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UNICEF DRC
Ebola Situation Report #2
 Period covered
 22-28 August 2022

Highlights

- The first and only recorded case of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the North Kivu Province was recorded 12 days ago.
- A total of 115,652 persons, including 65,512 women, have received essential information on both EVD and COVID-19 prevention.
- Around three tons of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) have arrived in Beni to reinforce Water Sanitation and Hygiene and Infection, Prevention and Control activities.






Situation Overview

- As of 28 August 2022, 172 contacts have been identified of which 74.4 per cent have been followed-up.
- The Ebola Treatment Center (ETC) is not yet functional; however, 11 isolation beds are available (five at the Beni General Hospital and six at the Kanzuli Health Center).
- Six suspected cases have been isolated at the Beni General Hospital and the Kanzuli Health Center where they have received psychological support.
- Two vaccination sites were opened on 25 August 2022. As of 28 August, among the 67 persons vaccinated, only 21 are contacts.

UNICEF's Response

- UNICEF is present in the North Kivu Province, with a field office in Goma covering the North Kivu and Maniema provinces, comprising 56 staff, as well as a sub-office in Beni. The UNICEF team is supporting the provincial and local government to respond to this 4th outbreak in the North Kivu province, the 15th for the DRC. As in previous outbreaks, UNICEF's support revolves around the main areas of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), Psychosocial Support (PSS), Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Integrated Outbreak Analytics (IOA).

Epidemiological Situation (as of 22 August 2022)

-  1 confirmed case (1F)
-  1 death
-  100% case fatality
-  0 cases of children
-  1 province affected



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



- The household of the index case has been decontaminated, facilitating access for additional Infection Control and Prevention (IPC) activities around the case.
- Bio-cleaning activities are ongoing at the Beni General Hospital.
- Around three tons of PPE have arrived from Goma for the scale up of WASH/IPC activities.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)



- Through the network of Community Animation Cells (CACs) in the affected areas, UNICEF is supporting the strengthening of the alert system to improve tracking and tracing of contacts.
- A total of 572 community alerts have been reported, including 34 deaths.
- 206 out of 295 active CACs of the Beni health zone have carried out 34,303 home visits to provide essential information on both EVD and COVID-19 prevention to 115,652 persons (50,919 men and 65,512 women).
- Organization of a community dialogue with 43 local leaders of the Butanuka Health Area to facilitate the decontamination of the case's household.

Health and Nutrition



- A team of trained nutritionists has been identified and is ready to intervene as soon as the ETCs are opened.
- A meeting was held with partners to discuss how best to integrate Ebola issues into ongoing community communication activities. As a result of this meeting, it was agreed to focus on the promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices for mothers and other caregivers of children under 24 months, in the context of EVD.

Psychosocial Support and Child Protection



- At the level of the transit centers and health facilities:
 - Six suspected cases (four men and two women) isolated in different health centers, have benefited from psychological support and preparation for the announcement of the swab test results, which turned out to be negative for three persons (one woman and two men)
 - Two children separated from their mothers who were suspect cases were identified and received psychosocial assistance at home.
- At the community level:
 - A psychologist organized two visits to provide support to the affected family. During these visits, two orphaned children (two boys) were identified and received adequate psycho-social support.
 - 17 psycho-educational sessions were held for 154 people (48 men, 45 women, 22 boys and 39 girls) in the Beni health zone. The sessions were mainly held in schools and health facilities to reach a large of number of people.

Gender Based Violence/Gender/PSEA



- UNICEF is working with partners in Beni to integrate Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) into the response strategy and activities.

Funding



- UNICEF has already allocated US\$230,000 to meet critical needs from its core resources, until additional funding secured. Availability of flexible and timely funding will continue to play an important role in this response as it will enable UNICEF and partners to act rapidly to contain the outbreak.
- Given the current status of the outbreak and in alignment with the integrated response plan of the Ministry of Health, UNICEF estimates that an additional US\$762,000 will be needed for a period of three months to:
 - Ensure immediate life-saving response in affected health areas
 - Strengthen prevention and preparedness activities in surrounding health areas/zones

External Media



- Following the [confirmation of a confirmed case of Ebola in Beni](#), UNICEF immediately started communicating through its social networks to [remind people of the preventive measures to adopt to protect themselves](#). A [press release was issued on August 25](#) and [an article written by Child Reporters was shared](#).

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