



# Information Session: Addressing the Impact of Mpox on Sex Workers in Africa

*Mpox webinar 5 Nov 2024*

# Objectives of the Workshop

Provide epidemiological updates on the Mpox outbreak, its prevention, and impact on sex workers and persons with multiple partners at risk of HIV.

Raise awareness on the intersection of Mpox and HIV, and access to comprehensive public health services and social protection mechanisms.

Discuss the role of sex worker led CSOs and networks in responding to Mpox.

Discuss policy and legal reforms for the protection and promoting the rights of sex workers and other marginalised groups from stigma and discrimination.

Share best practices on policies, knowledge on treatment and vaccines and links to information.

# Agenda

- **Welcome remarks and objectives of the webinar** (15min) – *Amitrajit Saha Manager, UNDP HIV & Health Group Africa.*
- **Update on Mpox epidemiology status in Africa** (15min) – *Dr Joseph Wamala WHO South Africa*
- **The nexus between HIV and Mpox** (10min) – *Dr. Mbulawa Mugabe UNAIDS Special Advisor, HIV and Pandemics, UNAIDS*
- **Reflections on the impact of Mpox on Sex workers** (10min) – *Grace Kamau Director African Sex Workers Alliance (ASWA) and Aimée Nshombo Furaha, Directrice générale UMANDE RD Congo*
- **The rights of sex workers and other key populations, and protection against stigma and discrimination** (15min) – *Jeffrey O'Malley UNDP Senior Advisor UNDP Hub on LGBTI+ & Key Populations*
- **The role of Sex worker led CSOs and networks in responding to Mpox** (15min) *DRC Dr Sebastian PASCO (DRC)*
- **Q&A session** (10min) – moderated by *Phatisani Sibanda Regional Key Population Adviser, ARASA*
- **Reflections/closing remarks** – *Amitrajit Saha (5min)*

# Snapshot of the Mpox outbreak on Week 43



## Mpox in the WHO African region Weekly Regional Situation Report #10 | 27 October 2024

Period	AFRO countries affected	AFRO countries with active transmission	AFRO Suspected cases	AFRO Suspected deaths	AFRO confirmed cases	AFRO confirmed deaths
Since 01/01/2024	18	14	40,796	987	9,474	35 (CFR:0.4%)
Change since the last update on 20 October 2024						
Week 43	+1	+1	+2,240 (5.8%)	+2	+ 573 (7.6%)	+1

In collaboration between WHO HQ, AFRO, and EMRO, an online portal has been created where maps and epidemiological data can be found: [https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/mpx\\_global/](https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/mpx_global/). Note: confirmed cases and deaths are included within the total suspected case and death counts to avoid duplication; they should not be added separately. There are limitations in drawing conclusions from the number of reported suspected cases which are reflected on in the epidemiological summary below.

## Key Epidemiological developments at Week 43

- Geographic Spread: Since 01 January 2024 and as of 27 October 2024, a total of 18 member states across the WHO African region have reported mpox cases, of which, 14 have active transmission.
- In the last reporting week, **573** new confirmed cases with **one death** were reported.
- **Uganda** reported the **death** of a **confirmed mpox case involving a patient with HIV as a comorbidity**.
- Another **death** was reported from the **Central African Republic** after it occurred during epidemiological week 41.
- One case of **clade Ib** was identified in Germany, from an individual with travel history to Rwanda.
- **Mauritius** reported its first mpox case on 26 October 2024 in a traveller coming from Nigeria.

Mpox in the WHO African region  
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# Summary of Mpox status (Africa CDC Webinar 31 October)

Special Briefing on Mpox and other Health Emergencies | Oct. 31, 2024



## Summary

- Mpox cases continue to increase with more countries affected and mixed modes of transmission
- There is need to intensify the response with active surveillance, universal testing, risk communication and community engagement, IPC in facilities and communities, targeted vaccination and holistic case management
- Political and financial support is critical to control the current outbreak and prevent a sexually transmitted pandemic more severe than COVID-19

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