

# Description of ring vaccination implementation in DRC and neighbouring countries

**Dr Abdourahamane Diallo**

Ebola Ring vaccination field coordinator

On behalf of the team

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# Ring vaccination with rVSV-ZEBOV in DRC – Compassionate Use

Since August 8, 2018, the experimental vaccine rVSV-ZEBOV-GP has been used under “Compassionate Use” in response to the outbreak of EVD in North Kivu and Ituri, DRC.

## Framework for the use of the investigational vaccine:

- Based on SAGE recommendations on the use of Ebola vaccines
- Protocol approved by the national regulatory authority and ethics committee
- Informed consent of study participants
- Vaccination teams GPC trained
- Follow-up visits on Day 3 and 21 days



# It was possible to set up **in 7 days** the resources to initiate ring vaccination in DRC

## 11 actions per ring



1. Community engagement
2. Ring definition



3. Informed consent
4. Eligibility
5. Vaccination



6. 30 mins follow up
7. 3 days follow up
8. 21 days follow up
9. SAEs follow up



10. Pregnancy follow up
11. Delivery follow up

## 19-20 teams

**44** GCP trained, experienced  
Guinean/African researchers

**276** Congolese vaccinators with  
basic GCP training  
(50 received formal GCP  
training)

## Operational support



Cold chain in 4 locations  
Freezers, Arteks, thermos, generators



Medical supplies, protective gowns  
Emergency kits



100 vehicles for staff & equipment



Data management  
300 tablets, Vsat connection,  
technical support



Housing, food, per diem  
Security, Staff wellbeing



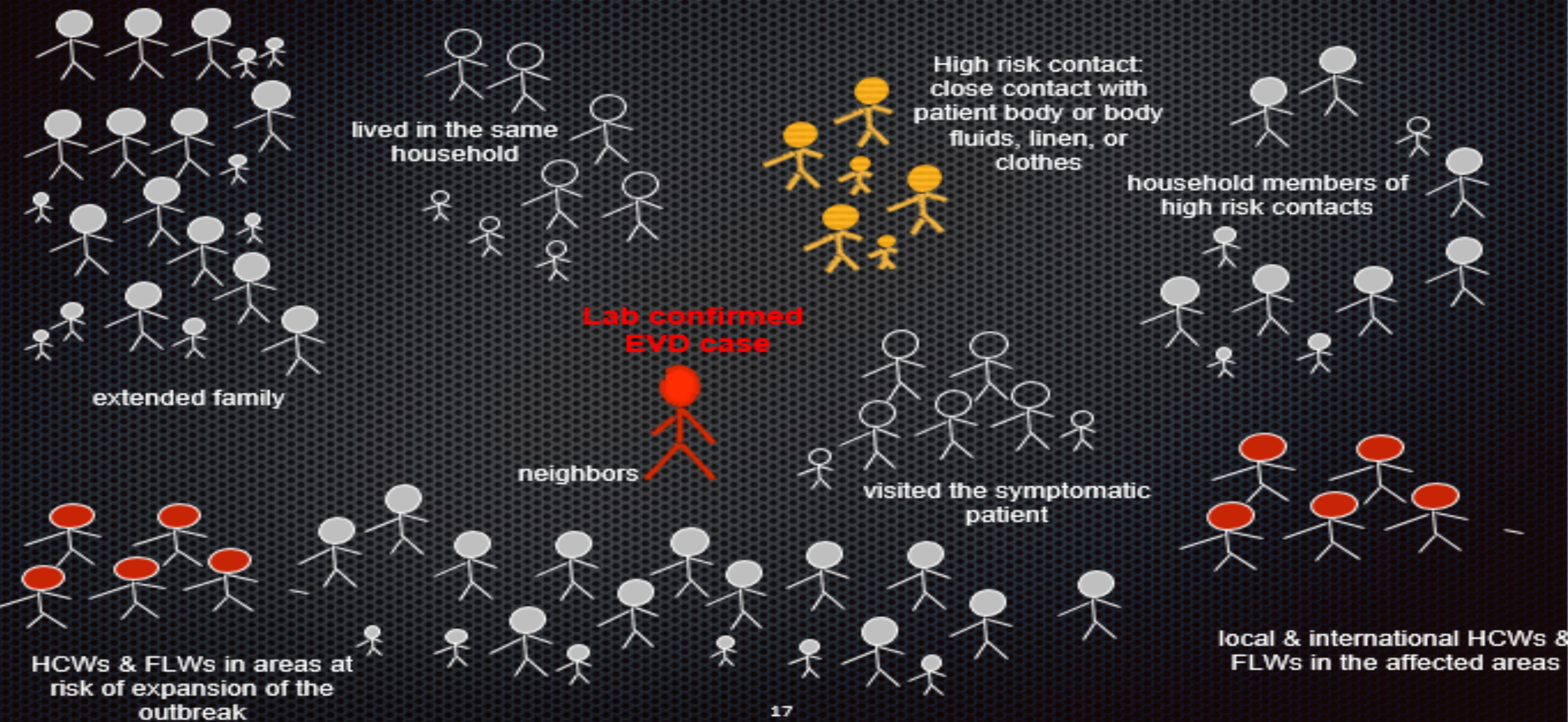
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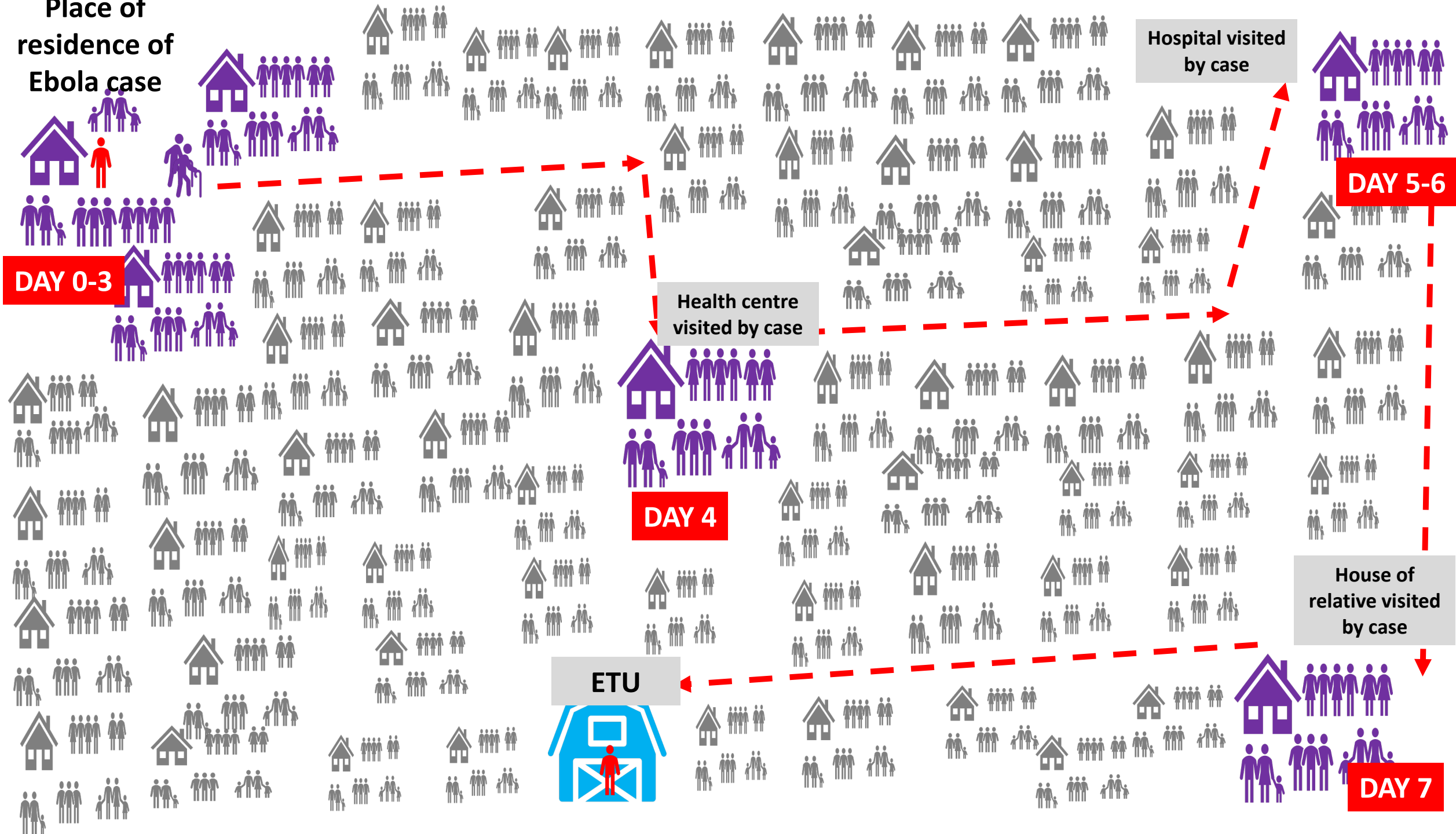
# Who is offered Ebola vaccine in a ring vaccination?

## Contacts and contacts of contacts





Place of  
residence of  
Ebola case



Place of residence  
of Ebola case



Hospital visited  
by case



DAY 5

Health centre  
visited by case

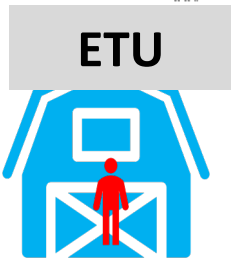


DAY 4

House of  
relative visited  
by patient



DAY 7



ETU



Place of residence  
of Ebola case

80-150 people vaccinated

All are people at risk:  
Contacts and contacts of contacts

Hospital visited  
by case

DAY 5

Health centre  
visited by case

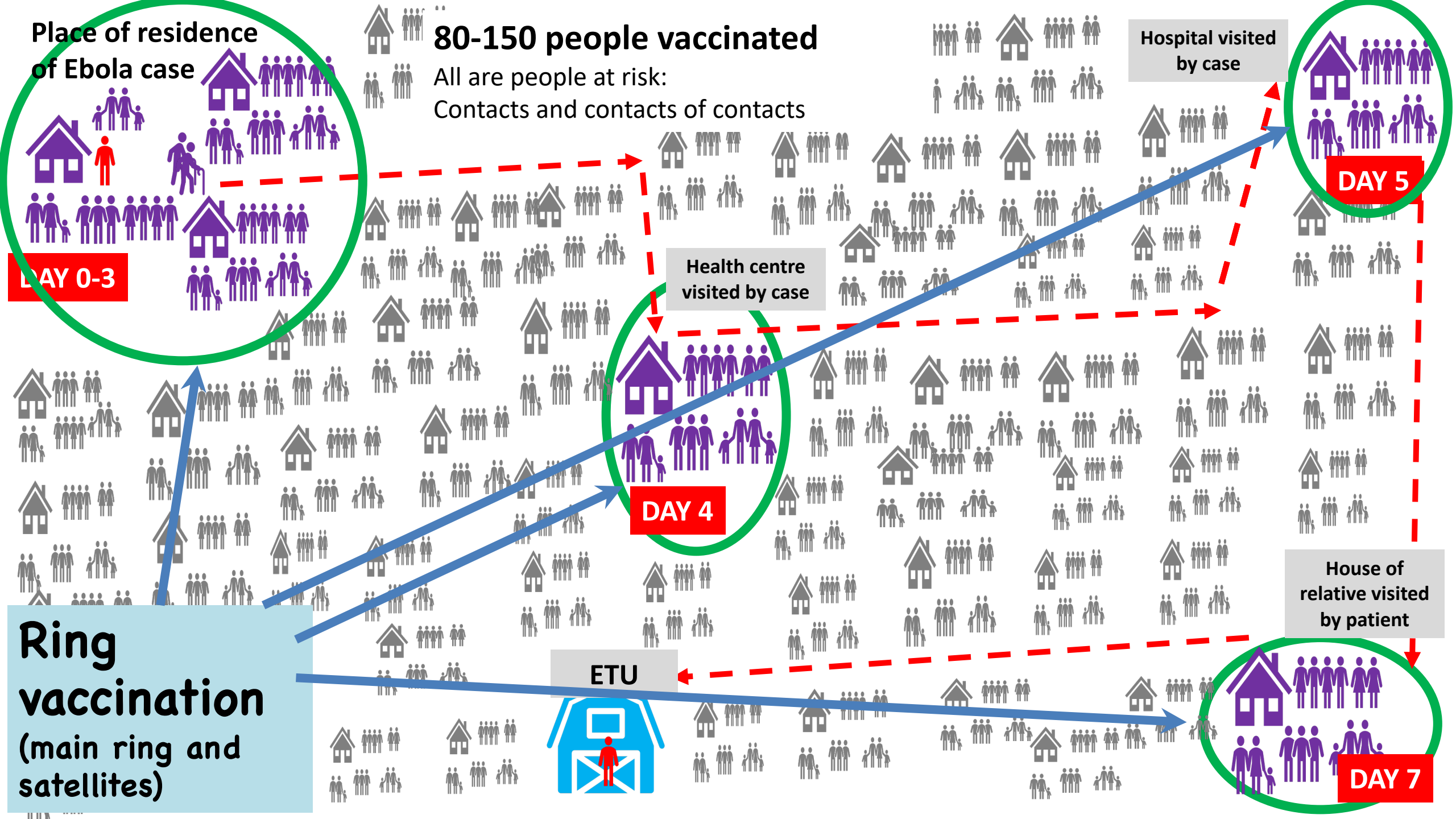
DAY 4

House of  
relative visited  
by patient

DAY 7

ETU

Ring  
vaccination  
(main ring and  
satellites)



# How do we ensure that most contacts and contacts of contacts are identified and offered the vaccine?

Contacts and Contacts of Contacts are enumerated by visiting:

- ✓ The place of residence of the index case and
- ✓ All sites visited by the cases since onset of symptoms (satellites)

A number of implementation approaches are considered

**Site by site**  
enumerated  
in each location

**Pop-up vaccination**  
(‘delocalized’ or vaccinating  
by inviting contacts and  
contacts of contacts to a  
given site for vaccination)

**Targeted geographic  
vaccination**  
If list of contacts and  
contacts of contacts can not  
be done due to insecurity

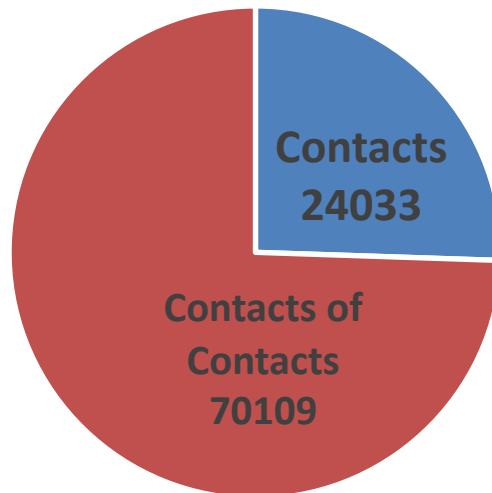
**Simultaneous  
vaccination of contacts  
and contacts of contacts**  
in the community and  
HCW/FLWs vaccination  
(currently done for new rings)

# Despite the challenges the teams have been able to vaccinate **with informed consent** a very large number of **people at risk** in the context of an outbreak

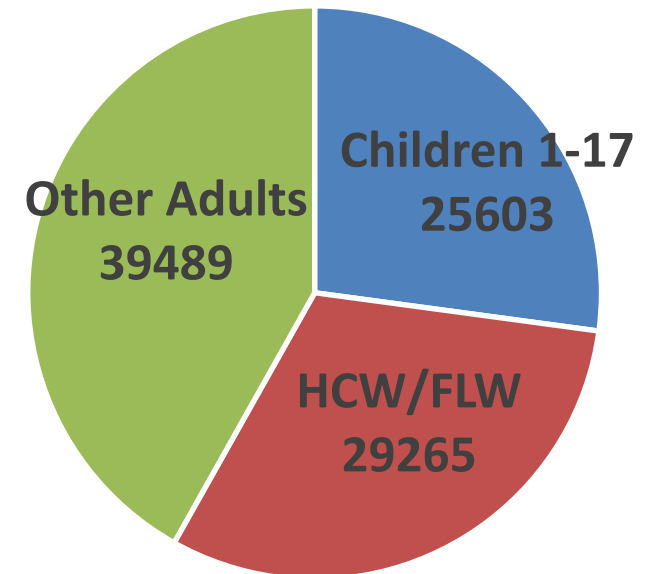
As of April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019,

- 705 rings in the community (2 targeted geographic vaccination)
- 111 rings including HCWs/FLWs

Total number of vaccinees = 94357



Total number of vaccinees = 94357





# We use tablets and ODK to document the GPS location of the cases and of the rings and collect all the information

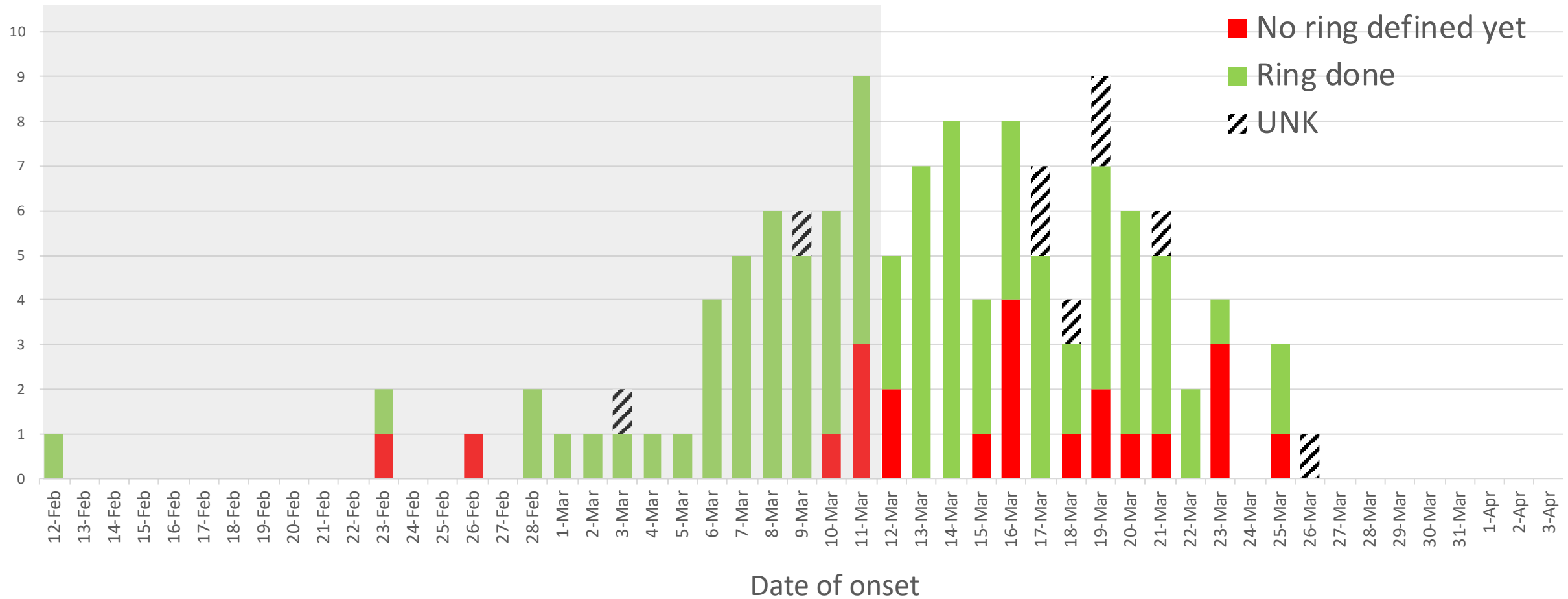


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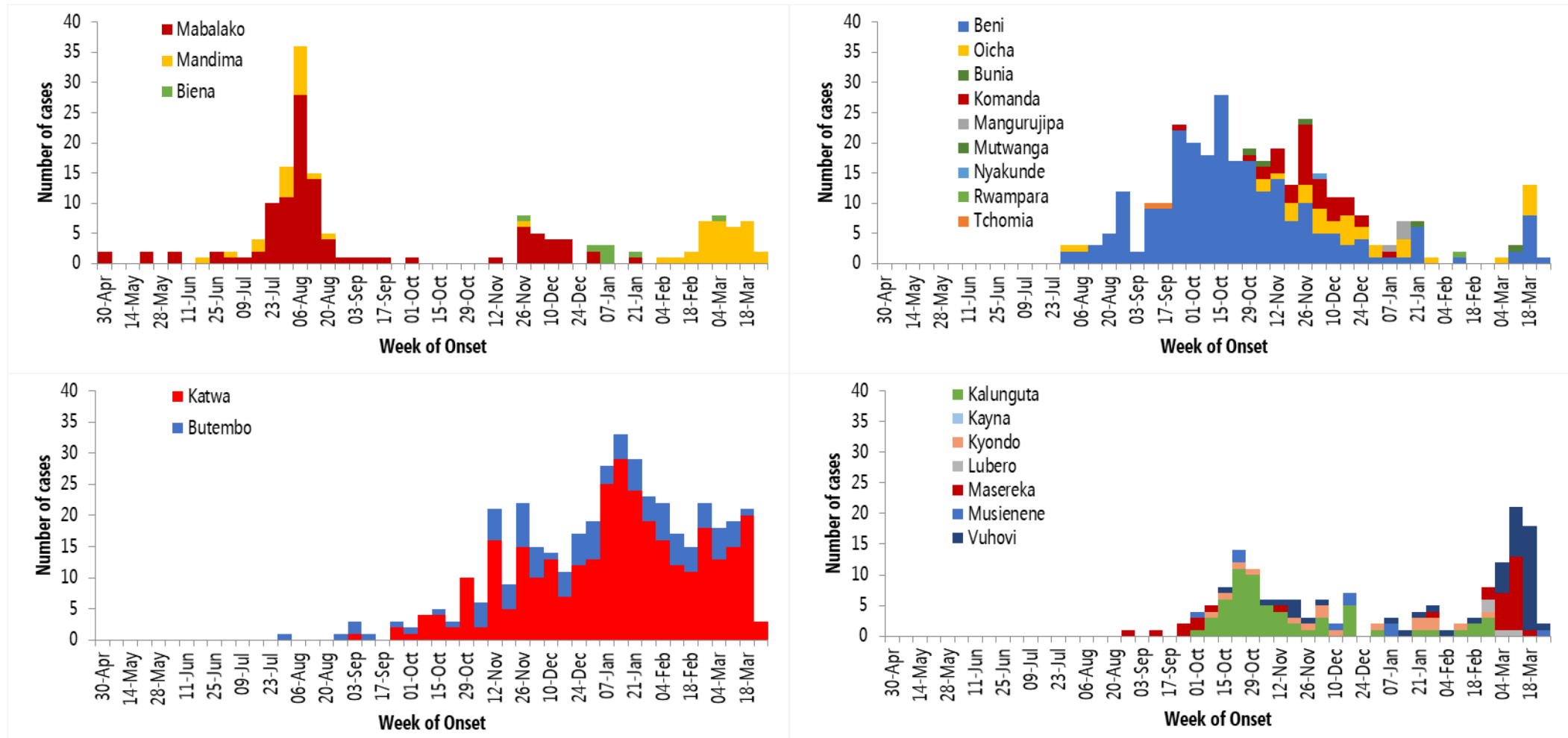


# Ring vaccination teams monitor the cases where rings can not be defined and come back again and again to attempt to define and vaccinate the people at risk (16/122 cases with date of onset within the last 21 days)



# Ring vaccination and other control strategies have contribute to reduce transmission

## EVD cases by week of illness onset and health zone

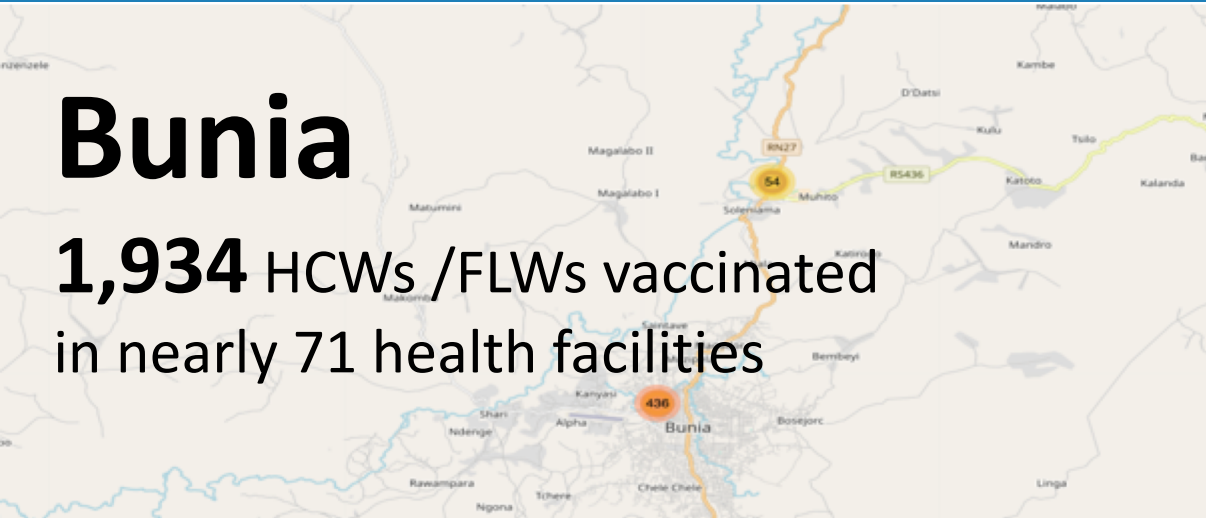


*\*Data in recent weeks are subject to delays in case confirmation and reporting, as well as ongoing data cleaning.*

# HCW/FLW in areas at risk of spread

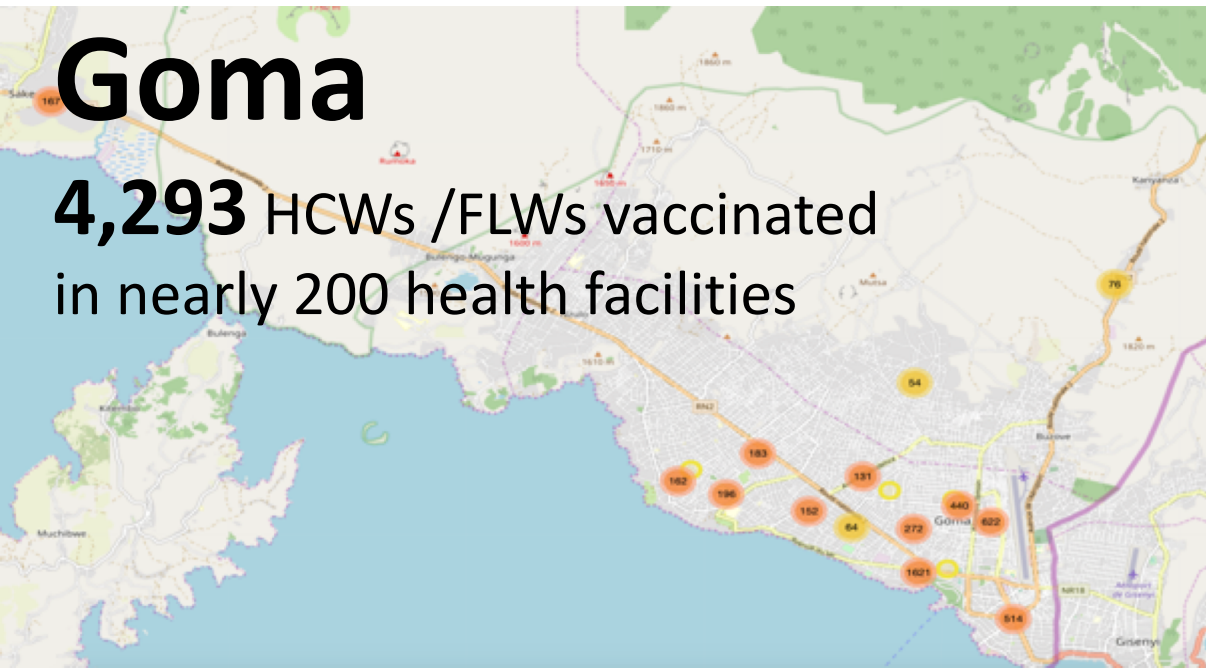
## Bunia

**1,934** HCWs /FLWs vaccinated  
in nearly 71 health facilities



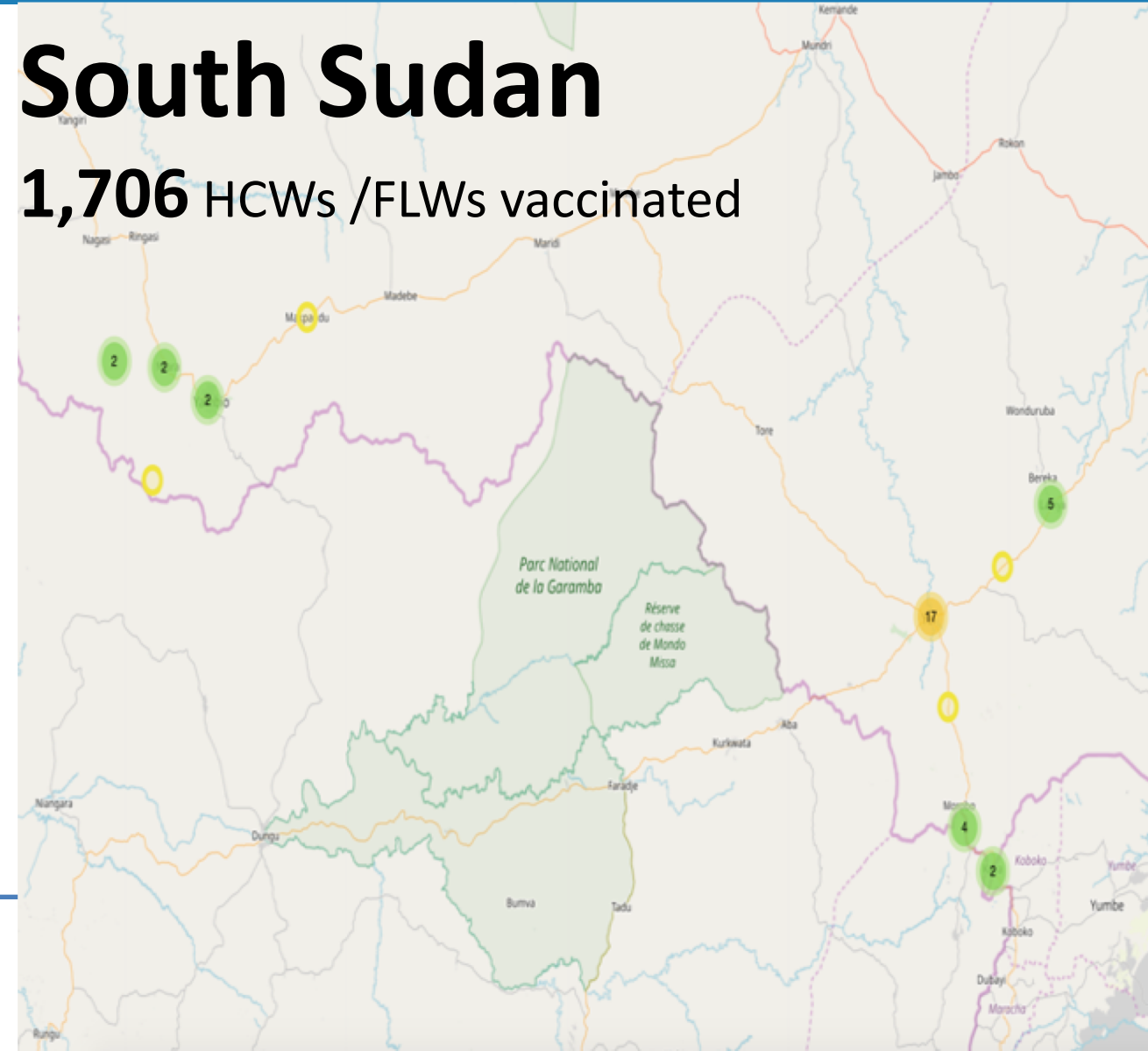
## Goma

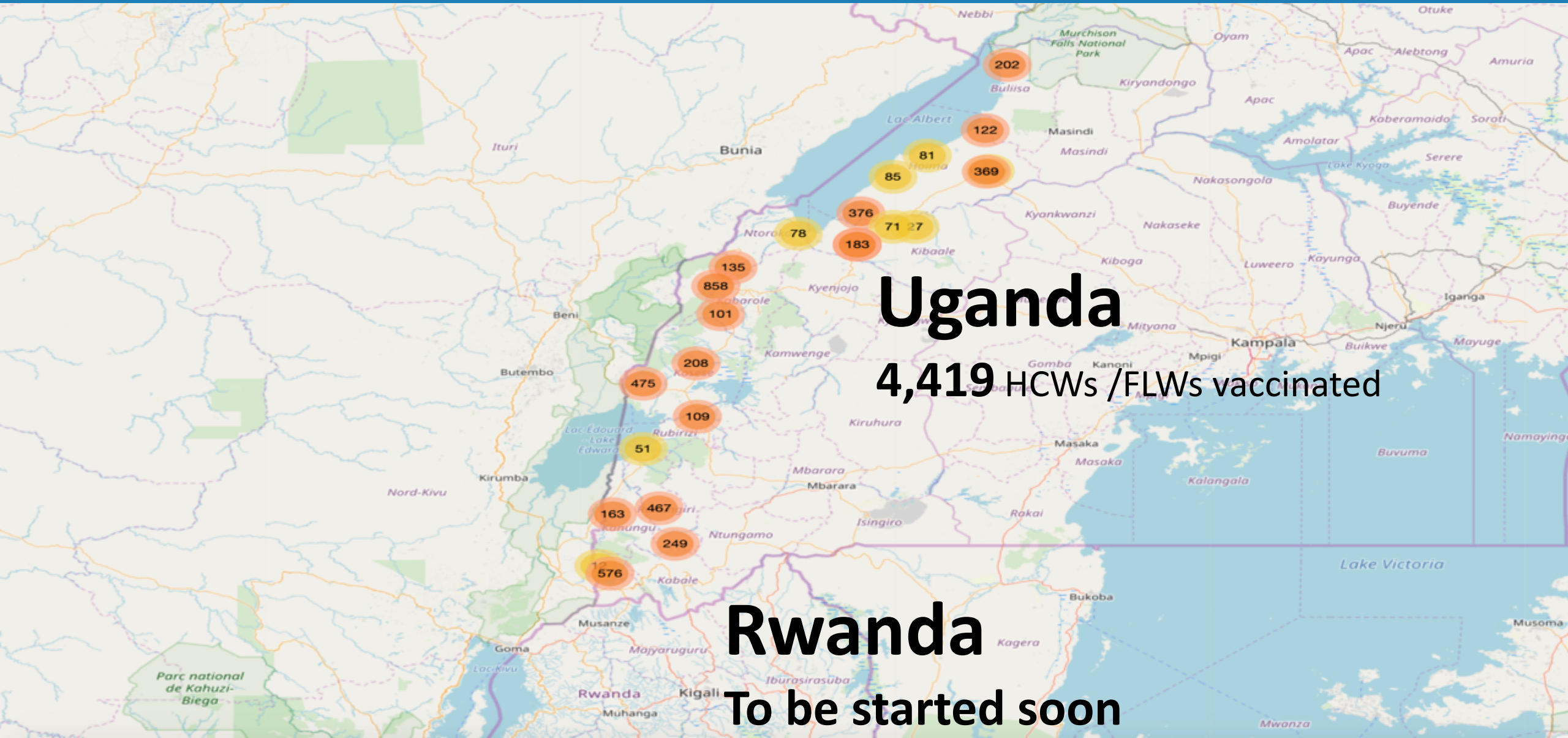
**4,293** HCWs /FLWs vaccinated  
in nearly 200 health facilities



## South Sudan

**1,706** HCWs /FLWs vaccinated









**Overcoming the  
challenging terrain**



**Successful negotiation with  
rebels Mai-Mai in Kayunguta**



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# Incidents of community resistance in Biena



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# Conclusions

- Our current figures are comparable to the those that you will observe in studies in other contexts, including in well resourced environments.
- There is a process for formal and on the job-training to enhance GCP research capacity in DRC

Never before during an outbreak hundreds of thousands of people have received the prompt benefit of a yet to be licensed vaccine.





THANK YOU



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