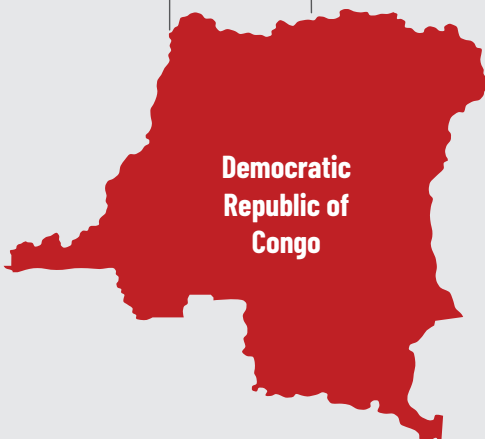


# Improving Response and Programming in Humanitarian Emergencies



The humanitarian situation in the Republic of Congo (DRC) continues to deteriorate due to armed violence, epidemics, natural disasters and food insecurity. According to the 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance is expected to increase from 12.8 million in 2019 to 15.6 million in 2020. While 8.1 million people lack basic access to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene, 8.6 million people are in need of protection assistance.



During these times of acute and protracted crises, communities become vulnerable to diseases which can evolve into epidemics. These vulnerabilities can be exacerbated by insufficient and untimely public health information as well as limited capacity to respond to public health crises.

## Overview



iMMAP supports the World Health Organization (WHO), humanitarian health partners, and the Ministry of Health in DRC through its consistent presence in the country since 2019 to support the response efforts to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).



The main goal of the project is to provide a range of tools, services and capacity strengthening to partners in order to improve response efforts to public health outbreaks. iMMAP, as a part of these projects, provides data collection, analysis, and visualization through its partnership with WHO through the Go.Data and Rapid Diagnostic Tests projects.

Years of presence in DRC: **Since 2019**

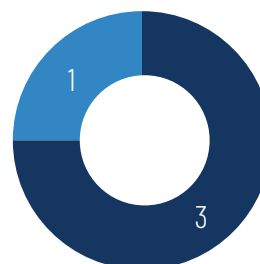
Donor: **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

Current project: **Improving Response and Programming in Humanitarian Emergencies**

Partners supported: **6**

**4**  
Number  
of personnel

■ National  
■ International



## Services delivered

### Ebola Response Analysis Unit



Data collection, analysis, and visualization services provided to the Analysis Unit at the Center of the Ebola Response and WHO, which is used to define the planning and response strategy during the epidemic. These services allow for a more effective and efficient response on the strategic and operational levels to humanitarian partners.

### Go.Data Project

Developed and implemented in collaboration with the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), is a tool for field data collection during public health emergencies. It includes functionality for case investigation, contact follow-up, and visualization of chains of transmission. Go.Data is designed to enable secure data exchange while adapting to a wide range of outbreak scenarios, including the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, the platform is established and teams are being trained to use the tool in field data collection.

### OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Diagnostic Test

Suited for use in remote, low-resource settings where access to PCR testing capacity is difficult, the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Diagnostic Test (Orasure, PA, USA) is used as a device to screen dead bodies for possible infection with Ebola virus.

In support of the continued surveillance for EVD, iMAP developed a tool that collects data on patients, locations, and Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) results. Automatically sent to a database connected to an interactive dashboard, the data is comprehensively presented and visualized.

Combining the RDT and the iMAP-developed tool supports the identification of potential flareups of EVD, and to uncover hidden EVD transmission chains.

### Capacity Building



iMAP, to enhance the sustainability of the Go.Data project, provides on-site training for the Surveillance and Vaccination teams on the use of Go.Data mobile and web

applications. These trainings have also been delivered to the staff in the National Institute for Biomedical Research (INRB), the Ministry of Health, WHO, and partner organizations responding to public health crises across the country.

Furthermore, iMAP created and delivered a training program on the use of OraQuick® RDT process. 120 trainees participated in representation of the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), Civil Protection and FHI 360.

### Outcomes

- As a part of the services provided to the Ebola Response Coordination Unit, iMAP's efforts supported the larger response that made possible to end the latest Ebola Virus Outbreak in northeast DRC on June 25th, 2020, after almost two years of response interventions.
- The Go.Data module platform has now been established with partners responding to public health crises trained on the use of the tool. iMAP's support to WHO has been highlighted as instrumental and successful in the DRC response to the Ebola Virus Disease epidemic. Moving forward, iMAP will provide support in the effective analysis of the collected data and define indicators to be reported by partners.
- Rapid implementation of the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Diagnostic Test. Tight deadlines were met due to good coordination and sound understanding of the donor's request. After a condensed two-day training, partners received the tool and acquired the knowledge for efficient use in the field.