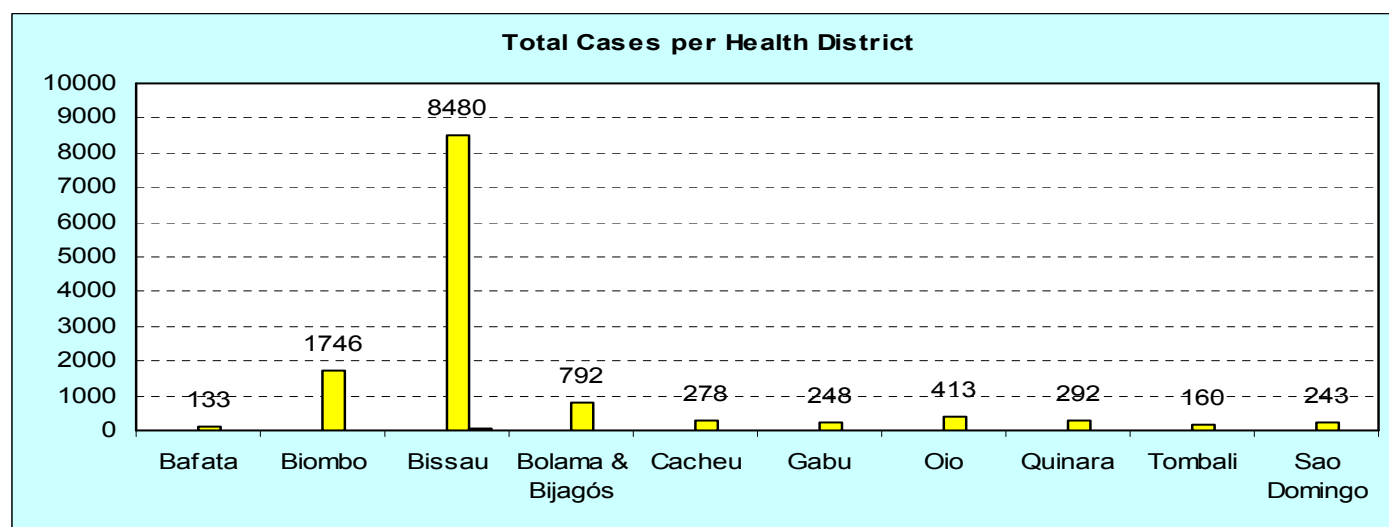
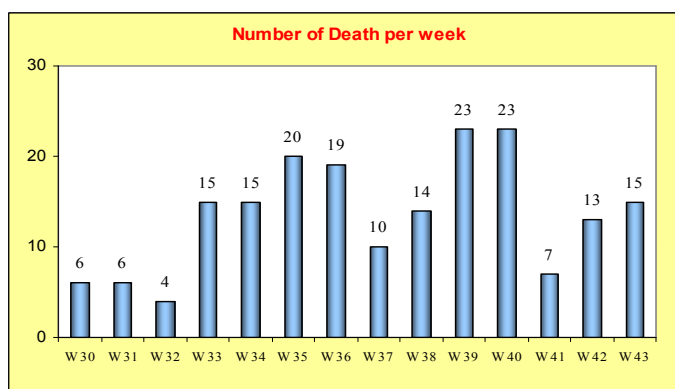
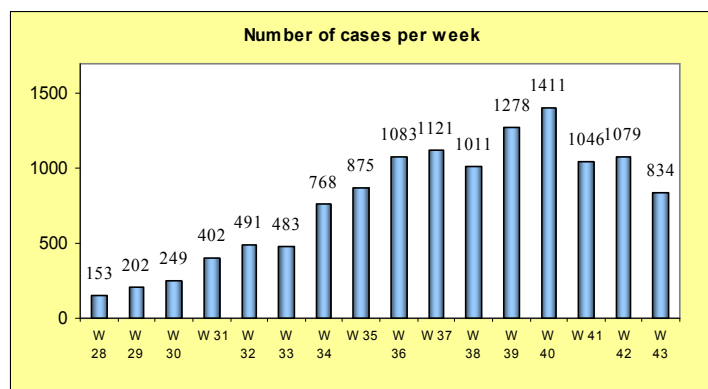


Update Cholera Guinea Bissau – Week 43

Situation Update

- The total number of cases detected is **12,785** with **213 deaths** confirmed since the beginning of the epidemic in May 2008.
- The number of cases contracted since week 40 has reduced by nearly 40%, however the fatality rate is still high and increasing.
- The total case detected per district is as follow:

Statistics/Graphs:New events:

- MSF Switzerland, in Bissau since beginning of October, provided Quinara and Tombali regions with some materials and medicines (beds, materials for disinfection, ringer solutions) and trained health workers in these regions on the proper use of calcium hypochlorite and the isolation of cholera cases. MSF Switzerland is planning the same exercise in the Bijagos islands and will support Cacheu and Gabu regions whereas, MSF Spain, will concentrate on Bissau, Biombo and Oio where the Cholera epidemic is more virulent.
- ECHO (European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office) allocated 500 000 Euro to MSF Spain to support the fight against the cholera epidemic.
- The NGO Nadel rehabilitated another 15 water points in Bissau and will support the water provider agency (EAGB) with 1,500 litres of bleach for disinfecting the water reservoirs in Bissau.

- Medecis De Mundo Portugal is currently providing assistance (Sensitisation, Water Sanitation and Treatment) in Biombo in coordination with MSF Spain.
- UNICEF and WHO activities are ongoing – Support to the ministry of health, Provision of supply and logistics, training of over 250 communication brigades, training of 50 Sanitation Brigades, Promotion of water chlorination and distribution of chlorine and bleach to households and public places, etc.

Upcoming Events

- October 26th marked the official launch of the electoral campaign for the legislative elections that will take place on November 16th. - UNDP is providing technical support to the electoral process
- As a result of the advocacy made by the Ministry of Health (Technical Committee), UNICEF and other partners, political parties are sharing messages on cholera preventive practices during their meetings, this will continue through the electoral process.