

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Weekly Update on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Preparedness for South Sudan

Update # 29

Date: 23 March 2019

1. Highlights

- An assessment team of UNICEF, WFP, MSF, and WHO visited Yei River State on 20 March 2019 to assess the level of readiness of the Isolation facility to handle suspected cases. The team will also travel to Nimule and Yambio for the same mission.
- Since 28 January 2019, a total of 1, 411 healthcare workers and frontline workers in Yei River State and Gbudwe State have been vaccinated against EVD.
- The GeneXpert and Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) results for the Ebola alert from Tambura were negative for Ebola Zaire and other strains.
- About 12 laboratory personnel were trained on EVD biosafety in Torit from 12 to 14 March 2019, participants were drawn from various counties of former Eastern Equatoria State.
- A suspected EVD alert was reported from Mauna police station of Jubek state. The GenXpert analysis was negative for Ebola.

2. Ebola Situation update from North Kivu of Democratic Republic of Congo

- As of 23 March 2019, a total of 1,009 EVD cases, including 944 confirmed and 65 probable cases have been reported.
- Since the last report on 17 March 2019, 58 new confirmed EVD cases have been reported, with an additional 31 deaths.

3. Public Health Preparedness and Readiness

3.1 Coordination

- National taskforce meeting was held on 21 March 2019 at the PHEOC in Juba. The meeting minutes with action points were shared for follow-up and implementation.
- State Task Force meetings also took place in Yei, Yambio, Jubek, and Nimule. The meeting minutes and action points were also shared with the TWGs for follow-up and implementation.
- The six months EVD contingency plan #2 and resource mobilization is being finalized.

3.2 Resource mobilization

- The National EVD Task Force has mobilized \$12.5 million out of \$16.3 million from donors and other partner agencies (76.7% of planned budget).
- Additional \$3.7 million is required to support priority activities for the coming six months.

3.3 EPI/Surveillance and Laboratory

- The EPI-Surveillance TWG has selected team members for the two dedicated RRT members at the national level.
- Three EVD alerts were reported, two from Mauna police station and Al-sabah children hospital of Jubek State and one from Nimule of Torit State. The GenXpert analysis for all the suspected cases was negative for Ebola.

3.4 Port Health and Screening

- Border health and point of entry TWG continue work on operationalization of new Points of entry/screening points.

A commutative number of screening data at the border crossing points

S/N	Location	State	Cumulative total screened	Average Screening per Week	Secondary Screened (week 11)	Alerts (week 11)
1	JIA	Jubek	113,392	3,544	-	0
2	Nimule River	Torit	59,679	2,487	2	0
3	Nimule Checkpoint	Torit	1,131,900	39,031	46	0
4	Gangura Border	Gbudue	13,287	475	-	0
5	Sakure	Gbudue	7,854	291	-	0
6	Yambio Airport	Gbudue	3,647	130	-	0
7	Wau	Wau	1,183	41	-	0
8	Yei RRC	Yei River	510	20	-	0
9	Kaya	Yei River	60,805	2,432	2	0
10	Yei Airstrip	Yei River	644	25	-	0
11	Okaba	Yei River	24,800	1,033	-	0
12	Makpandu	Gbudue	3,192	139	-	0
13	Ezo	Gbudue	37,090	1,686	-	0
14	Maridi	Maridi	343	15	1	0
15	Tikori	Yei River	3,486	183	-	0
16	Khorijo	Yei River	38,311	2,554	-	0
17	Pure	Yei River	34,449	2,297	-	0
18	Bazi	Yei River	10,122	1,012	6	0
19	Nimule Airstrip	Torit	266	27	-	0
20	Bangangai	Gbudue	2,010	335	0	0
21	James Diko	Gbudue	764	127	0	0
22	Sangura 1	Gbudue	1,559	260	0	0
23	Basukangbi	Gbudue	4,738	790	0	0
24	Sala Musalia		4,614	1,538	0	
	Total		1,558,645		57	0

3.5 Case Management, Infection Prevention, and Control

- A brief presentation on Kobo Tool Box done by Centre for Disease Control (CDC) on how to collect and submit IPC assessment data for health facility.
- The Case Management, Infection Prevention, and Control has finalized budget costing for the 6-months preparedness plan #2 and shared with coordination.
- International Medical Corps (IMC) is conducting a two-week WASH/IPC assessment of health facilities in Jubek State. The assessment ends on 2 April 2019.

3.6 Safe and Dignified Burial

- The TWG has finalized the cost estimate of the set-up of the burial site to be shared with coordination.
- The TWG continue with identification of implementing partners that will defray the cost of the burial site set-up.

3.7 Risk communication, community engagement and social mobilization (RCCE&SM)

- The RSCMCE TWG initiated discussions on responding to a confirmed case within 72 hours, in the 3 scenarios/settings.

3.8 Logistics and Personnel deployment

- The Logistics technical working group and OCHA completed assessment visit to Nimule and Yambio. The mission was a follow up of JMM recommendations regarding Isolation Units, personal protection equipment stocks & telecoms mapping.
- WFP will deliver the ambulances for the Isolation Units during the reporting week.

3.9 Vaccines and Therapeutics

- The vaccination exercise continues in Gbudue State and the team in Yambio has moved to Maridi State to continue vaccination.
- The vaccination in Nimule will start on Monday, 25 March 2019.

3.10 Access, Safety, and Security

- The TWG continue to engage with the local authorities and parties in conflicts to establish unhindered access to the EVD high-risk areas.

3.11 Updates from States

Jubek

- Samaritan's Purse trained 30 healthcare workers from Juba Teaching Hospital and El-Sabbah Children's Hospitals on EVD IPC/WASH and basic Case Management.
- IMC trained 20 frontline healthcare workers on EVD screening, Isolation and basic IPC skills.
- Jubek State Ministry of Health with support from UNICEF trained 63 social mobilizers

Yei

- Surveillance team conducted a supervision visits to South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) screening point in Yei town.
- AAHI supported IPC and case management training for newly recruited 23 staff that will be deployed to the EVD Isolation Unit and other health facilities.

Nimule (Torit State)

- Updated the training data base.
- Updated inventory for Personnel Protection Equipment (PPEs) and Trainings.
- Standards Operating Procedures (SOPs) distribution is on-going.
- Received a Joint mission from Coordination and Logistics represented by WHO, OCHA & WFP that visit Nimule to assess the level of readiness of the Isolation facility

4. Challenges/Gaps

- Access to areas outside Yei River County is a challenge due to insecurity.

5. Recommendations and priority follow up actions

- Access, Safety, and Security technical working group to continue engaging armed groups to ensure unhindered access.

6. Conclusion

- Continue with vaccination of frontline health workers in Yambio and start the vaccination exercise in Tambura and Nimule.
- Continue with implementation of other EVD preparedness interventions as per national EVD contingency plan.

Partners involved in EVD preparedness and readiness

MOH, WHO, Health Cluster partners, UNICEF, CDC, USAID, DFID, JICA, ECHO, World Bank, UNHCR, UNOCHA, Health Pool Fund, IOM, AWG, WASH Cluster partners, ICRC, IFRC, SSRC, WFP, Min of Interior, AMREF, MSF family, IMC, ICRC, ALIMA, IRC, World Vision, America Refugee Committee, SCI, UNMISS, UNDSS, UNDP, SPLA, LS, DFCA, ARC, Samaritan's Purse, MEDAIR, REACH and UNHASS.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Richard Lako Lino Incident Manager Email: richardlako@yahoo.com Tel.: +211 926 592 520	Dr. Pinyi Nyimol Mawien Director General PHS Email: pinyiaupur@gmail.com Phone: +211916285676	Dr. Mathew Tut Moses Director, EPR & PHEOC Email: tut1988@yahoo.com Tel.: +211 922 202 028
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