Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Report
Date of Issue: 18 Nov 2023 (Update)

Events this Week:
- BACILLUS ANTHRACIS
- CHIKUNGUNYA VIRUS
- CORYNEBACTERIUM DIPHTHERIAE
- DENGUE VIRUS
- MEASLES VIRUS
- POLIO VIRUS (VACCINE-DERIVED)
- RIFT VALLEY FEVER VIRUS
- VIBRIO CHOLERAE
- YELLOW FEVER VIRUS

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

**20,736** confirmed case(s), **42,516** probable case(s), **117,382** suspected case(s) **462** deaths (CFR: **0.3%**)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent/Pathogen</th>
<th>Dengue virus</th>
<th>First Reported</th>
<th>26-Jul-2023</th>
<th>Previous Report Update</th>
<th>10-Nov-2023</th>
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<tr>
<td>First Occurred</td>
<td>1-Jan-2023</td>
<td>Country</td>
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<td>Location</td>
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<td>GeoScope</td>
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<td>Human Risk Assessment</td>
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**Update to Event:**

Since the beginning of this year, a total of 180,634 cases (20,736 confirmed; 42,516 probable; 117,382 suspected) and 462 deaths [case fatality rate (CFR: 0.3%)] of dengue fever have been reported in 14 African Union (AU) Member States (MS): Angola (3 cases; 0 deaths), Burkina Faso (155,426; 421), Cabo Verde (8; 0), Chad (1,581; 1), Cote d'Ivoire (107; 0), Egypt (578; 0), Ethiopia (16,392; 15), Guinea (6; 1), Mali (3,295; 6), Mauritius (265; 0), Sao Tome and Principe (1,227; 11), Senegal (74; 0), Sudan (1,664; 7) and Togo (8; 0). This week, 26,550 new cases and 84 new deaths of dengue fever were reported from six AU MS: Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chad, Ethiopia, Mali, and Togo.

**Burkina Faso:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the Ministry of Health (MoH) reported 23,747 new cases (15,918 suspected; 7,829 probable) and 72 new deaths (CFR: 0.3%) of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 155,426 cases (17,125 confirmed; 42,516 probable; 95,785 suspected) and 421 deaths (CFR: 0.3%) of dengue fever have been reported from all 13 regions in the country.

**Cabo Verde (new event):** On 8 November 2023 the MoH reported eight new cases (2 confirmed; 6 suspected) and no new deaths of dengue fever from Praia council. A confirmatory test was conducted at the Institut Pasteur, Dakar using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) which confirmed two cases of dengue fever. The MoH confirmed insufficient capacity for detection and confirmation of dengue fever in the country. The last outbreak of Dengue fever in Cabo Verde was reported between September and November 2009 with 13,000 cases (3000 confirmed; 10,000 suspected) and six deaths (CFR: %) from four Islands: Brava, Fogo, Maio and Santiago.

**Chad:** Since the last update (3 November 2023), the MoH reported 90 new cases (20 confirmed; 70 suspected) and no new deaths of dengue fever. The new confirmed cases were reported from four provinces. Cumulatively, 1,581 cases (61 confirmed; 1,520 suspected) and one death (CFR: 0.06%) of dengue fever were reported from four of 23 provinces: The confirmed cases and deaths were reported from N'Djamena (10; 1), Ouaddai (33; 0), Sila (6; 0), Wadi Fira (12; 0) The most affected age groups were 15 - 34 years old, accounting for 50% of all cases respectively. Females account for 54% of all confirmed cases reported.

**Ethiopia:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the Ethiopia Public Health Institute (EPHI) reported 2,143 new suspected cases and eight new deaths (0.4%) of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 16,392 cases (127 confirmed; 12 suspected) and 15 deaths (CFR: 0.09%) have been reported from four of the 11 regions in Ethiopia. Majority (63%) of the cases were reported from Afar region.

**Togo (new event):** On 14 November 2023, the MoH reported eight new confirmed cases and no deaths of dengue fever from Maritime (5), Savanes (2) and Plateaux (1) regions. The EBS team has reached out to the focal point in the Member state for further information on the outbreak. The last outbreak of Dengue fever in Togo was reported in June 2017 with 12 confirmed
cases and no deaths from Lome.

**Mali:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported 553 new cases (49 confirmed; 504 suspected) and four new deaths of dengue fever (CFR: 0.7%) from six regions. Cumulatively, 3,295 cases (385 confirmed; 2,910 suspected) and six deaths (CFR: 0.2%) of dengue fever were reported from 14 of the 75 health districts in Mali. Currently, two serotypes were identified as the cause of this outbreak: VDEN-1 and VDEN-3.

**Mauritius:** Since the last update (20 October 2023), the MoH reported one new confirmed case and no new deaths of dengue fever. Cumulatively, 265 confirmed cases (250 local; 15 imported) and no deaths have been reported from the two islands: Mauritius (191 local; 15 imported cases) and Rodrigues (59; 0).

**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**

11,595 confirmed case(s)
9,370 suspected case(s)
725 deaths (CFR: 6.3%)

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<tr>
<th>Agent/Pathogen</th>
<th>Corynebacterium diphtheriae</th>
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<td>Location</td>
<td>6 MS</td>
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**Previous Report Update**

4-Aug-2023

**Update to Event:**

Since January 2023, a total of 20,965 cases (11,595 confirmed; 9,370 suspected) and 725 deaths (CFR: 6.3%) of diphtheria have been reported in six AU MS: Algeria (80 cases, 10 deaths), Guinea (538; 58), Mauritania (20; 5), Niger (2,198; 91) and Nigeria (18,116; 560) and South Africa (13; 1). This week, a total of 2,036 new cases and 54 new deaths of diphtheria were reported from three MS: Guinea, Niger, and Nigeria.

**Guinea:** Since the last update (6 October 2023), the MoH reported 117 new suspected cases and no new deaths of diphtheria. Cumulatively, 538 cases (18 confirmed; 520 suspected) and 58 deaths of which 13 were among confirmed cases (CFR: 72%) have been reported from five of the six districts in the Kankan region of the country. Siguiri district has reported the highest number of cases (510) and deaths (37). Females account for 62% of all cases and children between 1 - 4 years were most affected (82%).

**Niger:** Since the last update (29 September 2023), the MoH reported 1,333 new suspected cases and 54 new deaths of diphtheria. Cumulatively, 2,198 cases (360 confirmed; 1,838 suspected) and 91 deaths (CFR: 25.3%) have been reported from all eight regions in Niger. Majority (86%) of cases were reported from Zinder region and children between 4 - 14 years old accounted for 47% of the cases reported.

**Nigeria:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the Nigeria CDC reported 586 new cases (327 confirmed and 259 suspected) and no new deaths of diphtheria. Cumulatively, 18,116 cases (11,190 confirmed; 6,926 suspected) and 560 deaths (CFR: 5%) have been reported from 31 of 36 states of Nigeria. Of the confirmed cases, 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.
### Rift Valley Fever in Uganda

- **4** confirmed case(s)
- **1** probable case(s)
- **2** deaths (CFR: 50%)

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<th>Agent/Pathogen</th>
<th>First Occurred</th>
<th>First Reported</th>
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<td>10-Nov-2023</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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**Update to Event:**

Since the last update, the MoH reported one new case of Rift Valley fever (RVF) from Kole district, northern Uganda. The case is a 23-year-old casual labourer who presented at Lira Regional Referral Hospital, northern Uganda with headache, fever, malaise and nose bleeding. A blood sample taken from the patient tested positive for RVF by PCR at the Uganda Virus Research Institute. Cumulatively, five cases (4 confirmed; 1 probable) and two deaths (CFR: 50%) have been reported from Kakumbo (3 cases; 2 deaths), Kole (1; 0) and Lira (1; 0) districts, since August 2023.

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

The MoH activated the emergency operations center (EOC) and deployed a RRT to conduct epidemiological investigations and enhanced surveillance. In addition, the MoH continues to conduct risk communication and community engagement activities in the affected districts.
COVID-19 in Africa

12,323,630 confirmed case(s)
257,173 deaths (CFR: 2.1%)

Agent/Pathogen: SARS-CoV-2
First Occurred: 14-Feb-2020
Source: Ministry of Health
First Reported: 21-Feb-2020
Country: Multiple Countries
GeoScope: VERY HIGH
Previous Report Update: 10-Nov-2023
Location: All 55 MS
Human Risk Assessment: MODERATE

Update to Event:

As of 6 p.m. East African Time (EAT) 16 November 2023, a total of 12,323,630 COVID-19 cases and 257,173 deaths (CFR: 2.1%) have been reported by the 55 African Union Member States (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, and two Member States have reported the Omicron sub lineage (XBB.1.16).

Another sub-variant of Omicron (BA.2.86) has been detected and reported in Africa, Americas, Asia and Europe. As of 16 November 2023, two AU MS: Botswana and South Africa have reported the presence of this new variant under monitoring (VUM). Fifty-four percent (54%) 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 45 (6 - 12 November 2023), 75 new COVID-19 were reported, which is a 75% decrease in the number of new cases reported compared to the previous week (44). Last week, all cases were reported from the Western region, while no new COVID-19 deaths were reported in Africa. More than 222 new tests were conducted during the past week. Since February 2020, over 133 million COVID-19 tests have been conducted in Africa.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The EOC of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) has been activated for COVID-19 since 27 January 2020. For more information on Africa CDC’s response efforts please refer to Africa CDC’s website.


### Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 11,020 cases (811 confirmed; 10,209 suspected) and 557 deaths* (CFR: 5.1%) of mpox have been reported from seven AU MS: Cameroon [137 cases; 1 death(s)], CAR (67; 2), Congo (90; 2), DRC (10,625; 550), Ghana (11; 0), Liberia (9; 0) and Nigeria (79; 2).

This week, three new suspected cases and no new deaths of mpox were reported from Cameroon and Congo.

**Cameroon:** Since the last update (3 November 2023), the MoH reported two suspected cases and no new deaths of mpox from Mbonge and Koumba south. Cumulatively, 137 cases (27 confirmed and 110 suspected cases) and one death of mpox were reported from two of 10 regions in Cameroon.

**Congo:** Since the last report (10 November 2023), the Congo MoH reported one new suspected case and no new deaths of mpox from Mossaka-Loukolela health district. Cumulatively, 90 cases (20 confirmed and 70 suspected) and two deaths (CFR: 10%) have been reported in seven of 12 provinces in Congo.

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

The MoH continues to intensify surveillance, active case search, risk communication and community engagement activities in the affected districts.
Cholera in Africa

88,600 confirmed case(s), 121,300 suspected case(s)
3,266 deaths (CFR: 1.6%)

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 209,900 cases (88,600 confirmed; 121,300 suspected) and 3,266 deaths (CFR: 1.6%) of cholera were reported from 18 AU MS: Burundi (1,227 cases; 9 deaths), Cameroon (21,125; 501), Congo (93; 9), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (39,638; 342), Eswatini (2; 0), Ethiopia (26,174; 346), Kenya (8,817; 145), Malawi (42,999; 1,261), Mozambique (36,991; 150), Nigeria (2,860; 84), Somalia (15,171; 42), South Africa (1,074; 47), Sudan (2,525; 78), South Sudan (1,471; 2), Tanzania (703; 18), Uganda (78; 10), Zambia (1,554; 30) and Zimbabwe (7,398; 192). This week, 2,813 new cases and 30 new deaths of cholera were reported from eight AU MS: Cameroon, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**Cameroon:** Since the last update (3 November 2023), the MoH reported 51 new cases (1 new confirmed; 50 suspected) and three new deaths (CFR: 5.9%) of cholera. Cumulatively 21,125 cases (2,083 confirmed; 19,042 suspected) and 501 deaths (CFR: 2.4%) of cholera have been reported from Cameroon. The outbreak is active in 22 health districts in four regions (Centre, South, Littoral and Sud-Ouest).

**Ethiopia:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the EPHI reported 446 new suspected cases and eight new deaths (CFR: 1.8%) of cholera. Cumulatively, 26,174 cases (26 confirmed; 26,148 suspected) and 354 deaths (CFR: 1.4%) have been reported from 10 of the 11 regions in Ethiopia.

**Malawi:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported one new confirmed case and no new deaths of cholera from one district. Cumulatively, 42,999 confirmed cases and 1,261 deaths (CFR: 3%) were reported from all 29 districts in Malawi.

**Mozambique:** Since the last update (3 November 2023), the MoH reported 449 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of cholera from four provinces. Cumulatively, 36,991 confirmed cases and 150 deaths (CFR: 0.4%) were reported from 10 of 11 provinces in Mozambique.

**Somalia:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported 266 new cases (33 confirmed; 233 suspected) and two new deaths of cholera. Cumulatively, 15,171 cases (264 confirmed; 14,907 suspected) and 42 deaths (CFR: 0.3%) have been reported from 29 of 74 districts in the country. Children under five years make up 54% of the cases. This outbreak has been uninterrupted in the drought-affected districts since 2022 and in the Banadir region since 2017.

**Sudan:** Since the last update (27 October 2023), the MoH reported 908 new suspected cases and 14 new deaths (CFR: 0.02%) of cholera. Cumulatively, 2,525 cases (82 confirmed; 2,443 suspected) and 78 deaths (CFR: 3%) have been reported from Sudan.

**Zambia:** Since the last update (10 November 2023), the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) reported 143 new suspected cases and six new deaths (CFR: 4.2%) from three (Chongwe, Luangwa and Lusaka) districts. Cumulatively, 1,554 cases (438 confirmed; 1,116 suspected) and 30 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 (10 November 2023), the MoH reported 549 new cases (80 confirmed; 469 suspected) and 20 new deaths (CFR: 3%) of cholera. Cumulatively, 7,398 cases (1,240 confirmed; 6,158 suspected) and 192 deaths (CFR: 2.6%) have been reported from 46 of 64 districts.

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 continues to support the surveillance, risk communication, and infection control measures for MS, in areas with active outbreaks.
Measles in Africa

21,239 confirmed case(s), 337,075 suspected case(s)
5,341 deaths (CFR: 1.5%)
2 HCW confirmed case(s)

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 358,314 (21,239 confirmed; 337,075 suspected) and 5,341 deaths (CFR: 1.5%) of measles were reported from 27 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 (21,276; 162), Gabon (3,108; 0), Gambia (208; 0), Ghana (212; 0), Guinea (1,011; 2), Kenya (1,375; 24), Libya (391; 2), Liberia (8,435; 9), Malawi (32; 0), Mali (1,580; 0), Mauritania (866; 8), Mozambique (1,342; 0), Niger (1,690; 0), Senegal (4,475; 0), Somalia (10,899; 0), South Africa (896; 0), South Sudan (6,030; 145), Uganda (337; 1) and Zambia (5,749; 1). This week, 6,243 new cases and seven new deaths were reported from seven AU MS: DRC, Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Mauritania, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia.

DRC: Since the last update (18 August 2023), the MoH reported 66,739 new suspected cases and 1,668 new deaths (CFR: 2.5%) of measles. Cumulatively, 257,337 cases (1,764 confirmed; 255,573 suspected) and 4,855 deaths (1.9%) have been reported from 275 health zones in all 26 provinces in the DRC. Eight provinces reported 79% of the total cases. On 16 August 2023, the MoH declared the country-wide spread of measles, with an immediate call for public health action.

Congo: Since the last update (27 October 2023), the MoH reported 16 suspected cases and one death (CFR: 6%) of measles from Cuvette (2; 0), Cuvette Ouest (4; 1), Kouilou (4; 0), Lekoumou (4; 0), Likouala (2; 0) provinces. Cumulatively, 690 cases (138 confirmed; 552 suspected) and 5 deaths (CFR: 0.7%) of measles have been reported from six of 26 provinces in Congo.

Gabon: Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported 12 new confirmed cases of measles. Cumulatively, 3,108 cases (1,608 confirmed; 1,500 suspected) and no deaths of measles have been reported from all of the regions.

Ethiopia: Since the last update (10 November 2023), the EPHI reported 494 new suspected cases and three new deaths (CFR: 0.6%) of measles. Cumulatively, 21,276 suspected cases and 162 deaths (CFR: 0.8%) 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.

Mauritania: Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported three new deaths of measles from three districts. Cumulatively, 866 cases (229 confirmed; 637 suspected) and eight deaths (CFR: 0.9%) of measles have been reported from 37 of 63 districts in Mauritania.

Uganda: Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported one new suspected case and no new deaths of measles. Cumulatively, 337 cases (29 confirmed; 308 suspected) and one death (CFR: 0.3%) have been reported from one of 146 districts in Uganda. This is the second outbreak of measles reported in Kiryandongo district this year.

South Africa: Since the last update (12 October 2023), the National Institute for Communicable Diseases reported 53 new confirmed cases and no new deaths of measles from six provinces. Cumulatively, 896 confirmed cases and no deaths of measles have been reported from all the nine provinces in South Africa.
Zambia: Since the last update (24 March 2023), the ZNPHI reported 5,421 cases (399 confirmed; 5,022 suspected) and no deaths of measles from all the 10 provinces in Zambia. Cumulatively, 5,749 cases (503 confirmed; 5,246 suspected) and one death (CFR: 0.02%) from all the 10 provinces in Zambia.

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Agent/Pathogen</th>
<th>First Reported</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Previous Report Update</th>
<th>GeoScope</th>
<th>Human Risk Assessment</th>
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<td>Multiple Countries</td>
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**333 confirmed case(s)**
**0 deaths (CFR: 0%)**

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of 2023, the continent has reported 99 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) from DRC (79 cases), Madagascar (17), Mozambique (3) and 234 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) from 13 MS: Benin (3 cases), Burkina Faso (1), Burundi (3), CAR (13), Chad (41), Côte d’Ivoire (3), DRC (103), Guinea (8), Kenya (8), Mali (8), Niger (1), Nigeria (35), Tanzania (2), Somalia (4) and Zambia (1) This week, one new case of cVDPV2 and no new deaths were reported from Guinea.

**Guinea:** Since the last update (22 September 2023), the MoH reported one new confirmed case and no death of cVDVP2 from Kankan region. Cumulatively, eight cases and no deaths of cVDVP2 have been reported.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

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

142 confirmed case(s), 2,688 suspected case(s)
38 deaths (CFR: 1.3%)

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of 2023, a total of 2,830 cases (142 confirmed; 2,688 suspected) and 38 deaths (CFR: 1.3%) of yellow fever were reported from seven AU MS: Cameroon (46 cases; 6 deaths), CAR (326; 5), Congo (336; 2), Gabon (113; 0), Guinea (178; 4), Nigeria (1,819; 21) and Uganda (12; 0). This week, 34 new cases and one new death of yellow fever were reported from Cameroon, Congo and Gabon.

**Cameroon:** Since the last report (3 November 2023) the MoH reported one new confirmed cases and one new death (CFR: 100%) of yellow fever have been reported in Littoral region, Cameroon. Cumulatively, 46 cases (36 confirmed; 10 suspected) and six deaths (CFR: 14%) were reported from nine regions: Adamaoua (2 cases); Centre 3; Est 2; Extreme-Nord 2; Littoral 11; Nord 4, Nord-Ouest 3; Sud 4; Ouest 2 and Sud-Ouest 3. Of the confirmed cases, 41% were not vaccinated against yellow fever.

**Congo:** Since the last update (27 October 2023), the MoH reported 12 suspected cases of yellow fever from Cuvette (2), Kouilou (4), Niari (2) and et Pointe Noire (4) provinces. Cumulatively, 336 cases (15 confirmed; 321 suspected) and two deaths (CFR: 0.6%) were reported from 11 out of 12 provinces across the country.

**Gabon:** Since the last update (3 November 2023), the MoH reported 21 new suspected cases and no new deaths of yellow fever. Cumulatively, 113 suspected cases and no deaths of measles were reported from all ten regions in Gabon: Centre (8 cases; Centre-Est 1; Centre-Sud 13; Est 11; Libreville-Owendo 35; Maritime 13; Nord 12; Ouest 8; Sud 4 and Sud-Est 8.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Ministries of Health in these MS are implementing vector control and community engagement activities in the affected areas.
Chikungunya in Africa

459 confirmed case(s), 242 suspected case(s)
0 deaths (CFR: 0%)

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, 701 cases (459 confirmed; 242 suspected) and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported from three AU MS: Burkina (473; 0), Mali (8;0) and Senegal (220; 0). This week, one new case and no new deaths of chikungunya were reported from Burkina Faso.

Burkina Faso: Since the last update (3 November 2023), the MoH reported one new confirmed case and no new deaths of chikungunya virus from Bobo health district. Cumulatively, 473 cases (238 confirmed; 235 suspected) and no deaths of chikungunya have been reported. The confirmed cases were reported from three of five health districts: Bobo (2), Koudougou (4), Ouagadougou (10 ), Pouytenga (221) and Zorgho (1),

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

Africa CDC regional coordinating centre for Western Africa has engaged with the MS to identify areas for support.
Anthrax in Africa

21 confirmed case(s)
974 suspected case(s)
4 deaths (CFR: 19%)
134 animal case(s)
121 animal deaths (CFR: 90.3%)

Update to Event:

Since the beginning of this year, a total of 995 human cases (21 confirmed; 974 suspected), four suspected and no confirmed deaths of anthrax have been reported in three AU MS: Uganda (5 human cases; 0 deaths), Zambia (606; 4) and Zimbabwe (384; 0). Two AU MS (Ghana and Nigeria) have reported anthrax outbreaks in animals this year. This week, 254 new human cases and no new deaths of anthrax were reported from Zambia.

Zambia: Since the last update (10 November 2023), the MoH reported 254 new cases (18 confirmed; 236 suspected) and no new deaths of anthrax. Cumulatively, 606 cases (18 confirmed; 588 suspected) and four deaths (CFR: 1.1%) of cutaneous anthrax have been reported this year from eight of 10 provinces in Zambia.

Response by MS/partner/Africa CDC:

The Zambia MoH deployed a rapid response team to conduct enhanced surveillance, risk communication, environmental sanitation, safe burial of dead animals, risk communication and animal vaccination.
* 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.