



IOM TEAM TOGETHER WITH ECHO AND MOH REPRESENTATIVES DURING A VISIT TO VISIT POE IN GOMA © IOM 2018

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, is working closely with the Congolese Ministry of Health (MoH), the World Health Organization (WHO) and humanitarian actors to contain the 10th Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) epidemic outbreak and address the needs of affected communities in the province of North Kivu.

MAPPING TO GUIDE THE EBOLA RESPONSE

Following the recent Population Mobility Mapping in Beni and Mambasa, IOM conducted further analysis of the movement pattern using qualitative information collected from flow surveillance at 10 POE/POCs in Beni and Goma. This resulted in a unified map (Map 1) showing long distance mobility from Kisangani to Kampala (Uganda) through Beni, Butembo, Mambasa, Bunia and across the border points such as Kasindi, Novili, Mahagi and Aru. The findings confirm a **high volume of long distance mobility particularly between East and West** (e.g. Kisangani – Mambasa- Beni – Butembo – border posts [Novili and Kasindi] – Kampala) and less movement between north and south (i.e. no significant movement from Goma-Beni; Beni – Bunia). This presents very useful perspectives about the population mobility trends to the south and west, volume of movements and their connectivity to the outbreak affected areas.



GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE BEING SCREENED DURING THE OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF THE FONER POE IN MAMBASA (ITURI) © IOM 2018

IOM'S RESPONSE FOCUS

- ◆ **Population Mobility Mapping (PMM) and Flow Monitoring (FMP)** at border-crossings and in the affected province
- ◆ **Points of Entry (POE) surveillance** (health screening, risk communication, hand washing and hygiene promotion)
- ◆ **Cross-border coordination** between DRC, Republic of Uganda (Uganda) and Republic of Rwanda (Rwanda)

The cases of Ebola virus disease (EVD) reported in North Kivu Province continue to increase in areas where population mobility is primarily affected by insecurity. This together with high volume of movement by traders and mining workers, presents a significant risk for disease transmission in this outbreak; both for DRC and its neighbor, Uganda.

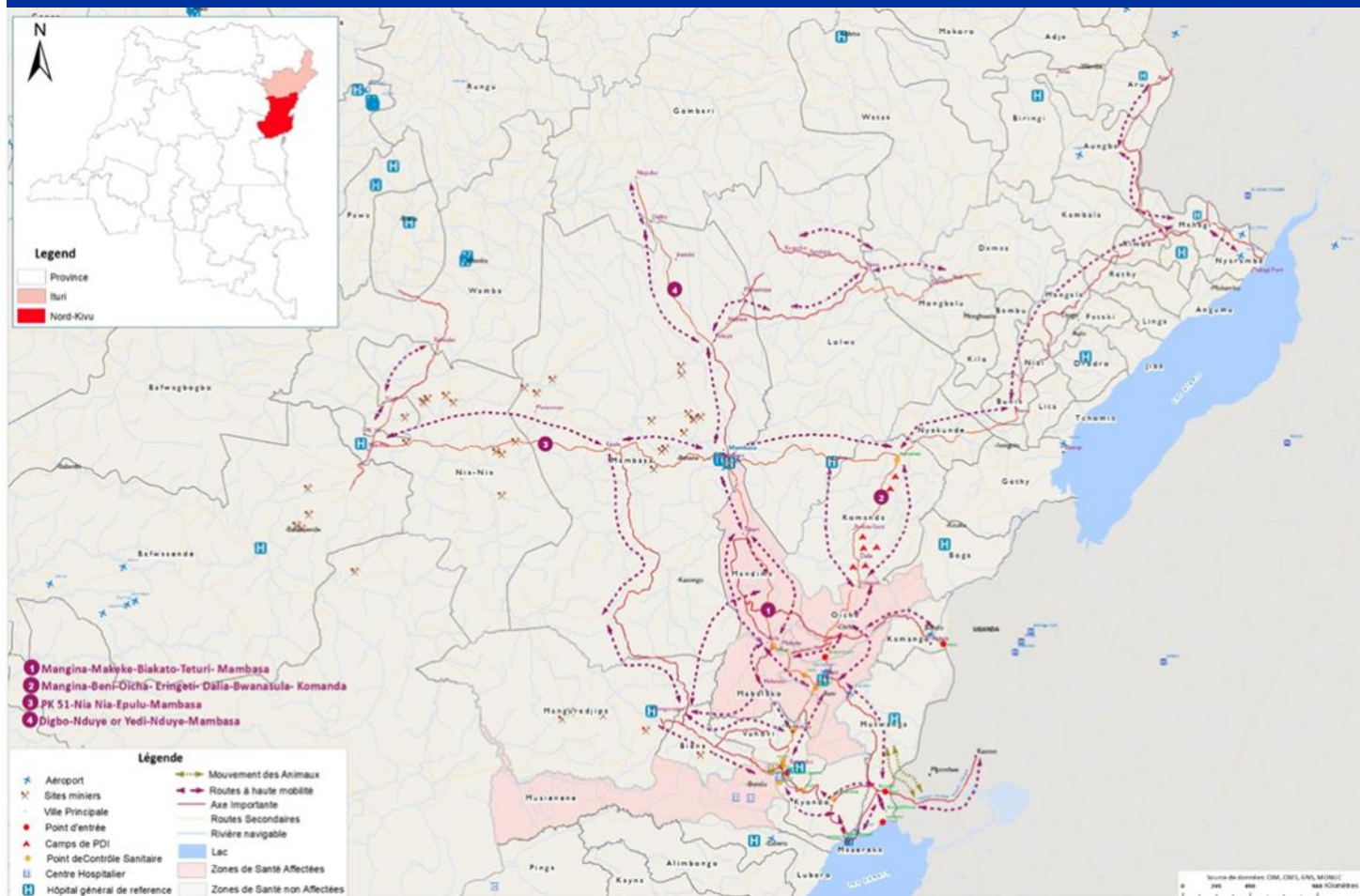
HIGHLIGHTS OF IOM'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

- ◆ **A Real-Time Response Review** was held in Beni on 12 September 2018 with partners. The Review identified strategies to strengthen detection capacity at POE/POCs and reinforce supervision and technical capacity of local staff.
- ◆ IOM is currently supporting National Programme of Hygiene at Borders (PNHF)'s **Point of Entry (POE) and Points of Control (POC) surveillance** activities at **32 POE/POC sites in North Kivu and in Ituri**. To respond to new cases in Butembo, IOM/PNHF has established additional 2 new POE/POCs at strategic sites in Butembo.
- ◆ IOM is collecting **daily population flow information** (quantitative data) in order to verify the movement volume and identify traveller profiles for both internal and cross-border movements. Results from Beni confirm qualitative data collected during the last two population mobility mapping exercises (PMM) in Beni and Mambasa.

IOM'S EBOLA RESPONSE IN DR CONGO

MAPPING TO GUIDE THE EBOLA RESPONSE

MAP :MOBILITY OVERVIEW FROM KISANGANI TO UGANDA BORDER



OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ **IOM continues to support the construction and establishment of operations at POE/POCs** (in Butembo, Beni, Kasindi, Goma, Mambasa, Bunia. Operational assessments of POE/POCs are ongoing to assess technical and operational functionality.
- ◆ **Integrating music in community awareness raising activities** Music, a popular form of entertainment in DRC, is being used to disseminate information on POE/POC surveillance activities, as well as key preventive behaviors to local communities and passing travelers in areas where POE/POCs have been established.
- ◆ **A one day briefing in South Kivu on POE/POC Surveillance** was organized by IOM and PNHF. **51 PNHF staff (21 female; 30 male) from key POE/POCs (Ruzizil, Ruszizill, Kamanyuora, Kanvumu Airport, Kamanyola and Kavimvira)** were trained on POE/POC Surveillance SOPs, IPC, risk communication and data management.
- ◆ **Three days Cross-border coordination meeting (DRC, Uganda, Rwanda)** is planned in the first week of October. In coordination with WHO AFRO, IOM is supporting the development of agenda and logistical arrangements.

Terminology

POE: Point of Entry is a passage for international entry or exit of travellers, baggage, cargo, containers, conveyances, goods and postal parcels as well as agencies and areas (IHR 2005)

POC: Point of Control is a passage of travel, or congregation of travellers, within a country (ie. not on international borders)



POE STAFF SENSITIZING COMMUNITY AT POE SITE IN BENI © IOM 2018

IOM'S EBOLA RESPONSE IN DR CONGO

REFLECTING ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND LESSONS LEARNT: ONE MONTH INTO THE RESPONSE

A **Real -Time Response Review** was organized on 12th September 2018 in Beni town with key response stakeholders. The aim was to review progress to date, discuss issues and challenges, and plan a way forward to improve POE/POC Surveillance activities.

Key Findings and Recommendations:

- ◆ **Surveillance effectiveness:** During the review period, the number of alert (suspected cases reported) at POE/POCs was low (53) compared to the persons screened (over 3 million). In addition, alerts reported from POE/POCs for investigation was often not followed up (tracked) by the surveillance committee. As a result, the final outcomes of alerts were not available to assess POE/POC alert accuracy. IOM is strengthening detection capacity at POE/POC surveillance sites by reinforcing supervision capacity and introducing a quality assurance survey at key POE/POCs. Moreover, IOM work with PNHF and the surveillance commission to follow up lost contacts and reinforce tracking mechanisms.
- ◆ **Changes in POE/POC locations:** Some POC sites need to be re-located as epidemiological trends have shifted. IOM is to support establishment of new PoCs in Visiki (Beni-Butembo axis), at Malese (Mununze) on the Mabalako-Ituri axis and in Lubero (high mobility area around mining sites).
- ◆ **Logistics:** Timely procurement and delivery of materials and equipment is a challenge due to distance and road conditions in the rainy season. There is a lack of timely updates on requests from POE/POC to PNHF Provincial Office and IOM Beni. IOM is to increase number of IOM logistics staff in Beni and Butembo, while reinforcing stock management and needs forecasting capacity at POE/POCs.
- ◆ **Capacity of service provider:** Insufficient number of staff at POE/POCs; inadequate supervision and training especially at POE level; low motivation of local staffs including provincial supervisors. IOM to increase the number of IOM technical staff in the field; reinforce capacity of PNHF supervisors through weekly performance evaluations and deployment of qualified staff (technical knowledge, supervision and coordination skill, local language, motivation, cooperative), and; develop and introduce a check list on standard POE/POC tasks to reinforce quality implementation.
- ◆ **Risk communication:** Communities have not been sufficiently informed on POE/POC surveillance activities. To reinforce acceptance and better understanding by the communities, POE/POC teams will increase mass community sensitization activities using IEC materials and will place PSAs in local radios stations (including PSAs in Swahili and Kinande).
- ◆ **Engaging stakeholders from various sectors:** need to reinforce a **multi-sectoral approach** at POE/POCs to maximize overall effectiveness of surveillance work. This includes the involvement of WASH partners, surveillance commission and communication committee in POE/POC activities planning and implementation.



SCREENING PROCESS MANAGEMENT AT PETITE BARRIER IN GOMA © IOM 2018

CONTACTS

JEAN-PHILIPPE CHAUZY
jpchauzy@iom.int

AKI YOSHINO
ayoshino@iom.int

IOM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
372 Avenue Colonel Mondjiba, Bâtiment 58,
Concession Utex/Immotex, Kinshasa, Ngaliema, DR Congo
+243 81 032 55 33

DR. AURELINE PEKEZOU
apekezou@iom.int

BENSON MAINA
BEMAINA@iom.int

iomkinshasa@iom.int
www.drcongo.iom.int

