

EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE

Democratic Republic of the Congo

External Situation Report 78



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Data as reported by: 2 February 2020

1. Situation update

Cases	Deaths
3428	2250

From 27 January to 2 February 2020, six new confirmed cases of Ebola virus disease (EVD) were reported in Beni and Mabalako Health Zones, North Kivu Province in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Figure 1). Among these six cases, five were registered as contacts with known epidemiological links, including two cases under surveillance at the time of detection.

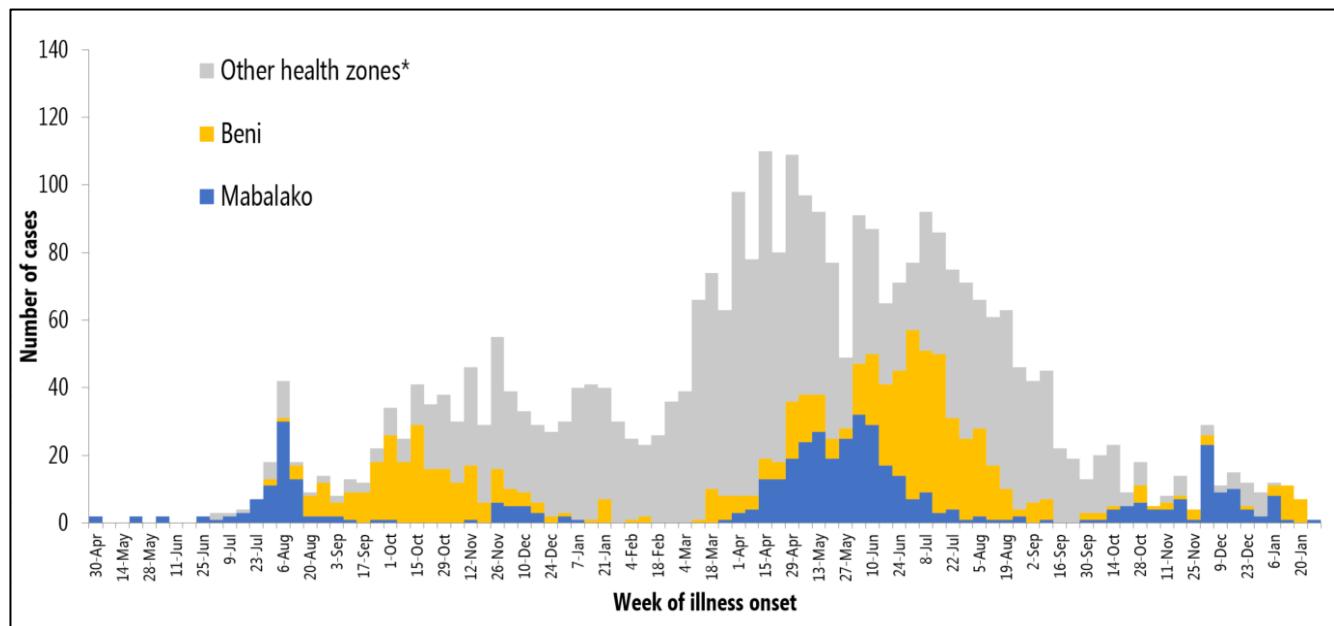
In the past 21 days (13 January to 2 February 2020), 25 new confirmed cases were reported from five of the 30 health areas in two active health zones in North Kivu Province (Figure 2, Table 1): Beni (72%; $n=18$) and Mabalako (28%; $n=7$) Health Zones. As of 2 February 2020, 27 health zones did not report new confirmed cases for more than 21 days, including Musienene Health Zone in North Kivu Province, which marked 22 days. No new cases were reported from Ituri Province in the past 21 days.

In the past 21 days, between four to 15 new cases were reported per week from two health zones. Although the small number of weekly cases and limited geographic area affected by EVD are encouraging, continuous vigilance for contact identification and follow up is essential to interrupt possible nosocomial transmission linked to traditional practitioner facilities, which is currently the major driver of the outbreak.

On 31 January 2020, 10 weeks after the fatal attacks on the response teams, there was another attack on an office in Biakato, Mandima Health Zone. No response personnel were injured. This volatile security situation prevents response teams from conducting their day to day operations.

As of 2 February 2020, a total of 3428 EVD cases, including 3305 confirmed and 123 probable cases have been reported, of which 2250 cases died (overall case fatality ratio 66%). Of the total confirmed and probable cases, 56% (1920) were female, 28% (966) were children aged less than 18 years, and 5% (172) were healthcare workers.

Figure 1: Health zone of reported Ebola virus disease cases by week of illness onset, as of 2 February 2020



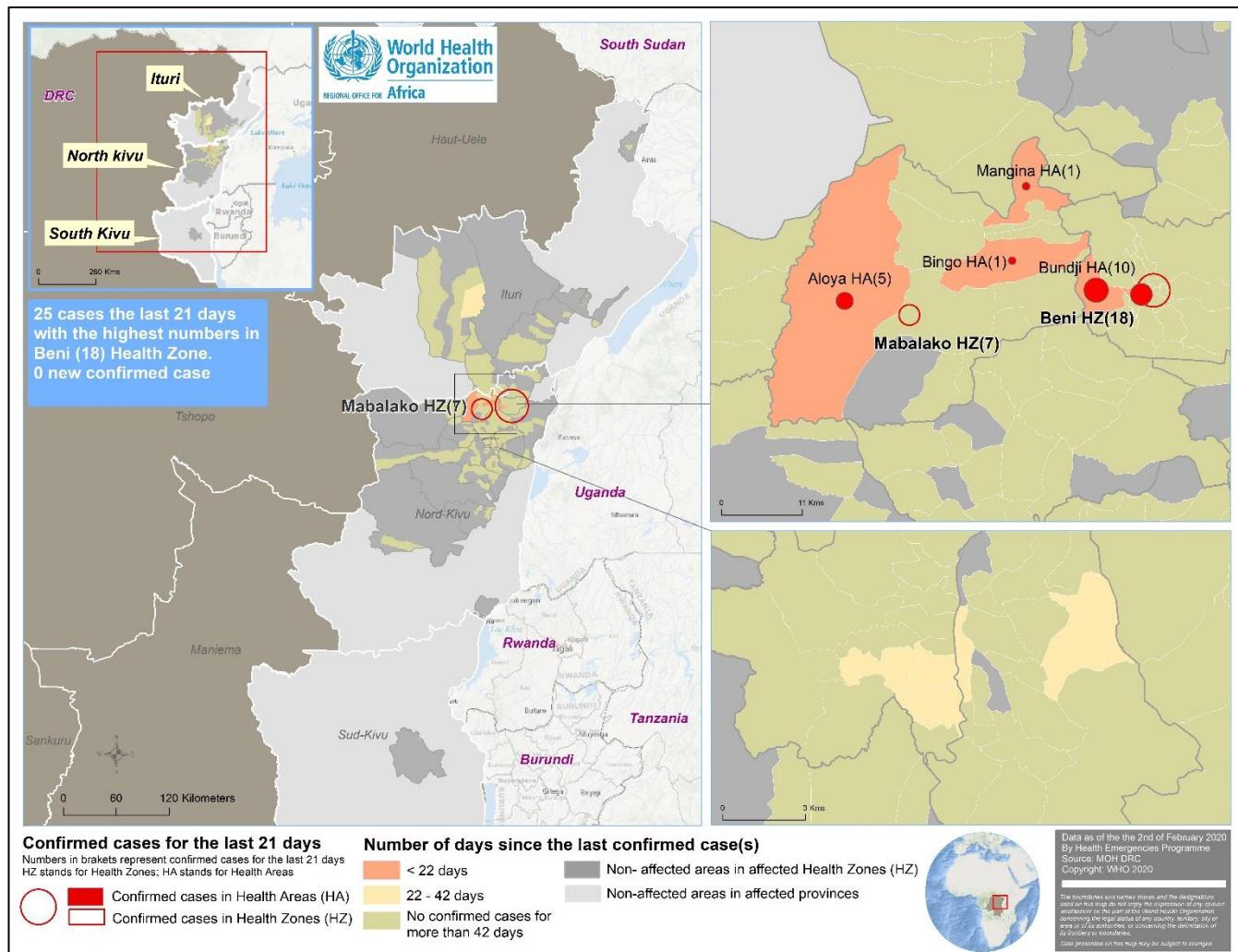
*3428 confirmed and probable cases, reported as of 2 February 2020. Excludes n=173 cases for whom onset dates not reported. Data in recent weeks are subject to delays in case confirmation and reporting, as well as ongoing data cleaning. Other health zones include: Alimbongo, Ariwara, Biena, Bunia, Butembo, Goma, Kalunguta, Katwa, Kayna, Komanda, Kyondo, Lolwa, Lubero, Mambasa, Mandima, Manguredjipa, Masereka, Musienene, Mutwanga, Mwenga, Nyakunde, Nyiragongo, Oicha, Pinga, Rwampara, Tchomia, and Vuhovi.

Table 1: Ebola virus disease cases by classification and health zones in North Kivu and Ituri provinces, Democratic Republic of the Congo, as of 2 February 2020

Province	Health Zone	Health areas reporting at least one case in previous 21 days / total number of health areas	Confirmed cases in the last 21 days	Cumulative cases by classification			Cumulative deaths	
				Confirmed cases	Probable cases	Total cases	Deaths among confirmed cases	Total deaths
South Kivu	Mwenga	0/18	0	6	0	6	3	3
North Kivu	Alimbongo	0/20	0	5	0	5	2	2
	Beni	2/18	18	716	9	725	462	471
	Biena	0/16	0	19	2	21	12	14
	Butembo	0/15	0	295	6	301	353	359
	Goma	0/10	0	1	0	1	1	1
	Kalunguta	0/18	0	198	19	217	71	90
	Katwa	0/18	0	653	23	676	471	494
	Kayna	0/21	0	28	0	28	8	8
	Kyondo	0/22	0	25	4	29	15	19
	Lubero	0/19	0	31	2	33	4	6
	Mabalako	3/12	7	463	18	481	334	352
	Manguredjipa	0/10	0	18	0	18	12	12
	Masereka	0/16	0	50	6	56	17	23
	Musienene	0/20	0	85	1	86	33	34
	Mutwanga	0/19	0	32	0	32	12	12
	Nyiragongo	0/10	0	3	0	3	1	1
	Oicha	0/26	0	65	0	65	30	30
	Pinga	0/18	0	1	0	1	0	0
	Vuhovi	0/12	0	103	14	117	37	51
Ituri	Ariwara	0/21	0	1	0	1	1	1
	Bunia	0/20	0	4	0	4	4	4
	Komanda	0/15	0	56	10	66	44	54
	Lolwa	0/8	0	6	0	6	1	1
	Mambasa	0/17	0	82	3	85	27	30
	Mandima	0/15	0	347	6	353	166	172
	Nyakunde	0/12	0	2	0	2	1	1
	Rwampara	0/13	0	8	0	8	3	3
	Tchomia	0/12	0	2	0	2	2	2
Total		5/471	25	3305	123	3428	2127	2250

Note: Attributions of cases notified in recent days to a health zone are subjected to changes upon in-depth investigations

Figure 2: Geographical distribution of confirmed and probable Ebola virus disease cases by health area, North Kivu and Ituri provinces, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 02 February 2020



*Data are subject to delays in case confirmation and reporting, as well as ongoing data cleaning and reclassification – trends during recent weeks should be interpreted cautiously.

2. Actions to date

The Government and the Ministry of Health (MOH) and other national authorities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, WHO, and partners are implementing outbreak control interventions together with teams in the surrounding provinces, who are taking measures to ensure that they are response-ready.

An overview of key activities is summarized below:

Surveillance and Laboratory

- Over 248 000 contacts have been registered to date, and 2452 were under surveillance as of 2 February 2020. On average, 91.2% of contacts were followed daily in the last seven days in health zones with continued operations.
- An average of 5293 alerts were reported per day over the past seven days, of which 5197 (98%) were investigated within 24 hours of reporting.

Vaccines

- From 8 August 2018 to 2 February 2020, 283 117 people were vaccinated with the rVSV-ZEBOV-GP Ebola vaccine.
- Vaccination with the Ad26.ZEBOV/MVA-BN-Filo vaccine continued in two health areas near Goma, with 9715 people vaccinated since its introduction on 14 November 2019, as of 31 January 2020.

Case management

- There are currently nine Ebola treatment centres (ETCs) reporting bed occupancy and 10 Ebola transit centres reporting bed occupancy in the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri Provinces.

Infection prevention and control (IPC) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- In the last seven days, there were four possible case of nosocomial infection in Beni subcoordination (no healthcare workers were infected).
- IPC activities were performed around all five new cases of EVD (in Beni and Mabalako), including evaluation, decontamination of households, IPC kit donations, IPC briefing, monitoring and supportive supervision for facilities within the Ring).
- A total of 153 healthcare facilities were assessed with the scorecard: the mean IPC score was 73% in 13 health zones. Among IPC indicators, sterilization and isolation capacity remain the lowest scoring indicators.

- ➔ IPC training on the MOH standardized “IPC toolkit” of IPC focal points and hygiene committee of healthcare facilities (known as Phase 3 of the IPC toolkit dissemination) started in Biakato on 29 January 2020 targeting 140 healthcare workers. The training was interrupted by the last attacks on an office of the Ebola response in Biakato. The training is planned to resume on 4 February 2020.
- ➔ The WHO team in the cooperation with MOH and other members of the IPC task force developed a conceptual note on the multisectoral strategic plan to address IPC under-performance of healthcare facilities category 3 and 4, including traditional healers, which have been the main focus of nosocomial infections. This is currently in the phase of final validation for the list of participants between the health formation (FOSA) and MOH to avoid duplication of training efforts.
- ➔ Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities continue and as of 1 February 2020, 133 health facilities have been evaluated in Beni, Oicha, Kalunguta, Butembo and Mabalakao; at the same time 255/290 providers were briefed on IPC measures.

Points of Entry (PoE)

- ➔ From 27 January to 2 February 2020, 2 761 397 screenings were performed, bringing the cumulative number of screenings to over 146 million since the beginning of the outbreak. There were 226 alerts notified this week, of which 116 (51%) were validated as suspects following investigation; none were subsequently confirmed with EVD following laboratory testing. The cumulative number of EVD positive cases identified at PoEs and Points of Control (PoCs) therefore remains at 30.
- ➔ The average number of PoEs and PoCs reporting daily screening was 105 out of 109 points this week. No EVD contact was intercepted at PoEs and PoCs this week.
- ➔ Due to insecurity, operations at PoCs Eringeti, Bella, Biakato Mayi and Biakato Mines were interrupted for at least one day in the past seven days.
- ➔ The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Communication Commission organized a motorized caravan in Nyragongo, in the outskirts of Goma town, to sensitize the population on the need to respect health control measures put in place in these Butembo-Goma axes. The caravan, which involved motorcycle riders, traders and community leaders, was organized in an attempt to address the challenge of travellers evading health screening at the strategic PoC at OPRP (PoC located in the north of Goma) through various informal routes/deviations.

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