Alert Type: Rapid onset humanitarian crisis
Alert Title: Bundibugyo virus disease in DRC and urgent WASH support for schools and border points in neighboring Uganda

Alerting Organisation(s): Danish People's Aid
Date Received: 30.10.26
Decision Date: 04.11.26
By: DERF Fund Management

Crisis country and location(s): Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda

Decision: Not to activate the DERF to respond to Ebola outbreak in DRC and associated risks in Uganda

Reason:

DERF acknowledges the severity of the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and is deeply concerned about its humanitarian consequences and the potential risks posed to neighbouring countries, including Uganda. We also recognise the importance of adequate WASH facilities and infection prevention measures in vulnerable border communities.

However, following an assessment of the humanitarian situation and the criteria for rapid-onset humanitarian crises and spikes in protracted humanitarian crises, as outlined in the DERF Funding Guidelines, DERF has decided not to activate the fund.

Firstly, the outbreak began in May 2026, and according to the DERF Funding Guidelines, interventions must be able to commence within three months of the onset of a humanitarian crisis. As this timeframe has passed, the crises no longer falls within the timeframe for DERF support as a rapid-onset humanitarian crisis.

Secondly, DERF has considered whether recent developments could constitute a spike in a protracted humanitarian crisis. While recognising the seriousness of the ongoing outbreak and its continued spread in DRC, DERF does not assess that the available information provides sufficient grounds to classify recent developments as a distinct spike. Furthermore, the World Health Organization officially declared the Ebola outbreak in Uganda over on 27 August 2026, following 42 consecutive days without a new confirmed case. While the continued risk of cross-border transmission remains a serious concern, the situation in Uganda is primarily characterised by preparedness and prevention needs rather than new acute humanitarian needs arising from a sudden escalation.

Based on these assessments, DERF has concluded that the situation does not meet the criteria for activation under the DERF Funding Guidelines. We are therefore unable to activate the fund in response to this alert.