World Organisation for Animal Health

中华人民共和国农业农村部
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China

From the People of Japan

Australian Aid

Strengthening Rabies Diagnosis and Surveillance Through Communication, Coordination and Awareness

Bridging the Gap in Nepal



WOAH Regional Seminar for Focal Points of Communication for Asia and the Pacific

Colombo, Sri Lanka, 9 – 11 Nov 2026

Rabies in Nepal: an endemic priority zoonotic disease, now backed by a national reference laboratory

Endemic

Priority zoonotic disease with significant burden; Dogs are the major source

36/77

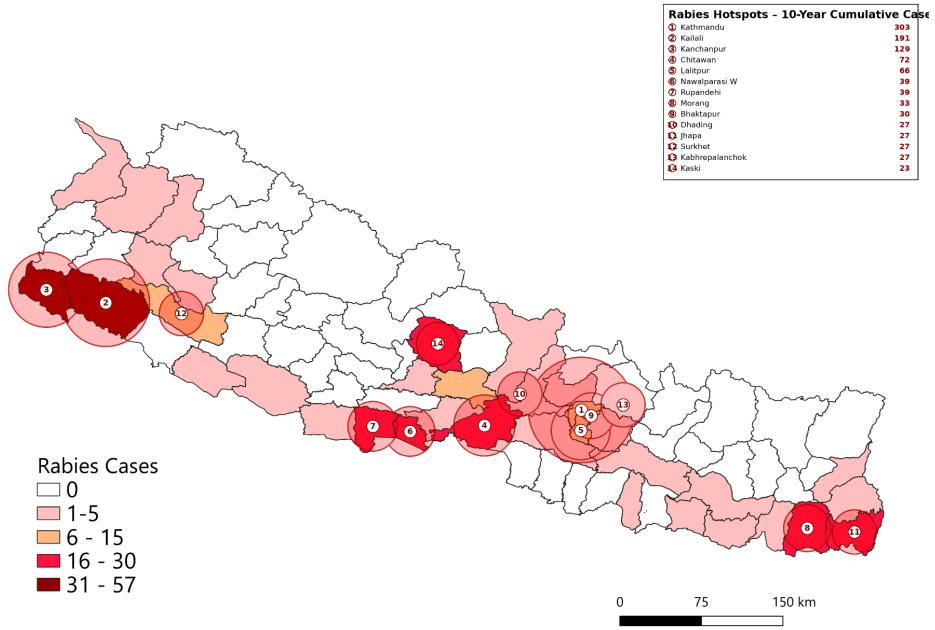
Districts with laboratory confirmed positive cases

2030

Global target: Zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies

1

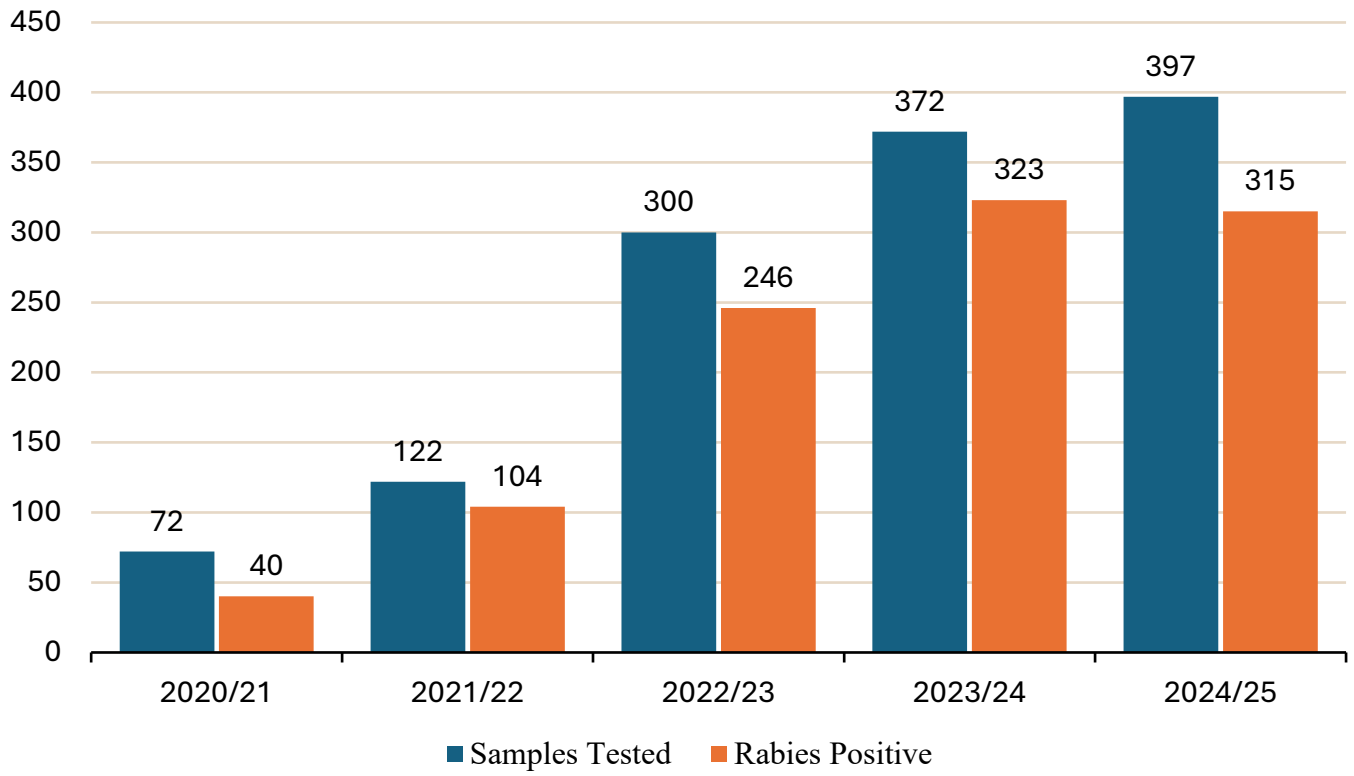
National Rabies Reference Laboratory, Dhangadhi, Sudurpashchim Province



Rabies hotspots identified and located.

Stronger diagnosis: 5.5 times more samples tested in five years

Rabies samples tested and confirmed positive, by fiscal year



72 → 397

Samples tested per year, 2020/21 to 2024/25

24/7

Diagnostic service, with FAT and PCR now added to rapid lateral flow tests

Reasons behind these results

1. **WOAH-supported Training**
   Trained in rabies diagnosis at the WOAH Reference Laboratory.

2. **Strengthened Laboratory Capacity**
   FAT and PCR facility extended to provincial laboratories. National Rabies Reference Laboratory established.

3. **Workforce Development**
   Veterinarians and paraprofessionals trained in brain sample collection (occipital foramen route).

4. **Surveillance System**
   National Animal Health Information System (NAHIS): suspected cases and laboratory results are recorded and shared, giving a clearer picture of the disease burden.





Training for technicians and veterinarians

Communication, coordination and awareness made the stronger diagnosis possible

1 Communication

- 24/7 laboratory service and clear referral route for suspected cases
- Laboratory work shared through prints, radio and TV
- Nepali-language awareness leaflets, pamphlets, booklets and audio-video jingles.

2 Coordination

- One Health approach
- Federal, provincial and local links; WhatsApp groups
- Dhangadhi Declaration for Rabies Control
- Vaccine banks

3 Awareness

- School program reached about 40,000 students in four years
- Integrated Bite Case management; early PEP
- Community awareness program; Rabies week campaigns

Result: More suspected cases reached the laboratory. IBCM channel gets activated.

Awareness and coordination in action



School Rabies Education Program



Community Dog Vaccination



Provincial Vaccine Bank



Community Awareness Program


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स्यालले टोक्दा रेबिज लागेर चौपाया म

गोरखापत्र ताजा, प्रदेश, सुदूरपश्चिम, खुला, banner-tmp

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गोरखापत्र अनलाइन

१९ वैशाख २०८०, सोमबार

फन्ट परिवर्तन गर्नुहोस:

Laboratory Work in the News

Every contact, from classroom to ministry, brought more people and more samples to the laboratory.

Thank you, WOAH

Thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to continued partnership toward zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030.

