



UNFPA, innovative approaches in this epidemic

For the first time, this epidemic became abnormally very long obliging UNFPA within the framework of the national response strategy to readjust her intervention approach focusing on prevention and control of infection (PCI) in maternity settings with the objective of “zero Ebola transmission in maternities”.

This approach is based on cascade training of midwives and other health staffs working in maternities as well as focal points for reproductive health services, supportive supervision and the provision of PCI supplies and materials specific for maternities such as gynecological examination gloves, single use speculums, aprons... This cascade capacity building of midwives reinforced by provision of appropriate equipment for health staff henceforth, enables the protection of the lives of those who help others to give live

Elsewhere, responding to a request of the Ministry of Health, UNFPA supports the monitoring of persons who had prolonged contact with Ebola infected patients (contact tracing and surveillance) thanks to the software Comm Care (Community Care) already deployed in Goma and in the health zone of Mwenga in South Kivu

This approach that utilizes smartphones enables among others to timely trace contacts and to appraise the performance of community health workers

UNFPA engaged and committed to the response

These UNFPA innovative approaches are complementary to the response efforts deployed since the beginning of the epidemic thanks to Emergency fund and flexible humanitarian funds from Canada

UNFPA provides support to the National Ebola Coordination team including the commissions on prevention and control of infection (PCI) and communication

Support to National Ebola Coordination consists of recruitment and payment of salaries of 2 assistants to the national coordinator for several months, contribution to payment of phone and communication bills for members of the national coordination team including provision of information technology materials and equipment

How UNFPA contributes to the response to EVD in the DRC



Committed to respond promptly to diverse needs arising during the response, UNFPA donated more than 81000 syringes for vaccination of more than 213814 persons among which were 615 pregnant women, 3129 lactating mothers hence covering more than 38% of needs

UNFPA in prevention and control of infections (PCI)

UNFPA's interventions in PCI are carried out among others through the provision of equipment to health facilities: 20 hand washing kits, thermoflash, chlorinated water, individual protection equipment, gloves and masques, 120000 pairs of gloves, 2000 pairs of gynecological gloves, 8600 single use lab coats, 62 aprons, 48 pairs of boots

In addition, for reproductive health services and care at low risk of infection, more than 10 tons of emergency reproductive health kits (condoms, clean hygienic kits for women and girls, post rape kits, STIs treatment kits, individual delivery kits, post abortion care kits, blood transfusion kits) were donated to the Ministry of Health

UNFPA also distributed 544 dignity kits to contacts and to persons of reproductive age cured of the Ebola disease

At the request of the Ministry of Health, UNFPA produced 600 copies of training module for health staff in medical schools and in the communities

UNFPA, a sustainable response beyond Ebola

As part of the humanitarian and development nexus, UNFPA rehabilitated and equipped the Maternity unit of Beni General Referral Hospital and the Maternity Hospital unit of Mangina Referral Health Center. The rehabilitation process of the Katwa Referral General Hospital is ongoing.

Similarly, on April 16, 2019 in Beni, UNFPA handed over to the Head of State, Felix Antoine Tshisekedi, 27 tons of medical equipment and materials destined for 25 health facilities in Ebola-affected health zones in the provinces of North Kivu and Ituri.

UNFPA, in risk communication and behavior change

With regard to communication, UNFPA supported Behavior Change activities including community sensitization campaign through the production and dissemination of 20,000 leaflets and 13,500 posters, production and broadcast of television and radio spots, the sensitization of more than 950,000 people through community agents

UNFPA was the main partner of the Ministry of Health in the «EBOLA NOT AT HOME» campaign and sponsored the football tournament, theater activities, the involving more than 1,000 students from 33 universities and colleges in Beni.

Since December 2018, through a series of cascade trainings UNFPA has helped to recycle more than 2,500 community relays, followed by 280 youth network facilitators, 153 facilitators, 244 women market gardeners, and 20 supervisors.

