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# Global initiatives for rabies elimination

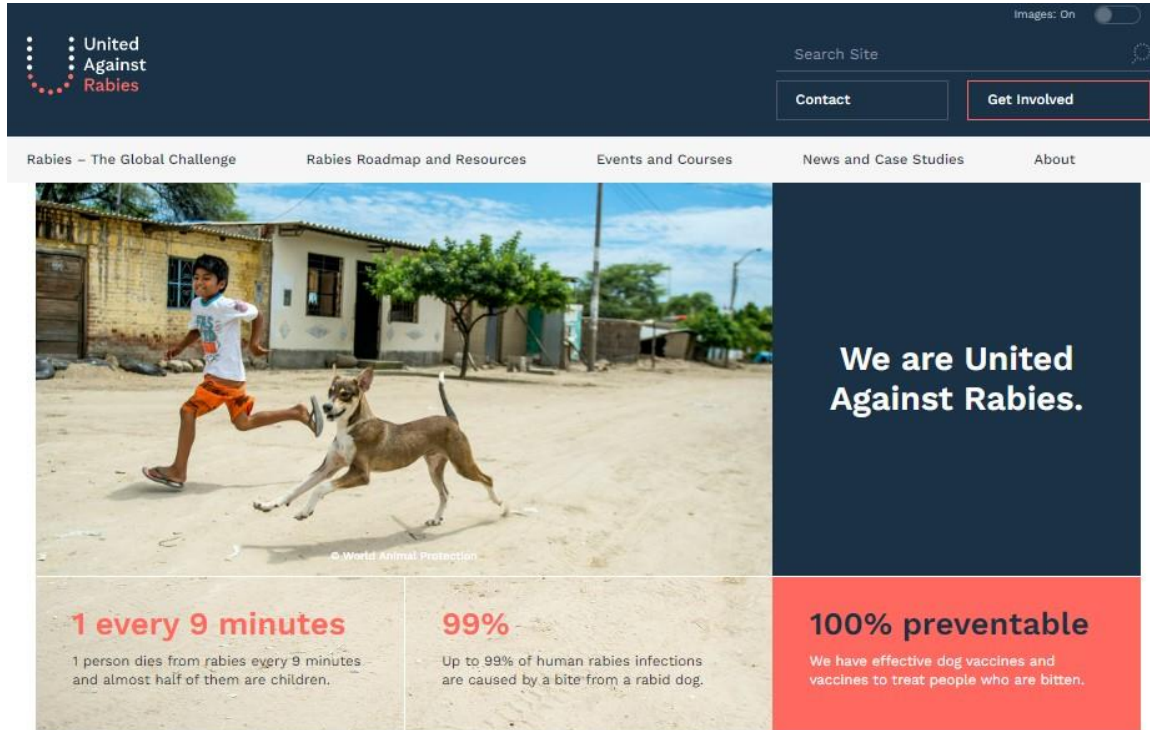


United  
Against  
Rabies

Dr Rachel Tidman, WOA  
ASEAN Rabies Consultation Meeting  
24-26 February 2025, Pattaya, Thailand



# United Against Rabies Forum



- Established by FAO, WHO and WOAHA in September 2020 to **implement ‘Zero by 30’**
- An inclusive network of stakeholders from a range of sectors with a common vision to achieve **zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030**
- Engage with the rabies community through website, webinars, newsletters, social media, podcast
- Coordinate stakeholders to better **support countries** in implementation of rabies control
- [www.unitedagainstrabies.org](http://www.unitedagainstrabies.org)

Together, we can end all human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030.

Supported by FAO, WOAHA and WHO (the Tripartite), the United Against Rabies Forum takes a multi-sectoral, One Health approach bringing together governments, vaccine producers, researchers, NGOs and development partners.

Join us



## 2025 Priority Objectives



- ❖ Engage priority rabies-endemic countries to support development and implementation of National Strategic Plans
- ❖ Engage local authorities and communities to prioritise rabies elimination at the local level
- ❖ Facilitate access to human PEP, including supporting the implementation of Gavi's strategy on rabies
- ❖ Promote improved surveillance, data sharing and data reporting
- ❖ Support advocacy and resource mobilisation for rabies control



# Engage priority rabies-endemic countries to support **development** and implementation of National Strategic Plans

A generic template for developing a national strategic plan to eliminate rabies

January 2023



- Provides a framework with clear activities, roles and responsibilities
- Brings together key stakeholders to contribute to rabies control in the country
- Testifies government commitment to progressing toward **Zero by 30**



## Toolbox

From vaccination to education, we present a comprehensive online toolbox of guides, apps and other resources to help you plan, prioritise and implement your rabies control programmes.

[Find out more](#)



## Milestone 2 Initiate plan

Dog-mediated rabies is endemic. The country has built a strong case in support of rabies elimination and is in the process of initiating rabies elimination initiatives at the national-level.

# Engage priority rabies-endemic countries to support development and **implementation** of National Strategic Plans

Dog vaccination –  
 barriers and solutions  
 Version 2, November 2024



[< Toolbox](#)

Human to Dog Ratio and Dog Population Estimate Repository

**Provider:** US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Activities	Resource Language	Who is it for?	Link
Strategy, Planning	English	Policy or government agency officials, Rabies control program managers; Animal vaccination program personnel	<a href="#">Download here</a>

## Oral vaccination of dogs against rabies

Recommendations for field application and integration into dog rabies control programmes



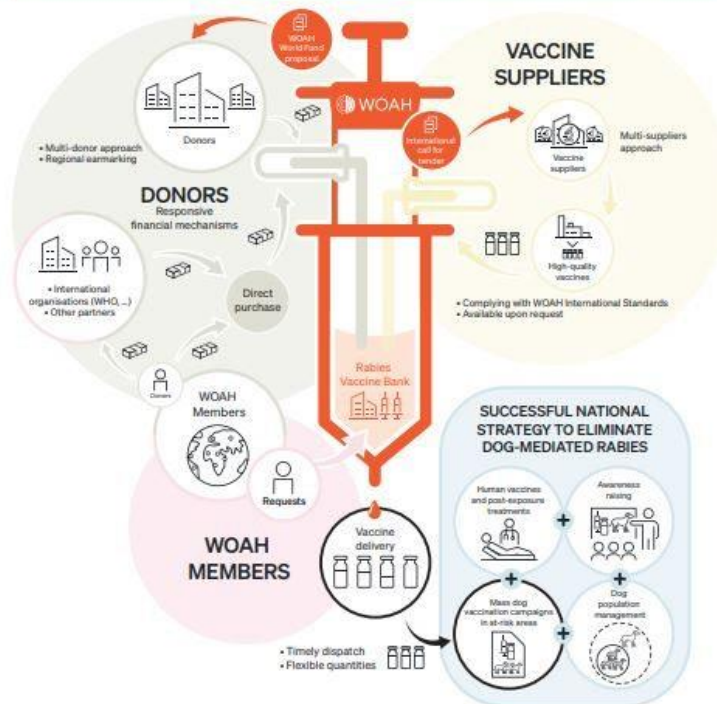
Integration of ORV of dogs into National Rabies Control Programmes

# Engage priority rabies-endemic countries to support development and implementation of National Strategic Plans

## CANINE RABIES VACCINES TO SAVE HUMAN LIVES

**RABIES kills nearly 59,000 PERSONS PER YEAR** with more than **99%** of cases originating from infected **DOG BITES**.

By providing high-quality dog vaccines, our vaccine bank helps countries implement vaccination campaigns and eliminate dog-mediated human rabies.



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From vaccination to education, we present a comprehensive online toolbox of guides, apps and other resources to help you plan, prioritise and implement your rabies control programmes.



### UAR Evaluation Matrix



Evaluations are performed using the 'UAR Evaluation Matrix', a rabies-specific tool evaluation instrument adapted from the FAO-WOAH-WHO Tripartite Surveillance and Information Sharing Operational Tool evaluation process and instrument.

#### Accessibility 9

Focuses on i) logistics for accessing and using the tool, ii) the platforms on which the tool runs (if applicable), iii) relevant costs, and iv) the level of user support that is provided by the developer/manufacturer.

#### Data collection and needs 8.3

Focuses on the type of data that is captured by the tool.

#### Data management and utility 8.9

Focuses on the data analysis and outputs provided by the tool

#### Data storage and protection 8

Focuses on data ownership, protection and storage.

#### Flexibility 8

Focuses on the interoperability of the tool and its adaptability for use in different contexts or scenarios.

#### Ease of use and training needs 8.7

Focuses on the training requirements, including the level of complexity and difficulty to navigate and understand the tool as well as the technical or operational skillsets that are required to use the tool.

#### Sustainability 10

Focuses on the different scenarios that indicate how sustainable the tool has been and whether it has been thoroughly field-tested for implementation.

## WOAH RABLAB warns of risk of using substandard dog rabies vaccines.

The World Organisation for Animal Health Rabies Reference Laboratory Network (RABLAB) is highly concerned about reports regarding the use of subpotent parenteral rabies vaccines (imported or locally produced) in rabies-endemic countries.

Scaling up the delivery of dog vaccination campaigns against rabies at national levels must not be at the expense of vaccine quality.

**The use of poor-quality vaccines will lead to continued high rabies incidence due to insufficient herd immunity thereby jeopardising national rabies control programmes.**

It may even run the risk of leading to uncertainty among Competent Authorities, especially in low- and middle-income countries in Africa and Asia about the concept of controlling the disease at its animal source and jeopardise the global goal of eliminating human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030.

Position statement  
April 2024

**WOAH RABLAB emphasises the importance of using approved, high-quality rabies vaccines that meet international standards in terms of efficacy, safety, and sterility.**

Rabies vaccines for parenteral use should be compliant with the recommended potency of at least 1 IU/dose to guarantee its biological protective activity. As there are many factors that can impact the quality of (even approved) vaccines, RABLAB urges regulatory authorities to accept their responsibilities and regularly check a vaccines' potency as an important indicator of the consistency and stability of batch production before registration and release to the market.

#### Quality control

Vaccine manufacturers should be compelled to provide quality control data of each vaccine batch during the procurement procedures organised by the national regulatory authorities, based on the WOH international Standards. Independent verifications of the quality of commercial vaccines for potency as part of the authorisation process are strongly recommended to identify and disqualify unregulated and non-compliant vaccines. Animal rabies vaccines should only be used if they meet the international standards of quality and potency, which will ultimately contribute to achievement of the objective of zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030.

#### Procurement of dog rabies vaccines

If rabies vaccines for national programmes are to be procured, RABLAB strongly recommends rabies endemic countries to follow [WOAH's Practical Guidelines for National Procurement of Veterinary Vaccines](#). Acknowledging the added value of internationally recognised high-quality vaccines, WOH and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) through its WOH vaccine bank and Revolving Fund, respectively, have established effective mechanisms to ensure procurement of high-quality vaccines manufactured in line with WOH international standards and delivered in a timely manner. However, as the vaccines listed there are not the only vaccines that meet international standards, vaccine manufacturers or vaccine purchasers wishing to request further guidance on how to clarify the quality of commercial vaccines should [contact any RABLAB expert](#).



# Engage local authorities and communities to prioritise rabies elimination at the local level

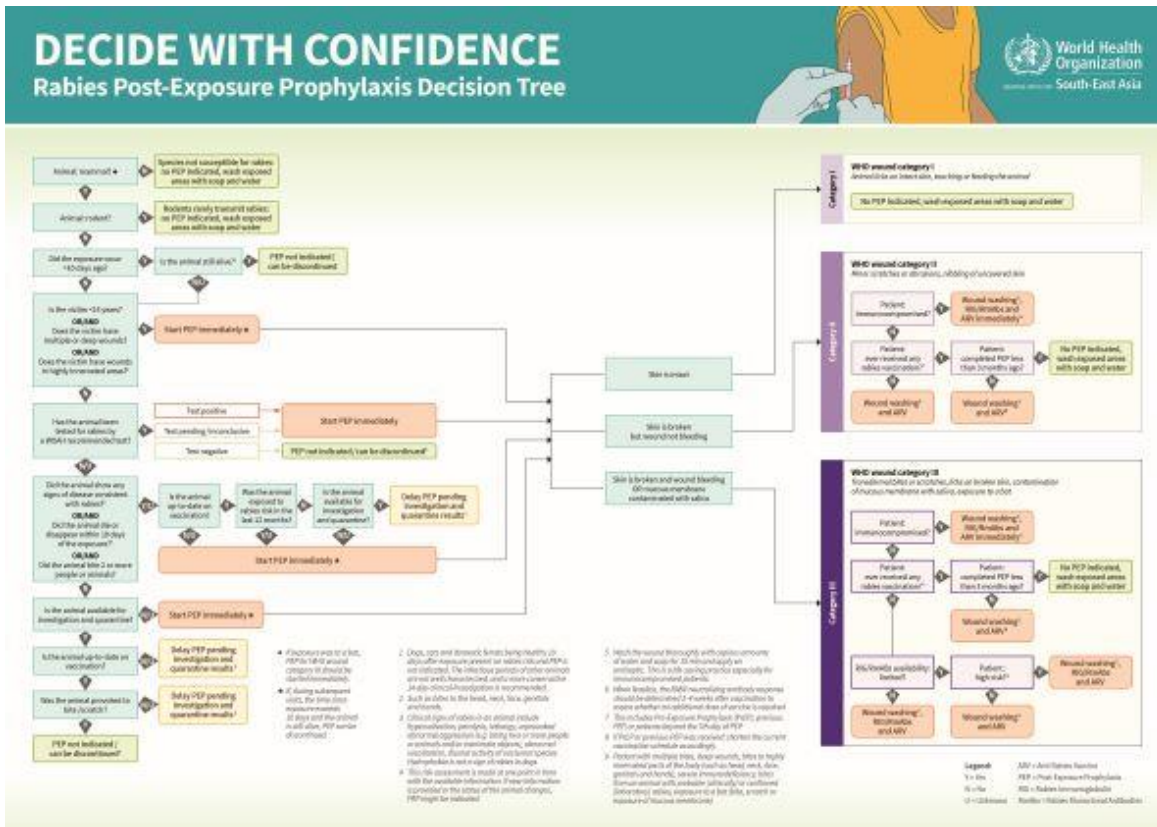
Public Information Toolkit  
for Rabies Prevention  
Version 2, October 2023



- Public Information Toolkit
- World Rabies Day 28 September
- Various other initiatives of partners: Positive Cities (ICAM, focusing on humane dog/cat population management), Internet of Good Things (UNICEF)



# Facilitate access to human PEP, including supporting the implementation of Gavi's strategy on rabies



- Gavi agreed to roll out their investment for human PEP
- Two countries approved (Madagascar and Côte d'Ivoire), with others in the review process
- Two more application windows in 2025 (May and September)
  - [www.gavi.org/our-support/guidelines](http://www.gavi.org/our-support/guidelines)
- WHO supporting countries in developing applications to Gavi
- UAR helping connect Gavi investment back to national strategic plans and control activities in dogs
- Countries encouraged to
  - Use WHO prequalified vaccines
  - Implement intradermal regimes
  - Utilise risk assessment tools



# Promote improved surveillance, data sharing and data reporting

Minimum Data Elements for Monitoring and Evaluation of National and International Rabies Control Programs.

Version 2, January 2023



- ❖ Improve laboratory and diagnostic capacity (Tripartite reference laboratories/reference centres)
- ❖ Upcoming work on guidance on use of LFDs, and trying to support countries on improving human case detection
- ❖ Advocating for national points of contact for rabies to facilitate communication between human and veterinary health stakeholders
- ❖ More on the importance of data sharing and reporting in later session
- ❖ **Minimum Data Elements: This can be a useful resource for defining M&E indicators and which data to collect.**



# 'Zero by 30' indicators



'Zero by 30' Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

Version 1, January 2025



- Developed by the United Against Rabies Forum Steering Group and Tripartite to monitor progress against the 3 objectives of 'Zero by 30'
- Discuss in further detail on later session
- Underpinned by the international milestones
  - WOAH endorsement of official control programme for dog-mediated rabies
  - **WHO validation of zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies**
  - WOAH self-declaration of freedom from dog-mediated rabies or freedom from rabies
- Encouraged as a guide for regional and national M&E indicators

# Support advocacy and resource mobilisation for rabies control

Country Overview

Select a country: All

Please select a country of interest to view information on their rabies control

Please select a country of interest to view information on their rabies control

**Disclaimer:** The data included represents only that which is publicly available to the United Against Rabies Forum, and may not reflect the true progress that countries have made towards Zero by 30

**Build evidence**

Please select a country of interest to view information on their rabies control

**Milestones**

International recognition

UAR Roadmap Milestone

Please select a country of interest to view information on their rabies control

Please select a country of interest to view information on their rabies control

- Embedding rabies in high level policy discussions and One Health agenda
- UAR Partnership Map to map and connect stakeholders and activities
- Template to map resource partners at national level
- Webinars, podcasts, newsletters, case studies

UAR Forum members activities

Type country name: Search

Click UAR Forum Member below to see where they are working, and the activities they are conducting

Animal and Plant Health Agency, Department for E	Institut Pasteur du Cambodge
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Res	Institut Pasteur, France
Central Bicol State University of Agriculture (CBSU)	Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
Centre for Climate Change and Food Security (CC)	Mtwaa Wa Africa Animal Rescue
CreIndia, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati	Mission Rabies
Department of Veterinary and Pest Control Service	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
Disease Investigation Farm/Regional Laboratory, B	Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, Philippine
Echbee Vet Ventures	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (STPH)
Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, Fried	The BIG FIX Uganda
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Na	University of Missouri

List of countries	Country	Activity Category short	Activity Category levels
Angola	Algeria	07 - Surveillance	Local
Australia	Algeria	09 - National Planning	N/A
Bangladesh	Angola	06 - Training	National
Burkina Faso	Angola	07 - Surveillance	Sub-national
Benin	Angola	08 - Diagnostic	N/A
Bolivia	Angola	10 - Financial support	N/A
	Australia	04 - Education	National
	Australia	05 - Rabies awareness	National





# Together, we can end all human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030.

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Join the Community and share your stories

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[Twitter](#)

[Linked In](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Youtube](#)



- [www.unitedagainstrabies.org](http://www.unitedagainstrabies.org)
  - Sign up for news and events
  - Connect to United Against Rabies social media
  - Request specific technical support, propose key activities, suggest webinar topics
  - Provide feedback on existing United Against Rabies tools/resources
- 
- Email [globalrabiescoordinator@woah.org](mailto:globalrabiescoordinator@woah.org)



Is your organization working on rabies control?  
**Will you join us?**

Membership of the United Against Rabies Forum is open to all organizations committed to rabies control and elimination and whose work or activities contribute to this goal.

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# Thank you!

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