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# Cholera outbreak kills 412, infects more than 10K



A worker carries a bucket of disinfectant at a cholera treatment center in Lusaka, Zambia, on Friday. ( AP)

LUSAKA, Zambia

Zambia is reeling from a major cholera outbreak that has killed more than 400 people and infected more than 10,000, leading authorities to

order schools across the country to remain shut after the end-of-year holidays.

A large soccer stadium in the capital city has been converted into a treatment facility.

The Zambian government is embarking on a mass vaccination program and says it's providing clean water to communities that are affected across the nation.

The national disaster management agency has been mobilized.

Cholera is an acute diarrhea infection caused by a bacteria that is typically spread via contaminated food or water.

The outbreak in Zambia began in October and 412 people have died and 10,413 cases have been recorded, according to the latest count on Wednesday from the Zambia Public Health Institute. The Health Ministry says the nation of about 20 million people has been recording more than 400 cases a day.

“This outbreak continues to pose a threat to the health security of the nation,” Health Minister Sylvia Masebo said.

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