



Emergency Manager's Weekly Report DRC and Guinea Ebola Outbreaks Situation Report #1 (February 15th)

This report is also available in [ESRI Story Map](#).

Democratic Republic of the Congo Highlights:

- On June 25, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) over. However, on February 7th, the DRC Ministry of Health reported a new outbreak:
 - This outbreak started with a case in the North Kivu Province. This individual has since died and was buried not using safe burial practices.
 - On February 11th, a second death has been confirmed. This case was in the town of Biena which is near the city of Butembo.
 - Health facilities that were visited by the first case have been disinfected.
 - As of February 12th, a total of 200 contacts has been identified and are under surveillance.
- There are several ongoing challenges for surveillance, including access to affected areas and community mistrust toward authorities and outbreak responders.
- The DRC Health Ministry is reassessing the decommissioned Ebola Treatment Center of Katwa for potential reopening.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) is providing ongoing support to the national authorities through staff present in Butembo territory. WHO is also preparing a shipment of vaccine doses to Butembo and supporting shipment of cold chain equipment to the Butembo territory.
- As of February 15th, the Ministry of Health have already begun a vaccination campaign. The hospital staff in Matanda are the first to receive the vaccine.
- UNICEF has deployed teams to support infection prevention and control measures as well as community outreach activities on the ground.
- WHO and the Ministry of Health are strengthening laboratory capacities by ensuring availability of GeneXpert cartridges at the Butembo laboratory.
- There are currently therapeutics (Regeneron and mAb114) available for up to 400 patients in the DRC.

Guinea Highlights:

- The Guinea Ministry of Health have declared a EVD outbreak after three cases were confirmed in the rural community of Gouéké in N'Zerekore prefecture:
 - This is the first time that EVD has been reported in the country since the West African EVD outbreak ended in 2016.
 - Initial investigations found that a nurse from the local health facility died on January 28th. Following her burial, six people who attended the funeral reported EVD-like symptoms and two of them have died, while the other four have been hospitalized.
- The Guinea government has reactivated their Ebola response technical committee and instigated a series of measures including isolation of suspect cases, contact tracing and sending an investigation teams to the south eastern province of N'zerekore, where the first cases were detected.
- WHO is supporting the authorities by setting up testing, contact-tracing, and treatment centers.
- WHO is also supporting the country to procure the Ebola vaccine.
- The area where the new cases appeared is bordering Sierra Leone and Liberia. WHO is coordinating with the governments of Liberia and Sierra Leone to increase their community surveillance activities.

Sources:

- Democratic Republic of Congo – Ebola virus disease (DG ECHO, WHO, OCHA, Congolese authorities) ([ECHO Daily Flash of 12 February 2021](#))
- Ebola virus disease – Democratic Republic of the Congo, [Disease Outbreak News, Feb 10](#)
- [Second Death in Recently Reported Ebola Disease Resurgence in The DRC](#)
- WHO African Region [Twitter Page](#)
- WHO: New Ebola outbreak declared in [Guinea](#)
- Republic of Guinea- Ebola Virus Disease outbreak (DG ECHO, National Authorities, WHO, media) ([ECHO Daily Flash of 15 February 2021](#))

Resources

Humanitarian Emergency Response Africa, Guinea Mapping Resources
<https://hera-ngo.org/resources>