of 119,680 students and 4,452 teachers

same time, psychosocial counselling support continued to be provided to suspect cases during the period of laboratory diagnosis.

Key activities in the last two weeks:

- 1,538 persons benefitted from psycho-educative session in the affected health areas.
- 13 suspect cases and 321 contacts benefitted from psychological support in Iboko and Itipo health areas of Iboko health zone.

Supply & Logistics

Since the last reporting period, UNICEF's expenditure on goods and equipment deployed to the Equateur province to support the Ebola response has increased from USD \$1,039,014 to USD\$1,084,658.84.

External Communication

Media coverage to the Ebola crisis includes [Forum des As](#), [Radio Okapi](#), [ACP](#), [Actualité.cd](#), [adiac](#) and [reliefweb](#),

Since the beginning of the Ebola-outbreak the CO posted 25 articles on its [blog](#) and published 18 posts on [Facebook](#), 21 pictures on [Instagram](#) and [tweeted](#) 159 messages.

Human Resources

During the reporting period, 32 UNICEF staff members are deployed to Equateur Province, Mbandaka, Bikoro, Itipo, and Iboko, to support the Ebola response plan. In addition, 11 staff members in Kinshasa continue to provide central level coordination support.

Funding

The total UNICEF requirement for the Ebola response of USD 11.5 million is currently funded up to USD 9.48 million. The Ebola response is in line with the 2018 DRC Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal which has a total funding requirement of USD 268 million. Key donors to the UNICEF response include CERF (USD 400,000), USAID (USD 2 Million), CIDA (Canadian Dollar 400,000 approximately USD 385,000) and JAPAN (\$700,000). In addition, UNICEF is supported by the Mercury Funds through US NatCom (USD 400,000), World Bank Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (USD 4.56 Million), GAVI (USD 140,000) and ECHO (Euro 600,000/approximately USD 710,269). UNICEF also allocated USD 200,000 of its core resources as part of the initial response.

Funding Requirements (as defined in the UNICEF component of the Joint Ebola Response plan and aligned to the UNICEF Humanitarian Appeal 2018)				
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available	Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year*	\$	%
WASH	4,939,200	4,896,644	42,556	1%
Communication for Development (C4D)	3,663,686	1,904,700	1,758,986	48%
Psychosocial Support	1,475,440	1,666,111	-190,671	-13%
Operations support and Coordination costs + ICT	1,400,000	1,012,743	387,257	28%
Total	11,478,326	9,480,198	1,998,128	17%

* 'Funds received' does not include pledges

Next SitRep: 30/07/2018

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Ebola Response Tracking Indicators

Equateur Province (13 July 2018)

	Target	Total results	Change since last report ▲ ▼
RESPONSE COORDINATION			
# of affected localities with functioning coordination mechanism	4	4	0
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT			
# of members of specific-groups reached through community engagement and interpersonal communication activities. (CAC, religious leaders, opinion leaders, educators, moto-taxi drivers, RECO, military, journalists, meat sellers, drivers, youth groups, other)	1,937	1,937	0
# 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)	942,713	1,099,553	257,052
# of households presenting resistance for which personalized home visits were made to address <u>misperception about Ebola</u> or <u>resistance to vaccination</u>	166†	166	20
# of listed eligible people for ring vaccination informed of the benefits of the vaccine and counselled on accepting the vaccine within required protocols.	3,330‡	3,330	0
% of population surveyed who know at least 3 ways to prevent Ebola infection (from Rapid KAP studies)	80%	87%	NA
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE			
# of <u>health facilities in affected health zones</u> provided with essential WASH services.	96*	96	21
# of <u>schools in the affected health zones</u> provided with handwashing facilities	410	323	10
# of community sites (ports, market places, offices, etc.) in the affected health zones equipped with hand washing facilities	570††	570	139
# of people with access to safe water in the affected health zones	206,500	168,262	26,759
EDUCATION			
# of school children in affected health zones reached with Ebola prevention information	130,790**	130,790	26,759
# of teachers in affected health zones briefed on Ebola prevention information	5,486**	5,486	226
CHILD PROTECTION AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT			
# of <u>affected families of confirmed and probable case</u> , including children, that receive protection and psycho social support kit	53	53	0
# of <u>contacts</u> , including children, that receive protection and psychosocial support kit	N/A	594†††	383

† Adjusted based on the number of households presenting resistance

‡ Adjusted with the number of contacts, contact of contacts, and frontline workers identified for ring vaccination

* Adjusted to include additional 21 health facilities in Iboko and Ingende health zone i.e. increase from 72 to 96 health facilities

** Report of the latest KAP survey report under finalization

†† Adjusted to reflect additional community sites for hygiene promotion identified during implementation following the complete coverage of the original set target of 336 sites

** Students and Teachers in two other health zones in Mbandaka, other than Wangata health zone, where suspect cases of Ebola were reported were targets for Ebola prevention information, following realization of the original target of 119,680 students and 4,452 teachers

††† Result is cumulative since initiation of the activity. Note there are no contact at present