



**2nd Meeting of the Eastern Africa
Sub-Regional Network for Rabies Control**

10 – 12 October 2023 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Title: Surveillance and reporting of rabies data

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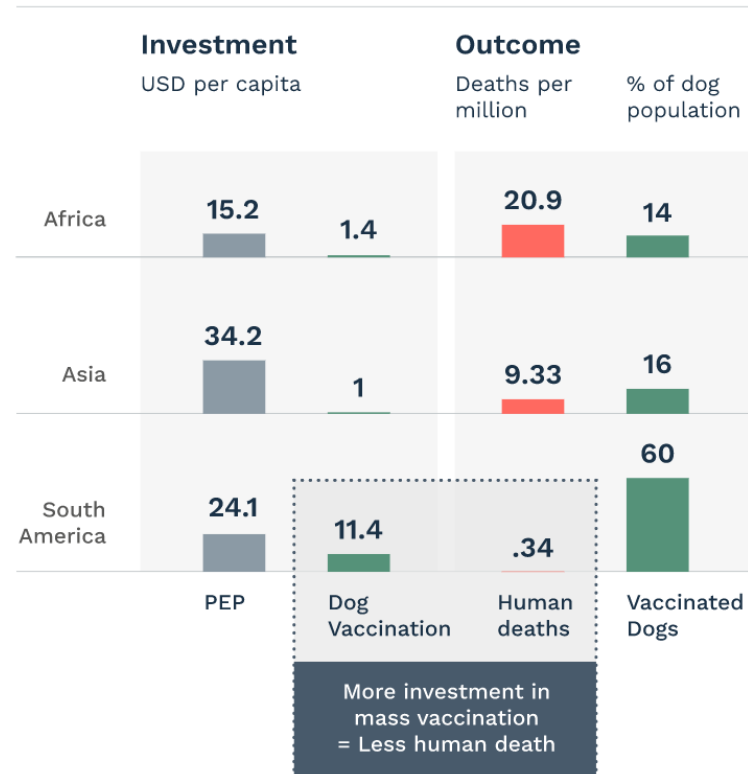
Surveillance and reporting of rabies data

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Rabies control: A model for One Health implementation

Current spending on rabies underinvests in dog vaccination



- Proven success with One Health approach
- Cost of dog vaccination more cost-effective than human PEP; dog vaccination → **saved human lives**
- Reduced livestock and working animal losses → **saved livelihoods, improved food security**
- Reduced wildlife spill-overs → **healthier ecosystems**
- Responsible dog ownership and humane dog population management → **healthier cities, improved animal welfare**
- Contributes to the SDGs and ending neglect and inequality
- Strengthens links between human and veterinary health systems → building **systems** that can **address other endemic and emerging diseases**

Why isn't rabies more of a priority?

- 'Public health authorities issue alert as cases of rabies increase'
- '...first rabies death, overseas traveller dies..'
- 'Fear of mass rabies outbreak...'
- '... surging risk of dogs arriving with rabies...attempt to prevent reintroducing canine variant...'
- '...struggles to arrest rabies outbreak'
- **99% fatal, 100% preventable**
- **Estimated 59 000 deaths each year**

BUT →

Reported number of human rabies deaths ¹							
2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
0	0	0	0	No data	No data	No data	No data
18	24	12	7	No data	No data	No data	No data
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
No data	No data	No data	No data	0	0	No data	No data
No data	No data	0	0	0	0	0	0
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	0	0	0
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	0	0	0
No data	0	0	0	0	1	2	No data

How can rabies data help prioritise rabies?

- Poor rabies data → poor political will and investment
- Reliable data is needed to inform decision making and make a case for investment
- **Need to improve rabies surveillance and reporting to:**
 - **Highlight the true burden of rabies → support advocacy and awareness**
 - Measure progress and demonstrate success
 - Empower decision makers and inform resource needs and allocation

What data should I collect?

- Not just collecting and reporting data for the sake of it – data collected by the country should help inform the national programme and monitor progress
- Explore available standards and guidance
 - Terrestrial Code Chapter 8.15
 - Suspected case definition: susceptible animal that shows any change in behaviour followed by death within ten days or that displays any of the following clinical signs: hypersalivation, paralysis, lethargy, abnormal aggression, abnormal vocalisation
 - Recommendations for what should be included in surveillance system
 - Minimum Data Elements
 - Key case definitions and essential data elements for tracking progress toward Zero by 30
 - Example tables, indicators
 - Available at www.unitedagainstrabies.org



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

Version 4, September 2023




United
Against
Rabies

What data should I collect?

- Animal Rabies Cases
 - Dogs
 - Livestock
 - Bats
 - Other species
 - Rabies virus variant
- Dog Population Management
 - Vaccination
 - Vaccination Method
 - Sterilization



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

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How do I collect this data?

Rabies – The Global Challenge

Rabies Roadmap and Resources

Events and Courses



The Rabies Roadmap

Resources

© 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.



Toolbox

From vaccination to education, we present a comprehensive online toolbox of guides, apps and other resources to help you plan, prioritise and implement your rabies control programmes.

[Find out more](#)



Reference Laboratory network for rabies



UAR Evaluation Matrix



Accessibility 9

Focuses on i) logistics for accessing and using the tool, ii) the platforms on which the tool runs (if applicable), iii) relevant costs, and iv) the level of user support that is provided by the developer/manufacturer.

Data collection and needs 8.3

Focuses on the type of data that is captured by the tool.

Data management and utility 8.9

Focuses on the data analysis and outputs provided by the tool

Data storage and protection 8

Focuses on data ownership, protection and storage.

Flexibility 8

Focuses on the interoperability of the tool and its adaptability for use in different contexts or scenarios.

Ease of use and training needs 8.7

Focuses on the training requirements, including the level of complexity and difficulty to navigate and understand the tool as well as the technical or operational skillsets that are required to use the tool.

Sustainability 10

Focuses on the different scenarios that indicate how sustainable the tool has been and whether it has been thoroughly field-tested for implementation.

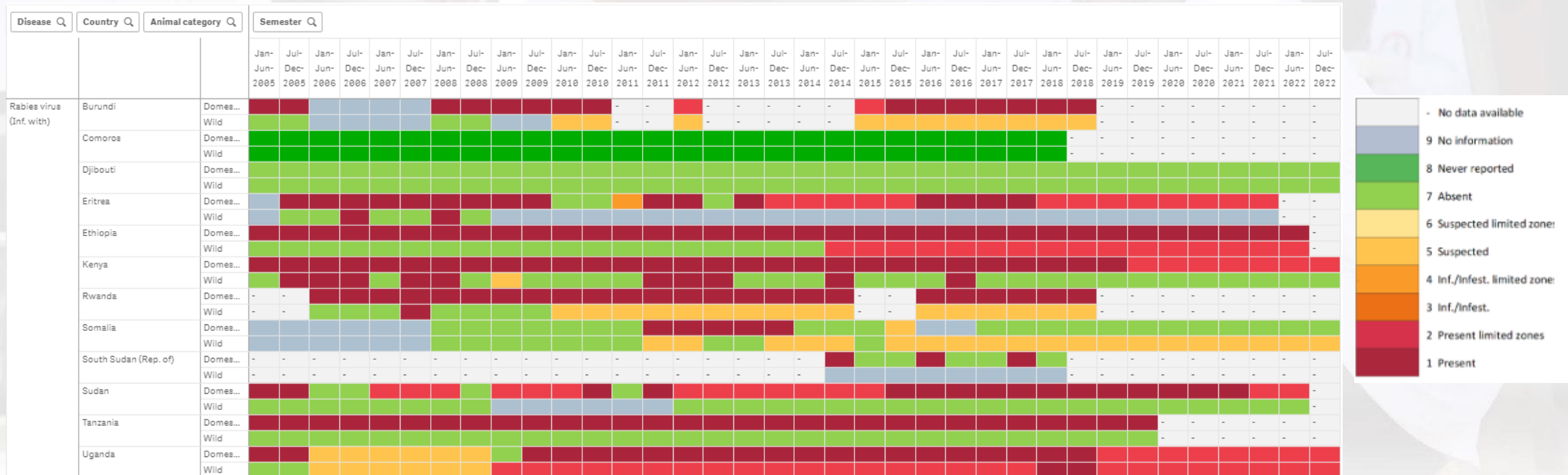
Evaluations are performed using the 'UAR Evaluation Matrix', a rabies-specific tool evaluation instrument adapted from the FAO-WOAH-WHO Tripartite Surveillance and Information Sharing Operational Tool evaluation process and instrument.

What do I do with this data?

Data sharing is critical

- Competent authorities (especially between human and animal health sectors)
- Can facilitate by having a **national point of contact for rabies**
- Field → National → International
- Health authorities → WHO Global Health Observatory
- Veterinary Services → WOAH World Animal Health Information System
- **Note: There are some excellent tools available to help data collection and reporting – this data should still be reported internationally**

World Animal Health Information System



How do we submit data to WAHIS?



What do we submit?

- Early warning system for immediate management of alert notices
 - ‘Event’ means single outbreak or group of epidemiologically related outbreaks of given listed disease – for rabies this is the occurrence of one or more cases in an epidemiological unit
- **Monitoring system**
 - Six-monthly reports (Members can choose to enter data in WAHIS every month during six-month period)

How do we submit?

- WAHIS provides a platform for collection, submission and access of all data provided by countries
- Notification by focal points, under responsibility of the Delegate

Key points

- Reliable data is **critical** to prioritise rabies and demonstrate progress
- Data should be **useful and inform** national programme
- Data needs to be **shared** across sectors, and **reported** to Competent Authorities and mandated intergovernmental organisations (WHO and WOAH)
- There are experts, tools and technical resources available to support data collection and reporting

Thank you!

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