

The objective of the bulletin is to report new health events occurring outside and inside EpiSouth area that have potential implications on EpiSouth population. It does not aim to provide an exhaustive review of international alerts. Since 2006, The French public health Institute (InVS) is issuing an online epidemic intelligence bulletin (Bulletin hebdomadaire International - BHI). In order to limit duplication and to make this already verified information available to a larger audience, information relating to health events of interest for EpiSouth population are translated and integrated in the relevant e-web sections. Despite all verifications, WP6 team would not be responsible for potential errors. The recipient is responsible for the cautious use of this information. Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on behalf of the Commission is liable for the use that may be made of the information contained in this report. Data maps and commentary used in this document do not imply any opinion of EpiSouth countries or its partners on the legal status of the countries and territories shown or concerning their borders.

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- A(H5N1) Human influenza – Egypt
- A(H5N1) Avian influenza – Myanmar (Burma)
- “INSIDE” Events: none
- “OUTSIDE” events:
 - Monkey Pox – RD Congo
 - Yellow fever and dengue – Côte d’Ivoire

Location: Egypt

Event: A(H5N1) – Human

Comments

- On 18th January 2011, the Egyptian Ministry of Health reported a new A(H5N1) human infection.
- The 121st case is:
 - A 1,5 year-old child from Alexandria governorate (cf. map1).
 - The child was hospitalised for high fever, cough, convulsion
 - The child was treated by tamiflu and is in stable condition
 - Exposure to infected domestic birds was documented.
- In Egypt, the last human case was reported on 10th January 2011 in Giza Governorate (cf. [eWEB n°147](#)).
- Since the 1st case of bird flu in Egypt, the case count is 121 cases including 40 deaths.

- The available information does not indicate a change in the epidemiology of the virus in Egypt.

Map 1. Alexandria governorate, Egypt



Location: Myanmar (Burma)

Event: A(H5N1) – Epizootic

Comments

- On 18th January 2011, the authorities of Myanmar reported to [OIE](#) an outbreak of an A(H5N1) avian influenza virus in 8 poultry farm located in the Rakhine state (cf. map 2).
- In Myanmar, the last A(H5N1) epizootic was reported on 5th February 2010 in poultry in Rangoon division (cf. [eWEB n°99](#)).
- To date, only 1 human avian influenza case has been reported in Myanmar (2007).

Map 2. Rakhine state, Myanmar.



**REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA
(Not occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)**

Area: DR Congo

Event: Monkey Pox

Comments

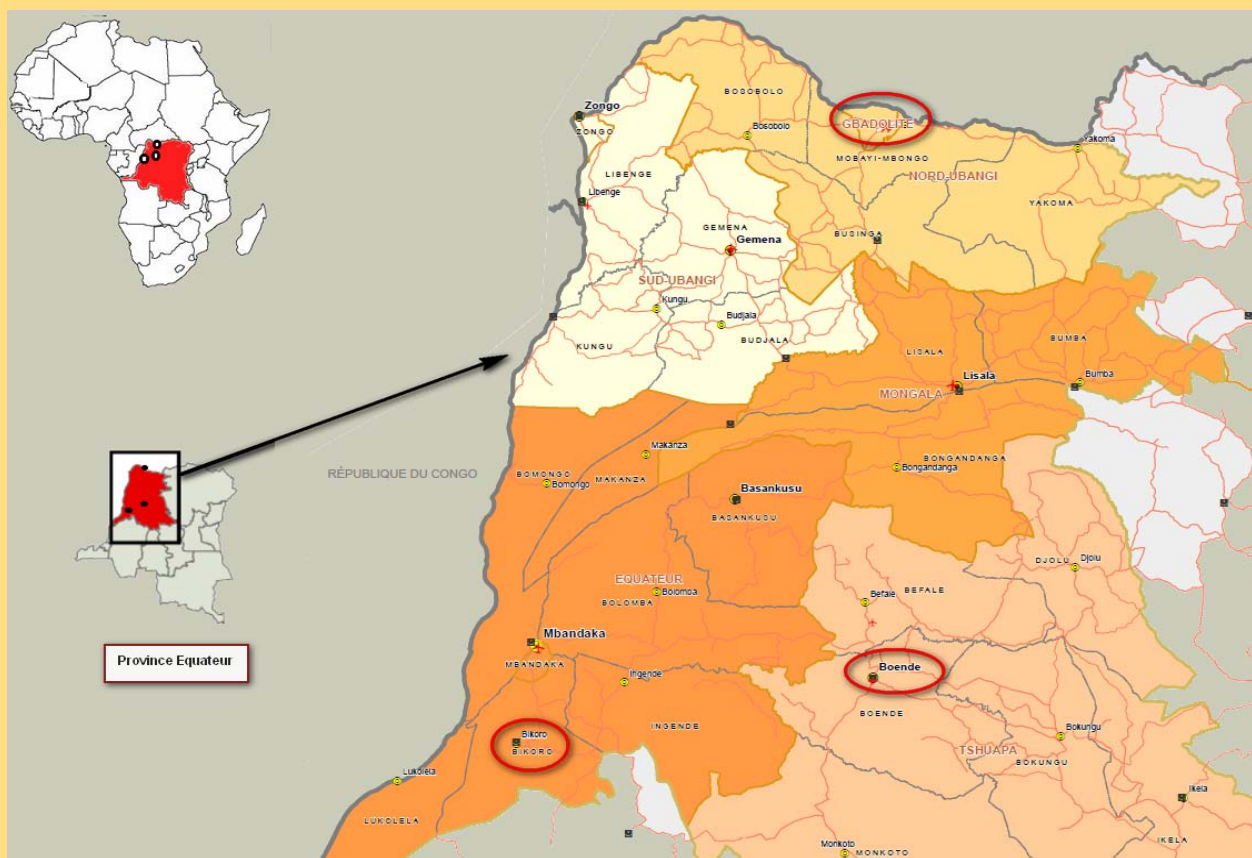
- Since November 2010, an outbreak of monkey pox is ongoing in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the Equateur province, north-west of the country.
- At least 114 cases including 5 deaths were reported by health centers in the district of South Ubangi, 80 km from Mbandaka (the capital of the province).
- Other suspected cases were reported in the districts of Equateur, Tshuapa and the North-Ubangi district (Gbadolite municipality): cf. map 3.

Background on “small pox”

- The reservoir consists mainly of rodents and primates.
- The person transmission, initially considered rare, is currently important
- The clinic is similar to smallpox (no clinical differential diagnosis possible) and the lethality is estimated between 1 to 10% (in Africa).

- Since the 70's, outbreaks of monkey pox are regularly documented in the DRC and neighbouring Republic of Congo.
- Since the early 2000s, the number of reported outbreaks is increasing, especially since the interruption of the smallpox vaccination that provided cross-protection against the Monkey pox.
- In Equateur Province, outbreaks have been reported regularly in 2001, 2002 and 2009 (cf. [eWEB n° 9](#), n°21 and n°87).
- The occurrence of cases in forest areas with a low population density is not unexpected.
- Due to the occurrence of cases close to urban centers - especially in the town of Gbadolite and border areas - the risk of exportation of cases to neighbouring countries (Congo and Central African Republic) and European countries can not be totally excluded.

Map 3. Localisation of Monkey Pox outbreaks in DR Congo, as of 13th January 2011.



**REPORT OF NEW HEALTH EVENTS OCCURRING OUTSIDE THE EPISOUTH AREA
(Not occurring in one or several EpiSouth countries)**

Area: Côte d'Ivoire

Event: Yellow fever + dengue

Comments

- On 29 July 2010, the Ivorian Ministry of Health reported an outbreak of hemorrhagic fever mainly in Abidjan and Grand Bassam (located on the coast, east of Abidjan) occurring since May 2010. The diagnosis of dengue and yellow fever (YF) has been reported.
- Afterwards, tests carried out at Pasteur Institute in Abidjan (IPA) confirmed the co-circulation of 3 flaviviruses: yellow fever, Dengue (DEN 2 and DEN 3).
- On 5 December 2010, the Ivorian health authorities reported:
 - 635 suspected YF cases including 26 deaths in 17 health districts (including 7 in Abidjan and 10 inside the country) since early 2010.
 - Targeted vaccination campaigns in Grand Bassam, Abidjan and Seguela districts.
- During the week 48, 21 suspected cases including 11 deaths were reported in the center of the country: Katiola, Seguela, Beoumi & Mankono departments (see Map 3).

- Yellow fever is endemic in West Africa. Sporadic cases are regularly reported across Côte d'Ivoire.
- YF virus is spread by different cycles of infection: urban, sylvatic and intermediate.
- The recent data confirms the geographical spread of the YF epidemic in the center of Côte d'Ivoire.
- This increase occurs in rural areas. The virus circulation in intermediate areas may involve risk of expansion in urban areas (cf. [Yellow fever thematic note](#)), largely because of the proximity of Bouaké.
- The co-circulation of different flaviviruses is not unexpected but complicates diagnosis and surveillance. In 2008, during an outbreak in Abidjan, the concomitant circulation of YF and dengue serotypes was also detected.
- Vaccination campaigns have been planned but not yet implemented due to the current political situation.

Map 3. Localisation of areas affected by the yellow fever in Côte d'Ivoire in 2010.

