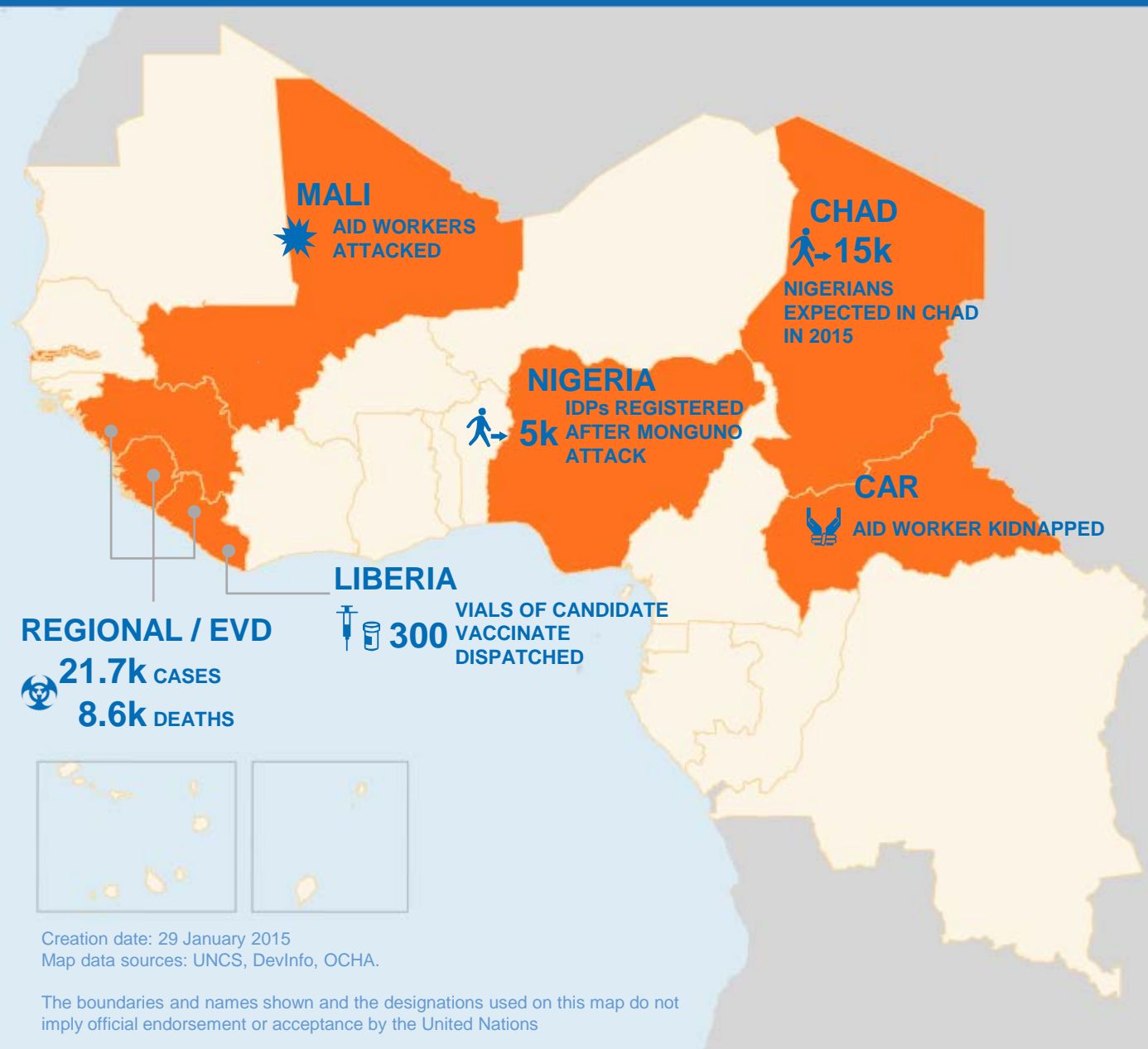


WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA REGION

Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot from the OCHA Regional Office for West and Central Africa 22- 28 Jan 2015



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR) INSECURITY HAMPERS AID ACCESS

Humanitarian access continues to be hindered by various constraints, particularly violence against civilians and workers, interference with the implementation of humanitarian activities and active hostilities. Up to 21 January, 31 security incidents (four against aid workers) were reported. A French aid worker and a UN staff member were briefly kidnapped this month.

CHAD

15,000 MORE NIGERIANS EXPECTED IN 2015

Given the increase in attacks by Boko Haram and Nigeria's upcoming elections (14 February), aid groups estimate that about 15,000 additional people could seek refuge in Chad in 2015. In addition, attacks by Boko Haram in Nigeria have also led to pre-emptive internal displacement of people living on the islands bordering Nigeria.

NIGERIA

MONGUNO TOWN SEIZED BY INSURGENTS

On 25 January, Boko Haram attacked and captured Monguno, the largest town north of Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State. Nigerian forces launched air and ground operation to try to dislodge the militants.

5,000 IDPS REGISTERED AFTER TOWN SEIZURE

Over 5,000 IDPs who managed to make the 140-kilometre journey from Monguno to Maiduguri, the capital of Borno, have been registered by NEMA. The IDPs are being offered food and non-food items as well as psychosocial support by humanitarian partners in Maiduguri.

MALI

AID WORKERS ATTACKED

Gunmen attacked a truck contracted by an international NGO to transport food in Mali's central Goundam area. They shot and wounded the driver. Separately, armed men also hijacked seven passengers, including the head of a Malian NGO, a day earlier. All the seven passengers safely returned to Timbuktu.

LIBERIA

300 VIALS OF CANDIDATE VACCINE DISPATCHED

A first batch of a candidate Ebola vaccine has arrived in Liberia. The 300 vials of the vaccine will be used to start the first large-scale efficacy trial of experimental Ebola vaccines in the coming weeks.

REGIONAL / EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD)

The three countries worst affected by Ebola (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone) continue to report a slump in cases. A total of 145 confirmed cases were reported in all the three countries in the week that ended on January 18, down from 234 the previous week.

EVD ECONOMIC IMPACT DOWNGRADED

The World Bank has revised its predicted economic losses for West African due to Ebola from \$ 25 billion to between \$ 500 million and \$ 6.2 billion. The Bank said the change was due to "intensive global and national responses to the epidemic"

21,689 CASES AND 8,626 DEATHS

There now are a total of 21,689 confirmed, probable and suspected EVD cases reported in the three countries and 8,626 deaths according to WHO's 21 January update.