

GLOBAL CONTEXT

On August 1st, 2018, an Ebola outbreak was declared in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo. As of 20th November, there were 47 probable and 339 confirmed cases, with 48 suspected cases currently under investigation. There have been a total of 219 deaths. Of the 339 confirmed cases, 172 have died and 113 have recovered (according to the Ministry of Health Situation Report, 21st November). Under the leadership of the Congolese Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation, Medair and other partners are working to respond and to mitigate against further spread of Ebola Virus Disease.

WEEKLY UPDATE

From 14th to 20th of November:

- There were 38 new confirmed cases and 11 deaths among confirmed cases. **This represents the highest one-week total since the outbreak began.**
- 33,077 people have been vaccinated in Nord Kivu and Ituri provinces, as well as in Kinshasa (health workers, pre-deployment)

Note: some data cleaning has led to declassification and validation among both the confirmed and the probable cases recorded. This means that numbers presented in the “Global Context” section compare data available on November 20th with data available on November 13th, and are not necessarily representative of how the outbreak has evolved in the past week. The numbers presented in the “Weekly Update” section *are* representative, as these have been calculated by adding the number of new confirmed cases and new deaths among confirmed cases reported each day.

COMMENT ON CASE FATALITY RATES

Accurate case fatality rates (CFR) rely on accurate classification of cases, and cannot be properly calculated until the outbreak is over. Based on data available for the outbreak so far:

219 out of 386 (confirmed + probable) cases have died. This means that CFR to-date will be no *lower* than this percentage: 57% (and could be significantly higher, depending on the outcomes for the 54 people currently receiving treatment for Ebola Virus Disease).

MEDAIR RESPONSE SUMMARY

Before the outbreak was declared, Medair was working in 47 health facilities in Eastern DRC, with Health, Nutrition, and WASH related interventions. Medair’s first priority is to ensure that suspected Ebola cases can be safely identified, isolated and referred at these health facilities, in order to:

- 1) Ensure suspected Ebola patients receive timely care
- 2) Prevent further spread of the Ebola Virus Disease
- 3) Enable affected populations to continue to access quality primary health care in a safe environment

Beginning with areas where the risk is most elevated, Medair is ensuring that supported health centres are equipped to triage patients at the entrance to the health centre before isolating suspected Ebola cases in a temporary isolation area, while arranging for referral.

Health centre staff are being trained on how to consistently implement screening, isolation and referral without exposing themselves or other patients to the risk of being infected with Ebola Virus Disease. To support this, they are being equipped with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and receive instruction – derived from the WHO guidelines for responding to Ebola in DR Congo – on how to safely screen and isolate suspected Ebola patients.

In addition to supporting health facilities covered by pre-existing projects, Medair has prioritised and is working in sixteen additional health facilities. These health facilities were selected based on the level of risk of suspected cases emerging. Health personnel in all health facilities are now trained and equipped to properly screen and isolate suspected Ebola cases, as well as to refer them safely to the nearest Ebola Treatment Centre (ETC). At each health facility, a package of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures, and water, sanitation, and hygiene support is being provided, both in the health facilities themselves, and in selected communities.

The health facilities, schools and communities that Medair supports are included as annexes.



https://youtu.be/Cuh7y6jAM_U

Click on the link above to learn more about how screening for Ebola works at Oicha Reference Hospital. Medair's support to Oicha Reference Hospital was made possible through support from DG ECHO. (Videography credit: Tom Russell).

PROGRESS UPDATE: NORD KIVU

While Medair's response team also completed activities in Mutwanga, Butembo, and Katwa health zones, work in Beni, Kalunguta and Oicha health zones is being prioritised as other partners are providing coverage in Katwa. Beni remains the epicentre of the outbreak, with 169 out of the 339 confirmed cases.

Health, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) activities:**Butembo**

- CS Ngenere – rehabilitated water source and constructed placenta pit
- CS Vivuya – rehabilitated water source and constructed placenta pit
- CS Malende – rehabilitated water source
- Constructed 28 latrines at seven schools: EP Kyuhu (4), EP Vutika (4), EP Kasanga (4), EP La Corronne (4), EP Kalwanga (4), EDAP Kaseso (4), and EP Mulemi (4)

Oicha:

- HGR Oicha – installed 5,000L rainwater harvesting system
- AS Mambau and AS Mamove – formed 10 water source management committees
- CSR Pasala - trained eight hygienists on Ebola transmission and prevention measures
- CSR Mbau – constructed a temporary isolation facility

Beni

- Poste de santé Hekima – joint Community meetings with leaders and youth leaders after an isolation facility was destroyed
- Dispensaire Bénédiction (in Rwangoma, Beni) - established new IPC package and screening
- CS Rwangoma – constructed a brick incinerator,
- AS Rwangoma – continued community engagement in coordination with communications partner

Kalunguta

- CS Vurondo – installed a temporary isolation facility
- CS Tinke – established new IPC package, delivered an Ebola briefing with 13 participants, followed by a full-day training with 18 participants
- Butuhe and Mabuku – continued community engagement and dialogue sessions

Mutwanga

- CS Loulo, installed temporary structures for screening and isolation, trained two hygienists on preparation of chlorine solutions
- CS Lubiriha – installed temporary structures for screening and isolation, installed perimeter barrier for HF, training of three hygienists on preparation of chlorine solutions
- Nzenga community – engaged RECO, community leaders on Ebola transmission and prevention

Goma

Medair implemented Ebola preparedness and prevention activities in health centres and public places in Goma in September and October. No confirmed cases have yet been recorded in the city, but Medair is in the final stages of agreeing on a project to expand prevention activities in the coming months in order to ensure that city residents are well prepared in the event that cases do emerge. The proposed project would expand activities in communities, while also targeting health centres and schools.

ITURI

Komanda

- CSR Bwana Sura - completed a two-bed isolation unit
- CS Kainama – full PPE training, completion of a two-bed isolation unit

Gety

- CS Bukiringi and CS Kagaba - supervision visit, continued training in light PPE and infection prevention and control, follow-up with RECO to ensure accuracy of messaging

The team continues to coordinate with the Bunia sub-commissions to develop Ituri strategies specifically for IPC/WASH and for Communications.

PROGRESS UPDATE: NATIONAL / GLOBAL LEVEL

Medair's team in South Sudan continues with preparedness activities and coordination with the National Ebola Task Force. A small Health and WASH team are undertaking an Ebola preparedness intervention in one of the highest-risk border areas. The team are training and equipping primary health care facilities to safely identify, isolate and refer suspect cases of Ebola.

CHALLENGES & NEEDS

- **Broader security:** Security remains extremely challenging in and around Beni, Oicha and Butembo. In the past week, seven peacekeepers and 12 Congolese army soldiers were killed during a joint attack on the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF); an attack in Boikene neighbourhood, on the northern side of Beni town led to the evacuation of multiple WHO and UN staff members. The areas surrounding Oicha town remain particularly unstable, with armed attacks leading to destruction of houses, killings, and kidnappings. The INGO Forum is advocating for MONUSCO and FARDC to avoid going on the offensive against armed groups in areas affected by Ebola, instead focusing on creating a corridor in which humanitarians can continue their work unimpeded. Medair is coordinating closely with other international NGO to share security information, in order to help to maintain the safety of members and facilitate continued response.
- **Security at Medair-supported health centres:** An isolation facility at Hekima Dispensaire was destroyed by youths who had heard about a person who was given the Ebola vaccine and later died. Medical equipment and consumables were stolen at Paida health centre, unrelated to the Ebola response.
- **Supplies:** Lack of personal protective equipment continues to be a challenge, as the team waits on an international order and is unable to access adequate supply through WHO/Logistics Commissions in Beni and Bunia. This has been a problem since the beginning of the outbreak. An urgent review of systems/practice is required to ensure that support to operating partners improves, especially leading into the election season in which it is likely many facilities will not be able to be accessed on a regular basis and need to be given adequate stock soon to last through the new year.
- **Contact tracing and follow-up:** many of the new cases that emerge are not known contacts, indicating that contact tracing activities are not yet effective. Compounding the difficulty of following up with contacts, there continue to be instances of known contacts fleeing surveillance and developing symptoms elsewhere.

- **Movements:** Inadequate vehicles to manage all project activity needs, especially to support Butembo projects.
- **Funding:** the pressures on support costs imposed by some donors cause undue pressure on Medair's support staff, which in turn risks harm to the quality and efficiency of response. Without the development of greater flexibility and trust, continued partnership with such donors may become untenable.
- **Cash:** Beni continues to experience cash flow problems, with banks unable to provide requested funds.

Medair is a humanitarian organisation striving to relieve human suffering in some of the world's most remote and devastated places. We bring relief and recovery to people in crisis, regardless of race, creed, or nationality. In Eastern DR Congo, Medair is supporting over 60 health facilities, with funding from OFDA, DG ECHO, the SDC, UNICEF, the Common Humanitarian Fund and private funders.

Annex I: New government health facilities to be supported as part of Ebola response^{1,2}

#	Province	Health Zone	Health Area/Facility	IPC Activities				WASH Activities					Funding Partner
				Trained on case definition & surveillance?	Can screen, isolate & refer?			Received WASH kit?	Trained on preparation of chlorine solutions?	Safe water source constructed?	Latrines and showers constructed?	Waste zone constructed?	
1	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Oicha*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	ECHO-SDC
2	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mabasele	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	ECHO-SDC
3	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mambabeka	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	ECHO-SDC
4	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Ngandilama	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	ECHO-SDC
5	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Ngele	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	ECHO-SDC
6	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mamove	-	-	-	-	Yes	No	No	No	No	SDC
7	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mambau	-	-	-	-	Yes	No	No	No	No	SDC
8	Nord Kivu	Beni	Rwangoma	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	ECHO-SDC
9	Nord Kivu	Beni	Sayo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	ECHO-SDC
10	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Musayi*	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
11	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ishara*	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
12	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Malende	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	UNICEF
13	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Malende*	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	UNICEF
14	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Imani Imani Uponya	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
15	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngengere	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
16	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Vivuya	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
17	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Vulamba	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
18	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Furaini	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
19	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Afia ni Mail	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
20	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Vuvatsi	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
21	Nord Kivu	Katwa	Masiki	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	UNICEF
22	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Butuhe*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA

¹ High priority health facilities are highlighted in orange. Further health facilities will be identified as 'priority' depending on the direction of outbreak spread.

² All health facilities are primary health facilities, unless indicated with a * (referral centres).

23	Ituri	Komanda	Bwana Sura CSR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
24	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mbau*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
25	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Tinke	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
25	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Pasala*	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	SDC

Annex II: New private health facilities to be supported as part of Ebola response

#	Province	Health Zone	Health Area	Health Facility	IPC Activities			WASH Activities					Funding Partner	
					Trained on case definition & surveillance ?	Can screen, isolate & refer?			Received WASH kit?	Trained on preparation of chlorine solutions?	Safe water source constructed ?	Latrines and showers constructed ?		Waste zone constructed ?
1	Nord Kivu	Beni	Rwangoma	Hekima Dispensaire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	ECHO
2	Nord Kivu	Beni	Kasanga	Horizen Dispensaire ³	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	ECHO
3	Nord Kivu	Beni	Malepe	La Gazelle Dispensaire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	ECHO
4	Nord Kivu	Beni	Rwangoma	Hospitalier Medical Kalongo Safina	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes			-	ECHO
5	Nord Kivu	Beni	Rwangoma	Bénédiction Dispensaire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	ECHO

³ Note: this facility is temporarily closed.

Annex III: Health centres supported by Medair's current projects⁴

#	Province	Health Zone	Health Area	IPC Activities				WASH Activities					Funding Partner
				Trained on case definition & surveillance?	Can screen, isolate & refer?			Received WASH kit?	Trained on preparation of chlorine solutions?	Safe water source constructed?	Latrines and showers constructed?	Waste zone constructed?	
1	Ituri	Lita	Katoto	Yes	Yes	No	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
2	Ituri	Lita	Bahwere	Yes	Yes	No	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
3	Ituri	Lita	Zumbe	Yes	Yes	No	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
4	Ituri	Fataki	Jina	Yes	Yes	No	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
5	Ituri	Fataki	Bule	Yes	Yes	No	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
6	Ituri	Nizi	Iga Barrière	Yes	Yes	No	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
7	Ituri	Komanda	Luna	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
8	Ituri	Gety	Bukiringi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
9	Ituri	Gety	Kagaba	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
10	Ituri	Boga	Tchabi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
11	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Kainama	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
12	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mbau	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
13	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Masosi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	OFDA / MEDICOR
14	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Kitevya	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	OFDA / SDC
15	Nord Kivu	Beni	Mukulya	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
16	Nord Kivu	Beni	Paida	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	OFDA / SDC
17	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Butuhe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	OFDA / MEDICOR
18	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Mabuku	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	OFDA / MEDICOR
19	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Kalunguta	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
20	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Vurondo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	OFDA / MEDICOR
21	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Kivethya	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
22	Nord Kivu	Mutwanga	Lubiriha	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA
23	Nord Kivu	Mutwanga	Luolo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	OFDA

⁴ The GPS coordinates of the health facilities supported by OFDA are available via the following link: <https://app.box.com/s/cd8n3osavyvjs0m10ave0eplb6r8bmb4>

Annex IV: Schools supported by Medair's WASH projects

#	Province	Health Zone	Health Area	Name of School	Type of School	WASH Activities					Funding Partner
						Received WASH kit?	Trained teachers?	Safe water source constructed?	Latrines constructed?	Trained school brigades?	
1	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Malende	Ngengere	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
2	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Malende	La Couronne	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
3	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Malende	Kalwanga	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
4	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngere	Vutika	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
5	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngere	Katunyu	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
6	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngere	Kasanga	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
7	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Bwinongo	Kudo	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
8	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Bwinongo	Mulemi	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
9	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Bwinongo	Virunga	Secondary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
10	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Bwinongo	Patriarchie	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
11	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngingi	Mulekya	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
12	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngingi	Kamabuli	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
13	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Matanda	Kaseso	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	UNICEF
14	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngengere	St. François d'Assisi	Secondary	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	UNICEF
15	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Vulamba	Kyuhu	Primary	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	UNICEF

Annex V: Communities supported by Medair's projects

#	Province	Health Zone	Health Area	Health Promotion Activities		WASH Activities					Funding Partner
				Trained RECO?	Trained community leaders?	Trained RECO?	Trained community leaders?	Public handwashing stations constructed?	Chlorination points installed?	Safe water source constructed?	
1	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mamove	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	SDC
2	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mambau	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	SDC
3	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Kainama	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
4	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Mbau	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
5	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Masosi	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
6	Nord Kivu	Oicha	Kitevya	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
7	Nord Kivu	Beni	Mukulya	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
8	Nord Kivu	Beni	Paida	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
9	Nord Kivu	Butembo	Ngengere	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	UNICEF
10	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Butuhe	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	OFDA
11	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Mabuku	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
12	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Kalunguta	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
13	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Vurondo	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
14	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Kivethya	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
15	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Lubiriha	No	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
16	Nord Kivu	Kalunguta	Loulo	No	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
17	Ituri	Komanda	Luna	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
18	Ituri	Gety	Bukiringi	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
19	Ituri	Gety	Kagaba	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
20	Ituri	Boga	Tchabi	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA
21	Nord Kivu	Mutwanga	Nzenga	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	OFDA