

ASEAN Rabies Elimination Strategy (ARES) Update

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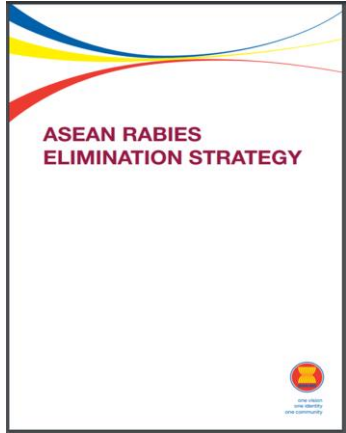
ASEAN TADs Meeting
31 Jul 2026



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal



2014: 1st ARES endorsed
(Zero by 2020 goal)



2020

ARES review: Process



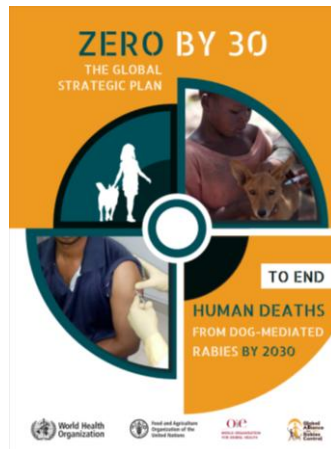
2022-2023



2025

ARES IP and
M&E

2018: Zero by 30 launched



2018

ASEAN-Tripartite Rabies Meeting

2021

Revision
process
initiated

2023-2024

ASEAN Endorsement process



2026

ARCG



- ARES supports the **Global Strategic Plan** to End Human Deaths from Dog-Mediated Rabies by 2030.
- Aligned under the **Quadripartite OH Joint Plan of Action** (OH JPA) and the **ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on One Health** (2023).
- Operationalized through ASEAN Health Cluster 2 (**AHC2**) and the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (**ASWGL**).
- ARES serves as the regional platform translating the global 'Zero by 30' strategy into coordinated action across ASEAN.

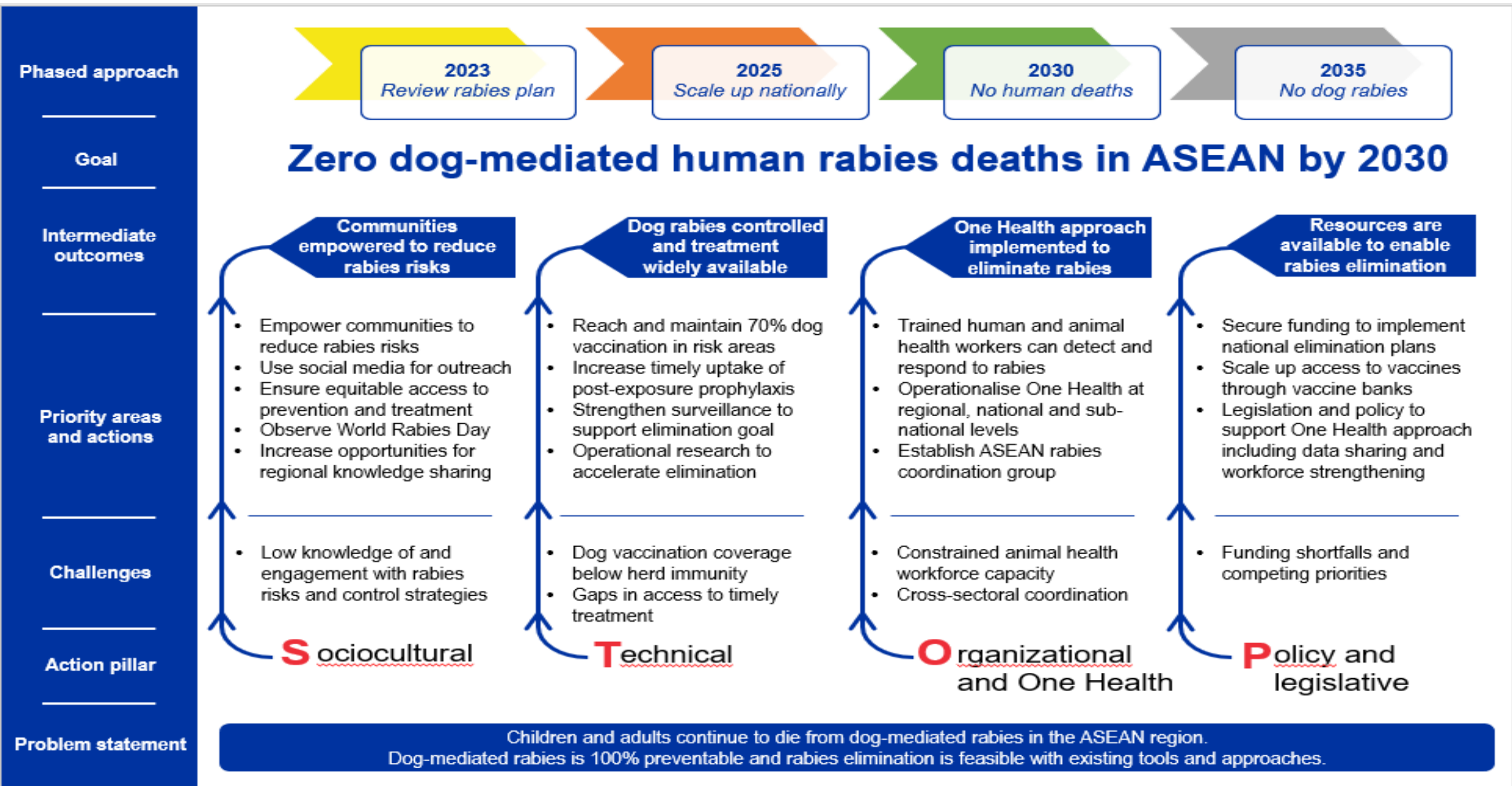
ARES at a Glance

- Goal: end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies in ASEAN by 2030 (Zero by 30)
- Retains the STOP-R framework: Sociocultural, Technical, Organizational & One Health, Policy and legislative, plus Resource mobilisation
- The regional platform translating the global Zero by 30 strategy into coordinated ASEAN action
- Operationalised through ASEAN Health Cluster 2 (AHC 2) and ASWGL/ACCAHZ

ENDORSEMENT STATUS

AHC 2 & ASWGL	Endorsed - 2023
SOMHD & SOM-AMAFF	Endorsed - 2024
Ministerial level	<i>Pending adoption</i>

Revised ARES



RABIES

ASEAN Rabies Meeting

FEBRUARY 24, 2025 - FEBRUARY 26, 2025 PATTAYA, THAILAND



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Activities number	Activities	Activity type	Implementer lead/ co-lead	Collaborator	Level	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	2032	2035	resource s	Remarks
Pillar A	SOCIO-CULTURAL FRAMEWORK FOR RABIES ELIMINATION											
Intermediate Outcomes	Communities empowered to reduce rabies risks											
Output A.1	Improved community education, awareness and empowerment											
Activity 1.1	Develop and disseminate culturally appropriate educational materials on rabies prevention.				REGIONAL							
Activity 1.2	Incorporate rabies education into school curriculums.				REGIONAL							
Activity 1.3	Use social media and influencers for awareness campaigns				REGIONAL							
Activity 1.4	Conduct local workshops and training for community leaders				National							
Activity 1.5	Establish community rabies task forces.				National							WOAH/FAO
Activity 1.6	Support community-based dog vaccination initiatives.				National							
Output A.2:	Equity and Inclusion											
Activity	Conduct needs assessments in vulnerable and marginalized populations.				REGIONAL							
Activity 1.2.2	Develop targeted interventions for underserved communities.				REGIONAL							
	Collect and report disaggregated data to identify and address disparities.				REGIONAL							
Output A.3:	Support the celebration of World Rabies Day (WRD)											
	Conduct World Rabies Day as a "call to action"				National							
	Develop and distribute regional campaign materials for World Rabies Day				REGIONAL							
	Facilitate coordination among ASEAN member states to ensure unified messaging.				REGIONAL							

Results	Succes Indicators	Baseline in 2024	Target in 2030	Means of verification
Goal: Zero dog-mediated human deaths in ASEAN region by 2030	1. Number of AMS that have achieved WHO validation of zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies (equates to UAR Roadmap score of 4)	0		Validated by WHO
	2. Number of AMS with WOA self-declaration of freedom from dog-mediated rabies, or freedom from the rabies virus	0		Validated by WOA

ARES

Implementation Plan

M&E

Reporting

Provides the operational backbone for ARES – linking regional coordination to measurable national progress.

ARES Implementation Plan & M&E Framework

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- Prioritised activities under STOP-R pillars
- Phase 1 (2025–2026): immediate regional priorities
- Phase 2 (2027–2030): scale-up and consolidation

M&E FRAMEWORK

- Developed February 2025 with AMS and QPT partners
- Theory of Change → Outcomes → Indicators
- Goal indicator: zero dog-mediated human deaths over 24 months
- Minimum data elements aligned with UAR standards

REPORTING ARCHITECTURE

- Annual national reporting; aggregated regionally through ARCG
- Country → ARCG → ASWGL / AHC 2
- ARCG as central aggregation and accountability platform
- Regional digital platform under development

Progress Exists — But Is Uneven

Group 1 Rabies-free

**Brunei Darussalam,
Singapore**

Rabies freedom maintained.
Focus: import controls,
surveillance, preparedness.

Group 2 Endemic (Advanced)

**Indonesia · Malaysia ·
Philippines · Thailand · Viet Nam**

Active elimination programmes,
risk zoning, IBCM.

Thailand ~70% vaccination
coverage.

Philippines & Viet Nam: structured
surveillance.

Group 3 Endemic

**Cambodia · Lao PDR ·
Myanmar · Timor-Leste**

Improving systems but
significant gaps in surveillance,
diagnostics, and vaccination
coverage.

The ASEAN multi-sectoral coordination body for rabies

Composition: Animal & Human Health Focal Points from each AMS, ASEC representatives, and partners.

Purpose: Coordinate implementation of ARES under AHC 2 and ACCAHZ

Functions:

- Develop annual action plans and track progress.
- Harmonize national strategies with regional framework.
- Facilitate data sharing and peer support.
- Oversee regional Epi-network and Lab network.
- Promote resource mobilization and One Health collaboration.
- Reports progress annually



First Meeting of the ARCG — 16–18 June 2026, Manila

Key Outcomes

- Cambodia confirmed as ARCG Chair; Indonesia confirmed as Vice-Chair and Quadripartite (QPT) co-lead
- Country updates presented by AMS animal health and public health focal points
- ARES Implementation Plan and regional M&E framework presented and discussed
- Priority thematic areas identified through structured country prioritisation
- Field visit conducted to observe rabies control activities in-country

FRAMING NOTE

The ARCG Terms of Reference were already endorsed by AHC 2 (2024) and SOMHD (2025). This meeting activated the Group as a functioning coordination platform — it was not the launch of a new body.

Full documentation of working-session decisions and the consolidated regional M&E baseline is still being finalised

MONITORING & EVALUATION

Status: Framework Is in Place; Baseline Consolidation Is In Progress

WHAT IS IN PLACE

- Revised regional M&E indicator set finalised (February 2025)
- 28 indicators across 5 thematic areas, aligned to STOP-R and UAR Minimum Data Elements
- Country Rabies Situational Profile template adopted for AMS reporting

WHAT IS STILL IN PROGRESS

- Country-level baseline data collection against the revised indicator set is ongoing across AMS
- Consolidated regional baseline not yet fully compiled — being resolved with rapporteurs ahead of elevation to ASWGL/AHC 2
- No regional progress figures reported at this time; the framework and mechanism, not yet the data, are the current milestone

Progress to Date & Challenges — Where We Are in June 2026

PROGRESS

- Revised ARES endorsed by ASEAN in 2024
- ARCG Terms of Reference approved; joint AHC 2–ASWGL consultations held
- Implementation Plan and M&E Framework developed
- Most AMS have draft or endorsed national strategies aligned with ARES
- Regional capacity-building on vaccination, diagnostics, and surveillance
- ORV uptake

CHALLENGES

- Fluctuating human cases; new incursions (West Timor, Timor-Leste)
- Dog vaccination coverage below 70% in most AMS; limited dog population data
- Underreporting of human rabies; weak animal surveillance
- Fragmented data systems; inconsistent definitions
- Sustained funding requires stronger advocacy — crises attract short-term attention only

ARCG Priorities 2026–2027

01

Operationalise ARCG

Confirm Chair, Vice-Chairs, work plan. Activate reporting cycle. Establish virtual mid-term check-in (Q4 2026).

02

Launch ARES IP Phase 1

Assign named leads for priority actions. First regional reporting submission by agreed deadline.

03

Epinetwork & LabNet

Year 1: capability assessment or roadmap. Define minimum standards for case definitions and lab methods.

04

Cross-border coordination

Identify priority border pairs. Pilot information-sharing mechanism in at least one subregion.

05

Advocacy & sustainability

Frame ARCG's post-2029 self-sufficiency conversation as shared regional responsibility.

Target: Zero dog-mediated human rabies deaths in ASEAN by 2030



Thank you

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