

A close-up photograph of a brown and black dog looking through a chain-link fence. The dog's head is in the foreground, and its eyes are focused on the right. In the background, a man is visible behind the fence, and a sign on a building reads "TALK OF TOWN".

THE LANDSCAPE OF POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR RABIES ELIMINATION IN AFRICA BY 2030

Preliminary Overview



Study Objectives

Overall Objective

To support development of a CONTINENTAL DOG-MEDIATED RABIES ELIMINATION STRATEGY

Specific objectives was to:

- 1) Review literature on the rabies landscape in Africa,
 - 2) Understand the policy and institutional preparedness for the *end rabies by 2030* campaign
 - 3) Establish country-specific profiles of policies, institutions, and preparedness on rabies elimination towards supporting national rabies elimination strategies and programs (add-on).
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Presentation Outline

- Overview of Literature Review and researchers' observations
- Baseline Survey Findings

Notes

- CVO data prioritized; partner information supported findings.
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Study Outputs

1. Landscaping of policies and institutional arrangements for rabies elimination in Africa by 2030
 2. Abridged version of Landscaping of policies and institutional arrangements for rabies elimination in Africa by 2030
 3. Baseline survey on the preparedness of African countries to eliminate rabies by 2030
 4. Country profiles on their rabies preparedness (43)
 5. Included in reports are PESTEL (with literature review) and SWOT (with baseline survey)
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Methodology

- Literature Review
 - KAP survey on Kobo collect from December 2021 and April 2022
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Observations from literature

- Reviewed 200 documents
 - Literature academic, biased for monitoring, surveillance, virus typing.
 - Not enough quantitative data to help plan a rabies program
 - Literature Gap
 - Insufficient economic, planning and institutional data for one-health project formulation (processes, workplans etc.).
 - Very little literature to guide policy formulation
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Challenges Facing Rabies Elimination At Continental & National Levels

- **National Rabies Elimination Strategies** in 9 others underway but not much information on progress, implementation, challenges & lessons Learnt.
 - **Funding:** Inadequate funding at continental & National Levels, investments are small and fragmented.
 - **Vaccination Coverage:** Ranges from 5% - 65%, averages 18% far below recommended 70%. Inadequate vaccine supply, budgets and focused/intentional planning
 - WOAHA has vaccine bank, 2 million supplied to 8 countries in Africa
 - South Africa Manufacture vaccines
 - **Geo Referenced Dog Census:** Many Countries do not have reference data on dog densities and ecology at national or sub national level.
 - **Coordination:** A few regional and intersectoral networks e.g PARACON
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Challenges Facing Rabies Elimination At Continental & National Levels

- **Monitoring & Surveillance:** Is limited both within and between countries, inadequate results and under-reporting both animal & human cases
 - Surveillance data does not provide data on vaccination coverage.
 - **Training:** Inadequate personnel trained, lack technical skills in handling dog bite cases
 - Available training models across various partners, some not certified, not located at singular repository link.
 - Low ICT and internet connectivity make online trainings inaccessible.
 - **Dog Population Management:** Strategies or programmes lacking in most African countries relying on dog culls.
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- **Surveillance & Monitoring Tools:** Most countries only use passive surveillance.
 - Lack tools equipment and Lab reagents
 - Poor rabies surveillance in livestock
 - Surveillance tool available Seven (7) not coordinated used as per countries desire.
 - **Research:** Lack epidemiological studies on incidence & spread of Rabies in Africa, therefore lack data to support NRE strategies.
 - **Impact on Animal Sector:** Economic losses in livestock sector approx. \$280 Million, GDP loss \$770 Million
 - Over 150,000 human death attributed to rabies, 80% in rural areas, 40 % children mainly boys.
 - Human vaccines imported and expensive, and inaccessible.
 - **Impact on Wildlife & Conservation:** Deaths of Wild canids and felines (combination rabies and Distemper)
 - Poor surveillance of rabies OB in wildlife & Livestock, dog populations around wild areas.
 - **Impact on Tourism:** Loss revenue due to Rabies OB and DPM issues in tourist areas
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SARE TOOL, POLICIES & INSTITUTIONS

- **SARE Tool:** Adapted by 26 nations, is effective tool in self assessment and evaluation, strengthens One Health Approach.
 - Insufficient knowledge amongst wider personnel how to use it
 - Lack of evaluation reports from adapting member states
 - **Policies:** Limited continental & regional policies to eliminate rabies
 - Lack specific regulations to support OH partners in coordination & Implementation
 - Many countries lack validation of NRS
 - **Institutions:** 4 Global, 5 Regional, Universities, Governments (little funding), over 20 NGO's
 - Limitation is all working in Silos and no joint coordination.
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*Thank
you*