

Our Response to Continental Health Emergency Outbreaks



Amref's response is centred on the following integrated areas that strengthen government-led preparedness and response capacity:

1. Rapid Response Teams

Establish and train teams in high-risk border regions. Includes intensive training for epidemiologists and lab techs, deploying mobile units for active case finding, and pre-positioning emergency supplies.

2. Frontline Mobilization & community based surveillance

Training & deploying CHWs as the first line of defense working with MOH and partners to strengthen community level event based surveillance using online and offline tools

3. Lab Capacity Strengthening

Upgrade infrastructure for rapid diagnosis. Install biosafety equipment, train personnel in testing protocols, and create specimen transport networks to drastically reduce turnaround times.

4. Risk Communication

Deploy systems to combat misinformation. Establish feedback mechanisms, train community leaders, and use mobile platforms for culturally-appropriate health messaging.

5. Infection prevention & Control

Scale IPC protocol rapidly across frontline health facilities and high density population concentration areas. Train health workers, offer IPC supervision & mentorship

6. Cross-Border Coordination

Strengthen mechanisms among border health systems. Establish quarterly forums, deploy joint surveillance protocols, and develop standardized case management across participating countries.

Building on a Proven Track Record

Amref's current response builds on decades of experience supporting countries through major public health emergencies.



COVID 19 Response |2021 - 2025

- During the pandemic, Amref partnered with Africa CDC and over a dozen local organizations, including faith-based CBOs, **across 24 countries** to execute a health emergency response operation.
- This included training, equipping and deploying **40,000 frontline health workers**, supporting vaccination delivery to targeted populations, and successfully expanded genomic testing laboratories from **2 to 40** active facilities.



Uganda MoH Ebola Response & Post-Outbreak Recovery | 2022

- Supported the MoH's frontline emergency containment operations. Including: **actively training rapid response teams**, establishing a comprehensive school-based **surveillance system**, and coordinating the district task force response.
- Following containment, Amref was selected to lead the drafting of the **National Post Ebola Recovery Plan** in July 2023.



Tanzania Marburg Disease Outbreak Response | 2023

- Tanzania experienced its first Marburg virus disease outbreak, with suspicious deaths initially reported in affected communities.
- Amref-trained community health workers, supported through a CDC-funded program, quickly **activated event-based surveillance measures, contributing to the timely containment of the outbreak.**



South Sudan & DRC Emergency Preparedness & Transboundary Response 2024-2025

- Built the capacity of over **1,800**, trained and incentivized **1047 CHWs** across **14 Counties** which strengthened community services and surveillance.
- Supported **52 Health Care facilities** of which 21 facilities are in Western Equatoria, which borders DRC
- Amref supported National Rapid Response Teams (up to 10 Teams at a time), constituting **82%** of the MoH response for the whole of South Sudan, managing **97,066 cases** by December 2025 during cholera response

BY THE NUMBERS

Amref's Health Security Impact

For decades, Amref Health Africa has helped strengthen Africa's ability to prevent, detect, and respond to health emergencies.

Emergency Preparedness & Response 	165,000 frontline health workers trained in COVID-19 response
	32.6 million COVID-19 vaccine doses administered across Sub-Saharan Africa
	580,000 people sensitised on hygiene during cholera response (Malawi & Zambia, 2024)
	1,591,000 people provided with integrated vaccination services (vaccinated against Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Tetanus and Diphtheria, mpox, Cholera, Malaria and Meningitis)
Surveillance and Detection 	470 Community Health Workers trained in event-based surveillance (Tanzania, 2024)
	Cross-border surveillance networks established in Eastern Africa on mpox outbreak, with 200+ health workers trained
Laboratory Capacity 	Over 2,400 health facilities supported in building capacity for life course immunisation and providing integrated vaccination services (Sub Saharan Africa, 2025)
	1,000 health workers trained annually (2021-2024) across 28 African countries
Health Systems Strengthening 	165 laboratories supported to implement quality management systems (2024)
	Over 1,800 frontline health workers trained in emergency preparedness (South Sudan, 2024)
	22 countries supported to develop, customise or implement Life Course Immunisation guidelines and policies (2025)

Read the [Amref Global Health Security Capability Statement](#) for more insights.