

Bulletin: Cholera and AWD Outbreaks in Eastern and Southern Africa

Regional Update for 2018 - as of 5 September 2018



Highlights

More than 24,897 cholera / AWD cases and 354 deaths (Case Fatality Rate, 1.4%) have been reported in 10 out of 21 countries of Eastern and Southern Africa Region (ESAR) since the beginning of 2018. These countries include; Angola, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Somalia accounts for 23.8% of the total case load reported this year.

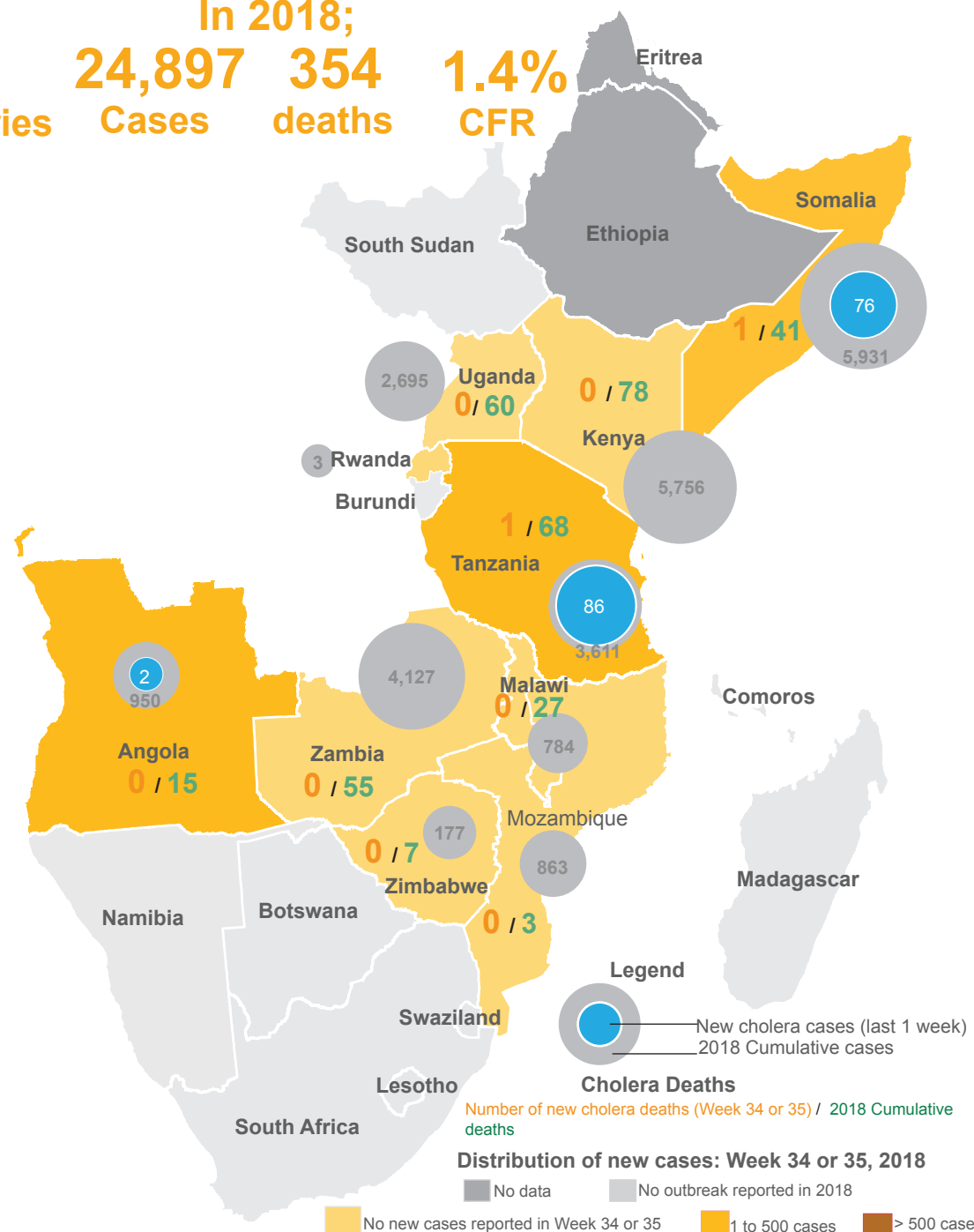
Currently, 3 out of the 21 countries in ESAR are reporting active transmission of cholera / AWD (Tanzania, Somalia and Angola). During the week under review, Tanzania reported the highest number of new cases (86 cases including 1 death), followed by Somalia (76 cases including 1 death). Of the three countries with active transmission, Tanzania and Angola have recorded CFR above 1% in 2018 (1.9% and 1.6% respectively).

Tanzania: A slight increase in the epidemic trend has been noted. During week 34 (week ending 26 August 2018), 86 new cases including 1 death (CFR, 1.2%) were reported compared to 58 cases including 1 death (CFR, 1.7%) reported in week 33 (week ending 19 August 2018). Majority of the new cases emerged from Ngorongoro district (85 new cases including 1 death) in Arusha region. During the week under review, a new cholera outbreak was recorded in Arusha Town Council where 1 new case was reported. Cumulatively a total of 32,242 cases including 534 deaths have been reported since the beginning of the outbreak in August 2015. Of these, a total of 3,611 cases and 68 deaths have been reported in 2018. Cholera cases in 2018 nearly doubled during the period of January – July when compared to the same period in 2017.

Somalia: An increase in the epidemic trend has been noted. During week 34, 76 new cases including 1 death (CFR, 1.3%) were reported compared to 39 cases reported in week 33. These new cases are concentrated in the following regions; Banadir (66 cases including 1 death) and Lower Jubba (10 cases). Cumulatively a total of 6,336 cases including 42 deaths have been reported since the beginning of the outbreak in December 2017. Of these, a total of 5,931 cases and 41 deaths have been reported in 2018.

Angola: The outbreak has been on a declining trend in the past four weeks. During week 35 (week ending 2 September 2018), 2 new cases were reported from Luanda province. Cumulatively a total of 1,050 cases including 21 deaths have been reported since the outbreak started in December 2017.

In 2018;
10 Countries **24,897 Cases** **354 deaths** **1.4% CFR**



Country Priorities and Response Interventions

Country Priorities

- Support to vulnerable IDPs and host communities affected by floods, cyclone, conflict and drought by providing them with emergency and sustained water supply, sanitation, hygiene promotion and means to treat water at household level

Somalia - Provide sustained and large scale water supply option in high populated IDP settlements in a bid to meet increasing demand. This is the case of Baidoa where a feasibility study is being finalized

- Expedite latrine construction to increase access to improved sanitation for IDPs

Angola

- Cholera prevention activities at markets and neighborhoods from Luanda's affected municipalities
- Church communications in different faith-based organizations
- Training on cholera case management targeting health staff

Tanzania

- Follow up closely with communities on construction of toilets in the affected areas and ensure adherence to by-laws
- Capacity building of medical personnel on proper handling of cholera cases when under their supervision
- Increase the number of health personnel in affected areas

Kenya

- Use the results of UNICEF supported cholera study-hotspots mapping to finalize country application to GAVI for OCV. Results are anticipated in 2 weeks
- Provide safe water including household water treatment to break the cycle of infection
- Distribute emergency supplies to vulnerable households to assist with collection and storage of safe water
- UNICEF to work closely with KRCS and Tana River County Department of Health and other partners to document best practices, lessons learned and challenges in the successful multi-sectoral response in the response and consequent containment of Tana River cholera outbreak, for replication by other counties
- Advocate to MOH and partners on implementation of Cholera risk assessment workshop recommendations which focus on Leadership & Coordination, Laboratory & Surveillance, Health promotion, Case Management, WASH, Oral Cholera Vaccine, building capacities, research and documentation of best practices for cholera prevention and control

Uganda

- WASH interventions
- Social mobilization

Zimbabwe: Priority is to mobilize resources to address some of the structural and predisposing factors in the hot spots and prepositioning of WASH supplies

Malawi : Priorities include; Develop District level preparedness and response plans; Improve capacity of health workers on case management; and Establish a nation-wide Rapid Response Team for management of cholera

Mozambique : Currently developing a contingency plan for cholera for the rainy season 2018 / 2019

Response Interventions

- WHO conducted a case management training targeting health workers in cholera treatment centres

- Chlorination of water sources / distribution of hygiene kits / hygiene promotion of AWD prevention and control mechanisms in affected areas

- Pre-positioning of cholera supplies

- UNICEF has supported training of 800 mobilizers (church leaders, scouts, and members of communities) who are promoting dialogue on cholera prevention in the communities through daily house and markets visits, reaching over 10,000 people per day.

- Besides WASH and C4D technical support, UNICEF has also supported Government response with WASH-related IEC materials for an immediate response in the affected neighborhoods

- Comprehensive Rapid Response Team involving health and water sector has extended its deployment period to support Arusha region for three weeks aiming at intensifying cholera containment in Ngorongoro and Arusha TC

- UNICEF has released 20 cholera beds to Arusha

- Strengthened interagency coordination including WESCOORD at national and County level

- Capacity development for information management conducted

- KIRA assessments

- Information, communication materials provided

- UNICEF collaborated with Kenya Red Cross to implement cholera response interventions which have contributed to containment of the outbreaks, with only 2 counties still having outbreaks

- IEC materials provided to all the affected districts by UNICEF

- UNICEF provided a tent to establish a CTC in Bulambuli districts

- UNICEF is currently in the process of supporting social mobilization at the community level

Annex 1: Distribution of Cholera and AWD Outbreaks in the Horn of Africa and Challenges in Response - as from 1 January 2018

Somalia: Challenges

- Cholera endemic areas have been and are still being affected by floods. These areas include; South West, Jubbaland and Hirshabelle State. These areas also have a high concentration of refugees with limited access to water and sanitation.
- The case fatality rate in Banadir districts of Daynile and Hamar Jaba continues to be high.
- 50 - 65% of cases reported by district are children under the age of five. From Epidemiological week 1 to week 33 in 2018, a total of 3,264 cases including 18 deaths (CFR, 0.6%) have been reported among children under the age of five (Source, WHO)

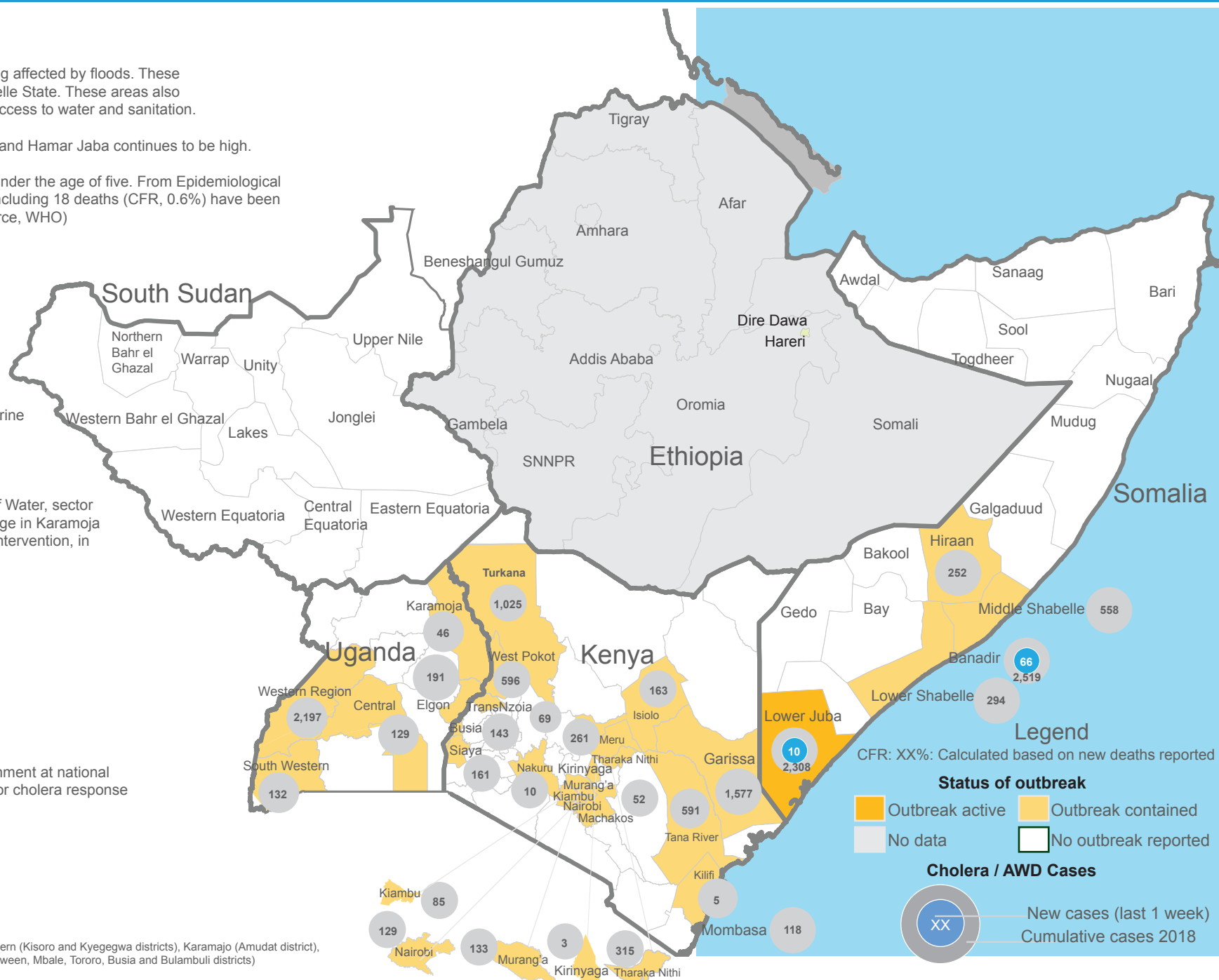
Uganda: Challenges

- Informal settlements with poor sanitation and low latrine coverage
- Inadequate clean / safe water
- Low sanitation coverage at 34% (Source: Ministry of Water, sector performance report for 2017). Low sanitation coverage in Karamoja is associated with low uptake of WASH and SBCC intervention, in addition to having the highest poverty levels.

Kenya: Challenges

- Inadequate funding remains a major challenge
- Cholera/disease outbreaks not prioritized by Government at national and local levels, thus there is no budget allocation for cholera response by the Government
- Continued weak multi-sectoral coordination

** Cases from Uganda emerged from the following regions: South Western (Kisoro and Kyegegwa districts), Karamajo (Amudat district), Western (Hoima and Kagadi districts), Central (Kampala), and Elgon (Kween, Mbale, Tororo, Busia and Bulambuli districts)



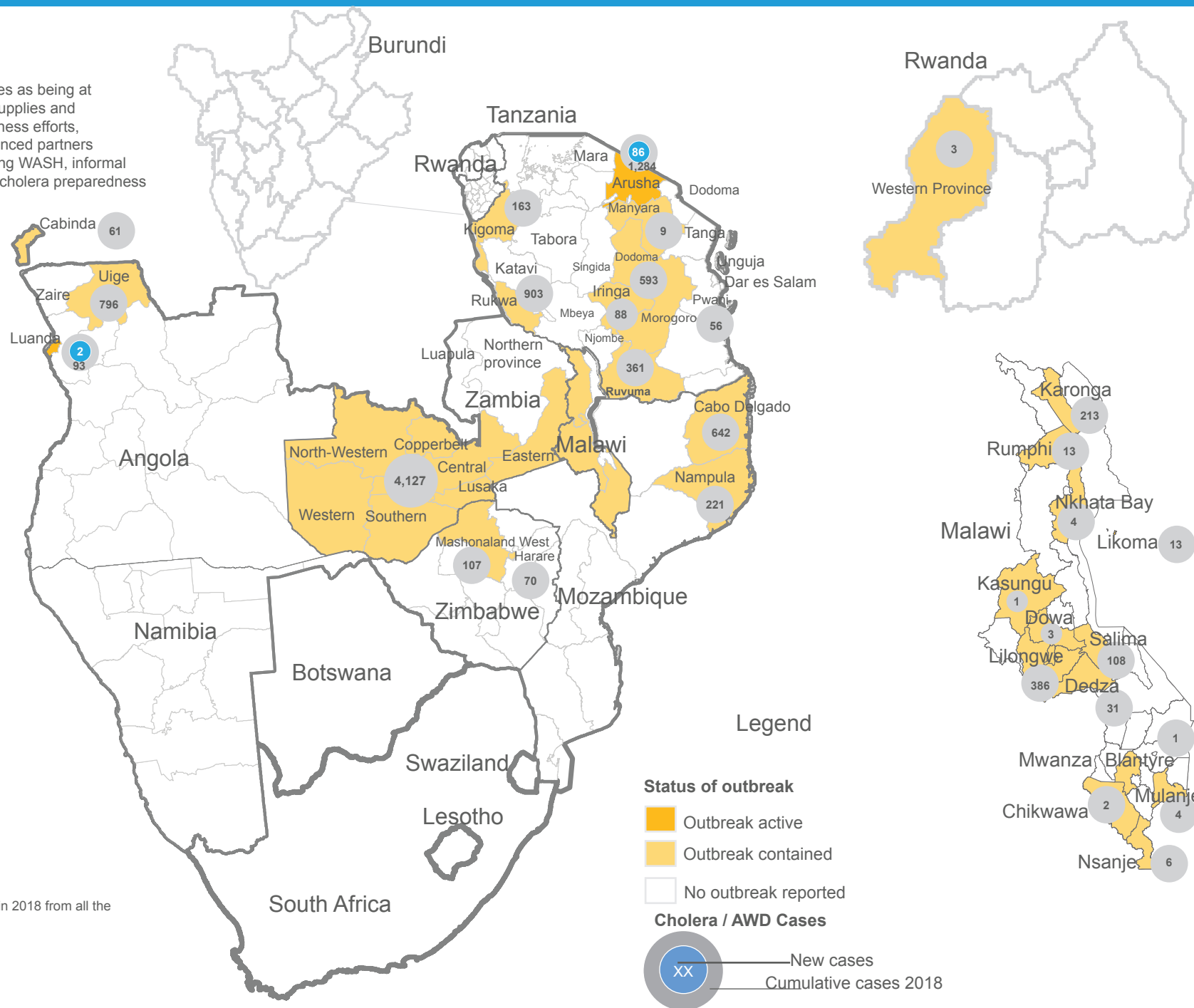
Annex 2: Distribution of Cholera / AWD outbreaks in Southern Africa and Challenges in Response - as from 1 of January 2018

Challenges: Angola

- UNICEF has identified and ranked 7 out of the 18 provinces as being at high risk for cholera outbreaks. Although pre-positioning supplies and partnerships for those areas are key priorities in preparedness efforts, successive outbreaks, inadequate funding, lack of experienced partners within the country, poor coverage of basic services including WASH, informal settlements and rapid urbanization are factors that hinder cholera preparedness interventions.

Challenges: Tanzania

- Access to improved and safe water a major problem in most of the hotspots areas as well as low coverage of improved sanitation



*Cases presented for Zambia refers to cumulative cases reported in 2018 from all the affected districts

Annex 3: Weekly Reported Cholera / AWD Cases and Deaths for Countries in Eastern and Southern Africa

Country	Week 30		Week 31		Week 32		Week 33		Week 34		Week 35		2018 Cumulative			Cumulative since the beginning of the outbreak			Beginning of Outbreaks
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	CFR (%)	Cases	Deaths	CFR (%)	
Somalia	50	0	59	1	53	0	39	0	76	1			5,931	41	0.7	6,336	42	0.7	Dec-17
Kenya	11	0	8	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	5,756	78	1.4	26,566	421	1.6	Dec-14
Tanzania	75	2	60	0	64	0	58	1	86	1			3,611	68	1.9	32,242	534	1.7	Aug-15
Malawi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			784	27	3.4	939	32	3.4	Nov-17
Mozambique	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			863	3	0.3	2,435	3	0.1	Aug-17
Angola	2	0	11	0	8	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	950	15	1.6	1050	21	2	Dec-17
Zambia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			4,127	55	1.3	5,935	114	1.9	Oct-17
Uganda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			2,695	60	2.2	2,695	60	2.2	Feb-18
Zimbabwe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			177	7	4.0	177	7	4.0	Jan-18
Rwanda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			3	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	Jan-18
Namibia																			
Burundi																			
South Sudan																			
Madagascar																			
Comoros																			
Swaziland																			
Botswana																			
Eritrea																			
Lesotho																			
South Africa																			
TOTAL													24,897	354	1.4	78,378	1,234	1.6	

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