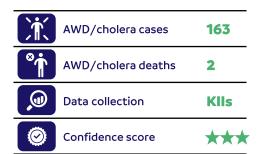




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Cholera and AWD Alert in New Luglow and Surrounding IDP Sites

New Luglow IDP sites, North Kismayo, Lower Juba, Jubaland



Acted alerts of a cholera and Acute Water Diarrhea (AWD) outbreak in North Kismayo IDP sites with cases reported in New Luglow, New Qamqam, Istanbul and Eljale IDP sites, according to Jubaland Commission for Refugees and IDPs (JUCRI) and the Ministry of Health in Jubaland. The suspected outbreak reportedly started in New Luglow IDP sites and spread to surrounding sites. According to the Ministry of Health, at least 163 cases of AWD/cholera were reported across North Kismayo IDP sites since January 2024, of which 35 were reported since 1 May.

Shock type

Shock date

Shock status

Affected population

Accessibility

Access restrictions









By road 40 min from Kismayo Road not affected



Ongoing

Cholera cases surge across Somalia

The rise in AWD/cholera cases in North Kismayo IDP sites echoes the nationwide cholera outbreak since January 2024, linked to the limited access to safe water and sanitation, and high levels of malnutrition among children, exacerbated by the Deyr/El Niño flooding in late 2023. Cumulative cholera cases for 2024 have reached 10,647 (64% severe cases) across Somalia, including 120 deaths, with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 1.1%.

The latest AWD/Cholera Weekly Epidemiological Report by the Ministry of Health records 630 new cholera cases (56% severe cases) between 29 April and 5 May. In Kismayo, 94 new cases of cholera were recorded, marking an increase from 75 new cases recorded a week earlier and reaching 904 cumulative cases. With anticipated heavier-than normal Gu rains between April and June 2024, the outbreak is expected to escalate, especially in districts along the Shabelle and Juba rivers, and to impact areas where cholera has not been detected in years.

Acted continues to monitor the situation in IDP sites

Acted conducted an assessment and interviewed 24 key community members (15 women and 9 men) in New Qamqam, New Luglow, Istanbul, and Eljale to gather information on the suspected outbreak on 9 May. Key community members identified the lack of safe water, poor sanitation and improper hygiene practices as the main reasons for the surge in AWD/cholera. On a further visit, CMCs and new arrival households highlighted the prevalence of AWD/cholera in the sites and the immediate need for safe water, improved medical assistance and hygiene items.



Figure 1. IDPs collecting contaminated water from Istanbul pan due to lack of close-by safe water point

Outbreak Response planning and key response gaps

As a key CCCM actor in North Kismayo, Acted provides a full CCCM package incl. site level coordination and implements 3 rounds of MPCA to 800 HHs, 1,500 hygiene kits (planned in North Kismayo), 67 flood-protected latrines (installed in New Qamgam and New Luglow) a functioning water kiosk in New Luglow and a shallow well planned in New Qamgam.

Immediate need for safe water

New Luglow and surrounding IDP sites are supplied by 10 shallow wells along the Jubba River, connected to an underground water tank and elevated water tanks. From there, water is supplied through 8 kiosks, including in Eljale (4), Istanbul (3), New Luglow (1), with no safe water point in New Qamqam. Due to the scarcity of kiosks, the population collects surface water from Istanbul pan (Figure 1). Acted and the Ministry of Energy & Water Resources found fecal coliform in samples collected from Istanbul water kiosk, Maqaracad shallow well and Istanbul pan on 13 May, indicating that the water system at New Luglow and surrounding IDP sites is unsafe for consumption. There is an immediate need to provide emergency safe water, chlorinate the existing water system and construct additional water points to prevent the use of contaminated surface water.

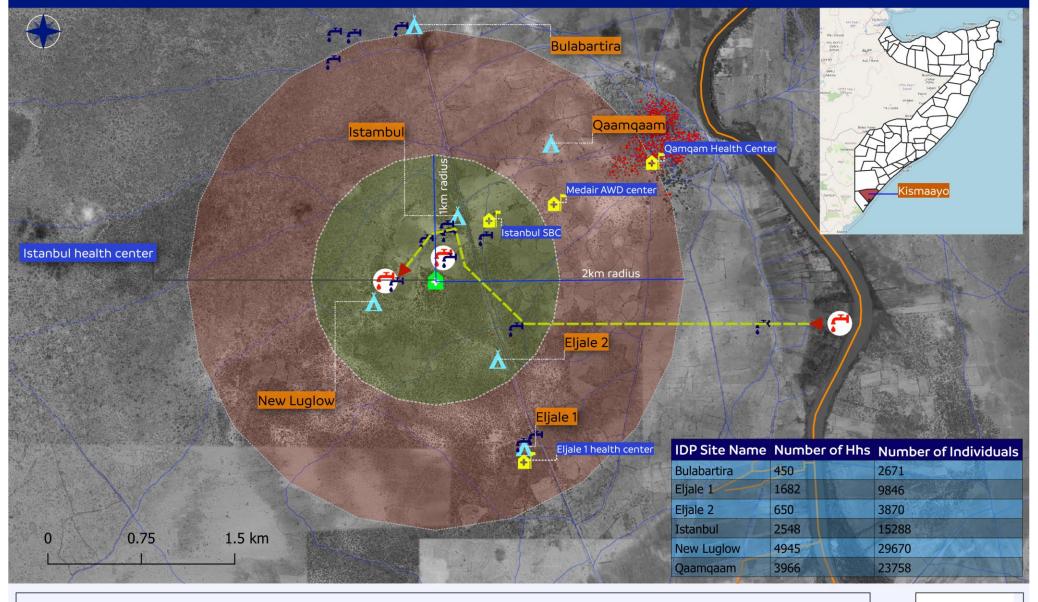
Support to AWD/cholera treatment units

Istanbul Cholera Treatment Unit (CTU) is the only facility where the population of New Luglow and surrounding IDP sites can access AWD/cholera treatment. Other health centers do not provide treatment and refer patients to Istanbul CTU. The CTU is unable to support all cases and urgently needs cholera kits, safe water, health personnel and hygiene items (soap).

Provision of hygiene items and awareness

The population of New Luglow and surrounding IDP sites lacks basic hygiene items, including soap. Partners started registration to distribute 5,000 hygiene kits across North Kismayo, including 1,090 in New Luglow and 695 in New Qamqam. With an estimated 19,000 households (114,000 individuals) settled across North Kismayo IDP sites, additional hygiene kits and tailored awareness on AWD/cholera prevention are required to limit the spread of the outbreak.

AWD Outbreak Response Map: IDP Sites, Health Facilities, and Water Sources





water points

contaminated water source

Health facilities

Health facilities



Istanbul health center AWD



Sites



1km radius



2km radius



- River



Road