



Ministry of Health

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE No 63

**a) SITUATION UPDATE FROM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO FOR 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018, WITH DATA UP TO 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

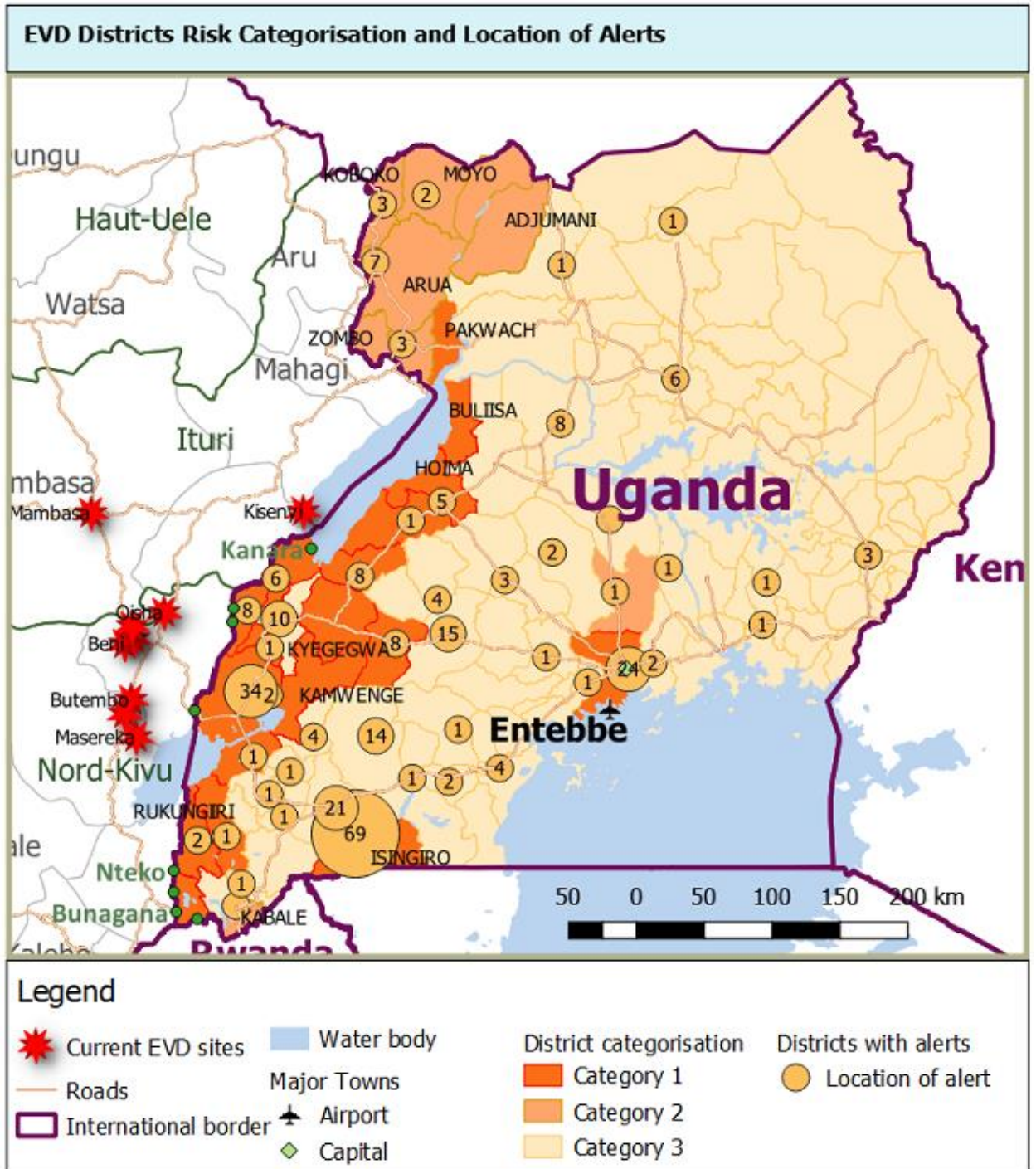
- Cumulative cases: 422
- Confirmed cases : 375
- Probable : 47
- Total deaths : 242
- Suspect Cases under investigation : 74
- Areas affected : Two provinces
  - North Kivu - Mabalako; Butembo; Ocha; Musienene; Beni and Bingo
  - Ituri- Mambasa, Mandina, Tchomia
- Health and front line workers vaccinated

**b) EVD SITUATIONAL UPDATE IN UGANDA**

- **There is NO confirmed EVD case in Uganda.**
- Active case search continues in all communities, health facilities and on formal and informal border crossing in all districts especially in the high risk ones.
- Alert cases continue to be picked, isolated, treated and blood samples picked for testing by the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI). The alerts are highlighted in the specific district reports below **under the Surveillance section.**



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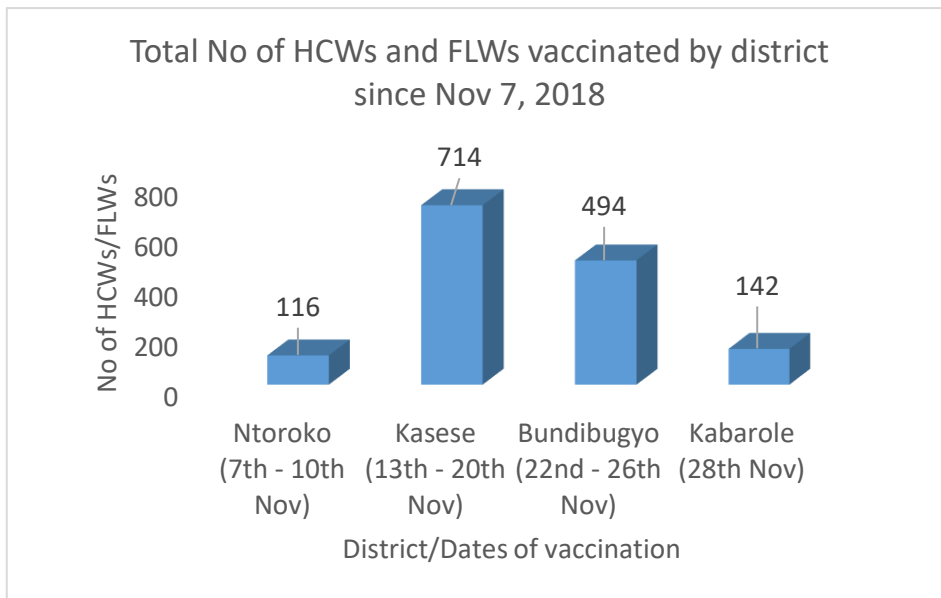


**c) PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD AND NATIONAL (PROGRESS AND GAPS)**

## VACCINATION

### Kabarole District

- EVD vaccination started on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at three major hospitals in the district.
- Cumulatively, 1,466 health care workers and frontline workers have been vaccinated since 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 in the Ruwenzori sub-region at 41 health facilities including Points of Entry (PoEs).



## COORDINATION

### Kasese District

- The District Task Force met at the district headquarters in attendance was the new WHO Consultant on Risk communication and the EVD and Regional Coordinator. Key issues noted were:
  - The DHT requested for support to train a burial team for Kasese town to complement the one currently based in Bwera.
  - The DHT requested WHO to provide information and guidance on mixing the 65% and 90% Chlorine powder that has been supplied.
  - There is also need for support to open the Katwe Kabatooro lake border PoE.

### **Kabarole District**

- The DHT held a press conference to clarify the issue of a suspected EVD patient who died at Fort Portal Regional Referral Hospital. Eight journalists from various media houses attended the press conference. There was a Q&A on the laboratory results of the deceased. They were informed that the results were negative for EVD and other Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers.

### **Bundibugyo District**

- No major activity to report on under this pillar

### **Bunyangabu District**

- No major activity to report on under this pillar.

### **Ntoroko District**

- No major activity to report on under this pillar.

## **SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES**

### **Kasese District**

- No alert or suspected detected in the district on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.
- DHT/WHO team visited Kinyamaseke HCIII, Kiburara HCII and Bugangara HCII and oriented 11 health workers and 4 VHTs on EVD. The need for an isolation room at each facility was highlighted as well as the vigilance of the VHTs to report any alert or suspected cases detected in the community.

### **Ntoroko District**

- No alert or suspected detected in the district on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.
- DHT/WHO Surveillance Team visited Ntoroko HC III and Stella Maris HC III where they oriented 10 health workers on EVD. Case definition, surveillance, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and community engagement by VHTs were the issues discussed.
- Kigumgu, Ntoroko main, Fridge, Tamsamii and Kanara landing sites were also supervised. Temperature screening by volunteers was ongoing and they were updated on the EVD situation and prevention measures.



### **Kabarole**

- No alert or suspected detected in the district on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.

### **Bunyangabu**

- No alert or suspected detected in the district on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.

### **Bundibugyo**

- No alert or suspected detected in the district on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.

### **Hoima and Kikuube Districts**

- No EVD alert or suspected case detected in both Hoima and Kikuube districts as at 18:00 hours on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018.
- 124 new arrivals were screened at Sebagoro, Nsonga and Kaiso PoEs. No alert or suspected cases detected.
- DHT Hoima is compiling data on health workers eligible for EVD vaccination.
- Training of 30 VHTs from Hoima, Kagadi and Kikuube districts on psychosocial support started on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.



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## CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

### **Kabarole District**

- There was no patient in isolation on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.
- IPC assessments and mentorship conducted at Maranatha Health Children's Clinic and Reproductive health Uganda. Gaps included none adherence to hand hygiene practices, non-functional incinerator, lack of bin liners and poor waste segregation. Fourteen (14) health workers were mentored on IPC and chlorine constitution.

### **Kasese District**

- There was one new alert admitted at Bwera Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU). She is an 8 years old girl from Mpondwe Border area who recently visited, Kasindi border area in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). She presented with a history of fever, cough and vomiting blood. She had no fever on admission. A sample was picked and taken to Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) for testing.
- Five (5) health workers from Kyondo and Kyarumba HCIII's as well as fifty six (56) VHTs from Kyarumba community were oriented on EVD.

### **Ntoroko District**

- There was no patient in isolation on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.
- Five (5) health care workers were mentored on EVD at Rwebisengo HC III. They were also urged to actively promote proper hand washing in the communities.
- Kigumgu, Ntoroko main, Fridge, Tamsamii and Kanara landing sites were supervised by the DHT/WHO surveillance team. IPC and personal protection were emphasized to the volunteers manning the sites.

### **Bundibugyo District**

- . There was no patient in isolation on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.

### **Bunyangabu District**

- There was no patient in isolation on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.



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## RISK COMMUNICATION/SOCIAL MOBILIZATION

### Updates from CHC. Activities from this week

- District: Bundibugyo
- Areas covered: Bundibugyo Town Council, Booma Central ward, Hamutiti, Bukonzo, Bumadu, Busunga, Nyahuka, Bundikuyali, Bundikahungu and Kahungu.
- Activities Conducted: One-on one discussions, Small group discussions, home visits, VHT/leader orientations, demonstrations on hand washing, Targeted materials dissemination, community drives, film shows on Ebola and Seven steps of hand washing.
- Number reached/Exposed to Ebola message: 2052, of these 1052 (677M and 375F) were reached through direct interactions with an IPC agent and 1000 were exposed to the message through film shows, community drives and activations.
- Number oriented: 28 (19 VHTs and 9 district leaders).
- Issues discussed: Hand washing, signs and symptoms of Ebola, How Ebola is spread
- No of materials disseminated: 1026 (386 brochures, 382 posters and 258 stickers)
- Observations: There is Low Risk perception on Ebola among community members and this is evident in the laxity in hand washing.
- Quotes: "Now that OBULAMU is here we shall be able to reach many more people with messages on Ebola" noted the Bundibugyo Town Clerk.



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District: Kasese

- Areas covered: Kinyamaseke Town Council, Market cell, Munkunyu Health Centre III, Kisinga town council, Nsenyi, Kabira, Rwenguhya North, Rwenguhya South, Kiburara, Kagando, Kisinga Sub County
- Mawa market, Kasese Municipal Council, Kisanga A&B, Mumbuzi
- Activities: One-on one discussions, Small group discussions, home visits, VHT/leader orientations, demonstrations on hand washing, Targeted materials dissemination, community drives.
- Number reached/Exposed to Ebola Message: 1628, of these 1028 (439M and 589F) were reached through direct interactions with an IPC agent/VHT and 600 were exposed to messages through community drives and activations.
- Number oriented: 18 (14 VHTS, 4 leaders)
- Issues discussed: Hand washing, signs and symptoms of Ebola, How Ebola is spread
- No of materials disseminated: 465
- Observations: There is need to clarify to the community why only a few people (Health Workers) are being vaccinated against Ebola.

Quotes:

District: Kabarole

- Areas covered: Karago Town council, Karago ward, Bukuuku cell, Mugusu, Kibede village, Kabondeire, Kagote village.
- Activities: Community dialogue, Community show, One on one, IEC material dissemination, VHT orientation, Film show, home visits, community drives.
- Number reached: 940 (646F, 304M) were reached through direct interaction
- Issues discussed: Causes and spread of Ebola, signs and symptoms, prevention and management, hand washing.
- No of materials disseminated: 140 (80 brochures, 30 posters and 30 stickers)
- Number Oriented: 15 (11VHTs and 4 leaders)
- Observations: The Risk perception is low in community because most people feel Ebola is still far (Congo) and there is no need to worry.
- Quotes: "If Ebola is Congo, why should we care?" Marium Nyakojo a market vendor at Mugusu market.





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District: Bunyangabu

- Areas covered: Kibiito town council, Kibate village, Rwimi town council, Kasunganyanja trading, Kyamukube Trading Centre.
- Activities: One-on ones, Small group discussions, Orientation for VHTs/Health workers and district leaders, Targeted materials dissemination, community drives, Community Activations, participated in the WHO orientation for District leaders on Mental Health and Psychosocial support and Ebola District Task Force Meeting.
- Number reached: 1731 of these 1231 (623M and 608F) were reached through direct interaction with an IPC agent/ VHT and at least 500 were exposed through film shows and community activations.
- Number exposed to Ebola message: 1731
- Number oriented: 25 (16 VHTs, 4 leaders and 5 health workers)
- Issues discussed: Hand washing, signs and symptoms of Ebola, How Ebola is spread
- No of materials disseminated: 755 (328 brochures, 206 posters and 221 stickers)

Observations:

- People lack knowledge about proper hand washing,
- Most Health Centres have hand washing facilities but the clients do not use them
- The Ebola Risk perception in most communities is still very low.

Quotes:

- "Thank you Obulamu for always communicating health to our people"-In charge Rwimi Health Centre III.
- "We are glad to see you in our area you will help expose our people to Ebola information and that will build vigilance," – Nurse at Kibate Health Centre II



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District: Kisoro

- Areas covered: Muramba Sub- county: Bunagana, Gatsibo, and Kanyampiriko villages; Busanza Sub-county: Gakenke market, Kiramira Catholic and Church of Uganda Parishes; Kyanika border post
- Activities: One-on ones, Small group discussions, Orientation for VHTs/ Community leaders, Home visits, Targeted materials dissemination, community drives, Community Activations, District Entry/ Planning meeting with district officials and representatives from Busanza and Muramba sub-county
- Number reached: 1986 of these 486 (283 M and 203 Female) were reached through direct interaction with an IPC agent/ VHT and at least 1500 were exposed through community activations in trading centres, markets and churches
- No of materials disseminated: 97 Ebola posters
- Number exposed to Ebola message: 1986
- Number oriented: 10 (7 VHTS, 3 Community leaders)

Observations:

- The people at the border trading centres and villages have a higher Ebola risk perception, compared to people far off from border.
- Most people are aware of Ebola, but lack adequate knowledge about the diseases How it is spread, signs and symptoms, and prevention
- IPC activities are supplementing the sensitizations done through, by providing an added channel for dialogue.

Quotes:

- "Ebola is for Congolese, it's not in Uganda we just hear it over the radio that it's in Congo" says a male resident in Chanika village.
- "I stopped shaking hands with people from the time I heard of the Ebola outbreak in Congo" says a female tailor in Kisoro
- I cannot contract Ebola, where will it find me since I don't eat wild animals?" Says a male resident in Chanika
- "Taxi men squeeze us in taxis with some people from Congo, I am worried we shall get Ebola from such forced body contact" says a male business man in Gankenke market.
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Note: number exposed is an estimate of people that were reached with a message on Ebola through a film show, community drive or community activation.

Numbers across all districts:

	Total
People Oriented	96
Materials disseminated	2483
People reached or exposed to message	8337

### **Kabarole District**

- Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) reached 371 people in 187 households with EVD messages and displayed 133 posters in addition to demonstrating proper hand washing to community members.
- URCS volunteers sensitized more than 400 students at Nyakasura Secondary School on EVD through power point presentation, videos and discussions.

### **Kasese District**

- URCS volunteers reached 1,086 people in 210 households with EVD messages. They distributed 147 IEC materials and held community meetings in three (3) schools.

### **Ntoroko District**

- No major activity conducted under this pillar

### **Bundibugyo District**

- No major activity conducted under this pillar.

### **Bunyangabu**

- No major activity to report on under this pillar.

### **LOGISTICS**

- Photocopies of identification, informed consent and participation forms are urgently needed to support the vaccination exercise in Kabarole district.



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- An inventory of the EVD preparedness logistics was done at the district stores and at Fort Portal Referral Hospital.
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**-End-**

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