HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

10th October 2018 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE No 32

a) SITUATION UPDATE FROM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO FOR 9TH OCTOBER 2018, WITH DATA UP TO 7TH OCTOBER 2018

- Cumulative cases: 188
- Confirmed cases: 153
- Probable: 35
- Total deaths: 118
- Suspect Cases under investigation: 20
- Areas affected: Two provinces
  - North Kivu - Mabalako; Butembo; Ocha; Musienene; Beni and Bingo
  - Ituri - Mambasa, Mandina, Tchomia
- Health and front line workers vaccinated
- Security concerns limiting contact tracing.

b) EVD SITUATIONAL UPDATE IN UGANDA

- Uganda does not yet have a confirmed nor suspected case of Ebola
- As of 8th October, 2018, there was one alert case, a 6 year old being monitored in ETU in Kasese (Bwera) waiting for lab results. Cumulatively from 1st May to 5th October 2018, 285 VHF alerts were investigated with laboratory specimens, including 79 from high risk districts bordering DRC; and all the specimens of the alerts tested negative for Ebola virus infection.
• 3 contacts of a confirmed EVD case in Tchomia in Kyangwali refugee settlement, Hoima district, have completed the 21 day follow up today. All of them are fine.
• Active case search ongoing in all the districts

**c) PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD AND NATIONAL (PROGRESS AND GAPS)**
COORDINATION

SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES

- District Task Force meetings involving UNHCR, district and implementing partners continue to take place every Monday and Tuesday of every week in Kikuube district
- UNHCR is supporting construction of screening points at Buhuka/Nsonga and Kaiso POE in Kikuube and Hoima district respectively.
- Both refugee settlement and district task force meetings continue to take place every week in Kyegegwa district
- WFP plans to support Uganda Red Cross volunteers at PoEs
- Tender for procurement of a modified container for thermal scanning for Mpondwe border crossing point closed 05 October.
- 23 Small Mobile Storage Units (MSU) for PoEs have been procured; ETA for first tranche is 07 October.
- 3 Ambulances have been procured to replace the temporarily deployed leased Ambulances.
- Private health practitioners, religious leaders, schools, traditional healers are fully engaged /brought on board on Ebola surveillance in Kyegegwa and Kikuube districts
- 7 community alerts were received from the refugee settlements and were followed up but did not meet the criteria for EVD suspects
- VHTs are continuing daily reporting/surveillance of Ebola in the communities.
- All new arrivals from the hot spots in Congo are being monitored in the reception centre before they are relocated.
In Kyegegwa district, a total of 98 people from North Kivu are being monitored for up to 21 days. None has shown signs of EVD. 5 people who had travelled from Congo through Mpondwe are also being monitored for up to 21 days. None showed signs of EVD as well.

UNHCR established are toll-free line 0795317676 for communities to call and share concerns on Ebola, report cases to health workers, and also find out more information on Ebola.

Care Uganda is also supporting training of more VHTs in the settlement this week and a total of 80 VHTs are currently undergoing training in community surveillance.

Screening activities continue at the PoE supported by UNHCR, Kikuube district local government, world vision and WHO.

Ntoroko District

- No alerts reported for today
- WHO team and the DHO visited the community of Budiba 1 for a community orientation on community surveillance and search. 47 community members were present including LC1, a senior teacher and security officers among others. The people were informed about current situation and community case definition of EVD, mode of transmission, prevention, case identification and reporting.
Kikuube district

- Kikuube district received 94 WASH facilities from UNICEF of which 44 were distributed to 22 health facilities (HFs) 44 in 22 schools and 8 to 2 landing sites (POE).

CASE MANAGEMENT AND IPC

Mulago ETU

- Site plan approved by Case Management Committee
- WFP tender for construction of ETU will close on 09th October.
- Once construction begins, it will take approximately one month to complete.
- WFP is awaiting formal approval to begin construction; MoH letter to be sent to KCCA.
- In both Hoima and Kikuube districts, accumulative total of 199 health workers have been trained in surveillance (116) and EVD case management(83)
- The ETU in Kasonga is also being supported by UNHCR with the technical guidance of MSF and WHO to have final modifications which are vital to its operation.
Ntoroko District

- No suspected case Isolated for today.
- Collected supplies from Bundibudgyo in preparation for safe and dignified burial training due to start tomorrow 10th October at Karugutu H/C III where 11 people are expected to attend the training exercise.
- Work at Rwebisengo ETU in progress.

RISK COMMUNICATION/SOCIAL MOBILIZATION

- 2 radio talk shows per week are being held in Kikuube district with support from UNHCR and partners and there is a plan to increase to 3 talk shows per week. In Kyegegwa district, a total of 15 radio talk shows have since been held ever since the Ebola scare started.
- With support from UNHCR and partners, community radios are being installed in both refugee and host communities to ensure effective sensitization.
- VHTs are continuing with sensitisation on Ebola in the refugee settlements in Kikuube district.
- Sensitization was extended to all partner staffs in the refugee settlements to create awareness and address concerns of the staff/humanitarian workers in Kikuube district.
- UNHCR and partners have instituted daily briefs and regular CMEs to health workers and clients in all health facilities before services start to raise awareness in Kikuube.
Bunyangabu District

- The WHO and URCS teams attended the independence celebration in Bunyangabu where they oversaw distribution of IEC materials together while waiting for an opportunity to speak to the Independence celebrants about EVD. The function was at Karugaya high school where more than 2,000 people including political leaders, school children, the forces and other cadres were in attendance.

Ntoroko District

- IEC materials were distributed to reinforce the information shared and prepare all for community engagement.

LOGISTICS

- Road transport and storage capacity is available to partners, upon request, for EVD related preparedness response courtesy of WFP

CROSS BORDER ACTIVITIES

-End-

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