

A young boy in a striped shirt and shorts is herding sheep in a rural setting. The scene is captured from behind the boy, showing him holding a stick and looking towards a group of sheep. The background features a simple wooden fence and trees under a bright sky.

**Rachel Tidman**

Global Rabies Coordinator

## Development of a national strategic plan to eliminate dog-mediated rabies: A generic template

Virtual regional training workshop on the OIE procedures for the endorsement of official  
control programmes with regard to  
peste des petits ruminants (PPR) and dog-mediated rabies in Africa  
4-6 May 2022



Organisation  
Mondiale  
de la Santé  
Animale

World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

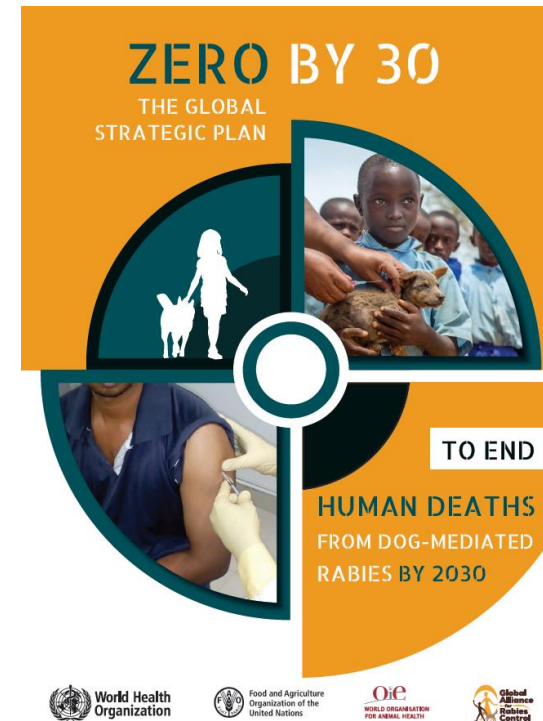
Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal

# Overview

1. United Against Rabies Forum
2. Working Group activities
3. NSP Template requirements
4. Data and information sources
5. Structure
6. Design
7. User instructions
8. Example tables
9. Aligning with other UAR Forum tools
10. Where do I find the template?
11. Acknowledgements

# United Against Rabies Forum

- An inclusive network of stakeholders from a range of sectors
- Common vision for rabies elimination
- Supports the implementation of 'Zero by 30'
- Steering Group and three action-focused Working Groups



# Working Groups

- Working Group 1: Effective use of vaccines, tools and technologies
- Working Group 2: Strategic and operational support
  - **Development of a National Strategic Plan template**
- Working Group 3: Advocacy and resource mobilisation



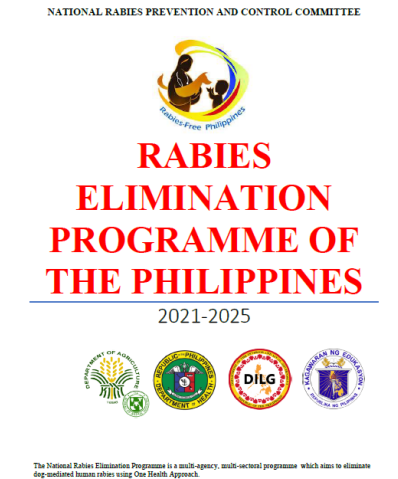
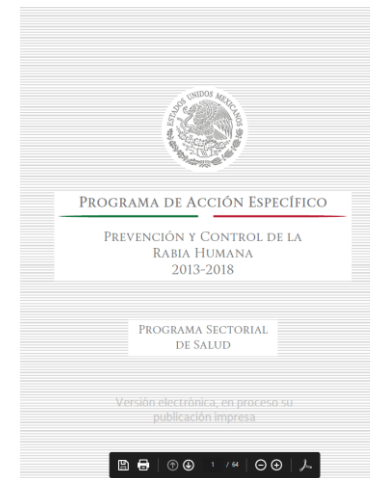
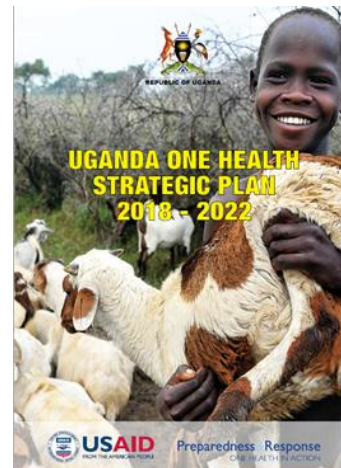
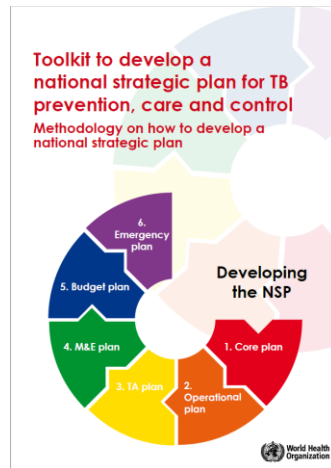
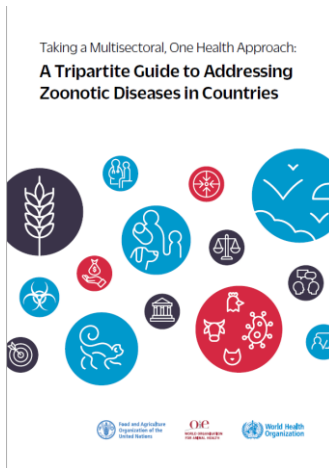
# NSP Template requirements

- Guide to develop country-tailored NSP
- Follow international guidelines and standards
- Emphasize a multisectoral One Health approach
- Address essential key components a NSP should encompass
- Consider different starting situations of country in terms of rabies control
  - For 'beginners': minimum basic structure
  - For more advanced countries: leave extension options
- Link with other tools/UAR Forum products



# Data and information sources

- OIE policy brief for a national rabies elimination strategic plan
- OIE questionnaire for endorsement of an official dog rabies control programme
- Country-specific national rabies prevention and control plans
- Other toolkits and guides (One Health Strategic Plans, Tripartite Guide to Addressing Zoonotic Diseases)



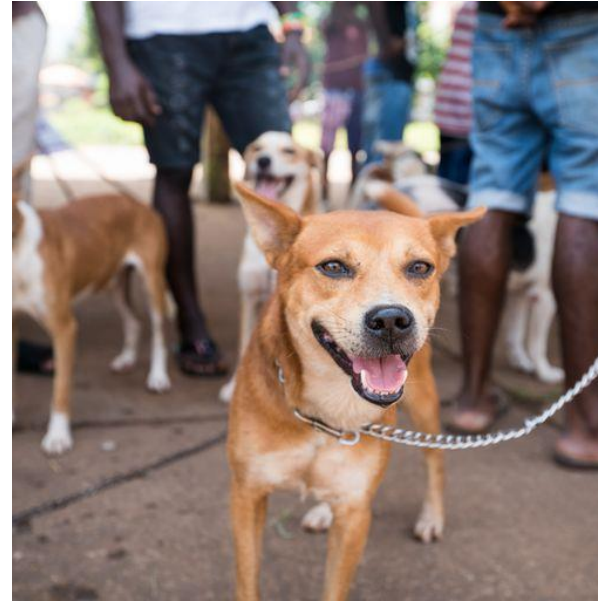
# Structure

## Core document

- Acknowledgements
- Table of contents
- List of tables
- List of acronyms
- Foreword
- Executive summary
- Introduction
- Rationale for rabies prevention and control
- Overall goal
- Objectives
- Program implementation strategy

## Addendums

- Budget plan
- Action plan
- Or combination of both



## A generic template for developing a national strategic plan to eliminate dog-mediated rabies



The World Health Organization (WHO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARCC) have formed a new partnership known as United Against Rabies (UAR) to support countries in the elimination of dog-mediated rabies. This collaboration published a Global strategic plan to end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030 in 2018.

## Foreword

Over the past decades more and more solid evidence has mounted that by taking a One Health approach that is multisectoral and multidisciplinary human rabies death from dog-mediated rabies can be eliminated by fighting the disease at the animal source. A One Health approach secured by high level political commitment, is required to effectively prepare for, detect, assess, report and respond to rabies. Strategic planning is a fundamental principle for efficient rabies prevention and control both in humans and dogs in a country, over a given period of time.

However, International Health Regulations (IHR) and Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) assessment continue to identify major gaps in capacity to implement a true multisectoral and multidisciplinary approach. Particularly, it seems that despite a flood of information for many countries getting started to build binding national mechanisms for coordination, communication, and collaboration to address rabies related health threats at the human-animal interface is the greatest challenge.

A first step to overcome this issue is to create a national strategic plan (NSP) for the control and elimination of dog-mediated rabies and is a key instrument and therefore a condition sine qua non for strategic planning of intervention measures. This is a response of the United Against Rabies (UAR) Forum to countries requests. This generic template will help and guide countries to develop their own country tailored NSP.

## The global strategic vision at a glance

## Preparatory procedure

A transparent approach at all levels gives credibility to the NSP and increases the chances of wide acceptance and political endorsement by government and partners alike. Therefore, it is important to identify all relevant stakeholders and involve them in the planning and decision-making process.

The design of a rabies specific NSP should follow international (WHO, OIE) guidelines and standards on disease control, rabies diagnosis, vaccination, and animal welfare. Its implementation should also be guided by established facts and the wealth of experience gathered by countries working successfully on preventing and controlling both rabies in humans and dogs. Compiling evidence that a rabies specific NSP complies with the requirements of international standards will facilitate communication with governments and policy makers, create societal responsibility and demand governmental support to progressively prevent and control the disease at a country level.

In accordance with the with [Global strategic plan to end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030](#), the template addresses the essential key components a Rabies NSP should encompass by considering different country baselines and starting points. The design follows in parts modules of the OIE questionnaire developed to provide countries with guidelines on how to prepare an application if they seek official OIE endorsement of their dog rabies elimination programme at a later stage, which in turn will offer further numerous benefits in terms of dog rabies control for a country.

An NSP should consider the following components:

- Core plan (rabies burden and situation, overall goal, objectives and common strategic plan)
- Action plan
- Monitoring and evaluation plan
- Budget

This generic template provides a basic structure for an NSP as well as clear user instructions how different sections of the template can be filled with country specific data and may be expanded whenever necessary. Please, keep in mind that the main document can and should be brief and concise if societal attention is demanded and political commitment sought.



Organisation  
Mondiale  
de la Santé  
Animale

World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal



## A national strategic plan to eliminate dog-mediated rabies in 'country X'

*The title page is the work's first page and an important part of the National Strategic Plan. It can be considered an advertisement for the competence of the governmental authorities. It shows the title of the document, the main governmental bodies responsible for its political and intellectual content, and the imprint containing the name and address of the publisher and the date of publication.*

*It has primarily the function to promote the specific message of the document. Although it is not a priority per se the design of a cover page can underpin the great professionalism of all bodies and parties involved and proclaim the political commitment towards elimination of dog-mediated rabies in your country at a glance.*

*To help conveying this message and attract attention to the reader consider to have*

- *the national emblem*
- *a catchy photograph and*
- *the logos of the leading bodies on the outside.*

*The following text could be used as an example:*

*"Dog-transmitted rabies is a zoonotic disease that causes the completely preventable death of an estimated 59,000 people every year. Rabies also kills livestock and affect livelihoods as the fear of rabies keeps farmers from tending their fields and traders from going to markets...."*

*The vast majority of human rabies deaths are attributed to bites from rabid dogs, with children and vulnerable, rural communities being disproportionately affected. Rabies deaths can be prevented by increasing awareness, vaccinating dogs to prevent the disease at its source and administrating life-saving treatment after people have been bitten. The tools and mechanisms required for preventing deaths from rabies are already available and for a relatively low cost it is possible to break the disease cycle, avoid economic losses and save lives....."*

*In line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the leadership of the Tripartite (WHO, FAO, OIE) has developed a Global Strategic Plan and has announce the formation of a new United Against Rabies Forum to provide an enabling environment for worldwide elimination of human dog-mediated rabies by 2030"*

*This "National Strategic Plan for Elimination of Dog-Mediated Human Rabies in Country X " provides an indicator-based indicator activities and was developed in line with a "Global Strategic Plan to eliminate dog-mediated human rabies deaths by 2030".*

# Example tables

Stakeholder	Objective	Category	Budget for year I	Budget for year II	Budget for year III	Budget for year IV	Budget for year V
Ministry of Agriculture	Objective 1....	Resources					
		Capacity Building					
		Workforce					
	Objective 2....	Resources					
		Capacity Building					
		Workforce					
	Objective 3....	Resources					
		Capacity Building					
		Workforce					
<b>subtotal</b>							

Achievements	Gaps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing societal awareness</li> <li>• Necessary stakeholders identified</li> <li>• Growing political commitment that has translated into increasing funding from the government</li> <li>• Availability of appropriate laboratory capacities</li> <li>• Adequate rabies surveillance and reporting established</li> <li>• Periodic analysis of epidemiological data and multisectoral information exchange in place</li> <li>• SARE assessment successfully conducted</li> <li>• Knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) surveys conducted</li> <li>• Regular rabies awareness and education campaigns implemented</li> <li>• Mass dog vaccination campaigns in pilot areas or in regions implemented</li> <li>• IBCM in place</li> <li>• .....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inadequate regional rabies surveillance</li> <li>• Shortage of rabies biologicals to prevent rabies in humans (RIG, vaccines)</li> <li>• Lacking supervision and inadequate monitoring and evaluation of rabies program activities</li> <li>• Absent coordination between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>• Insufficient involvement of other competent authorities and stakeholders</li> <li>• Lack of awareness among people in various regions of the country</li> <li>• Lack of national KAP studies</li> <li>• Inadequate mass dog vaccination campaigns</li> <li>• IBCM not yet implemented</li> <li>• Insufficient laboratory equipment</li> <li>• Need for continued training of lab staff</li> <li>• .....</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The health sector reform is likely to create appropriate conditions to establish sound linkages with the health sectors operating outside the NRP</li> <li>• Official role of the MoH and MoA in establishing norms and standards for rabies prevention and control services</li> <li>• Development of a national surveillance system that covers all the health sectors and includes rabies</li> <li>• Integration of Rabies into a national One Health Strategy Plan</li> <li>• Increased general visibility that may transform into increased national/international support</li> <li>• Easier access to the GAVI and OIE vaccine banks</li> <li>• ....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decentralized management of public services, including health services, that may result in poor management capacities in rabies prevention</li> <li>• Suboptimal infrastructure that may limit access to health services</li> <li>• Limited staff resources</li> <li>• Unstable power supply for laboratories</li> <li>• Vast spread out areas /regions that hamper implementation</li> <li>• Unforeseeable budgetary constraints</li> <li>• .....</li> </ul>



Organisation  
Mondiale  
de la Santé  
Animale

World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal

# Example tables

Objective	Strategic intervention	Planned activities	Responsible authority	Timeline	Expected outcome	Indicator/target
Objective 1: to effectively use vaccines, medicines, tools and technologies	Advocacy and communication to increase awareness	Develop/provide educational material	MoA/MoH	Y 1	Rabies educational material designed	Rabies educational material to all schools and communities delivered
		Enhance rabies awareness among children	MoE	Y 1-3	Annual awareness campaigns in schools	80% of schools have been targeted by y 3
		Implement rabies education in the school curriculum	MoE	Y 3-5	Rabies specific program curriculum for elementary and secondary schools developed	Rabies specific program implemented in 80% of schools
		Gain international visibility	MoA MoH, MoE	Y 1-5	Participation in World Rabies Day	Annual organization of 2-3 community-driven WRD events
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	Prevention of rabies in human	Update national guidelines for PEP	MoH	Y 1	PEP guidelines follow WHO recommendations	PEP guidelines have been approved and are implemented
		Long-term procurement of immunoglobulins and rabies vaccines	MoH	Y 1-2	sufficient supply of rabies biologicals	stock-outs in health facilities prevented by ...%
		Ensure increased access to PEP	MoH	Y 1-5	permanent supply and storage	Annual report on delivery of rabies biologicals
		Improve optimal use of rabies vaccines	MoH	Y 1-5	Introduction ID regimen for PEP	...% of physicians and health care workers have been trained in ID application



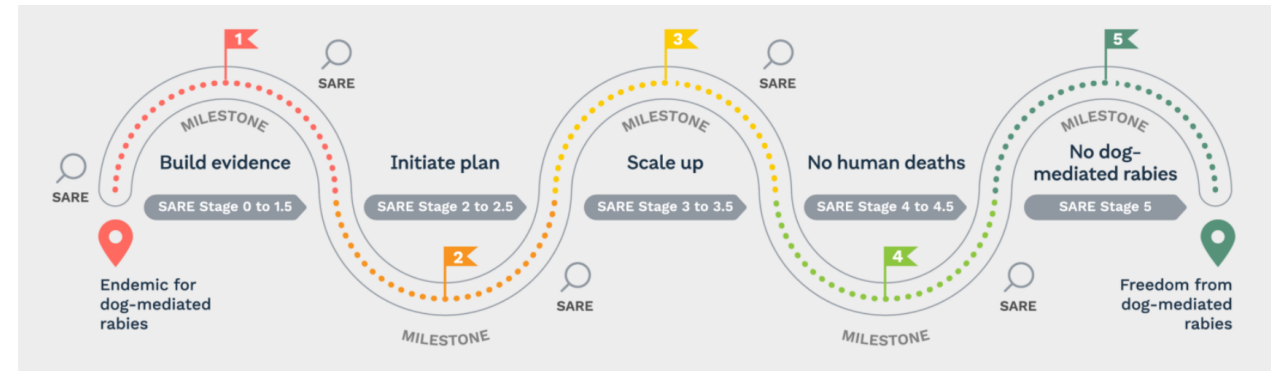
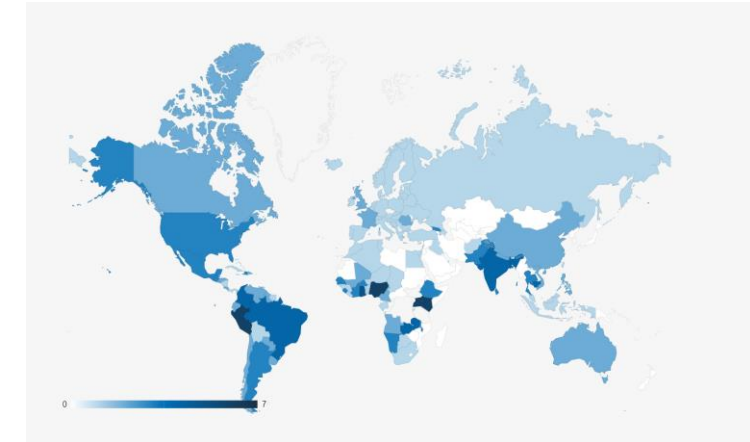
# Aligning with other United Against Rabies Forum tools

- **Minimum Data Elements**
  - Provides guidance for the collection of key programmatic data and submission to international agencies
- **Tool Evaluation**
  - Provides a repository of tools, and helps countries select tools to use in national control programmes
- **Partnership Map**
  - Maps partners that are working in countries, that can assist in progressing national control programmes
- **Roadmap**
  - Monitor's progress of countries towards rabies elimination and recommends tools that can help implement work plan

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

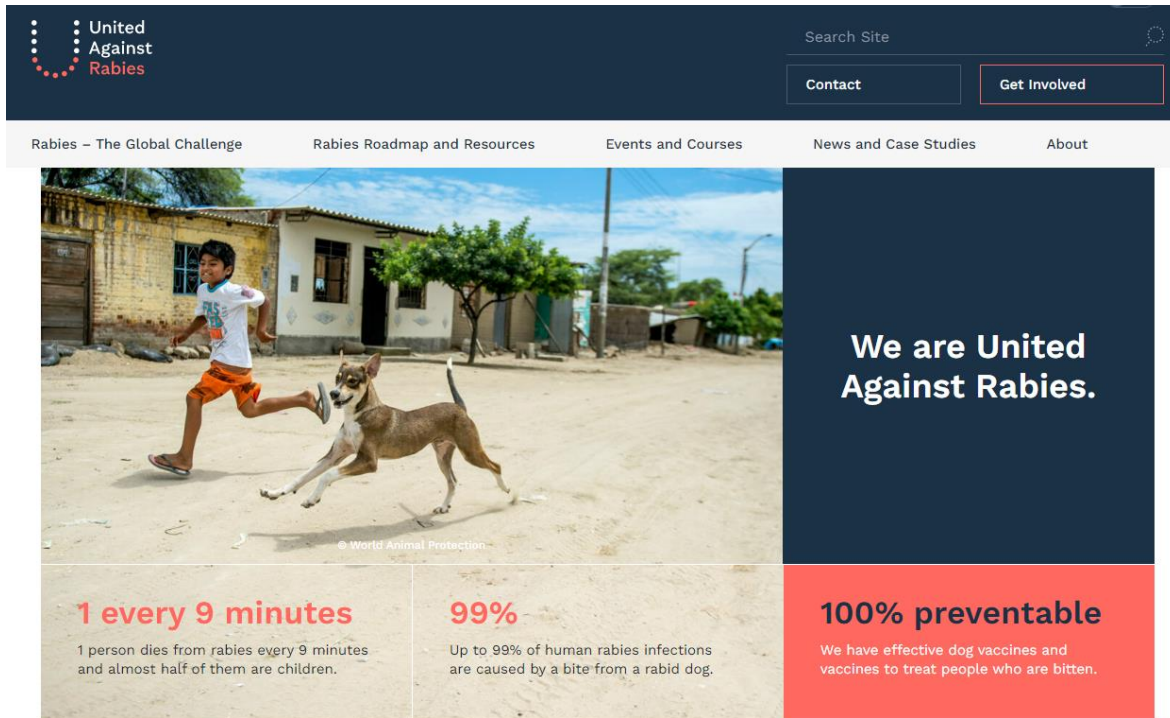
Developed by United Against Rabies, Working Group 1

Katie Hampson, United Kingdom  
Fred Lohr, United Kingdom  
Thumbi Mwangi, Kenya  
Umme Ruman Siddiqi, Bangladesh  
Naseem Salahuddin, Pakistan  
Terence Scott, Luxembourg  
Eduardo Undurraga, Chile  
Ryan Wallace, United States



# Where can I find the template?

Launching in the coming weeks - [www.unitedagainstrabies.org](http://www.unitedagainstrabies.org)



United Against Rabies

Search Site

Contact Get Involved

Rabies – The Global Challenge Rabies Roadmap and Resources Events and Courses News and Case Studies About

**We are United Against Rabies.**

© World Animal Protection

**1 every 9 minutes**  
1 person dies from rabies every 9 minutes and almost half of them are children.

**99%**  
Up to 99% of human rabies infections are caused by a bite from a rabid dog.

**100% preventable**  
We have effective dog vaccines and vaccines to treat people who are bitten.

[< UAR Best Practice](#)

Template for National Strategic Plan to Control Rabies

Produced by: United Against Rabies

Activities	Resource Language	Who is it for?	Downloads
Strategy	English, French	Countries wanting to develop rabies prevention	<a href="#">English template</a> <a href="#">French template</a>

## Description

UAR's Working Group 2 has produced a template to assist countries to prepare a national rabies control plan.

The template is free to use and will help to ensure country plans are aligned with Zero by 30 (the Global Strategic Plan) as well as requirements for OIE endorsement.

For more information about how to design an effective national strategic plan, please see the Rabies Roadmap, or contact us for more information.

Or contact [globalrabiescoordinator@oie.int](mailto:globalrabiescoordinator@oie.int)

# Thank you for your attention!

## Acknowledgements

- All members of the United Against Rabies Forum
- Working Group 2 National Strategic Plan workstream:
  - Thomas Müller, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut
  - Conrad Freuling, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut
  - Andre Coetzer, Global Alliance for Rabies Control
  - Johann Kotze, MSD Animal Health
  - Natia Kartskhia, National Food Agency Georgia
  - Tenzin Tenzin, OIE

Contact: [r.tidman@oie.int](mailto:r.tidman@oie.int) or [globalrabiescoordinator@oie.int](mailto:globalrabiescoordinator@oie.int)



Questions?