



Franck Muhindo, Medical Director of the General Reference Hospital in Beni, is getting vaccinated against Ebola as part of the UNICEF-supported vaccination campaign. "I encourage everyone who is eligible to be vaccinated to do it like me," he says.



UNICEF DRC
Ebola Situation Report #3
 Period covered
 28 August - 4 September 2022

Epidemiological Situation
 (as of 4 September 2022)

Highlights

- The first and only recorded case of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the North Kivu Province was recorded 19 days ago.
- Investigations are still ongoing to understand the origin of the EVD resurgence.
- A total of 106,284 persons, including 57,800 women, have received essential information on both EVD and COVID-19 prevention.
- 23 of the 46 priority healthcare facilities have received critical water sanitation and hygiene/infection prevention and control materials to reduce risks of nosocomial infection.

Situation Overview

- As of 4 September 2022, 181 contacts have been identified of which 79.5 per cent have been followed-up.
- The Ebola Treatment Center (ETC) is not yet functional; however, 23 isolation beds are available (five at the Beni General Hospital and 18 in eight Health Centers).
- As of 4 September 2022, 200 persons have been vaccinated, including 48 contacts and 131 first line responders.

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).

- 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)



- Decontamination of the two households related to the confirmed case and provision of WASH kits to 17 surrounding households.
- Bio-cleaning activities are ongoing at the Beni General Hospital.
- 23 of the 46 priority healthcare facilities have received critical water sanitation and hygiene/infection prevention and control materials to reduce risks of nosocomial infection; this includes buckets, chlorine, and soap as well as protected mattresses which can be easily cleaned between patients to reduce risks of infection.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)



- Community actors were briefed on strengthening the alert system to improve tracking and tracing of contacts. In total 22 CODESA (health centers development committees) presidents, 130 participants of the 7 community groups, 295 community animation cells (CAC) presidents and 10 radio representatives participated.

- 34,750 households were visited by members of the CACs, of which 106,284 people (57,800 women) were reached with EVD messages. A total of 1,434 cases of suspected cases, including 32 deaths in 22 health areas were reported.
- Four community dialogue sessions and 319 educational talk sessions were organized on community involvement in the fight against MVE and the importance of vaccinating contacts.



Health and Nutrition

- Nutritional counselling to 32 suspected cases in isolation at Malepe, Madrandele, Bundji and Kanzulinzuli health centers.



Psychosocial Support and Child Protection

- Preparation and psychological support to suspected cases during investigation and sampling (10 suspected cases); psychological support to suspected cases' relatives and visitors (22 persons including 7 men, 12 women, 1 boy and 2 girls) and to the family of the confirmed case (8 people, including 5 children).
- A temporary space for separated children was made available at the Beni General Hospital and is currently being set-up; no separated children were identified during this period.
- Identification and documentation of five orphaned children (3 boys and 2 girls - children of the deceased confirmed case).
- 20 psycho-education sessions were held for 291 people (68 men, 134 women, 29 boys and 60 girls) on the importance of immunization and dealing with fear and stress during Ebola outbreak.
- Support to immunization activities, particularly through the psychological preparation of contact cases (62 people: 29 men and 33 women).



Gender Based Violence/Gender/PSEA

- UNICEF deployed a PSEA Specialist to support the Government, in collaboration with the inter-agency PSEA Network to mitigate risks of sexual exploitation and abuse in the response.
 - In collaboration with UNFPA, WHO and the Government PSEA focal point for the Ebola response based within the Beni Health Zone, Community Based Complaint mechanisms of the city and surroundings were re-activated and supported. 33 focal points (including 16 women) part of the community-based complaint mechanisms received refresher training on their roles and responsibilities.
 - All UNICEF personnel deployed to the response have been briefed on PSEA and Child safeguarding and have signed the Code of Conduct.
 - Capacity building for 35 youths (including 25 girls and 10 boys) from the city of Beni to carry out community engagement on child safeguarding and sexual exploitation and abuse
 - Training of UNICEF partners (31 persons, including 13 women and 18 men) on Child Safeguarding and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
 - UNICEF through its partnership with NGO SOFEPADI is providing assistance to child victims of violence, including GBV and SEA victims.



Funding

- Given the current status of the outbreak and in alignment with the integrated response plan of the Ministry of Health, UNICEF estimates the total requirements at US\$482,000 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
- 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.



External Media

- During the reporting period, UNICEF continued to raise awareness [of Ebola prevention measures on its social networks](#) and [highlighted its support in containing the spread of the epidemic](#) and [protecting children in schools](#). New multimedia material is available [on WeShare](#).

For more information, contact:

Grant Leaity
Representative
UNICEF DRC
Email: glaity@unicef.org

Typhaine Gendron
Chief of Emergency
UNICEF DRC
Email: tgendron@unicef.org

Ghaffar Gomina
Senior Coordinator, a.i.
UNICEF DRC (Goma)
Email: ggomina@unicef.org