

Alert Type: Rapid onset crisis

Alert Title: 26-015-RO-Regional Ebola Crisis in Africa

Alerting Organisation(s): Baptist Union of Denmark

Date Received: 10.06.26

Decision Date: 15.06.26

By: DERF Fund Management

Crisis country and location(s): Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and neighbouring countries and border areas in Burundi, Uganda, South Sudan & Rwanda.

Decision: Not to activate the DERF to respond to Regional Ebola Crisis in Africa

Reason: DERF has assessed the alert and considers the situation highly concerning. However, due to the existing operational and time-related constraints governing the fund's call process, as well as the standard procedural timelines, DERF must decline this alert.

As the DERF office is closed during weeks 28–31, and 3 July is therefore the last working day before the summer closure, it is not possible to both launch a call and complete the assessment of submitted applications before the office closes.

To ensure a reasonable application period for potential applicants, a call window would need to remain open for approximately 2–3 weeks. In addition, the assessment period from submission of an application to a potential approval is approximately 12 working days, as stipulated in the guidelines. This does not include any additional time required for applicants to respond to conditions related to a final approval.

It is also not possible to keep a call open throughout the summer closure and assess applications after the office reopens. According to the DERF Guidelines, interventions must be able to commence within three months of the identified start of a humanitarian crisis. As the crisis is assessed to have begun on 17 May, any interventions would therefore need to commence no later than 17 August.

As the DERF office does not reopen until 3 August, it would not be possible, given the required assessment timelines and subsequent grant approval process, to ensure that interventions could commence before 17 August.

Finally, Ebola is a crisis that can develop rapidly and unpredictably. Priorities, geographic focus areas, and humanitarian needs may change significantly within a short period of time. DERF therefore also considers it inappropriate to keep a call open for such an extended period, as the basis for any potential call may change substantially before applications can be assessed.

On this basis, DERF is unable to proceed with the alert and must therefore decline it.