

Ebola Outbreak in the Congo: UEM and German Regional Churches Pledge €50,000 in Emergency Aid to the Congolese Church

Rising infection rates in Ituri and North Kivu urgently require further support to contain the dangerous outbreak

(Wuppertal/Goma, June 1, 2026) In light of the recent Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Evangelical Church in the Rhineland, the Evangelical Church of Westphalia, the Evangelical Church of Hesse-Waldeck, the Evangelical Church in Hesse and Nassau, and the United Evangelical Mission (UEM) have pledged a total of 50,000 euros in emergency aid to the Congolese Baptist Church CBCA (Communauté Baptiste au Centre de l'Afrique).

The provinces of Ituri and North Kivu in the east of the country are particularly affected by this often fatal infectious disease. The local congregations of the UEM member church there are already severely burdened by armed conflict, displacement, and poverty. The resurgence of Ebola in the region poses a further serious threat to people's lives and well-being, especially since access to healthcare is often severely limited.

According to the Health and Social Services Department of the Baptist Church, many people have been infected through social contact during traditional funeral customs or due to high population mobility and density in mining areas such as Mongbwalu.

The situation is exacerbated by poor infrastructure, limited communication, misinformation, and resistance to protective measures in some cases, driven by fear, trauma, and a lack of knowledge about the disease.

Alarming figures and a new virus variant with no available vaccine

According to WHO reports for April and May 2026, more than 575 suspected cases were recorded, including 148 deaths and 51 confirmed infections. The regions of Mongbwalu, with 309 suspected cases, and Rwampara in Ituri, with 154 cases, have been particularly hard hit.

It is also concerning that this is a new Ebola variant for which neither an approved drug nor a vaccine is available. Prevention and education are currently the only effective means of containment.

CBCA develops emergency plan

The CBCA has developed an emergency plan to be implemented in the cities of Bunia, Bukavu, Butembo, and Goma. The planned measures to reduce infection and death rates include, among other things:

- Medical protective equipment such as disposable protective suits and materials for isolating infected individuals in hospital wards
- Awareness campaigns through flyers and radio announcements in the affected communities, as well as immediate countermeasures in cases of suspected infection
- Distribution of food, hygiene supplies, and essential goods
- Special support for children, women, and people with disabilities
- Psychosocial, spiritual, and pastoral care for affected families

Request for Donations and Intercessory Prayers

In this crisis, the UEM community is demonstrating Christian solidarity in action. It stands alongside its member church and calls for concrete help now—through donations, prayer, and public outreach.

Donations marked “Ebola Emergency Aid DRK” can be made [via bank transfer](#).

About „UEM“

The United Evangelical Mission (UEM) with offices in Germany, Indonesia and Tanzania is an international, equal communion of 39 members. The UEM consistently pursues a holistic understanding of mission. This includes improving the living conditions of suffering and disadvantaged people while respecting their personal dignity and taking their cultural context into account.