

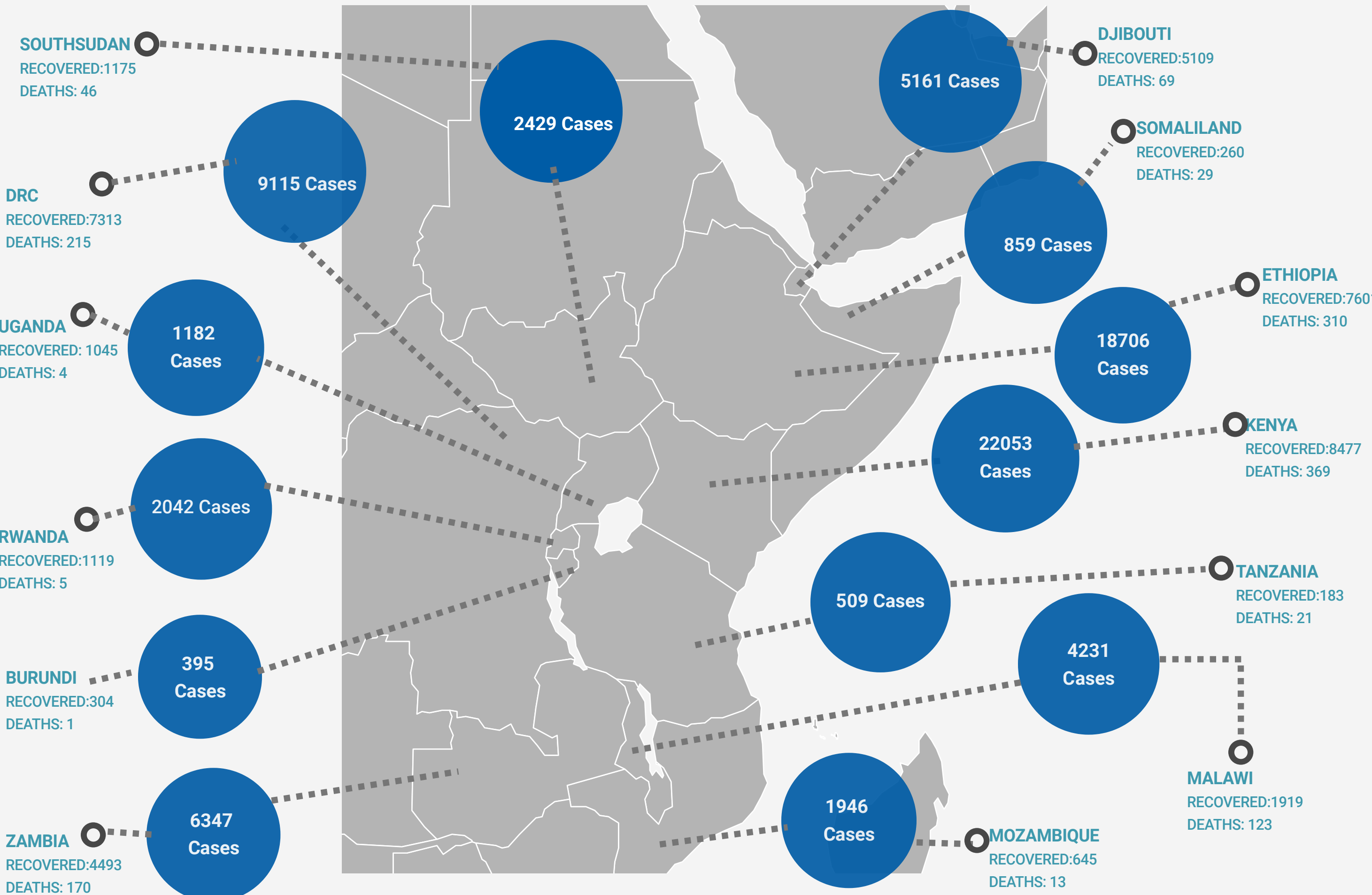
Impacts of COVID-19 on Eastern Africa Trade, Transit and Borders

July 20th-3rd Aug 2020

Introduction

TradeMark East Africa works closely with Government and Private Sector partners across the region. The following is a weekly compilation of the dynamic situation on the ground due to the current COVID-19 crisis. TMEA has captured daily updates as they became known to us through our partner contacts, as well as from media reports (links provided). Please note that TMEA has not independently verified the media reports, and that the details below change rapidly and may become obsolete or overtaken by events as quickly as it is distributed.

Source of data is from Johns Hopkins Resource Centre
Here, Worldometers Here and Africa CDC Here
*Source from Govt situation database. Here
(Data last update 03.08.2020)
** Tanzania last reported new cases on 29 April 2020



DISCLAIMER: The maps in this report are for illustrative purposes only. Representations and the use of boundaries and geographical names on these maps may include errors and do not imply judgment of the legal status of a territory, nor official recognition or acceptance of these boundaries by TMEA.

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Situation Overview

1.1 Many questions remain as to the best path forward for the transport and logistics industry in coping with measures necessary to reduce the spread of Covid-19. TMEA is working with the East African Business Council (EABC) to complete a study that will help inform future mitigations on costly delays that impede movement of imported and export goods across countries. [Read more](#)

1.2 EAC Partner States have adopted import duty measures to boost local production amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. Many regional integration stakeholders and observers believe that the pandemic has provided greater impetus for regional organisations and AfCFTA to focus on faster development of regional supply chains, which will require enhanced local production on the continent. [Read more](#)

1.3 Brookings Institute Blog: Food insecurity has been exacerbated by the spread of COVID-19 and subsequent lockdown measures that introduced serious economic and food price shocks. Combined with other disasters, such as the locust plague that has ravaged the Horn of Africa, the risk of food and income security has become more pronounced. Border restrictions introduced to slow the spread of the virus are also substantially impacting the production, transportation, and trade of food across the continent. [Read more](#)

Country and Regional Updates

Burundi

- The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) released a report on the impact of COVID-19 on food security and agriculture in Burundi. The ongoing effects of the pandemic are likely to add to the impact of recurrent climate hazards on agriculture and food security, potentially hampering agricultural activities for the upcoming seasons (June–November and October–January) [Read more](#)

DRC

- Innovative freight solutions have helped deliver vaccines to the needy despite COVID-19 disruptions. Supplies will be distributed to health centres and hospitals in the DRC. [Read more](#)

Ethiopia

- Ethiopia sees sharp rise in coronavirus cases, while in Addis Ababa, transport terminals are congested, markets swarmed with people not strictly observing physical distancing rules. [Read more](#)



TMEA and EABC collaborating
with EABC to brainstorm
mitigation measures to costly
delays of goods

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Kenya

- The government says it will enhance surveillance on the Covid-19 pandemic at the country's border points as it balances between minimising disruption of trade and keeping people healthy. The European Union, in partnership with TMEA, donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to various stakeholders at the border. [Read more](#)
- More than half of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) expect their business conditions to worsen in the next six months. [Read more](#)
- IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, has announced a \$50 million or Sh5.4 billion loan to Equity Bank Kenya to help it increase working capital and trade-related lending to its small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) clients, especially those facing COVID-19 related challenges. [Read more](#)

Malawi

- Malawi hit hard by airport strike and cannot receive Covid-19 materials. [Read more](#)

Mozambique

- UN Report: Mozambique among 26 countries headed for Covid-19-driven food crises. [Read more](#)

Rwanda

- WTTC reveals Rwanda as latest recipient of WTTC Safe Travels stamp for safety protocols. [Read more](#)

Tanzania

- Here's what's behind Tanzania's positive growth outlook amidst COVID-19. [Read more](#)
- Covid-19 has badly affected informal livelihoods; impacts on the entire economy are harsh. [Read more](#)

Uganda

- Uganda registers trade surpluses with the European Union and Middle East despite pandemic. [Read more](#)

Regional Eastern Africa

- East African countries have moved to ease movement of goods with the roll-out of a system that will allow them to share Covid-19 test results of truck drivers electronically, supported by TMEA's Safe Trade Emergency Facility. [Read more](#)



\$50 million

IFC loan to Equity Bank Kenya to help
increase trade-related lending