

Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Report

Date of Issue: 20 Jan 2024

Events reported in 2024

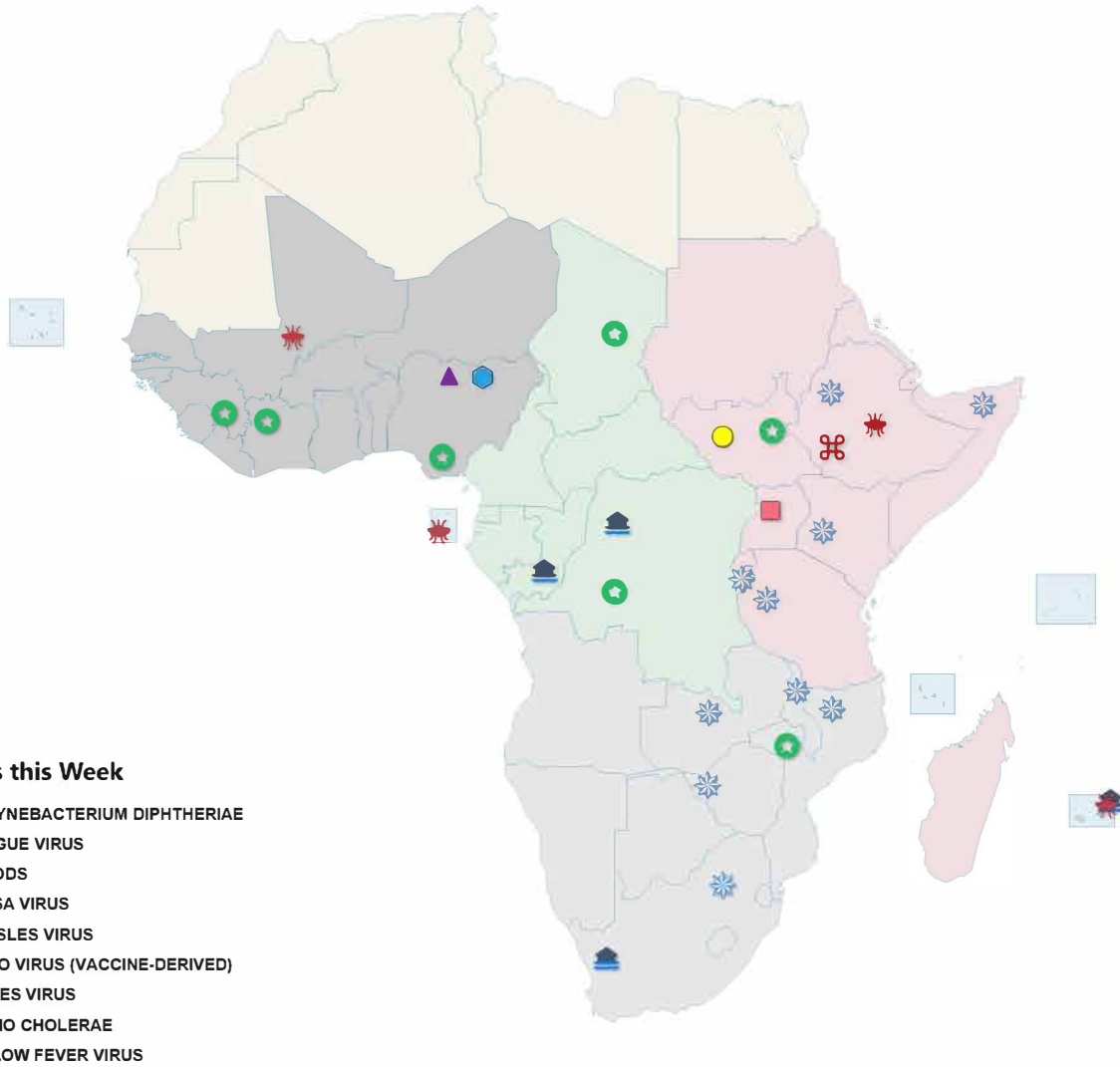
10


Events highlighted this week

30

New events since last issue

6



*  represent AU Member States that are islands

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the African Union.

Event Type	Risk Level		
	Very High (New)	High (New)	Moderate (New)
Human	0	15 (2)	11 (1)
Animal	0	0	0
Environment	0	0	4 (3)

High Risk Events

Dengue fever in Africa

105 confirmed human case(s), **607** suspected human case(s)
0 human deaths (**CFR: 0%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Dengue virus	First Reported	19-Jan-2024	Previous Report Update	19-Jan-2024
First Occurred	1-Jan-2024	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	4 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	HIGH	Human Risk Assessment	HIGH

Description:

Since the beginning of this year, 712 cases (105 confirmed; 607 suspected) and no deaths of dengue were reported from four African Union (AU) Member States (MS): Ethiopia (295 cases; 0 deaths), Mali (368; 0), Mauritius (40; 0) and Sao Tome and Principe (9; 0). This week, 511 new cases and no new deaths were reported from Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritius and Sao Tome and Principe.

Ethiopia: Since the beginning of this year, the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) reported 295 new suspected cases and no new deaths of dengue from Dire Dawa region. This is a protracted outbreak that started in April 2023.

Mali: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the Ministry of Health (MoH) reported 167 new cases (18 confirmed; 149 suspected) and no new deaths of dengue fever from Bamako region. Cumulatively, 368 cases (56 confirmed; 312 suspected) and no deaths of dengue fever have been reported from one of 10 regions in Mali.

Mauritius: Since the beginning of this year, the MoH reported 40 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of dengue fever in Mauritius. This is a protracted outbreak that started in June 2023.

Sao Tome and Principe: Since the beginning of this year, the MoH reported nine new confirmed cases and no new deaths of dengue fever from Agua Grande district. This is a protracted outbreak that started in April 2022.

In 2023, a total of 280,411 cases (21,999 confirmed; 70,433 probable; 187,979 suspected) and 808 deaths [case fatality rate (CFR): 0.3%] of dengue fever were reported in 18 AU MS: Angola (3 cases; 0 deaths), Benin (6; 1), Burkina Faso (242,425; 709); Cabo Verde (410; 0), Chad (1,581; 1), Côte d'Ivoire (3,895; 27), Egypt (578; 0), Ethiopia (21,469; 17), Ghana (18; 0), Guinea (6; 1); Mali (6,177; 34), Mauritius (265; 0), Niger (148; 0), Nigeria (84; 0), Sao Tome and Principe (1,227; 11), Senegal (254; 0), Sudan (1,664; 7) and Togo (8; 0).

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Ethiopia and Mali: The EPHI and MoH of Mali continue to conduct case management, enhanced surveillance, vector control and risk communication activities in the affected regions.

Mauritius: The MoH continues to conduct enhanced surveillance and improve case management in the affected areas.

Sao Tome and Principe: The MoH conducted field staff training on vector surveillance and continues to implement vector control interventions.

Diphtheria in Nigeria

408 confirmed human case(s) **79** suspected human case(s)
1 human death(s) (CFR: **0.2%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Corynebacterium diphtheriae	First Reported	27-Jan-2023	Previous Report Update	29-Dec-2023
First Occurred	20-Jan-2023	Country	Nigeria	Location	3 states
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	LOW	Human Risk Assessment	HIGH

Description:

Since the beginning of the year, the Nigeria CDC reported 487 new cases (408 confirmed; 79 suspected) and one new death (CFR: 0.2%) of diphtheria from three of the 36 states and federal capital territory. These numbers were batch reporting for the past two weeks. There is a 6% increase in the number of cases compared to the same period last year. This is a protracted outbreak which started in December 2022 with a total of 14,520 confirmed cases and 620 deaths (CFR: 4.3%) reported since the start of the outbreak.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The diphtheria technical working Group (TWG) continues to coordinate and monitor diphtheria surveillance and response activities in the country.

Floods in Africa

10,528 displaced persons
283 human deaths

Agent/Pathogen	Floods	First Reported	5-Jan-2024	Previous Report Update	5-Jan-2024
First Occurred	1-Jan-2024	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	5 MS
Source	Ministry of Environment	GeoScope	MODERATE	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Description:

Since the beginning of this year, 10,528 displaced persons and 283 deaths due to floods from five AU MS: Congo (0 displaced persons; 19 deaths), Democratic Republic of Congo [(DRC) (0; 221)], Madagascar (9,528; 10), Mauritius (1,000; 2) and South Africa (0; 31). This week, 1,000 displaced persons and 273 deaths have been reported from Congo, DRC, Mauritius and South Africa.

Congo: On 7 January 2024, the Government of Congo reported the occurrence of floods caused by heavy rainfall which occurred on 2 January 2024. As of 7 January 2024, 19 deaths and six missing persons have been reported from four of 12 territories. The floods affected a total of 1,790,968 persons, leaving 326,970 persons in need of humanitarian and health assistance in these territories.

DRC: On 7 January 2024, the Government of the DRC reported the occurrence of floods that started on the night of 28 December 2023 in 15 of 26 provinces of the country. The floods were caused by a sudden rise of water level of the Congo River. As of 7 January 2024, 221 deaths and 625 injuries have been reported from the 15 provinces. Additionally, over 6,500 households flooded and over 282,500 houses were destroyed. The floods also caused extensive damage to 211 markets and 267 health facilities.

Mauritius: On 15 January 2024, the Government of Mauritius reported the occurrence of floods caused by the landfall of tropical cyclone Belal. A total of 1,000 displaced persons and two deaths have been reported across the country.

South Africa: On 4 January 2024, South Africa reported 31 deaths and three missing persons due to floods in KwaZulu Natal province. The floods were due to heavy rains that started in December 2023. The floods have led to the destruction of 140 houses affecting over 600 households. The last flooding in South Africa occurred on 28 September 2023 which led to 11 deaths, 21 injuries and 2,000 displaced families in Cape town area of Western Cape province.

A flash flood is a rapid flooding of low-lying areas. It may be caused by heavy rains associated with a severe thunderstorm, hurricane, or tropical storm. Flash floods are a significant hazard with potential to cause fatalities and displacement of people. Flash floods can also deposit large quantities of sediments on floodplains.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Congo: The government of Congo has conducted visits to the affected communities to evaluate the extent of the damage and related needs. Additionally, the government in collaboration with partners is distributing water sanitation and hygiene kits, health care including intimate hygiene and non-food item kits to affected households.

DRC: The government of DRC and partners visited the affected communities to evaluate the damage and related needs. Additionally, the government activated the emergency operations centre to response mode, and developed a preparedness and response plan.

Mauritius: The government of Mauritius with support from partners, initiated response measures, including evacuation of the displaced persons, provision of ambulance services for the injured and provision of psychosocial support for those affected by the flood.

South Africa: The government of South Africa deployed a disaster management team to conduct response interventions in the affected areas.

Rabies in Uganda

2 probable human case(s), **13** suspected human case(s)
2 human deaths (**CFR: 13.3%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Rabies virus	First Reported	19-Jan-2024	Previous Report Update	19-Jan-2024
First Occurred	16-Dec-2023	Country	Uganda	Location	1 district
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	LOW	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE
Animal Risk Assessment	HIGH				

Description:

On 16 January 2024, the Uganda MoH reported an outbreak of rabies in Katakwi district, eastern Uganda. The index case is a 6-year-old child who presented at a local clinic with aggression and convulsions. No samples were collected for laboratory confirmation. Cumulatively, 15 cases (2 probable; 13 suspected) and two deaths (CFR: 13.3%) have been reported from one of 146 districts in Uganda.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The district health team deployed a rapid response team to investigate the outbreak and mount response interventions. In addition, the district veterinary office launched a rabies vaccination campaign for all pets in the district. As of 15 January 2024, 1,685 pets had been vaccinated against rabies.

High Risk Events

Cholera in Africa

1,916 confirmed human case(s), **12,426** suspected human case(s)
420 human deaths (**CFR: 2.9%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Vibrio cholerae	First Reported	1-Jan-2024	Previous Report Update	12-Jan-2024
First Occurred	1-Jan-2024	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	10 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	HIGH	Human Risk Assessment	HIGH

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, a total of 14,342 cases (1,916 confirmed; 12,426 suspected) and 420 deaths CFR: 2.9% of cholera were reported from 10 African Union (AU) Member States (MS): Burundi (1 case; 0 deaths), Ethiopia (377; 4), Kenya (69; 0), Malawi (5; 0), Mozambique (1,401; 5), Tanzania (164; 1), Somalia (506; 2), South Africa (2; 0), Zambia (8,119; 334) and Zimbabwe (3,698; 74). This is a 19% increase in the number of cases reported this year compared to the number of cases reported during the same period in 2023. This week, 7,766 new cases and 189 new deaths of cholera were reported from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Burundi: Since the beginning of this year, the MoH reported one new confirmed case and no new deaths of cholera from Bujumbura North district. This is a protracted outbreak that started in Bujumbura North district in January 2023. Six cholera cases are receiving treatment in the Bujumbura Nord cholera treatment centre.

Ethiopia: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the EPHI reported 123 new suspected cases and two deaths (CFR: 1.6%) of cholera. Cumulatively, 377 suspected cases and four deaths (CFR: 1.0%) have been reported from 10 of 11 regions in Ethiopia. This is a 14% decrease in the number of cases reported this year compared to the number of cases reported during the same period in 2023. This outbreak is a protracted outbreak that started in August 2022.

Kenya: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the MoH reported 19 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of cholera from Lamu county. Cumulatively, 69 confirmed cases and no new deaths were reported from 28 of 47 counties in Kenya. Currently, the outbreak is active in Lamu county.

Malawi: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the MoH reported one new confirmed case and no new deaths of cholera from Kalonga district. Cumulatively, five confirmed cases and no deaths have been reported from four of 29 districts this year. This is a 99% decrease in the number of new cases compared same period last year. This current outbreak is protracted from November 2023.

Mozambique: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the MoH reported 884 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of cholera from seven of 10 provinces. This is a 71% increase in the number of new cases and a 16% decrease in the number of new deaths compared to last week. Cumulatively, 1,401 confirmed cases and five deaths (CFR: 0.4%) have been reported from seven of 10 provinces. This current outbreak is protracted from October 2023.

Somalia: Since the beginning of this year, the MoH reported 506 new cases (4 confirmed; 502 suspected) and two new deaths (CFR: 0.3%) of cholera from nine of 19 regions in Somalia. This is a protracted outbreak that started in 2022 with exception of Banadir region dating back in 2017.

South Africa: On 16 January 2024, the Department of Health reported two new confirmed cases of cholera with no new deaths from Limpopo province. The cases include a 43-year-old male from Vhembe district. The second case was a 27-year-old male from Capricorn district who presented with abdominal cramps, watery diarrhoea and vomiting. Both cases had history of recent travel to a country that is currently responding to cholera outbreak. The last outbreak of cholera occurred in 2023 in which 1,074 cases and 47 deaths were reported from five of nine provinces.

Tanzania: Since the beginning of this year, the MoH reported 164 new suspected cholera cases and one new death (CFR: 0.6%) of cholera from seven of 31 regions in Tanzania. This is a protracted outbreak that started in September 2023.

Zambia: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the Zambia National Public Health Institute reported 4,046 new suspected cases and 152 new deaths (CFR: 3.7.0%) of cholera from 53 of 116 districts in Zambia. This is a 0.7% decrease in the number of new cases and a 16% decrease in the number of new deaths compared to last week. Cumulatively, 8,119 confirmed cases and 334 deaths (CFR: 4.1%) have been reported from 53 districts in nine of 10 provinces this year.

Zimbabwe: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the MoH reported 2,020 new cases (174 confirmed; 1,846 suspected) and 32 deaths (CFR: 1.6%) of cholera from 57 districts. This is a 26% increase in the number of new cases and a 23% decrease in the number of new deaths compared to last week. Cumulatively, 3,698 cases (434 confirmed; 3,264 suspected) and 74 deaths (CFR: 2.0%) have been reported from 57 of 64 districts this year. This is a protracted outbreak that started in February 2023.

In 2023, a total of 238,582 cases (93,457 confirmed; 145,107 suspected) and 3,767 deaths (case fatality rate (CFR: 1.6%)) of cholera were reported from 19 African Union (AU) Member States (MS): Burundi (1,396 cases; 9 deaths), Cameroon (21,269; 508), Congo (724; 14), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (40,497; 344), Eswatini (2; 0), Ethiopia (29,869; 426), Kenya (8,937; 148), Malawi (43,015; 1,262), Mozambique (41,248; 164), Nigeria (2,860; 84), Somalia (18,304; 46), South Africa (1,074; 47), Sudan (8,267; 224), South Sudan (1,471; 2), Tanzania (729; 18), Togo (1; 0), Uganda (78; 10), Zambia (3,757; 128) and Zimbabwe (15,137; 333).

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

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 CDC leadership made a solidarity visit to the Republic of Zambia and made a commitment to support risk communication and community engagement, laboratory and community healthcare workforce. Africa CDC for continues to support the surveillance, risk communication, and infection control measures for MS, in areas with active outbreaks.

Lassa virus in Nigeria

53 confirmed human case(s)
190 suspected human case(s)
6 human deaths (**CFR: 11.3%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Lassa virus	First Reported	19-Jan-2024	Previous Report Update	19-Jan-2024
First Occurred	7-Jan-2024	Country	Nigeria	Location	9 states
Source	Nigerian CDC	GeoScope	LOW	Human Risk Assessment	HIGH

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) reported 243 new cases (53 confirmed; 190 suspected) and six new deaths (CFR: 11.3%) of Lassa fever from nine of 36 states and the federal capital territory in Nigeria. This is a 41% increase in the number of cases and a 25% decrease in the number of deaths compared to the same period last year. Of the confirmed cases, ten were healthcare workers. Lassa fever is endemic in Nigeria with peak periods seen between December and April during the dry season.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

On 12 January 2024, the NCDC through the Lassa fever technical working group officially activated a national level multisectoral Lassa fever EOC to response mode, to coordinate response activities.

Moderate Risk Events

COVID-19 in Africa

12,369,247 confirmed human case(s)
257,612 human deaths (**CFR: 2.1%**)

Agent/Pathogen	SARS-CoV-2	First Reported	21-Feb-2020	Previous Report Update	12-Jan-2024
First Occurred	14-Feb-2020	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	All 55 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	VERY HIGH	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

As of 6 p.m. East African Time (EAT) 18 January 2024, a total of 12,369,247 COVID-19 cases and 257,612 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, 13 Member States have reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.16) and five 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). Up to date, there is no concrete evidence that JN.1 presents an increased risk to public health relative to other currently circulating variants. As of 18 January 2024, seven AU MS: Botswana, Egypt, Mauritius, Republic of Congo, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia have reported the presence and circulation of JN.1 variant.

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 2 (8 - 14 January 2024), 149 new COVID-19 cases and seven new deaths were reported in Africa. The seven new deaths were batch reported from Zimbabwe. Also, over two thousand tests were conducted during the past week. Since February 2020, over 136 million COVID-19 tests have been conducted in Africa.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (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.

Polio (vacc) in Africa

463 confirmed human case(s)
0 human deaths (**CFR: 0%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Polio virus (vaccine-derived)	First Reported	1-Jan-2023	Previous Report Update	12-Jan-2024
First Occurred	1-Jan-2023	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	19 MS
Source	Global Polio Eradication Initiative	GeoScope	MODERATE	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of 2023, the continent has reported 129 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) from DRC (101 cases), Madagascar (24), Mozambique (4) and 334 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) from 18 MS: Benin (3 cases), Burkina Faso (1), Burundi (3), CAR (14), Chad (51), Côte d'Ivoire (6), DRC (118), Guinea (34), Kenya (8), Mali (11), Mauritania (1), Mozambique (1), Niger (2), Nigeria (70), Tanzania (3), Somalia (5), South Sudan (2) and Zambia (1). This week, 23 new cases of cVDPV2 and no new deaths were reported from Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Guinea, Mozambique, Nigeria and South Sudan. However, all these new cases were detected in 2023.

Chad: Since the last update (25 August 2023), the MoH reported one new case of cVDPV2 from Mandoul region. Cumulatively, 51 confirmed cases of cVDPV2 have been reported from Chad in 2023.

Côte d'Ivoire: Since the last update (29 September 2023), the MoH reported three new cases of cVDPV2 from Haut-Sassandra region. Cumulatively, six cases of cVDPV2 have been reported from Cote d'Ivoire in 2023.

DRC: Since the last report (27 December 2023), the MoH reported four new cases of cVDPV1 from Tanganyika and one new case of cVDPV2 from Tshopo. Cumulatively, 101 cases of cVDPV1 and 118 cases of cVDPV2 with no new deaths have been reported from DRC in 2023.

Guinea: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the MoH reported three new cases of cVDPV2 from two regions: Kankan (2), and Nzerekore (1). Cumulatively, 34 cases of cVDPV2 have been reported from Guinea in 2023.

Mozambique: Since the last update (28 April 2023), the MoH reported one new case of cVDPV2 from Manica province and one new case of cVDPV1 from Zambezia province. This is the first case of cVDPV2 reported in Mozambique. Cumulatively, four cases of cVDPV1 and one case of cVDPV2 have been reported from two of 10 provinces in Mozambique: Manica (1 cVDPV2 case) and Zambezia (4 cVDPV1 cases) provinces in 2023.

Nigeria: Since the last update (29 December 2023), the MoH reported eight new cases and no new deaths of cVDPV2 from Abia and Kano states. Cumulatively, 70 cases and no deaths of cVDPV2 were reported from Nigeria in 2023.

South Sudan: Since the last update, (12 January 2024) the Global Polio Eradication Initiative reported a confirmed case of cVDPV2 from Central Equatoria state, South Sudan. Cumulatively, two cVDPV2 cases have been reported from two of 10 states in South Sudan: Central Equatoria (1) and Western Equatoria states in 2023.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

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

Yellow fever in South Sudan

1 confirmed human case(s), **19** suspected human case(s)
5 human deaths (**CFR: 25%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Yellow fever virus	First Reported	5-Jan-2024	Previous Report Update	12-Jan-2024
First Occurred	7-Dec-2023	Country	South Sudan	Location	1 state
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	LOW	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the last update, the MoH reported two new suspected cases and no new deaths of yellow fever from Yambio county, Western Equatoria state. Cumulatively, 20 cases (1 confirmed; 19 suspected) and five deaths* (CFR: 25%) have been reported from three counties; Yambio (13 cases), Nzara (4) and Tambura (3).

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The MoH with support from partners activated the PHEOC and deployed a rapid response team to conduct outbreak investigation, active case search, case management, risk communication and community engagement.

Measles in Africa

54 confirmed human case(s), **4** suspected human case(s)
0 human deaths (**CFR: 0%**)

Agent/Pathogen	Measles virus	First Reported	1-Jan-2024	Previous Report Update	12-Jan-2024
First Occurred	1-Jan-2024	Country	Multiple Countries	Location	2 MS
Source	Ministry of Health	GeoScope	HIGH	Human Risk Assessment	MODERATE

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, a total of 58 cases (54 confirmed; 4 suspected) and no deaths of measles were reported from two AU MS: Ethiopia (4 cases; 0 deaths) and Mauritania (54; 0). This week, three new cases and no new deaths of measles were reported from Ethiopia.

Ethiopia: Since the last update (12 January 2024), the EPHI reported three new suspected cases and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, four cases and no deaths of measles have been reported from one of 11 regions in Ethiopia. This outbreak has been ongoing since August 2021.

In 2023, a total of 375,908 (21,757 confirmed; 354,151 suspected) and 5,446 deaths (CFR: 1.4%) 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 (8,504; 64), Central African Republic (CAR) (2,873; 0), Chad (9,932; 8), Congo (695; 5), DRC (259,133; 4,859), Ethiopia (31,103; 242), Gabon (3,108; 0), Gambia (208; 0), Ghana (212; 0), Guinea (1,011; 2), Kenya (1,551; 24), Libya (391; 2), Liberia (8,501; 9), Malawi (32; 0), Mali (1,580; 0), Mauritania (924; 8), Mozambique (1,342; 0), Niger (1,690; 0), Senegal (4,534; 0), Somalia (12,642; 0), South Africa (967; 0), South Sudan (7,470; 166), Uganda (409; 1) and Zambia (8,029; 1).

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Ethiopia: The EPHI continues to strengthen measles surveillance, case management and conduct supplemental immunization activities in the affected areas.

*One yellow fever death in South Sudan removed because they did not meet the revised case definition.

-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, dengue 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.