



IMA World Health established an Mpxv Treatment Center in Kanyaruchinya.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Emergency Health Response in Goma, North Kivu, DRC

PROJECT GOAL

To strengthen outbreak response and protect vulnerable populations in the Nyiragongo health zone by expanding clinical treatment capacity, reinforcing community health systems and improving disease prevention.

IMA World Health, a Corus International organization, implemented this emergency health response in North Kivu, DRC with support from fellow Corus organization Lutheran World Relief and with funding from Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). From August 2025 to January 2026, IMA World Health led a targeted response in the high-risk Nyiragongo health zone, focusing on the Kanyaruchinya and Kingarambe health areas. The region faced concurrent Mpxv and cholera outbreaks compounded by fragile health infrastructure, population displacement and persistent community mistrust of formal health services.

In response, IMA World Health established and operationalized a fully functional Mpxv Treatment Center in Kanyaruchinya, replacing a non-operational facility and ensuring sustained local treatment capacity. The project delivered integrated clinical services, strengthened community surveillance and implemented critical water, sanitation and hygiene

interventions to contain disease transmission and protect vulnerable populations while reinforcing long-term health system capacity.

TECHNICAL APPROACHES

Mpxv response

IMA World Health established and equipped a dedicated Mpxv Treatment Center (CT Mpxv) with a 6,000-liter water system, isolation tents and 40 metallic beds compliant with international infection prevention and control (IPC) standards. Clinical teams implemented standardized triage, testing and referral protocols, achieving a 100% laboratory testing rate for suspected cases and ensuring appropriate clinical management and follow-up.

Cholera and WASH response

IMA World Health implemented targeted household decontamination, chlorinated 77,900 liters of water and strengthened hygiene and sanitation practices in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization. These interventions directly contributed to interrupting cholera transmission in high-risk communities.

Community surveillance and engagement

IMA World Health trained a network of 63 community health workers to conduct household visits, health education and active disease surveillance. Community health workers delivered hygiene promotion, identified suspected cases and strengthened community awareness and trust in health services.

KEY RESULTS

- **35,259 individuals** reached through integrated clinical care, community surveillance and outbreak prevention activities across the Nyiragongo health zone, including 17,982 women and 17,277 men.
- **543 patients** received clinical care and psychosocial support at the Mpox Treatment Center, including more than half women (278 patients), with youth ages 5 to 18 representing approximately 40% of all patients.
- **95% reduction in cholera cases** achieved in targeted communities, with confirmed cases declining from 20 in September to one in November following intensive household decontamination, water chlorination and community prevention efforts.
- **10,818 households** and **30,712 individuals** reached through door-to-door outreach conducted by 63 trained Community Health Workers, strengthening community-based surveillance, hygiene practices and early referral of suspected cases.
- **1,526 meals** provided to patients in isolation over 34 days to ensure treatment adherence, prevent premature discharge and maintain infection prevention and control protocols.

STRENGTHENING OUTBREAK RESPONSE AND HEALTH SYSTEM CAPACITY

IMA World Health served as a lead technical and operational partner in restoring and strengthening outbreak response capacity in the Nyiragongo health zone, working in close coordination with the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization and local health authorities. By establishing and operationalizing the Mpox Treatment Center in Kanyaruchinya and integrating services within the local health system, IMA World Health ensured that communities had access to safe, standardized clinical care, laboratory referral and infection prevention protocols, restoring critical treatment capacity in an area facing active outbreaks.

To reinforce long-term response capacity, IMA World Health trained 22 healthcare providers and 63 Community Health Workers in clinical management, infection prevention and community-based surveillance. This investment strengthened the local workforce's ability to identify suspected cases, support early referral and deliver prevention messaging, expanding disease detection and response capacity at both facility and community levels.

IMA World Health also played a key leadership role in strengthening national coordination and advancing long-term health system priorities by convening the DRC Health Summit in Kinshasa. The summit brought together Ministry of Health leadership, international partners and key stakeholders to align on outbreak response priorities, share lessons learned and strengthen partnerships to support sustained health system strengthening.

Through these efforts, IMA World Health not only supported the immediate outbreak response but also strengthened local infrastructure, workforce capacity and coordination systems, helping ensure communities are better equipped to detect, prevent and respond to future public health threats.



The Corus Effect

Founded in 1960, IMA World Health is a leading public health organization operating in some of the world's most fragile settings. Through partnerships with change agents at the local and national level, our work centers on four strategic pillars: global health security, health systems strengthening, social and behavior change, and integrated primary health care support and delivery.

IMA World Health leads global health programming at Corus International, an organization that unites an array of world-class nonprofits and businesses, each with specialized expertise. Our reach and capabilities are amplified by the other global leaders in our Corus International family, including Lutheran World Relief, CGA Technologies and Ground Up Investing.



IMA WORLD HEALTH

A Corus International organization