



# Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Report

Date of Issue: 3 Dec 2023

Events reported in 2023

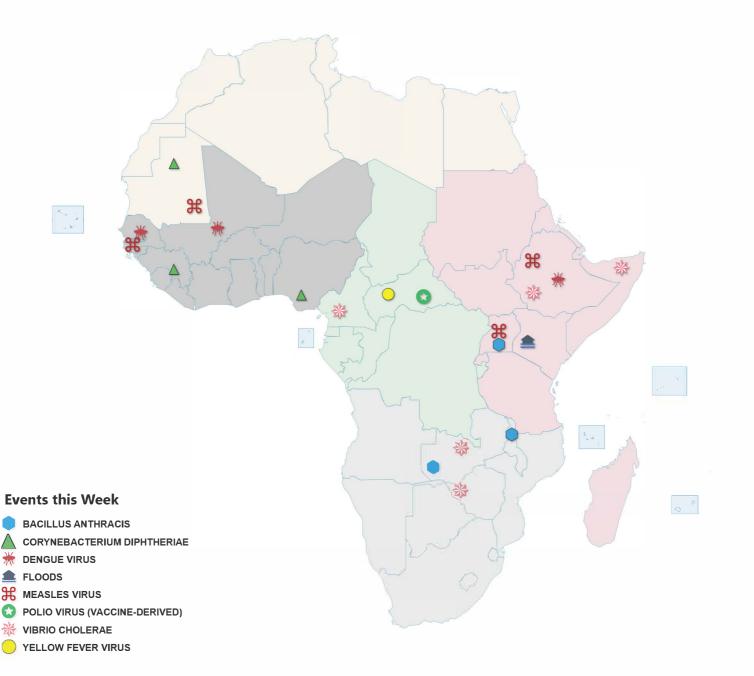
160

Events highlighted this week

19

New events since last issue

2

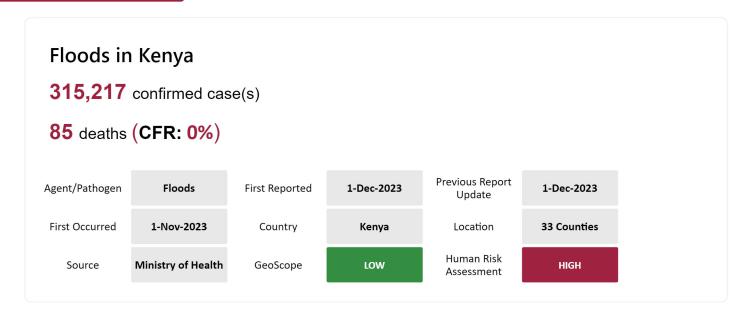


# **Initial Reports**





# **High Risk Events**



# **Description:**

On 24 November 2023, the Kenya Ministry of Health (MoH) reported the occurrence of floods caused by heavy rainfall attributed to the El Nino phenomenon. As of 29 November 2023, the floods have led to 85 deaths and displacement of 315,217 persons in 33 of the 47 counties in Kenya. In addition, a total of 16 missing persons and 205 injuries have been reported across multiple counties. Health services in 19 counties were disrupted as a result of the flood. Affected counties are at risk of vector and water borne diseases.

Floods are the most frequent type of natural disaster and occur when an overflow of water submerges land that is usually dry. Floods are often caused by heavy rainfall and have potential to cause widespread devastation including loss of lives and damages to personal property and infrastructure.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The MoH activated the national and county public health emergency operations centres (PHEOC) and developed the El Nino contingency plan. In addition, risk communication, enhanced disease surveillance, provision of water, sanitation and hygiene supplies, mapping and repair of affected infrastructure and prepositioning of cholera kits are some of the ongoing interventions, led by the government with support from partners.

# **Human Event Updates**





# **High Risk Events**

#### Cholera in Africa 88,729 confirmed case(s), 125,592 suspected case(s) 3,332 deaths (CFR: 1.6%) **Previous Report** 24-Nov-2023 Agent/Pathogen Vibrio cholerae First Reported 6-Jan-2023 Update First Occurred 1-Jan-2023 Country **Multiple Countries** Location 18 MS Human Risk Source Ministry of Health GeoScope HIGH Assessment

# **Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of this year, 214,321 cases (88,729 confirmed; 125,592 suspected) and 3,332 deaths [case fatality rate (CFR: 1.6%)] of cholera were reported from 18 African Union (AU) Member States (MS): Burundi (1,227 cases; 9 deaths), Cameroon (21,207; 508), Congo (93; 9), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (39,638; 342), Eswatini (2; 0), Ethiopia (27,196; 376), Kenya (8,817; 145), Malawi (43,006; 1,261), Mozambique (36,991; 150), Nigeria (2,860; 84), Somalia (16,036; 43), South Africa (1,074; 47), Sudan (2,525; 78), South Sudan (1,471; 2), Tanzania (729; 18), Uganda (78; 10), Zambia (1,804; 36) and Zimbabwe (9,567; 214). This week, 2,481 new cases and 28 new deaths of cholera were reported from five AU MS: Cameroon, Ethiopia, Somalia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**Cameroon:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the MoH reported eight new suspected cases and one new death (CFR: 13%) of cholera. Cumulatively 21,207 cases (2,084 confirmed; 19,123 suspected) and 508 deaths (CFR: 2.4%) of cholera have been reported from Cameroon. The outbreak is active in 12 health districts in four of 10 regions in Cameroon.

**Ethiopia:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the Ethiopia Public Health Institute (EPHI) reported 645 new suspected cases and 19 new deaths (CFR: 2.9%) of cholera. Cumulatively, 27,196 cases (26 confirmed; 27,170 suspected) and 376 deaths (CFR: 1.3%) have been reported from 10 of the 11 regions in Ethiopia. Oromia and South Ethiopia region account for 61% of the cases.

**Somalia:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the MoH reported 482 new cases (7 confirmed; 475 suspected) and no new deaths of cholera. Cumulatively, 16,036 cases (282 confirmed; 15,754 suspected) and 43 deaths (CFR: 0.3%) have been reported from 29 of 74 districts in the country. Children under five years account for 54% of the cases. This outbreak has been uninterrupted in the drought-affected districts since 2022 and in the Banadir region since 2017.

**Zambia:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) reported 68 new suspected cases and three new deaths (CFR: 0.2%) from three districts: Chongwe, Luangwa and Lusaka. Cumulatively, 1,804 cases (438 confirmed; 1,366 suspected) and 36 deaths (CFR: 1.9%) have been reported this year from 11 of 116 districts in Zambia. The outbreak is only active in Lusaka province.

**Zimbabwe:** Since the last update (17 November 2023), the MoH reported 1,332 new cases (39 confirmed; 1,293 suspected) and 14 new deaths (CFR: 1.7%) of cholera. This is a 59% increase in the number of new cases compared to the last report. Cumulatively, 9,567 cases (1,343 confirmed; 8,224 suspected) and 214 deaths (CFR: 2.5%) have been reported from 46 of 64 districts.

The Ministries of Health of the affected MS continue to conduct enhanced surveillance, case management, risk communication, enhanced targeted testing of all samples and water, sanitation and hygiene interventions in the affected areas.

Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) continues to support the surveillance, risk communication, and infection prevention control response pillars in Zimbabwe.



# **Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of this year, 205,715 cases (20,999 confirmed; 49,808 probable; 134,908 suspected) and 553 deaths (CFR: 0.3%) of dengue fever have been reported in 14 AU MS: Angola (3 cases; 0 deaths), Burkina Faso (176,841; 511), Cabo Verde (65; 0), Chad (1,581; 1), Côte d'Ivoire (107; 0), Egypt (578; 0), Ethiopia (18,789; 16), Guinea (6; 1), Mali (4,404; 6), Mauritius (265; 0), Sao Tome and Principe (1,227; 11), Senegal (177; 0), Sudan (1,664; 7) and Togo (8; 0). This week, 3,264 new cases and one new death of dengue fever were reported from three AU MS: Ethiopia, Mali and Senegal.

**Ethiopia:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the EPHI reported 2,096 new cases (3 confirmed; 2,093 suspected) and one new death (CFR: 33%) of dengue fever. Cumulatively,18,789 cases (130 confirmed; 18,659 suspected) and 16 deaths (CFR: 12.3%) have been reported from four of the 11 regions in Ethiopia.

**Mali:** Since the last update (17 November 2023), the MoH reported 1,109 new cases (152 confirmed; 957 suspected) and no new deaths of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 4,404 cases (537 confirmed; 3,867 suspected) and six deaths (CFR: 1.1%) of dengue fever were reported from 14 of 75 health districts in Mali. Currently, two serotypes were identified as the cause of this outbreak; VDEN-1 and VDEN-3.

**Senegal:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the MoH reported 59 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 177 confirmed cases and no deaths of dengue fever were reported from four regions of 14 regions. Males account for 56% of all the confirmed cases.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Ministries of Health of the affected MS distributed treatment guidelines to all health facilities, and continue to conduct enhanced surveillance, vector control and risk communication activities.

# Corynebacterium diphtheria in Africa

12,432 confirmed case(s) 10,688 suspected case(s) 752 deaths (CFR: 6%)

Agent/Pathogen	Corynebacterium diphtheriae	First Reported	4-Aug-2023	Previous Report Update	24-Nov-2023
First Occurred	18-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	6 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	MODERATE	Human Risk Assessment	нібн

# **Update to Event:**

Since January 2023, a total of 23,120 cases (12,432 confirmed; 10,688 suspected) and 752 deaths (CFR: 6%) of diphtheria have been reported in six AU MS: Algeria (80 cases, 10 deaths), Guinea (1,251; 71), Mauritania (20; 6), Niger (2,198; 91), Nigeria (19,558; 573) and South Africa (13; 1). This week, a total of 617 new cases and two new deaths of diphtheria were reported from three AU MS: Guinea, Mauritania and Nigeria.

**Guinea:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the MoH reported 117 new cases (2 confirmed; 115 suspected cases) and one new death among suspected cases. The new cases of diphtheria were reported from Kankan and Mamou regions. Cumulatively, 1,251 cases (24 confirmed; 1,227 suspected) and 71 deaths, of which 13 were among confirmed cases (CFR: 54%), have been reported from three of eight regions in Guinea: Faranah, Mamou and Kankan regions. Vaccination coverage for diphtheria among the target population (0 - 23 months old) stands at 14% in Kankan and Mamou regions.

**Mauritania:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported one new death of diphtheria from Bassiknou district. Cumulatively, 20 suspected cases and six deaths of diphtheria have been reported from Bassiknou district. Of all the cases, 6% were fully vaccinated against diphtheria.

**Nigeria:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the Nigeria Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) reported 500 new cases (404 confirmed; 96 suspected) and no new deaths of diphtheria from four states: Bauchi, Kaduna, Kano and Katsina. Cumulatively, 19,558 cases (12,021 confirmed; 7,537 suspected) and 573 deaths (CFR: 4.8%) have been reported from 31 of 36 states of Nigeria. Kano state accounted for 66% of all cases and 64% of all deaths reported. Of the confirmed cases, only 25% were fully vaccinated and females accounted for 58%.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Ministries of Health of the affected MS continue to coordinate the response activities by conducting case management, contact tracing, risk communication, community engagement and supplemental vaccination activities.

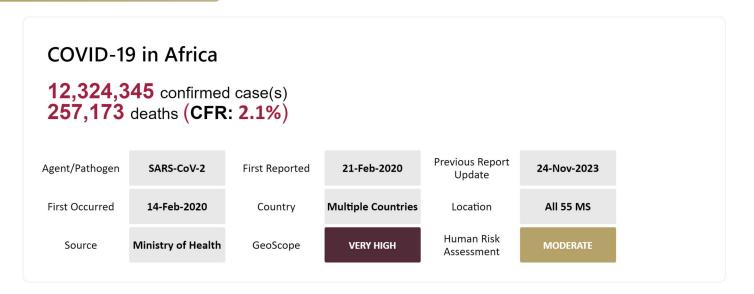
Africa CDC through the Western Africa Regional Coordinating Centre is developing a diphtheria regional response plan in collaboration with the affected MS in the region.

# **Human Event Updates**





# **Moderate Risk Events**



# **Update to Event:**

As of 6 p.m. East African Time (EAT) 1 December 2023, a total of 12,324,345 COVID-19 cases and 257,173 deaths (CFR: 2.1%) have been reported by the 55 AU MS. This represents 2% of all cases and 4% of all deaths reported globally. Fifty-three MS have reported COVID-19 cases infected with the Alpha (50 MS), Beta (45), Delta (53), Gamma (5) and Omicron (53) variants of concern (VOC). Additionally, 32 MS have reported the presence of the Omicron BA.2 sub-variant, 17 Member States reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.5), 12 MS reported the Omicron sub lineage (BF.7 or BA.5.2.1.7), nine MS have reported the Omicron sub lineage EG.5, two Member States have reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.16) and two Member States have reported the Omicron sub lineage (BA.2.86). On 21 November 2023, the World Health Organization classified BA.2.86 and its sub lineages (including JN.1) as a variant of interest (VOI). It was previously classified as a variant under monitoring.

As of 22 November 2023, two AU MS: Botswana and South Africa have reported the presence of this VOI. Fifty-four AU MS are currently providing COVID-19 vaccination to the general population. Cumulatively, 1.1 billion doses have been administered on the continent. Of these doses administered, 570.7 million people have been partially vaccinated, and 446.9 million have been fully vaccinated. Eritrea is the only AU MS yet to start COVID-19 vaccination roll out.

For Epi week 46 (13 - 19 November 2023), 374 new COVID-19 cases and no new deaths were reported in Africa. Also, over 643 thousand new tests were conducted during the past week. Since February 2020, over 134.3 million COVID-19 tests have been conducted in Africa.

### Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The PHEOC of the Africa CDC was activated for COVID-19 since 27 January 2020. For more information on Africa CDC's response efforts please refer to Africa CDC's website.

#### Measles in Africa 21,386 confirmed case(s), 342,457 suspected case(s) **5,374** deaths (CFR: 1.5%) **Previous Report** Agent/Pathogen Measles virus First Reported 6-Jan-2023 24-Nov-2023 Update First Occurred 1-Jan-2023 Country **Multiple Countries** Location 28 MS Human Risk Ministry of Health HIGH Source GeoScope

Assessment

# **Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of this year, 363,843 (21,386 confirmed; 342,457 suspected) and 5,374 deaths (CFR: 1.5%) of measles were reported from 28 AU MS: Angola (6,203 cases; 53 deaths), Botswana (13; 0), Burkina Faso (1,701; 2), Burundi (1,150; 0), Cameroon (8,503; 64), Central African Republic (CAR) (2,873; 0), Chad (9,932; 8), Congo (690; 5), DRC (257,337; 4,855), Ethiopia (25,104; 195), Gabon (3,108; 0), Gambia (208; 0), Ghana (212; 0), Guinea (1,011; 2), Kenya (1,417; 24), Libya (391; 2), Liberia (8,435; 9), Malawi (32; 0), Mali (1,580; 0), Mauritania (899; 8), Mozambique (1,342; 0), Niger (1,690; 0), Senegal (4,534; 0), Somalia (11,097; 0), South Africa (896; 0), South Sudan (6,030; 145), Uganda (409; 1) and Zambia (7,046; 1). This week, 2,852 new cases and 11 new deaths were reported from four AU MS: Ethiopia, Mauritania, Senegal and Uganda.

Ethiopia: Since the last update, (24 November 2023), the EPHI reported 2,739 new suspected cases and 11 new deaths (CFR: 0.4%) of measles. Cumulatively, 25,104 suspected cases and 195 deaths (CFR: 0.7%) have been reported from Ethiopia. The outbreak is active in eight of the 11 regions in the country, four of which account for 82% of the cases: Amhara, Oromia, Somali and Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's region. Forty percent of cases are among children aged 1-4 years, while 39% have no history of measles vaccination.

Mauritania: Since the last update (17 November 2023), the MoH reported 33 new cases (9 confirmed; 24 suspected) and no new deaths of measles from three districts. Cumulatively, 899 cases (238 confirmed; 661 suspected) and eight deaths (CFR: 0.9%) of measles have been reported from 37 of 63 districts in Mauritania.

Senegal: Since the last update (13 October 2023), the MoH reported 232 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 4,534 cases (1,417 confirmed; 3,117 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from 44 of 50 districts in Senegal.

Uganda: Since the last update (24 November 2023), the MoH reported 21 new suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 409 cases (33 confirmed; 376 suspected) and one death (CFR: 0.2%) have been reported from two of 146 districts in Uganda; Kiryandongo (341 cases; 1 death) and Kyegegwa (68; 0) districts.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Ministries of Health in the affected MS continue to strengthen measles surveillance, case management and conduct supplemental immunization activities in the affected areas.

#### Polio (vacc) in Africa 361 confirmed case(s) 0 deaths (CFR: 0%) Polio virus **Previous Report** 1-Jan-2023 24-Nov-2023 Agent/Pathogen First Reported (vaccine-derived) Update First Occurred 1-Jan-2023 Country **Multiple Countries** Location 17 MS **Global Polio** Human Risk Source **Eradication** GeoScope Assessment Initiative

# **Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of 2023, the continent has reported 99 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) from DRC (83 cases), Madagascar (17), Mozambique (3) and 258 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) from 15 MS: Benin (3 cases), Burkina Faso (1), Burundi (3), CAR (14), Chad (46), Côte d'Ivoire (3), DRC (107), Guinea (13), Kenya (8), Mali (8), Niger (1), Nigeria (43), Tanzania (2), Somalia (5) and Zambia (1). This week, one new case of cVDPV2 and no new deaths were reported from in CAR.

**CAR:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported one new confirmed case of cVDPV2 from RS6 province. Cumulatively, 14 confirmed cases and no deaths of cVDPV2 have been reported this year.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Ministries of Health in the affected MS continue to strengthen acute flaccid paralysis surveillance and routine immunization in the affected MS.

# Yellow fever in Africa 145 confirmed case(s), 2,722 suspected case(s) 38 deaths (CFR: 1.3%) **Previous Report** Agent/Pathogen Yellow fever virus First Reported 6-Jan-2023 24-Nov-2023 Update First Occurred 1-Jan-2023 Country **Multiple Countries** Location 7 MS Human Risk Ministry of Health Source GeoScope Assessment **Animal Risk** Assessment

# **Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of 2023, 2,867 cases (154 confirmed; 2,722 suspected) and 38 deaths (CFR: 1.3%) of yellow fever were reported from seven AU MS: Cameroon (49 cases; 6 deaths), CAR (342; 5), Congo (354; 2), Gabon (113; 0), Guinea (178; 4), Nigeria (1,819; 21) and Uganda (12; 0). This week, 23 new cases and no new deaths of yellow fever were reported from CAR and Congo.

**CAR:** Since the last report (29 September 2023), the MoH reported 16 new suspected cases and no new deaths of yellow fever. Cumulatively, 342 cases (13 confirmed; 329 suspected) and five deaths (CFR: 1.5%) of yellow fever have been reported in all seven regions.

**Congo:** Since the last update (17 November 2023), the MoH reported seven suspected cases and no deaths of yellow fever from Brazzaville (1 case), Lekoumou (1), Pointe Noire (4) and Sangha (1) provinces. Cumulatively, 354 cases (15 confirmed; 339 suspected) and two deaths (CFR: 0.6%) were reported from 11 of 12 provinces across the country.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Ministries of Health in the affected MS continue to implement vector control and community engagement activities in the affected areas.

# Lassa fever in Africa 1,209 confirmed case(s) 8,589 suspected case(s) 205 deaths (CFR: 17%) **Previous Report** 27-Jan-2023 24-Nov-2023 Agent/Pathogen First Reported Lassa virus Update First Occurred 2-Jan-2023 Country **Multiple Countries** Location **5 MS** Human Risk

# **Update to Event:**

Source

Since the beginning of this year, 9,798 cases (1,209 confirmed; 8,589 suspected) and 205 deaths (CFR: 17%) of Lassa fever were reported from five AU MS: Ghana (27 cases; 1 death), Guinea (133; 3), Liberia (186; 5), Nigeria (9,446; 194) and Sierra Leone (6; 2). This week, 373 new cases and six new deaths of lassa fever were reported from Nigeria.

MODERATE

GeoScope

MODERATE

Assessment

**Nigeria:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the Nigeria CDC reported 373 new cases (37 confirmed; 336 suspected) and six new deaths (CFR: 16%) of Lassa fever from Bauchi, Edo, Kano and Ondo states. Cumulatively, 9,446 cases (1,144 confirmed; 8,302 suspected) and 194 deaths (CFR: 16.9%) of Lassa fever have been reported from 28 of 36 states and the federal capital territory.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Ministry of Health

**Nigeria:** The national Lassa fever multi-partner, multi-sectoral technical working group continues to coordinate the response activities at all levels. Additionally, implementation of targeted risk communication activities is ongoing in the affected states.

#### Chikungunya in Africa 569 confirmed case(s), 242 suspected case(s) **0** deaths (**CFR**: **0%**) **Previous Report** Chikungunya virus First Reported 23-Jun-2023 24-Nov-2023 Agent/Pathogen Update First Occurred 14-Jul-2023 Country **Multiple Countries** Location **3 MS** Human Risk LOW Ministry of Health Source GeoScope Assessment

# **Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of this year, 811 cases (569 confirmed; 242 suspected) and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported from three AU MS: Burkina (473; 0), Mali (8;0) and Senegal (330; 0). This week,15 new cases and no new deaths of chikungunya were reported from Senegal.

**Senegal:** Since the last update (24 November 2023), the MoH reported 15 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of chikungunya virus from the country. Cumulatively, 330 confirmed and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported from 10 of the 14 regions in the country: Dakar (2), Fatick (3), Kedougou (175), Kolda (10), Louga (1), Matam (5), Sedhiou (1), Tambacounda (131), Thies (1), and Ziguinchor (1) regions. Males account for 67% of all confirmed cases and the most affected age group is 15 - 35-year-old accounting for 50% of all the confirmed cases.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

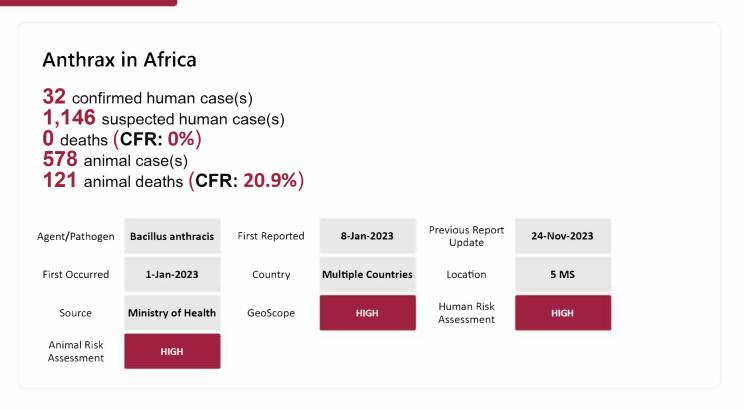
**Senegal:** The MoH conducted training of healthcare workers on the epidemiology, clinical management, and public health measures for the prevention and control of chikungunya. Additionally, the MoH continues to conduct risk communication activities in the affected communities.

# Human and Non-Human Event Updates





**High Risk Events** 



# **Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of this year, a total of 1,178 human cases (32 confirmed; 1,146 suspected), 20 deaths among suspected cases and no confirmed deaths of anthrax have been reported in four AU MS: Malawi (1 human case; 0 deaths), Uganda (38; 16), Zambia (755; 4) and Zimbabwe (384; 0). Three AU MS (Ghana, Nigeria and Uganda) have reported anthrax outbreaks in animals this year. This week, 105 new human cases and 16 new deaths of anthrax were reported from three AU MS Malawi, Uganda and Zambia.

Malawi: On 22 November 2023, Malawi MoH reported one confirmed case and no deaths of anthrax from Mzimba South district, Northern region. The index case was confirmed at the National Reference Laboratory. The case presented with cutaneous eschars and had history of consumption of dead animals suspected to have died of anthrax. The last outbreak of anthrax occurred in December 2018 involving 39 deaths among hippopotami.

**Uganda:** On 26 November 2023, the MoH reported an outbreak of anthrax in Kyotera district, central Uganda. This confirmation followed reports of an unknown illness in Kabira sub-county. Symptoms among cases include: skin lesions and numbness on the lower limbs, headache, swelling of the chest and difficulty in breathing. Cumulatively, 38 cases (6 confirmed; 32 suspected) and 16 deaths of anthrax have been reported from Kween (5 cases; 0 deaths) and Kyotera (33; 16) districts. In addition, at least 25 cattle deaths have been reported in Kyotera district within the same period. All the reported deaths are among suspected cases.

**Zambia:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported 71 new suspected cases and no new deaths of human anthrax from seven provinces. Cumulatively, 775 cases (25 confirmed; 730 suspected) and four deaths of cutaneous anthrax have been reported this year from nine of 10 provinces in Zambia. All the reported four deaths were among suspected cases.

Anthrax is a zoonotic bacterial infection and can spread to humans through inhalation, handling, eating and drinking foods contaminated with bacterial spores. Clinical presentations may vary from cutaneous, inhalation, gastrointestinal and injection types of anthrax. The average CFR ranges from 20% - 30% in cutaneous anthrax without antibiotic treatment and 25% - 75% for gastrointestinal anthrax, 80% or higher in inhalation anthrax.

# Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Ministries of Health of affected MS activated the EOC and deployed a one health rapid response team to conduct enhanced surveillance, risk communication, environmental sanitation, safe burial of dead animals, risk communication and animal vaccination.

# **Footnotes**





- \* For dengue fever, new confirmed cases reported were due to batch reporting for the last three weeks in Senegal.
- \* Cases in this report include confirmed, probable and suspected cases
- \* Case fatality rates are calculated using confirmed cases and deaths only, except for bacterial meningitis, cholera, measles, mpox and yellow fever where CFR is calculated using all cases and deaths.
- \* The GeoScope level is determined by where the event is currently occurring on the continent. Low: event is limited to sub-national areas within one MS; Moderate: Event is affecting multiple countries within an AU region, or have been imported from/exported to 1-2 countries from another global region; High: Event is affecting several multinational AU regions, or have been imported from/exported to >2 countries from another global region; Very High: Event is considered a pandemic, affecting multiple continents or worldwide. The risk level is determined by evaluating the following criteria: morbidity and mortality of the disease, probability to spread within and to the other MSs, and availability of effective treatments, vaccines, or other control measures. An event risk level can be classified as low, moderate, high and very high depending on how they score on the above criteria.





Country	Risk Assessment	Enhance Surveillance	EOC Activation	Vaccination	Vector Control	Multisectoral Coordination	Capacity Building
	✓			✓			
			<b></b>	<b>V</b>			