

# LIBERIA EXPERIENCE ON MANAGING MPOX

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# INTRODUCTION

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- Mpox has been a public health concern in Liberia
- The first cases in the current outbreak were confirmed in may 2025
- Significant transmission occurred, with cases recorded across all 15 counties
- As of early November 2025, 1,308 cases were laboratory-confirmed
- A cumulative positivity rate of 56.6%, indicates significant community transmission

# INTRODUCTION CONT'D

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- Liberia established a robust system for **Mpox Management**
- Led by the ministry of Health (MoH) and the National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) the system focused on:
  - Surveillance
  - Public Awareness
  - Case Management
  - Targeted Vaccinations

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# KEY STRATEGIES

# INCIDENT MANAGEMENT & COORDINATION

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- An Incident Management System (IMS) was established to coordinate its response
- Daily IMS meetings are being held to coordinate the activities of all actors in the response
- The IMS meetings also addressed operational issues such as:
  - logistics
  - supply chain
  - cold chain
  - fuel availability
  - Fleet movement

# SURVEILLANCE & CASE FINDING

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- Multisectoral approach including Port health officers and epidemiologists from NPHIL, Securities at border points as well as Civil Aviation Public Health Technicians
- Screening forms were developed which contained risk criteria based on disease symptoms and travel history, identification information as well as relevant information to aid contact tracing.
- Travelers entering and leaving the country are mandated to factually fill the forms which are scrutinized.
- Suspected cases are isolated and tested.

## IMPROVED LABORATORY CAPACITY

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- Public Health Lab provided with **genomic sequencing capability** , so they no longer have to send samples abroad.
- Liberian scientists identified two different clades of the monkeypox virus circulating in the country: **Clade IIa** and **Clade IIb**
- Early confirmation of suspected cases and increased confidence in lab findings

# TARGETED VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

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- MVA-BN (Modified Vaccine Ankara) Mpox vaccine selected for use
- A Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop held in March 2025 prepared health staff on how to:
  - Administer the vaccine
  - Manage the cold chain
  - Handle adverse event
  - Communicate risk
- The vaccination targets included high-risk groups such as:
  - Health workers
  - Contacts of confirmed cases
  - Other key populations



# RISK COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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- Public education campaigns on good hygiene (e.g. hand-washing), safe sexual behavior, and reducing close contact with symptomatic people.
- Working with community leaders, youth groups, market associations, and volunteers to spread the messages.
- Entities such as businesses, schools, religious institutions are encouraged to:
  - Provide hand-washing stations
  - Reduce crowded gatherings
  - Enforce infection-prevention measures.

# INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL

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- Health workers were being trained / retrained to manage mpox cases safely, including infection control in health facilities to prevent nosocomial (healthcare-related) transmission.
- Suspected or confirmed cases are either isolated in treatment centers or managed at home (where appropriate), depending on severity.

# NEW 90-DAY NATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN (NOV 2025–JAN 2026)

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- To test suspected cases quickly (goal: sample testing within 24-48 hours).
- To reduce mpox-related death to **zero preventable deaths**.
- To vaccinate all 42,720 donated doses (received from partners) by the end of the campaign, focusing on hotspots.
- Achieve broad public reach: e.g., awareness campaigns target 80% coverage in the population in key counties

# Liberia Mpox Case Update: Jan 1, 2024 – Oct 16, 2025

Total Suspected

2219

Received by lab

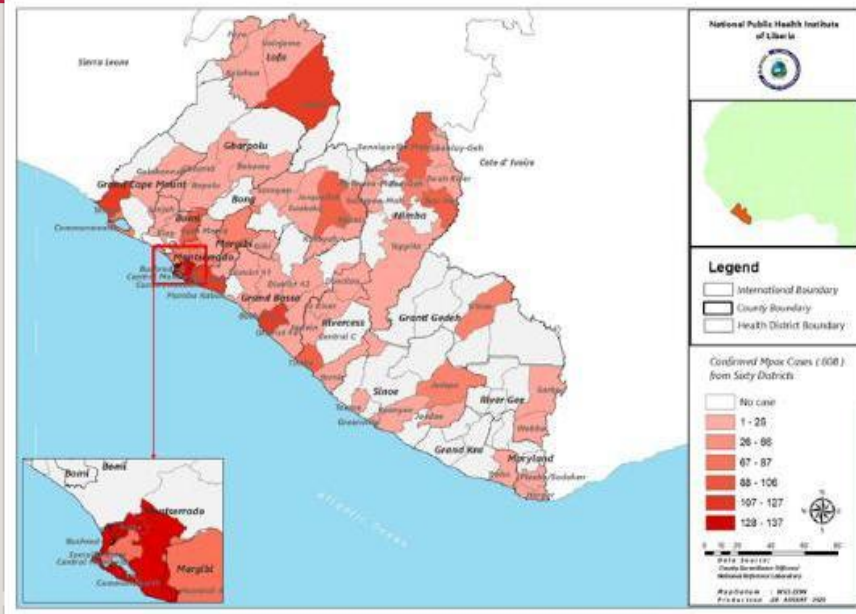
2111

Total Tested

2111

Total Lab-confirmed

1158



Active Cases

228

Recovery Cases

924

Deaths

6

**Total confirmed: 1158** (Montserrado 800, Nimba 88, Grand Cape Mount 38, Grand Bassa 43, Rivercess 26, Margibi 34, Lofa 29, Bong 26, Bomi 14, Sinoe 15, Grand Gedeh 10, Grand Kru 10, Maryland 8, Gbarpolu 10, River Gee 7)

Confirmed Cases:



708



450

Call 4455 to report suspected cases

# THANKS FOR LISTENING

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Questions ???