



Rabies Situation and Control BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Dr Diana Dennis (MPRT)

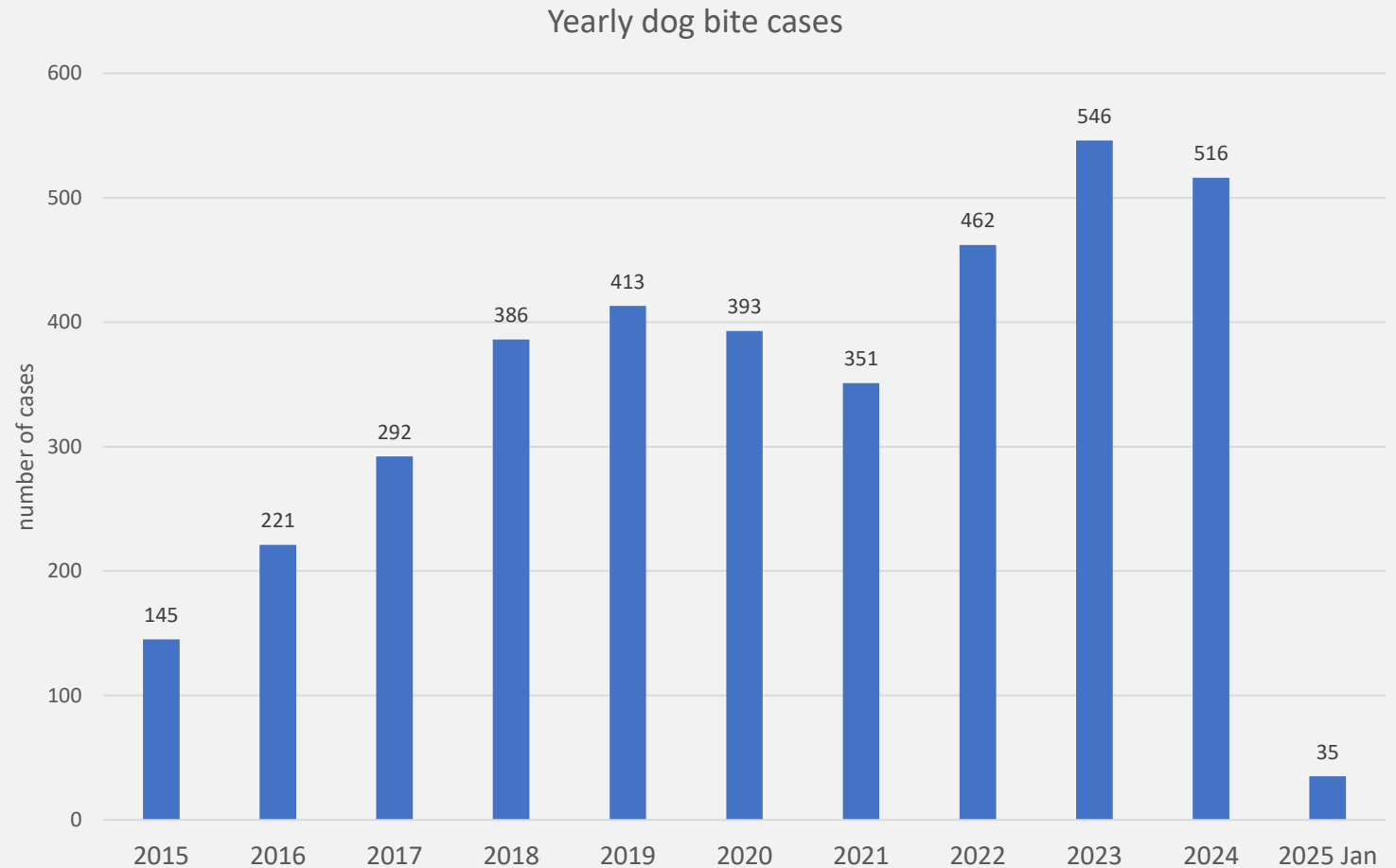
Dr Martina Kifrawi (MOH)

**ASEAN Rabies Consultation Meeting
Development of ARES Implementation Plan**



The Prevalence of Rabies in Brunei Darussalam

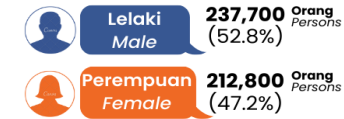
- Incidence of Human Rabies per year – 0
- Proportion of districts with zero human rabies case reporting – 100%
- Rabies in humans is a notifiable disease under the Infectious Diseases Act Chapter 204



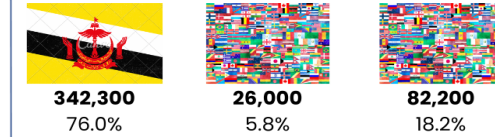
Anggaran Penduduk
Population Estimates

450,500 Orang
Persons

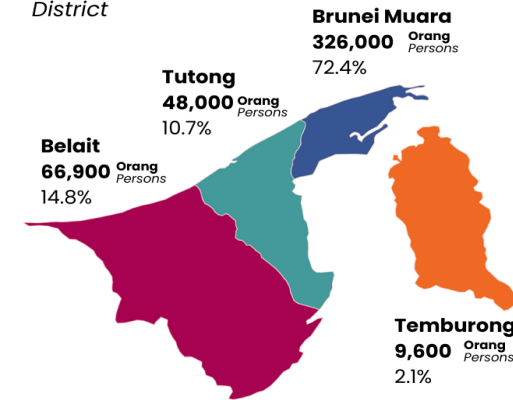
Jantina
Sex



Taraf Penduduk
Residential Status



Daerah
District



Kumpulan Umur
Age Group



00-14 91,200
20.2%



15-64 328,000
72.8%



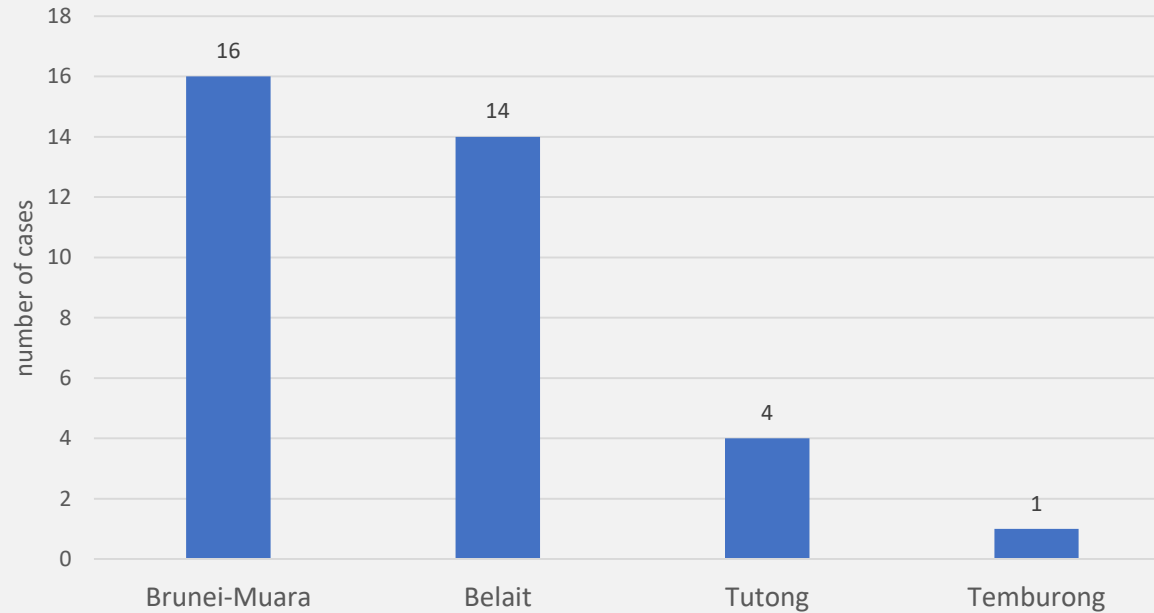
>64 31,300
6.9%

Bangsa
Race



Melayu Malays	Cina Chinese	Lain-Lain Others
332,100 (73.8%)	43,400 (9.6%)	75,000 (16.6%)

Dog bite cases by district (2025 January)



Nota: Jumlah peratus mungkin tidak selaras kerana angka digenapkan.
Sumber: Jabatan Perancangan Ekonomi dan Statistik (JPES)

Note: Total percentage may not tally due to rounding.
Source: Department of Economic Planning and Statistics (DEPS)

Key achievements of Ministry of Health Brunei Darussalam

01

In 2014, inline with ARES, MOH and MPRT jointly developed the Rabies Surveillance Plan for Brunei

02

In 2016, the Dog Bite registry was created. All Health facilities are requested to report human cases of dog bites to MOH. Cases will be monitored for any symptoms that may develop within 14 days of being bitten

03

In 2018, Formation of Joint Taskforce for Zoonotic Diseases

Key achievements of Ministry of Health Brunei Darussalam

04

Rabies vaccination for pre-exposure prophylaxis to high-risk groups for eg: MPRT colleagues (lab and vets) , dog handlers from NGOs, animal shelters etc . **Post exposure prophylaxis vaccination to dog bites individuals who present to health centres/hospitals**

05

Guidelines for the control and management of Rabies and suspected Rabies in Brunei Darussalam updated in 2019, circulated to all clinicians

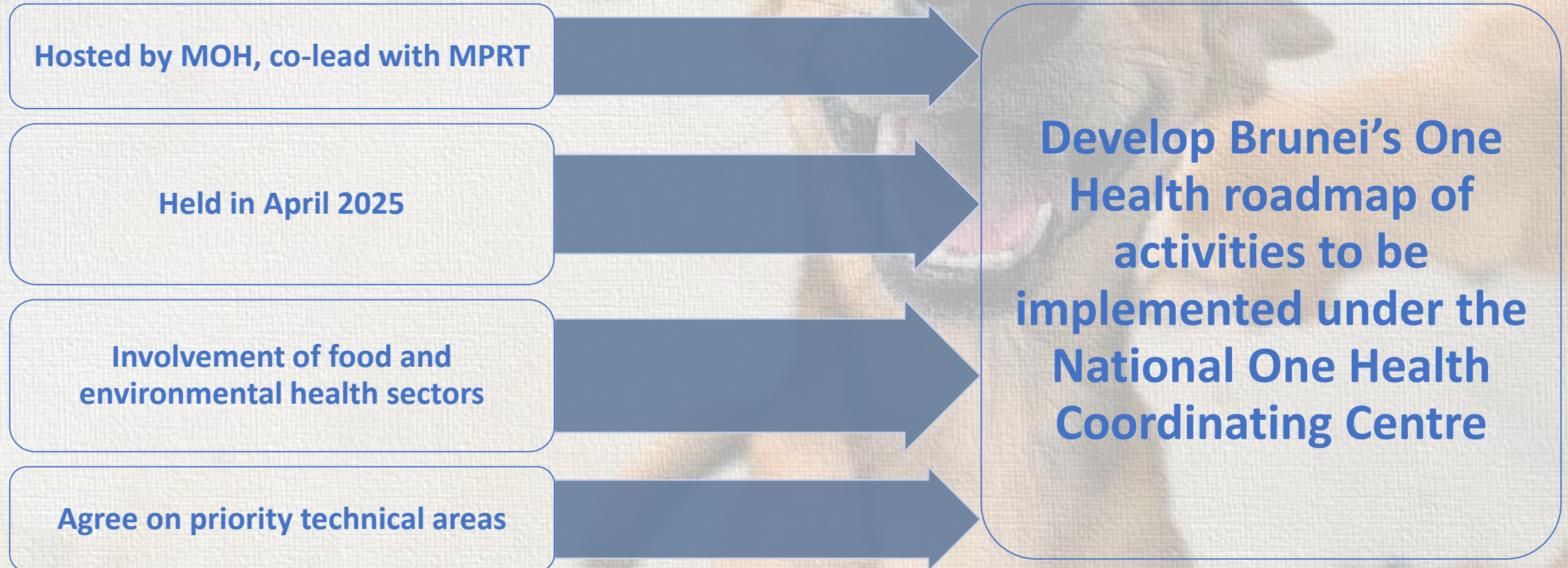
06

Establishment of a National One Health Coordinating Centre in Brunei Darussalam to Strengthen National and Regional Health Security

Main challenges and recommended solution

- Human rabies virus testing is currently unavailable in Brunei

Plans for Brunei's National Bridging Workshop





(NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES)

**ASEAN Rabies Consultation Meeting
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Rabies situation (Year 2023-present) – Animal Health

- Rabies situation in animals - NIL
- Rabies cases in humans
- Highlights of rabies burden - NIL

Brunei Darussalam maintains free from rabies cases in both animals and humans

Key interventions and achievements (Year 2023-present) – Animal Health

- Present key rabies prevention and control strategies including the achievements

1) Policies & legislation – Animal (Disease and Quarantine) Act, 2021 / Brunei Law, Dog Act

2) In 2014, inline with ARES, MOH and MPRT jointly developed the Rabies Surveillance Plan for Brunei. National Joint Task Force (JTF) for Zoonotic Diseases was formed since 2018 as a component under the International Health Regulations as collaboration between the human and animal health sector. Taskforce consists of multi-agencies (Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism as co chairs). The most recent meeting was held on September 11, 2024

3) Table-Top simulations specific for Rabies (multi agencies involvement) – based on scenarios, identify gaps), collaborative efforts with MOHA (national dog shelter) – sharing of expertise,



Key interventions and achievements (Year 2023-present) – Animal Health

- Rabies Vaccination Drive-Through for both cats and dogs since December 2022, done throughout the 4 districts.

DATE	DISTRICT	ANIMAL SPECIES	NO. OF VACCINES ADMINISTERED
23 November 2022 – 17 December 2022	Brunei and Muara, and Belait	Dogs and Cats	748 Cats and 469 Dogs
17 February 2024; 27 July 2024; 14 September 2024; 12 & 26 November 2024;	All Districts	Dogs only	81 Dogs
8th February 2025	Brunei and Muara	Dogs only	5 Dogs
26th April 2025	Tutong	Dogs only	In planning
28th June 2025	Temburong	Dogs only	In planning
27th September 2025	Belait	Dogs only	In planning



Key interventions and achievements (Year 2023-present) – Animal Health

- In conjunction to the World Rabies Day, a Pet Care Awareness Day (PCAD) event was done in collaboration with the 1st Brunei Feline Fanciers Federation (FFF) Pedigree International Cat Show on 24th November 2024.
- There was also collaboration with World Antimicrobial Awareness Week on Rabies Control Measures to the public on 27th November 2024.
- During the events, leaflets were shared to public which focused on Rabies Awareness and Responsible Pet Ownerships (leaflets are shown on the right).



Key interventions and achievements (Year 2023-present) – Animal Health



Main challenges, recommended solution & Way Forward – Animal Health

General Public

- Dog Taboo
- Fear
- Distrust
- Increasing Strays
- Neutering

Animal Volunteer Groups

- Social Media
- Distrust
- Increasing Strays
- Neutering (lack of funds)

Government Agencies

- Silo effect
- Increasing Strays and dog bite cases
- Neutering not allowed under Religious reasons



**RABIES
FREE**

Way forward (2025-2026):

- Review of existing legislations (*MOHA*)
- Dialogues with Animal Volunteer Groups (*NVS, MOHA*)
- Strengthen Interagency collaborations (*Joint Taskforce*)
- Awareness programs (*NVS*)

THANK YOU

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