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 for every child

**EBOLA**  
**Situation Report #2**  
 Period covered:  
 27 April - 04 May

**Epidemiological Situation**  
 (as of 5 May 2022)

## Highlights

- On 4 May 2022, a new Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) case was identified in the city of Mbandaka. The patient is a 48-year-old man deemed a "high-risk" contact of the first EVD patient who died on 21 April 2022.
- The provincial health authorities have designated a focal point on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) for the response and the feedback and complaint mechanisms in the affected health zones have been reactivated.
- Twenty-two tons of materials (infection, prevention and control/WASH kits, personal protective equipment, mattresses for healthcare facilities, tents, etc.) were shipped from Kinshasa and Goma to the UNICEF field office in Mbandaka.
- 305 Community Action Cell (CAC) members from 22 different CACs have received training to support Ebola response activities.



3 confirmed cases(1F, 2M)



2 deaths



67% case fatality



0 cases of children



1 province affected

## Situation Overview

- As of 4 May 2022, 3 EVD cases have been confirmed (with 2 deaths), 345 people have been listed as contacts, of whom 299 (87 per cent) have been visited for follow up by surveillance teams. All listed contacts are from the two (2) health zones of Mbandaka, and Wangata in Equateur and 206 contacts have been vaccinated (59.7 per cent)
- The notification of alerts continues to increase from an average of 50 new alerts per day to 157, of which 43 were raised from community members, indicating growing community engagement in response activities.

## UNICEF's Response

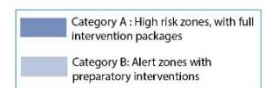


### Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)/Water, Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH)

UNICEF in collaboration with its partners:

- Evaluated the EVD infection risks in the areas surrounding the two cases to identify needs for community and healthcare facility kits and materials for continued EVD prevention.
- Decontaminated nine households and two healthcare facilities. Following decontamination conducted around the first cases, mattresses have been replaced in households and healthcare facilities.
- 11 healthcare facilities have been provided with infection prevention control kits (IPC) including personal protective equipment (PPE), handwashing facilities, IPC protocol materials etc.

### Health zones – EVD Response Plan



- 28 healthcare facilities have been evaluated for their IPC risks to develop adapted training and support for each structure.
- 179 healthcare workers from 18 priority facilities (those most at risk) were briefed on IPC.
- Water supply and sanitation facilities have been rehabilitated within the Ebola Treatment Center (ETC).



## Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

UNICEF in collaboration with its partners:

- Finalised the RCCE response plan with the local Ministry of Health/RCCE pillar (including national and interantional partners).
- Distributed life saving information to community action cells (CACs), healthcare workers, comunity associations etc. in local language, including: 570 pamphlets on Ebola prevention, 100 posters on safe and dignified burials (SDB), 87 posters on vaccination.
- Trained 305 members of 22 CACs in the Wangata health area to conduct house visits to speak about Ebola prevention and awareness as well as to conduct community-based surveillance (CBS).
- Provided key Ebola information during investigations, sampling, decontamination and vaccination to 19,000 households via by 542 CAC members.
- Organised 10 radio stations (reaching over 140,000 people) to communicate the delcaration of the outbreak by the Equateur Provincial Governor to places worship, schools and other public places.
- Trained 20 young reporters and 220 children from children's school committies on EVD prevention and child-to-child communication across 10 schools in Mbandaka. The trained children further reached over 5,000 more children.
- Trained 23 youth bloggers to publish EVD messages in social media (Facebook and WhatsApp).



## Health and Nutrition

- Focused on the establishment of the medical care structure for the response with the setting up of the care team at the Ebola Treatment Centre (ETC).
- Provided technical guidance to the ETC to ensure child-safe and friendly patient care in anticipation of any possible child suspected or confirmed cases should arise.
- Finalized the nutrition component of the national EVD response plan.



## Psychosocial Support and Child Protection

UNICEF in collaboration with its partners:

- Established and deployed a team of 33 people including 30 para-social workers and 3 clinical psychologists for the psychological care of Ebola affected families.
- Provided individual and community support surrounding the two (2) first cases which included 29 community psychoeducation sessions (reaching 371 individuals); psychological support to two (2) suspect cases during their transit at the ETC; follow-up sessions and psychological support to 15 members of two affected families of positive cases; social worker investigation and psychological support to the 2 children orphaned from the second EVD case to orgainse appropriate social assistance and care. Psychological support to the contacts of the second EVD case was also provided.
- Provided psychological support to encourage 30 individuals for vaccination.



## Gender Based Violence/ Gender/PSEA

- Organized refresher training and re-signing of Codes of Conduct for all UNICEF staff.
- Advocated successfully for the head of the Gender and Family Department in the provincial government to be the PSEA Focal Point for the Ebola response coordination; she will provide direct guidance to the provincial Ministry of Health Focal Point for PSEA.
- Diffused key information on PSEA across 10 local radio stations.
- Trained RCCE commission members on PSEA.
- Together with WHO and UNFPA and under the leadership of the Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator, supported the provincial health division to organize a PSEA awareness event at the institute attended by the index case (reaching an estimated 500 students).
- Re-establish the Mbandaka and Wangata community-based complaint mechanisms for face-to-face reporting with women who have the capacity to receive and refer PSEA allegations.



## Integrated Outbreak Analytics (IOA)

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Health (DGLM), conducted a rapid review of data and results from the 11th EVD outbreak in Equateur as well as key study results from the most recent 13th EVD outbreak (North Kivu).
- Published a rapid analysis of IOA Cell results and recommendations from the 11<sup>th</sup> EVD outbreak (report [available online here](#)).



## UNICEF Response Plan & Funding Overview

- Upon confirmation of the EVD case, UNICEF teams and the Provincial Health Division and Wangata Health Zone were on the ground, carrying out response activities to stop further transmission. UNICEF has been implementing post Ebola programming in the Equateur province since the end of the 11th outbreak (December 2020). This positioned UNICEF to rapidly support local response initiatives. Mobilizing internal funding, UNICEF deployed over 22 tons of materials (IPC-WASH kits, personal protective equipment, mattresses for healthcare facilities, tents etc.) from Kinshasa and Goma offices. As well, a multidisciplinary Ebola- experienced response team was deployed within days to support the UNICEF field office in Mbandaka.
- UNICEF response plan will be finalized to align with the Ministry of Health Response plan (currently under review) and expected to soon be released.



## External Media

- During the reporting period, UNICEF continued to raise awareness [of Ebola prevention measures on its social networks](#) and [urged parents and children to take safety precautions](#). Several posts highlighted the [arrival of essential supplies in Mbandaka](#) as well as the involvement of [UNICEF-trained Child Reporters in the fight against the epidemic](#). New multimedia material is available on [WeShare](#).

*For more information, contact:*

**Katya Marino**  
Representative, a.i.  
UNICEF DRC  
Email: [kmarino@unicef.org](mailto:kmarino@unicef.org)

**Frederic Emirian**  
Chief of Emergency  
UNICEF DRC  
Email: [femirian@unicef.org](mailto:femirian@unicef.org)

**Marie Noelle Fall**  
Resource Mobilization Manager  
UNICEF DRC  
Email: [mfall@unicef.org](mailto:mfall@unicef.org)