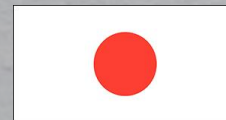


South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network (SA-RABNET)

WOAH Sub-Regional Training Workshop on Animal Rabies Diagnosis for South Asia
Veterinary College, KVAFSU, Hebbal, Bengaluru, India
18 – 21 January 2023

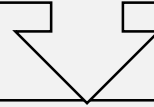
Kinzang Dukpa
Regional Project Coordinator
WOAH Regional Representation
for Asia and the Pacific
Tokyo, Japan

21 January 2023

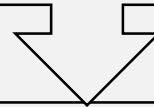


- ✎ To achieve the global goal of elimination of dog-mediated human rabies by 2030
- ✎ Rabies is neglected and under reported disease in South Asia
- ✎ Rabies is endemic in both humans and animals in most countries in the South Asia
- ✎ Over 95% of human rabies cases are associated with dog bites in South Asia
- ✎ 45% of the global burden of human rabies occurred in South Asia
- ✎ Poor rabies surveillance prevail in the region
- ✎ Poor or insufficient rabies diagnostic capacity across the region
- ✎ Resource constraints (technical, logistical and financial)
- ✎ There is no laboratory network across the region

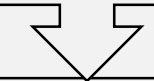
WOAH RRAP with the technical support of WOAHA Reference Laboratory for Rabies in India (KVAFSU) organized virtual training on brain sampling and diagnosis of rabies in 2020



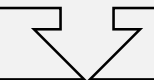
WOAH RRAP with the technical support of WOAHA Reference Laboratory for Rabies in India (KVAFSU) organized virtual training on rabies serology in 2021



Training participants sought further technical support on advanced diagnosis, surveillance and proficiency testing



Further WOAHA took initiative to develop a sub-regional laboratory platform in South Asia



SA-RABNET will be a regional platform for the National Lead Rabies Laboratories (NLRLs)

Background: Formation of SA-RABNET

OIE Virtual Training Series on Rabies Diagnosis for SAARC Region

5-6 November 2020 (with WOAAH Reference Laboratory in Bangalore, India)

Key topics

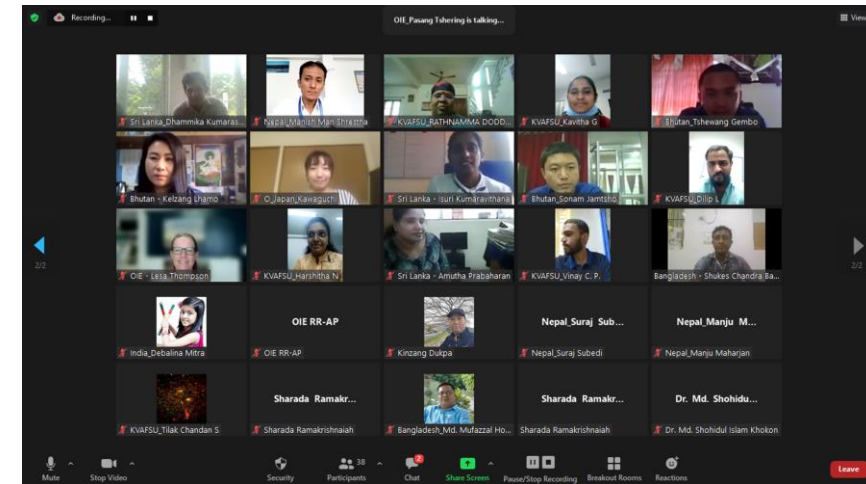
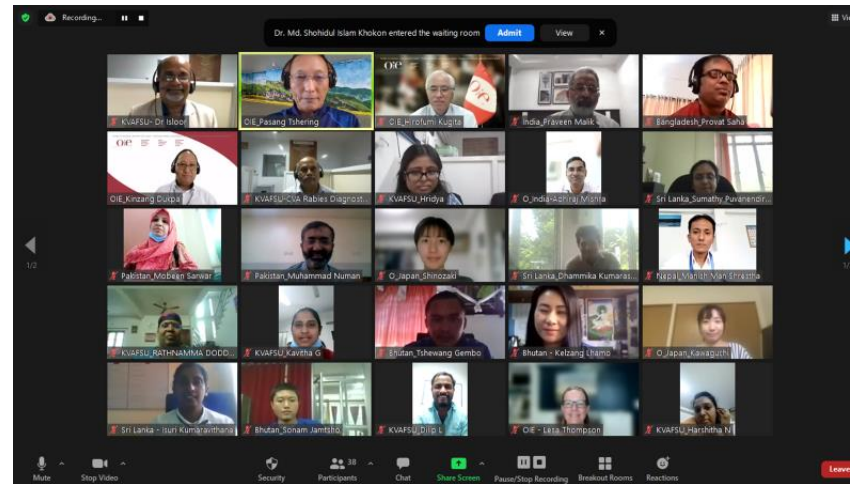
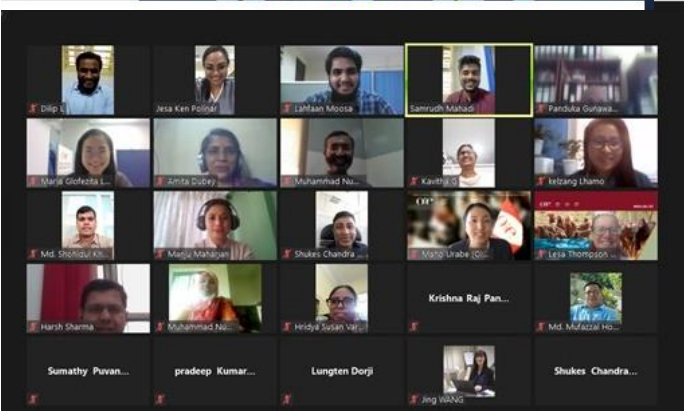
- Occipital foramen approach for brain sampling
- Lateral Flow Immunoassays (LFA)
- Direct Fluorescent Antibody test (DFA)

OIE Virtual Training Series on Rabies Serology for SAARC Region

11-13 October 2021

Key topic

- Rapid Fluorescent Focus Inhibition test (RFFIT)



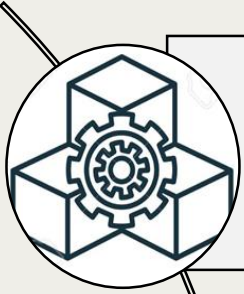
Vision

End human deaths from dog mediated rabies in South Asia through collaboration in diagnostics, surveillance, research, and information sharing

Goal

Enhance animal rabies surveillance and disease reporting through improved collaboration and coordination amongst national lead rabies laboratories towards more effective rabies control in South Asia

Objectives of SA-RABNET



To provide a platform for sharing of information and experiences amongst the National Lead Rabies Laboratories (NLRLs) of the SAARC Members on rabies diagnosis, surveillance and control



To facilitate building capacity for rabies diagnosis, surveillance and control and other technical assistance to the Network members



To encourage collaborative activities on rabies diagnosis, surveillance and control



To foster partnerships and collaborations with other regional and international rabies laboratories or Networks

Members of the Network

- ✎ Laboratory Director / Head of NLRLs of the SAARC MSs as nominated by the WOAAH Delegate
- ✎ WOAAH National Focal Points (NFPs) for Veterinary Laboratory of the SAARC MSs
- ✎ Laboratory Director/ Head of Regional Rabies Reference Laboratory (KVAFSU, Bengaluru, India)

Secretariat of the Network

- ✎ WOAAH RRAP in Tokyo, Japan will serve as the interim Secretariat of the Network with the support of KVAFSU for an initial 1-3 years after which MSs are expected to take over the management of the Network

- ✎ The Network will be managed by the NLRLs of SAARC MSs
- ✎ The Chair shall serve for one year period and will rotate amongst the Members as decided during the Network meeting
- ✎ The Network will meet regularly, at least twice a year virtually and/or physically
- ✎ WOAHH RRAP will provide secretarial, and if needed some financial support to the Network for an initial 1-3 years after which MSs are expected to take over the management of the Network
- ✎ KVAFSU (WOAHH Reference Laboratory for Rabies) will provide technical expertise to the Network activities

- ✎ Initially, WOAHI and KVAFSU will take lead and provide necessary support to make the Network operational
- ✎ Once established, Member States are responsible for mobilizing resources to ensure the sustainability of the Network. WOAHI and KVAFSU will continue to provide support to Members in the activities of the Network

Virtual Workshop on Proposed South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network

14 July 2022, Tokyo Japan

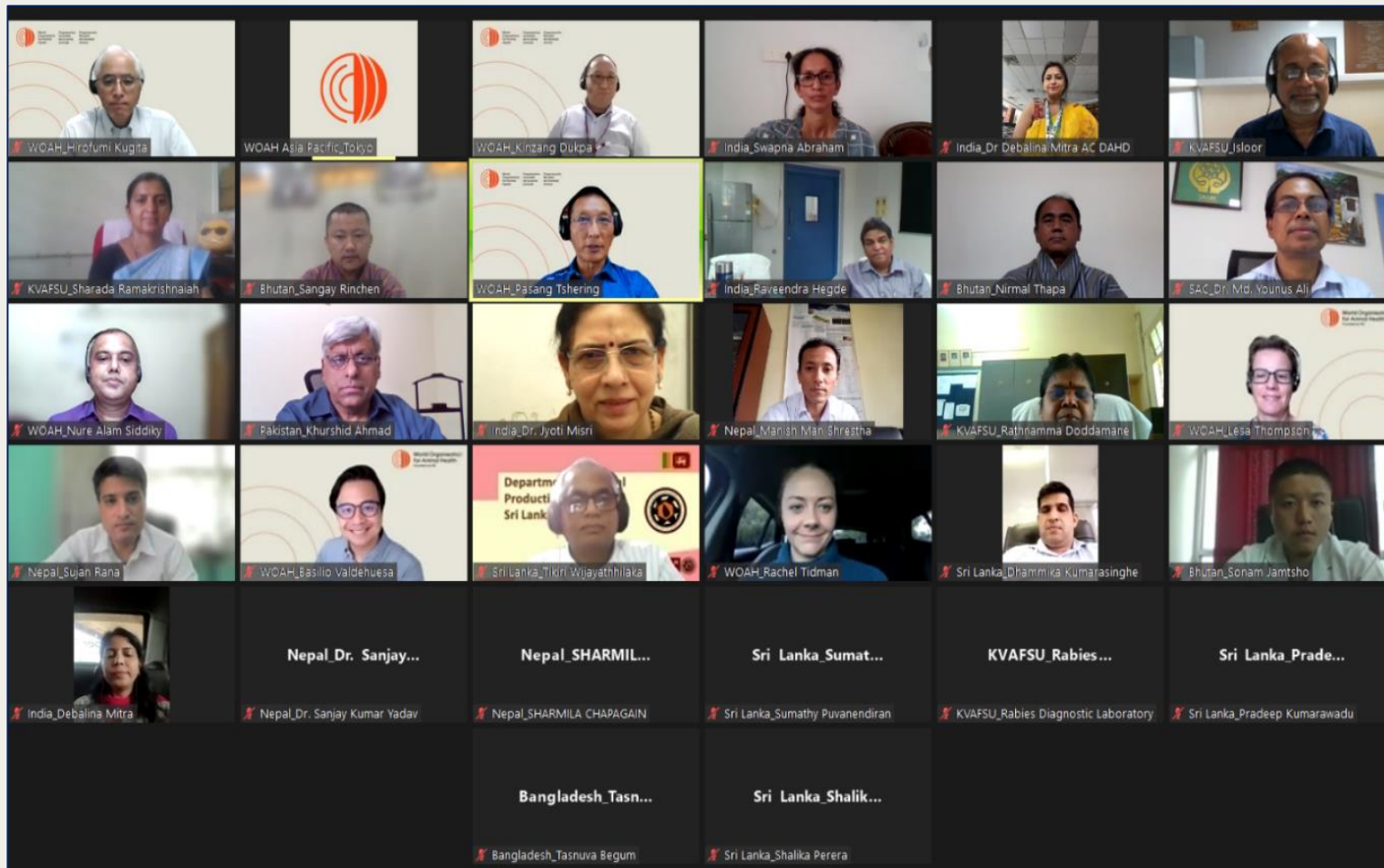
KEY WORKSHOP OUTPUTS

- 👉 Participants understood the concepts of the proposed Sub-Regional Rabies Laboratory Network for South Asia and its intended objectives
- 👉 Participants agreed that the Sub-Regional Rabies Laboratory network would be useful for rabies control in South Asia
- 👉 Participants expect to harness the benefits of the Network, such as building capacity for provision of quality diagnoses, effective surveillance, and effective technical backstopping to rabies laboratories
- 👉 Participants showed their support and commitment for the initiation and functioning of the Network activities
- 👉 Participants supported the next steps to be taken by WOAH RRAP and KVAFSU in setting up the Network

WOAH Initiatives on SA-RABNET

Virtual Workshop on Proposed South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network

14 July 2022, Tokyo Japan



Received Nomination of Members from South Asia

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka have nominated Members from their countries

Next steps

1st meeting of SA-RABNET in March 2023.

Thank you.

WOAH Sub-Regional Training Workshop on Animal Rabies
Diagnosis for South Asia
Veterinary College, KVAFSU, Bengaluru, India
18 – 21 January 2023



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

