



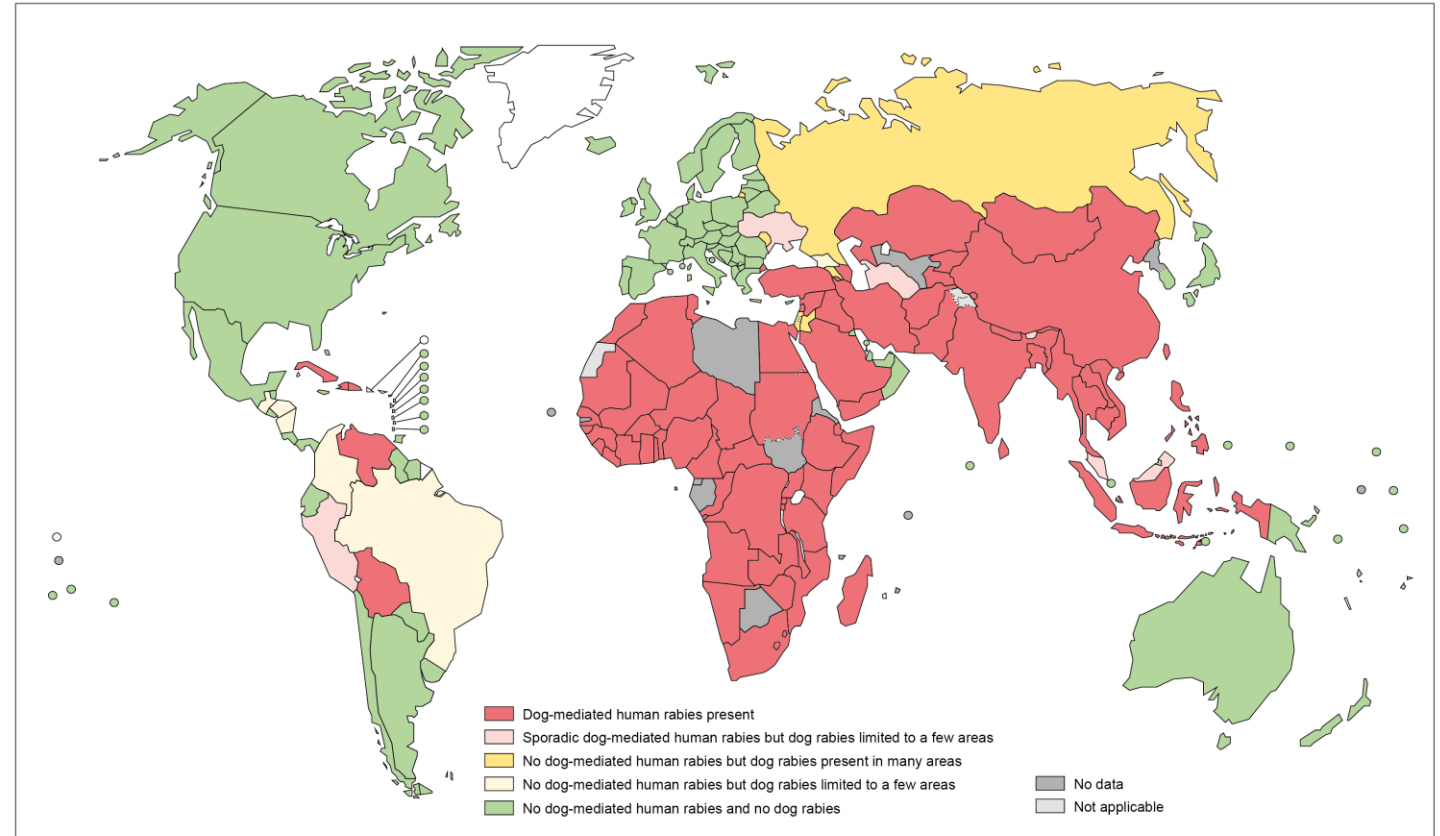
Scope and Objectives

**Regional Training Workshop
on Rabies Diagnosis for
South-East Asia –
21-25 October 2024**

Rabies at a glance: a neglected zoonotic disease

- Rabies is **endemic** in the majority of the Asia Pacific Region
- **>95%** of human cases **transmitted by dogs**
- WHO's South-East Asia Region alone accounts for nearly **half of the global burden** (>27,700 estimated annual deaths)
- Global goal of “**0 by 30**”

Presence of dog-mediated human rabies, by country, 2022



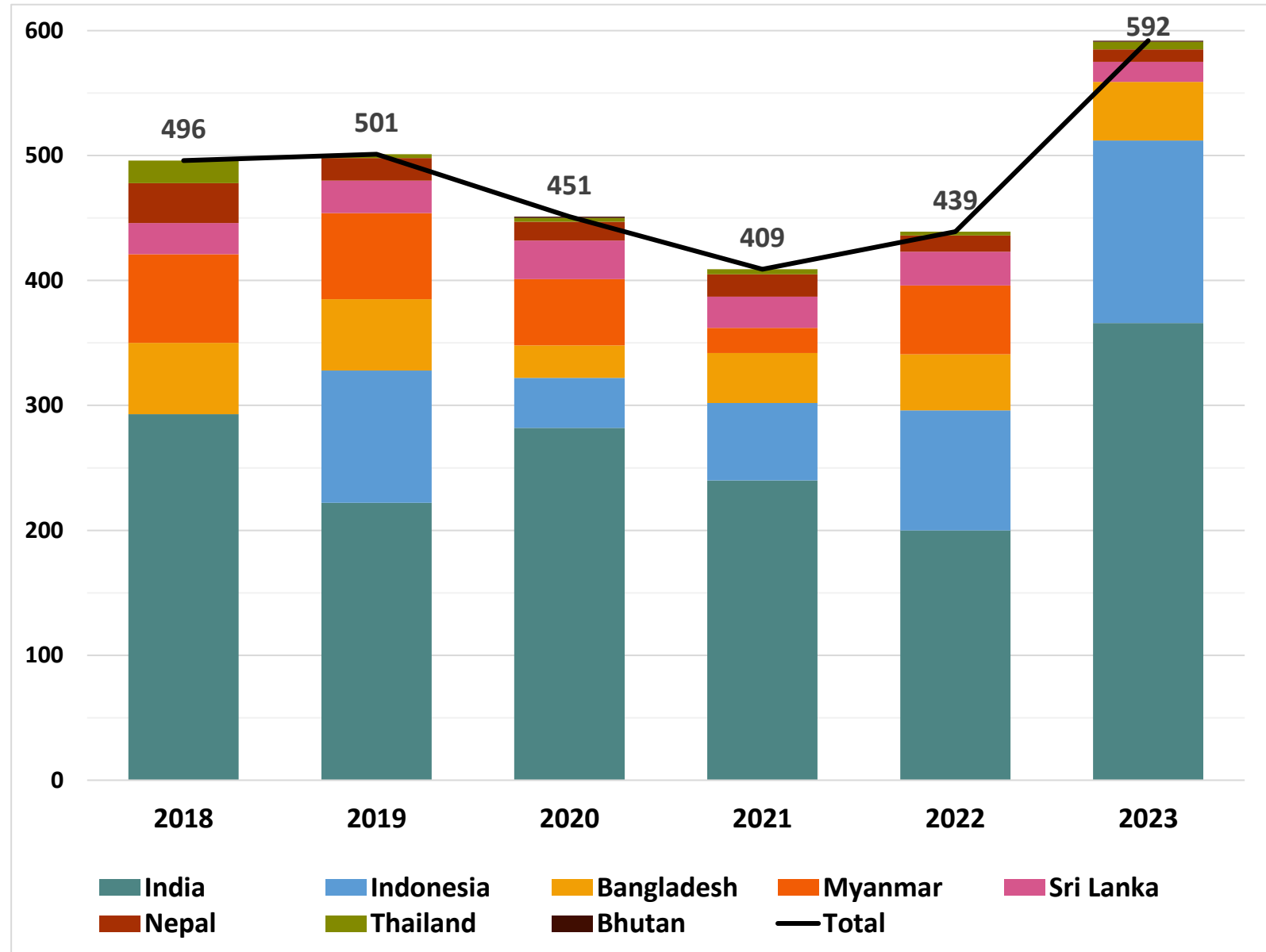
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Data Source: World Health Organization
Map Production: Control of Neglected
Tropical Diseases (NTD)
World Health Organization



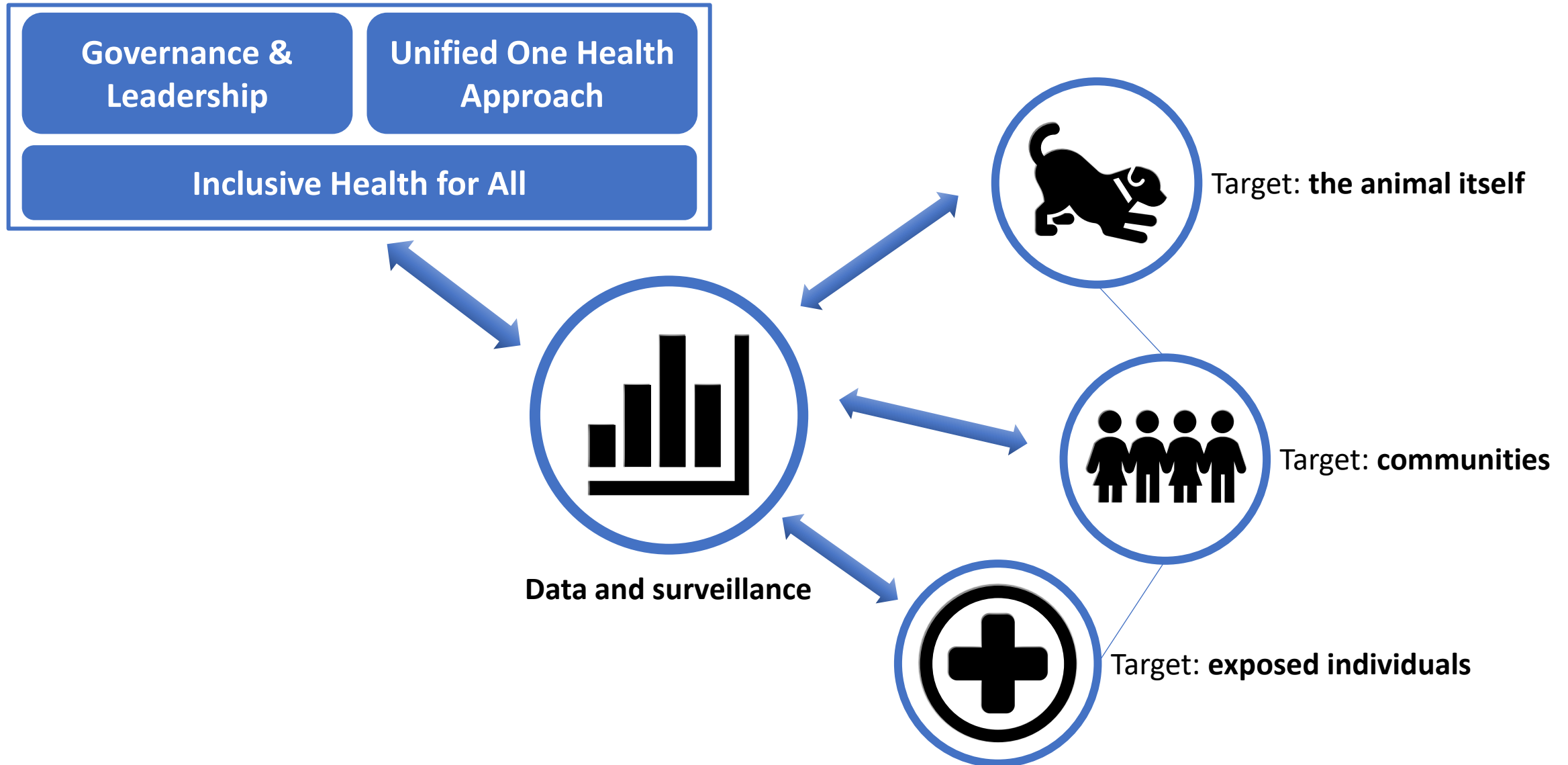
Rabies at a glance: a neglected zoonotic disease

- **≈7 million** reported **animal exposures** and **> 3 million** people receiving **PEP** (2022)
- **Surveillance** in both **animals** and **humans** currently is insufficient:
 - Lack of awareness and detection
 - Misdiagnosis
 - Underreporting



Number of officially reported human rabies deaths [India : data awaiting confirmation]

Eliminating invisible deaths: improving surveillance for rabies



Training for endemic countries in WHO's South-East Asia Region*

Requested both to

- **WHO** (MoH Bangladesh; Programme Managers (during the meeting of the Regional Technical Advisory Group on dog-mediated human rabies in South-East Asia Region in April 2023 and during the Asia Pacific Rabies meeting in July 2024)
- **WOAH** (in various animal rabies workshops/trainings)

Trainers



WHO CC National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences (NIMHANS)



WOAH RL KVAFSU-CVA Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory, Dept. of Veterinary Microbiology, Veterinary college KVAFSU, Bengaluru



Enhance laboratory capacity



Improve surveillance



Establish a foundation for IBCM




Foster networking and coordination across laboratories



Facilitate collaboration between sectors

* and Malaysia ☺

Specific topics of the training will include:

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- Animal brain sampling, sample preparation and transport
 - Lateral flow assays in rapid diagnosis of rabies
 - Direct fluorescent antibody tests (DFAT) which is the gold standard test for rabies diagnosis
 - Introduction to molecular tests including RT-PCR
 - Cell culture techniques and cell-based assays like Rapid Fluorescent Focus Inhibition Test (RFFIT)
 - Introduction to genomic surveillance and phylogenetic analysis
 - Histopathology and immunohistochemistry

Envisioned outcomes

- Empower you with the **knowledge, skills**, and **networks** necessary to advance rabies diagnosis, surveillance, and control efforts following a One Health approach.
- **Better understand** each sector's **strengths and weaknesses on rabies diagnosis** and rabies control situation
- **Better understand** the concept of **One Health** when put into practice (such as IBCM, joint laboratory diagnosis, leveraging rabies programmes through cross-sectoral data sharing, joint research using molecular techniques,)
- Encourage you to **build teams and close relationships** between human and animal health laboratories and workforce to share expertise and resources
- Enable you to go home with a plan on how to **implement and share your learnings**

No time to sleep



www.who.int/southeastasia/health-topics/neglected-tropical-diseases

www.rr-asia.woah.org/en/projects/rabies



Global target:
Zero rabies deaths by 2030

