

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

**Weekly Update on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Preparedness Activities in South Sudan**

**Update # 47**  
**Week 31 (29 July- 4 August 2019 )**  
**Date: 5 August 2019**

## 1. Highlights of the week

- Three Ebola alerts were reported from 29 July-4 August, 2019 in Yambio, Ibbra/Maridi and Juba. Rapid response teams (RRT) were deployed for case investigation and sample collection. Out of the three alert, sample was collected from the alert in Juba. GenXpert result was negative and awaiting result for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).
- On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August a meeting was organized among the extended head of mission at the European delegation in Juba. The objective of the meeting were to discuss on: recent Ebola virus disease (EVD) developments and risks for South Sudan; the current state of Ebola virus disease (EVD) Preparedness in South Sudan;; and, funding status of the second phase EVD preparedness.
- On the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 a second case of EVD has been confirmed in the Congolese city of Goma, a major transit hub along the Rwandan border that's home to more than two million people. The patient travelled to Goma from his place of work in Itiru on 13 July 2019. So far, 4 family members infected with 2 dead. The following figure shows the EVD outbreak in Goma.

### New outbreak in Goma; DRC

- 30<sup>th</sup> July: a male aged 46 years tested positive; he had travelled from Bunia on 13<sup>th</sup> not sure of the place of contact
- 31<sup>st</sup> July: one of his children also tested positive; father dies
- 1<sup>st</sup> August: another child & wife tested positive; child dies
- As of today, 4 family members infected with 2 dead. A nurse who treated index patient at home said to be sick
- High risk of transmission into Rwanda; heightened alert
- Given the distance, risk of direct transmission to SSD is not significant

**City of Goma**

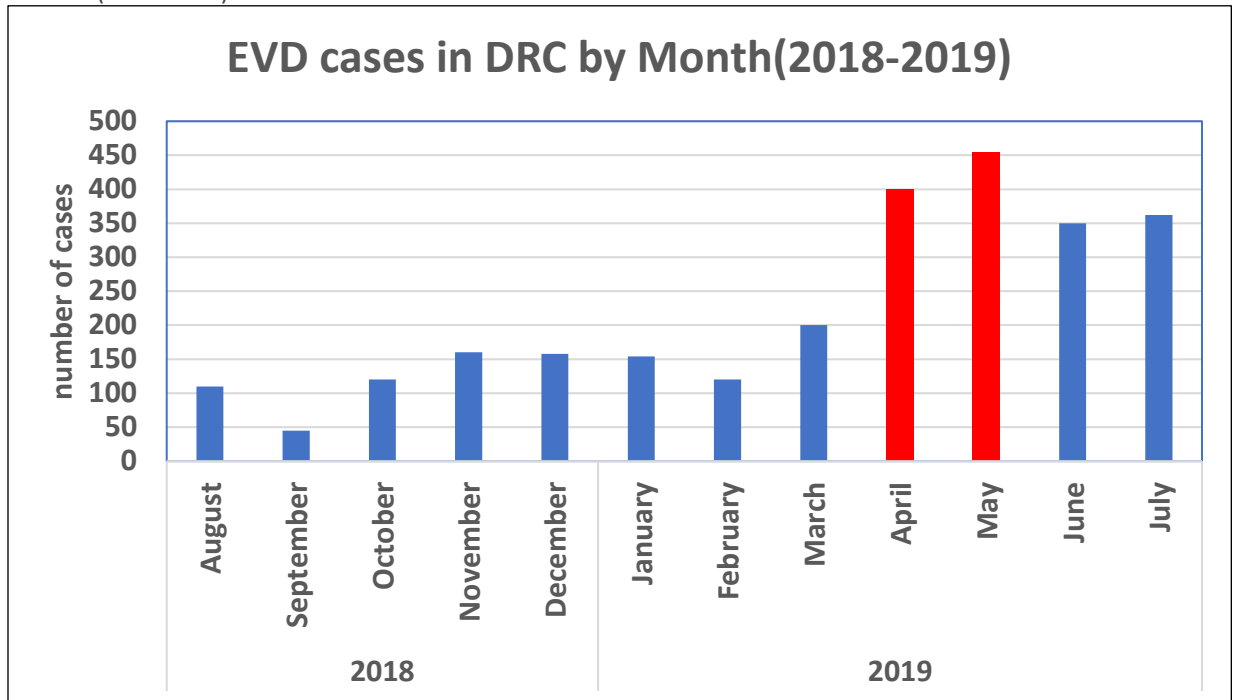
- Housed about 2 million people with international airport
- About 874 km away from South Sudan Border (Kaya)
- Very close to the border of Rwanda

41

- The findings and recommendations was shared among exercise facilitators, evaluators, RRT and other relevant stakeholders.
- The Ministry of Health and Partners conducted a one day orientation meeting for the high command of the South Sudan Peoples Defense Forces(SSPDF) and other organized forces. The meeting discussed the current EVD outbreak in DRC, the risks to south Sudan, current preparedness activities and the role for the organized forces in supporting preparedness activities especially providing access.

## 2. Situation update - Democratic Republic of Congo

- As of August 1, 2019 the cumulative number of EVD cases is 2,713 with 1,823 deaths (Case fatality Ratio of 67%). During the first eight months of the epidemic, more than 1,000 cases of Ebola were reported. Nevertheless, between April and June 2019, the number has doubled, with a further 1,000 new cases reported in just these three months. Over the past 6 weeks the outbreak was intensified with an average of 85 cases per week (range 79 to 91 cases per week). Figure 1 below shows the EVD cases in DRC by months (2018-2019)



## 3. Public Health Preparedness and Readiness in South Sudan

### 3.1. Coordination

- August 1 2019 a coordination meetings were conducted by the National Taskforce (NTF) on Ebola preparedness.
- Coordination meetings were conducted by EVD State Task Forces (STFs) in Jubek, Torit (Nimule), Gbudwe (Yambio), Yei River, Maridi, and Tambura states.
- Weekly meetings were conducted by the respective Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to provide technical guidance and support to partners implementing EVD preparedness activities.

### 3.2. Resource mobilization

- The second National EVD Preparedness Plan (April – September 2019) with a financial requirement of US\$ 12.2 million is 38% funded (including secured funding and confirmed commitments).

### 3.3. EPI-Surveillance and Laboratory

- Three Ebola alerts were reported from 29 July to 4 August, 2019 in Yambio, Ibba/Maridi and Juba. Rapid response teams (RRT) were deployed for case investigation and sample collection. Out of the three alert, sample was collected from the alert in Juba. GenXpert result was negative and awaiting result for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).
- The EPI-Surveillance team in collaboration with other TWGs reviewed the joint supportive supervision checklist. In the same week a team organized a joint supportive supervision at Gure Primary Health Care Center.
- The alert management standard operating procedure within Epi-Surveillance were reviewed and the update will be included in the next print out.

### 3.4. Border Health and Screening

- For the Epi-week 31, some 82, 553 individual were screened for EVD at 32 points of entry. The cumulative number of screenings conducted since August 2018 is 2, 844, 342. See table 1 below for more information.

- Active screening of incoming travellers through the points of entry is currently ongoing. IOM is also conducting population flow monitoring in strategic entry points along the South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo border.

Table 1: Summary of screenings from 31 points of entry

Primary screened		Secondary screened		Alerts	
Reporting Week	Cumulative	Reporting Week	Cumulative	Reporting Week	Cumulative
82, 553	2, 844, 342	106	1,726	0	22 generated, 8 met case definition

### 3.5. Risk communication, community engagement and social mobilization (RCCE&SM)

- National and State-level analysis of Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) survey data completed. Basic qualitative analysis of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) completed. Both analyses and findings being internally reviewed.
- South Sudan red Cross (SSRC), Internews, International Organization for migration (IOM), UNICEF, and others expanding presence in selected high-risk areas with training and deployment of additional mobilisers..

### 3.6. Operations & Logistics

- The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) resumed EVD flight to high risk states. To this effect, a guidance documented was circulated for use by the EVD actors.

### 3.7. Vaccines and Therapeutics

- The second round of EVD vaccination activity in Yei River State finalized with 181 frontline health worker vaccinated. Thus, the total number of health workers who received Ebola vaccines to date is 2,973.

## 4. Challenges/Gaps

- Inadequate funding for strategic organizations and partners to implement the EVD operational plan with focus on their areas of comparative advantage.

## 5. Donors and partners involved in EVD preparedness and readiness

MOH, AAH, ACROSS, AMLIMA, AMREF, ARC, Canada, CDC, CERF, CMMB, CONCERN, COPE, CORDAID, CUAMM, DFCA, ECHO, ECSS, GAVI, Germany, GOAL, HELP, HLSS, HPF, IFRC, IMC-UK, Internews, IOM, IRC, JICA, MEDAIR, MSF, OXFAM, REACH, SAC, Samaritan's Purse, Save the Children, Solidarity International, SPLA, Ministry of Interior, SSDO, SSHF, SSRC, SSUHA, TRISS, UK/DFID, UMCOR, UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNMISS, UNOCHA, USAID/OFDA, WFP, WHO, World Bank, WVSS.

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