



ግብርና ሚኒስቴር
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Experience of Stepwise Approach Towards Rabies Elimination (SARE) Progress Evaluation Result Of Ethiopia.

Presentation At The Second Meeting Of The Eastern Africa Sub-regional Network For Rabies Control

Dr. Wondu Mengesha (DVM, MVPH)

October 10, 2023, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



ግብርና ሚኒስቴር
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Outline of presentation

- Background
- Achievements of rabies prevention and control in Ethiopia
- Stepwise Approach to Rabies Elimination (SARE)

INTRODUCTION

- Rabies is one of the most terrifying, deadly, and neglected viral diseases of humans and animals.
- Fatality rate of 100% once symptoms appear, but 100% vaccine-preventable
- It affects the world's most vulnerable populations
 - kill > 60,000 people every year
 - 1 every 9 min.
 - > 40% of deaths are children
 - 80% of death is in rural areas
 - cost > 8.6 billion USD per year
 - > 29 million people receive a post-bite vaccination per yr.
 - > 512 million USD loss from livestock death every year

Cont'd

- ✓ In Ethiopia Rabies has been known since the record of **the first case in Addis Ababa**, in August 1903 (**Pankrust,1990**)
- ✓ Since then, become endemic all over the country
- ✓ Currently,
 - kills > **2,700** humans annually
 - **economic loss due to rabies in cattle alone was**
 - **estimated to be >210 million USD** per year
 - 99% of cases are due to rabies-suspected dog bite
 - Children are more affected

Cont'd



- ✓ In response to these problems, the world needs immediate solutions
 - called for action on the disease
 - the subsequent elimination of dog-mediated human rabies
- ✓ **In 2015**, the WHO, OIE/WOAH, FAO and GARC :
 - Launched **global strategy** as United Against Rabies (UAR)
- ✓ **In 2018**, the organizations
 - agreed on prioritizing rabies under the OH approach and set a goal of **“Zero by 30”**.
 - to collaborate towards eliminating DMHR from the globe by 2030
 - to empower and enable countries to lead elimination efforts
 - developed SARE tool
 - to assess and measure the progress of Prevention & Control activities

Achievements of rabies prevention and control in Ethiopia

Following the global call to combat the disease,

- Ethiopia has responded and joined the global community by implementing several interventions
- So far, we have achieved a lot of activities

1. The establishment of National Prevention, Control, and Elimination technical working group

- In 2016, after SARE-based self-assessment and gaps identification,
 - ✓ the country approved that ‘in its early stage (stage 0.5/5)
 - ✓ which requires rapid progress toward the control & and prevention of rabies

Cont'd...

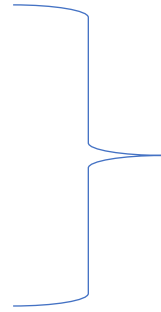
➤ NRTWG was developed under the leadership of NOHSC from :-

✓ Key federal ministries

✓ Regional bureaus

✓ Universities and PPs

✓ Development partners

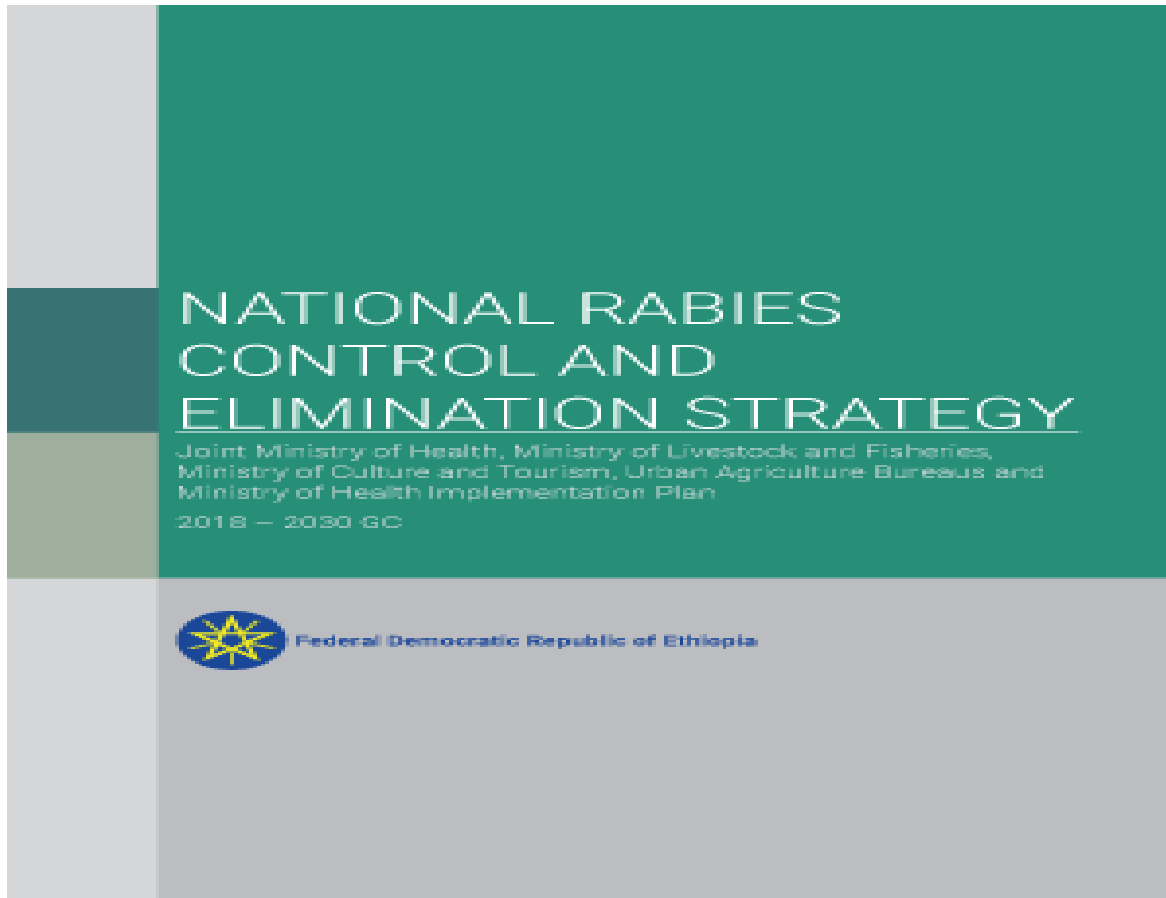


• to coordinate, lead, and follow the control and prevention interventions under the One Health approach

2. The development of the National Rabies Control, Prevention, and Elimination strategic document

- Using the one health approach (NOHSC with support of partners, NRCPE strategy was initiated.
- the NRTWG conducted several review workshops
- developed and endorsed the strategic document
 - to be implemented from **2018 to 2030**.
 - with the goal of eliminating dog-mediated human rabies deaths by 2030

strategic document and its phases



Phases	Implementation	
	time	activities
1	2018-2020	planning & preparation
2	2021-2023	in pre-selected areas
3	2024-2027	outside pre-selected areas
4	2028-2029	addressing remnant's
5	2030	maintain freedom

3. Prioritization of rabies

- As rabies is an **endemic Zoonotic Disease** in Ethiopia, it is prioritized under the **top 5 Zoonotic Diseases**
- Based on US CDC tools, two Zoonotic Diseases prioritization workshops were conducted in Ethiopia
- The first was in **2015** and the **reprioritization** was in **2019**
- In both prioritization events, **rabies** was ranked **first** from the **top 5**.

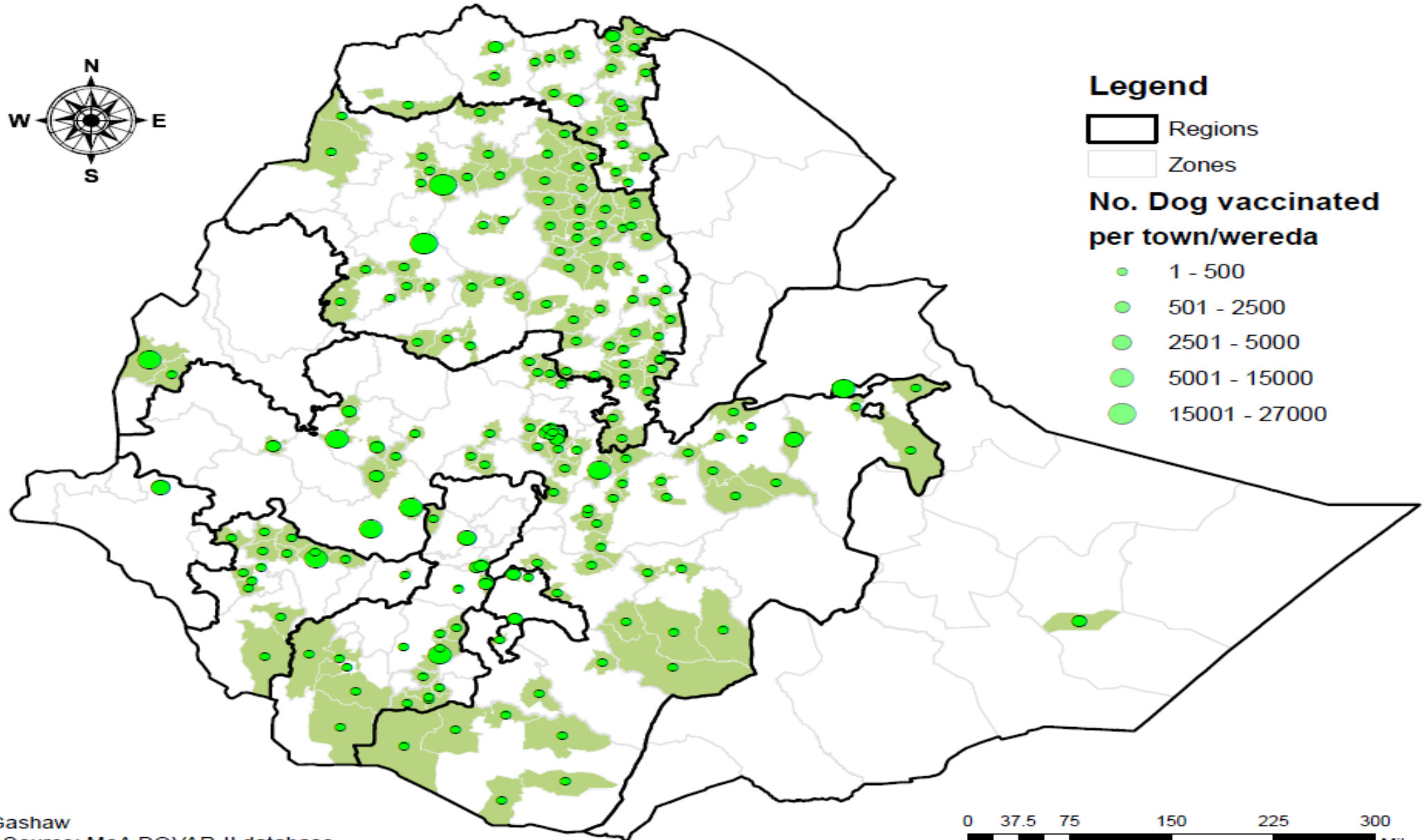
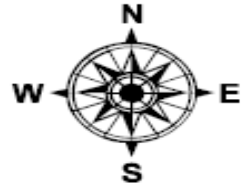


4. Implementation of the strategy

- Starting from 2021, in collaboration with Partners,
- ✓ Ethiopia has launched the **‘zero by 30’ program**
- Federal and Regional key sector officials
- Partners, Universities, NGOs, PPs
- Local communities were engaged in the implem’t
- ✓ **MDV** campaigns is conducted in **pilot areas**
- ✓ Accordingly, the **MOA** has led these campaigns in
 - 9 Regions & 2 City Admin.
 - **vaccinated > 357,617 dogs**



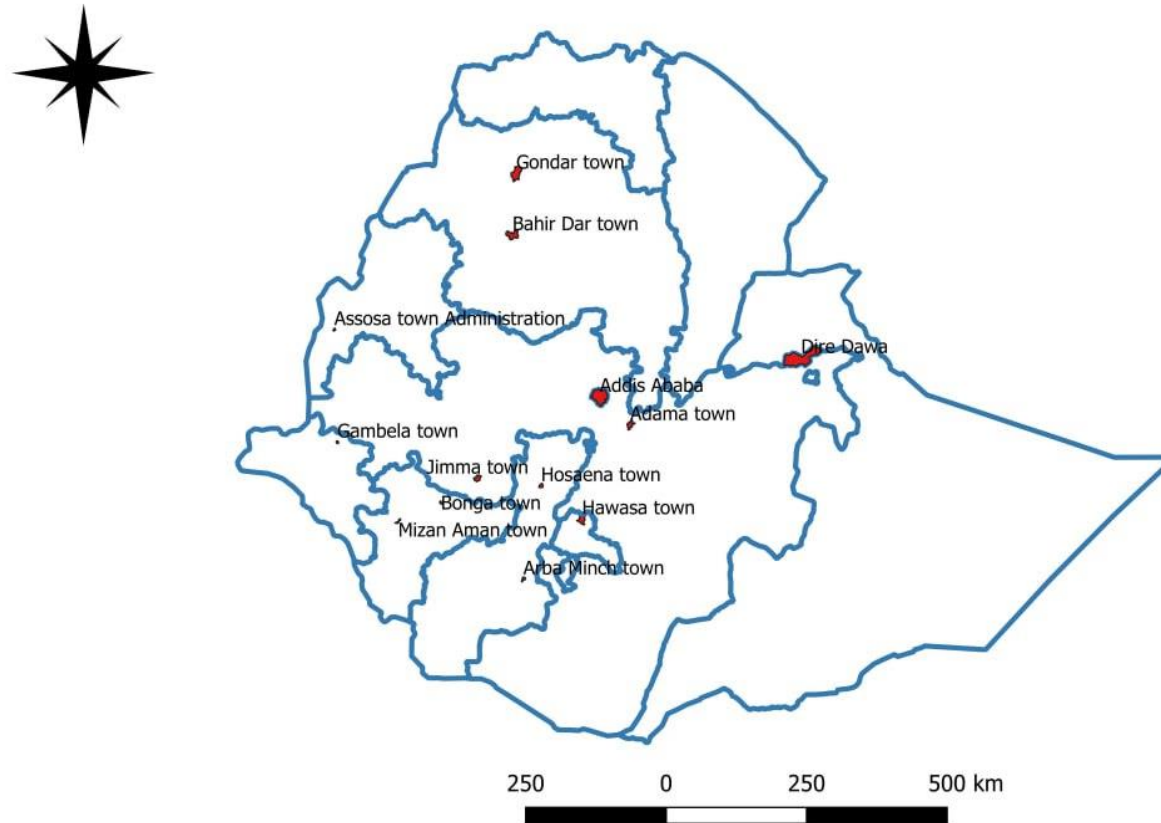
Dog vaccination against Rabies (2018 - 2022)



By: Gashaw
Data Source: MoA DOVAR-II database

Area of Dogs vaccinated against rabies in 2023

Map of MDV Areas



Cont'd

Arbaminch, SW



11/23/2023

Assosa, Benishangul G



Bonga, SWE



Cont'd

Awassa, Sidama



5. Awareness creation on rabies Prevention and control

Community awareness by celebrating events (WRD, GOHD)

- **The celebration of WRD**

- World Rabies Day is the Global Day of Action to create awareness for rabies prevention.
 - Celebrated every September 28
 - Ethiopia has been celebrating the WRD based on the OH approach
 - This years WRD marks 17th globally and 12th nationally.
 - **Theme “ Rabies: *All for 1, One Health for All*”**
 - **to highlight the need for collaboration by ensuring OH is available to everyone.**



cont'd

- More than 10,000 brochures, fliers, banners, posters, and roll-ups were discriminated on the WRD to the community
- ✓ Mass medias(mainstream and local): Radio, TV, etc were used.
- ✓ Ministries(MOA, MOH/EPHI, etc.) and Partners websites, social medias
- ✓ Training and workshops

Cont'd...



WRD celebration events

5. Resource mobilization for Prevention and Control activities

- The total cost of Rabies elimination program is estimated to be USD **197,932,376** over the course of 13 years
 - **to run our Prevention, Control and elimination strategic plan / ‘zero by 30’ program**
- ✓ Thanks to **partners** for their **support** (FOA, US CDC, USAID, etc.)
 - They initiated and push us toward our commitment
 - They supported us in
 - our continuous review workshops
 - Strategic document preparation
 - other preparation events
 -

Cnt'd...

MOA, in collaboration with different Stakeholders and development partners

- has been led MDV and **'zero by 30'** program launching campaigns
 - in **9 Regions and City Administration, 2022 & 2023 FY**

➤ From the beginning, H/E Dr. Fikru, State minister of MOA,

✓ Provided serious direction for VPH desk to aggressively work on the rabies PCE program

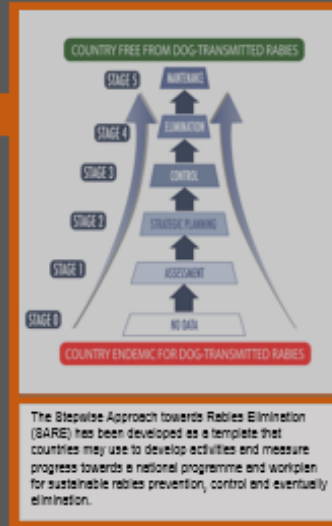
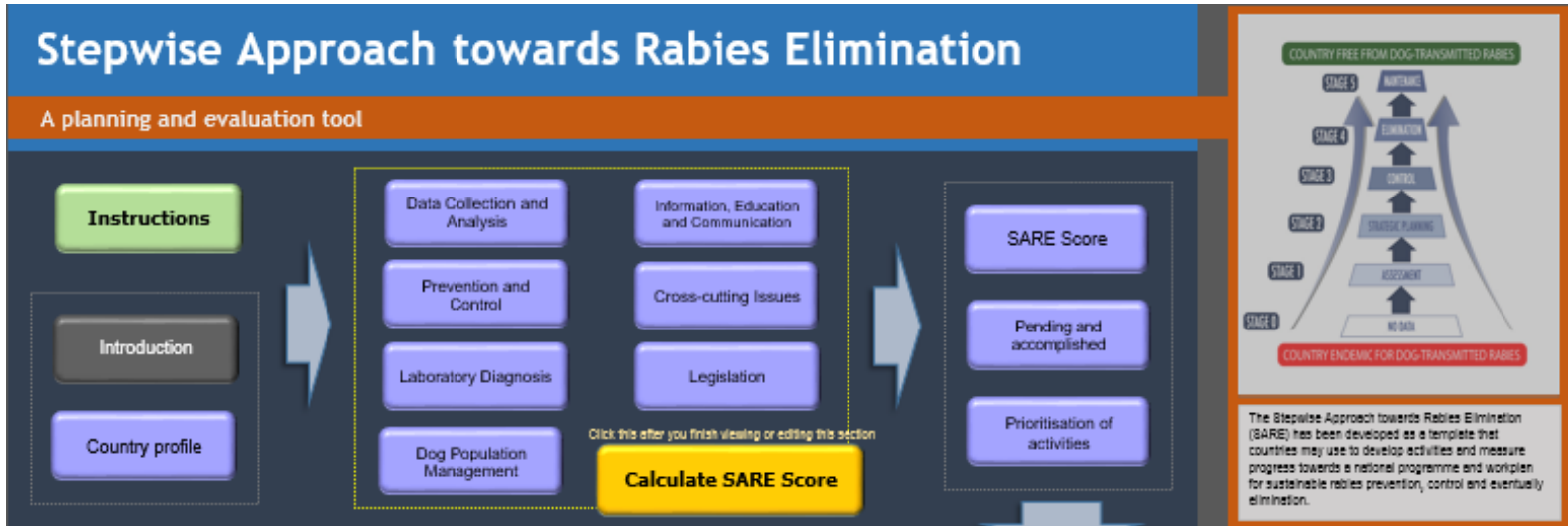
✓ He allowed and release the budget what we proposed from -

- **EU-HEARD Project**
 - **WB- LFSDP Project**
 - **Regular budget**
- } **> 12 million ETB** to launch MDV campaigns = **357,617** dogs
- 5% coverage** was achieved in pilot areas (Plan=5%)
- vaccine and consumable procurement
 - TOT, refreshment training community awareness activities, etc.

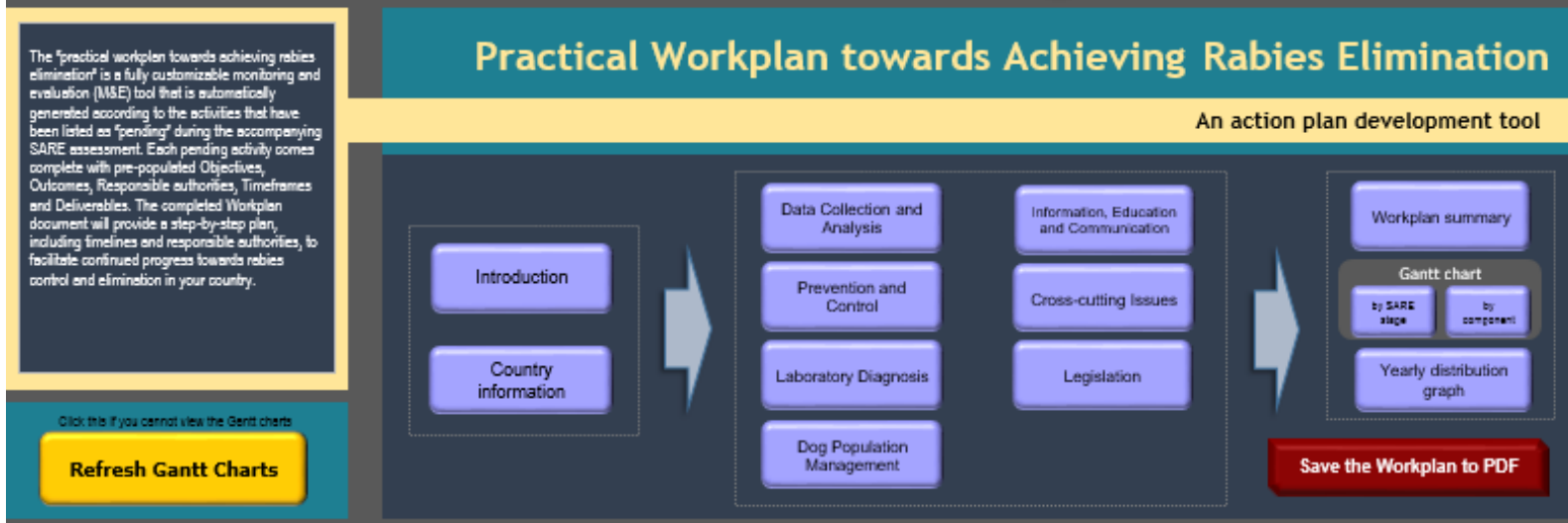
Stepwise Approach to Rabies Elimination (SARE)

- ✓ a practical planning, monitoring, and evaluation guiding principle
 - lead countries from an endemic state to a free status
- ✓ a country self-assessment **tool** developed by GARC and FAO
 - to assist member countries in developing their national plans

Stepwise Approach towards Rabies Elimination (SARE) tool



In 2015, WHO, WOA, FAO and GARC joined hands with “United Against Rabies collaboration” to reach “**Zero human death by dog-mediated Rabies in 2030**”



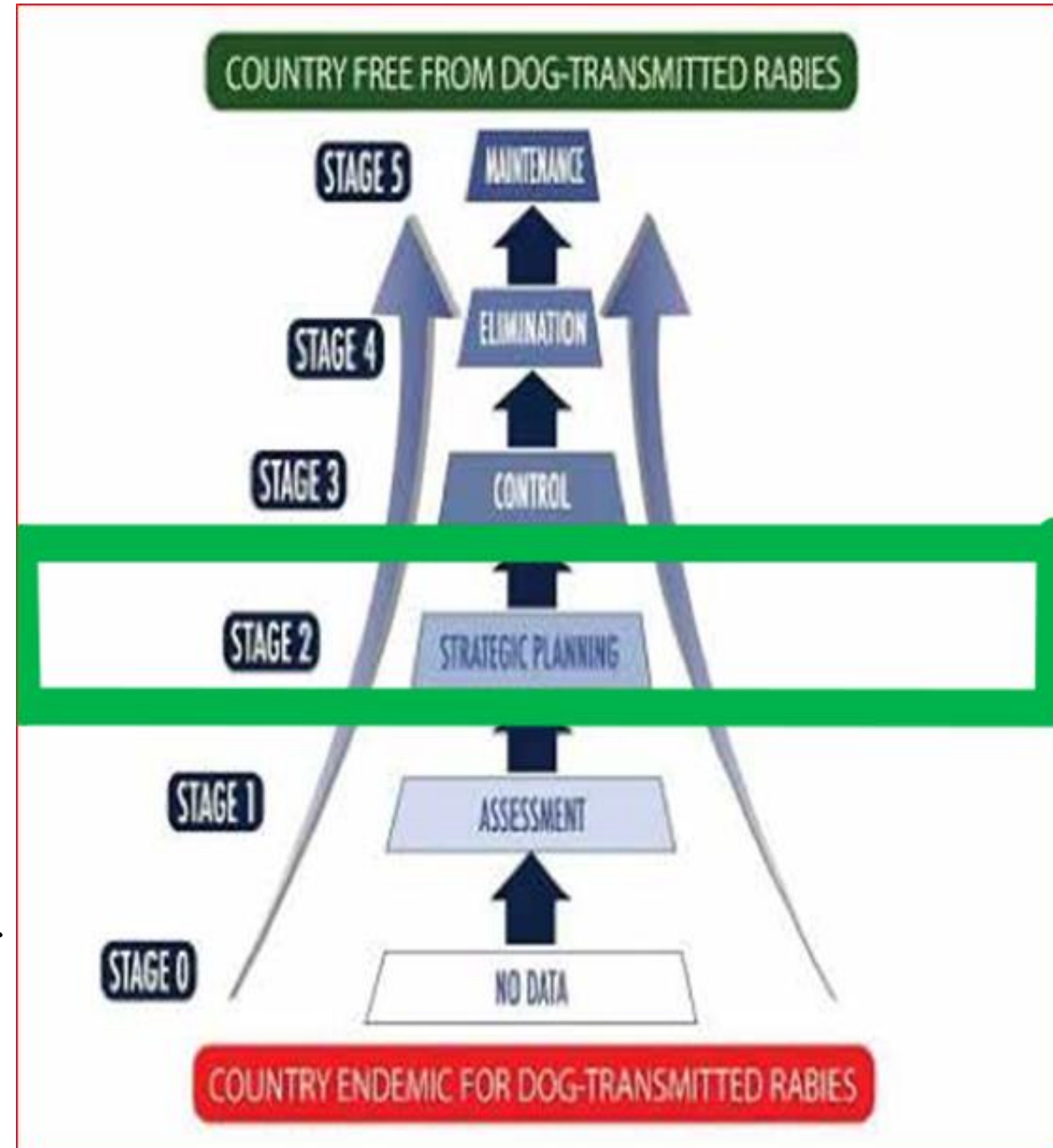
SARE tool was developed in 2012 and is a multi-stage planning, monitoring and evaluation tool



It assesses more than 100 activities

Cnt'd...,

- Ethiopia undertook self assessment **two** times, based on SARE tools
 1. In **2016**, at early stage (**score 0.5/5**).
 - Since then, we have been implemented several rabies PC&E interventions
 2. The **2nd SARE eval**, is in **August 2023**
 - in collaboration with & technically supported by **FAO & GARC**
 - the evaluation showed the country is at **its stage II** → **score = 2/5**
 - We have built a strong case in support of rabies elimination
 - We are in the process of elimination initiatives at national-level.



The baseline assessment for Rabies control and Elimination was carried out in 2016

Antiviral Research 135 (2016) 74–80



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Antiviral Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/antiviral



The SARE tool for rabies control: Current experience in Ethiopia



A. Coetzer ^{a, b}, A.H. Kidane ^c, M. Bekele ^d, A.D. Hundera ^c, E.G. Pieracci ^e, M.L. Shiferaw ^e,
R. Wallace ^e, L.H. Nel ^{a, b, *}

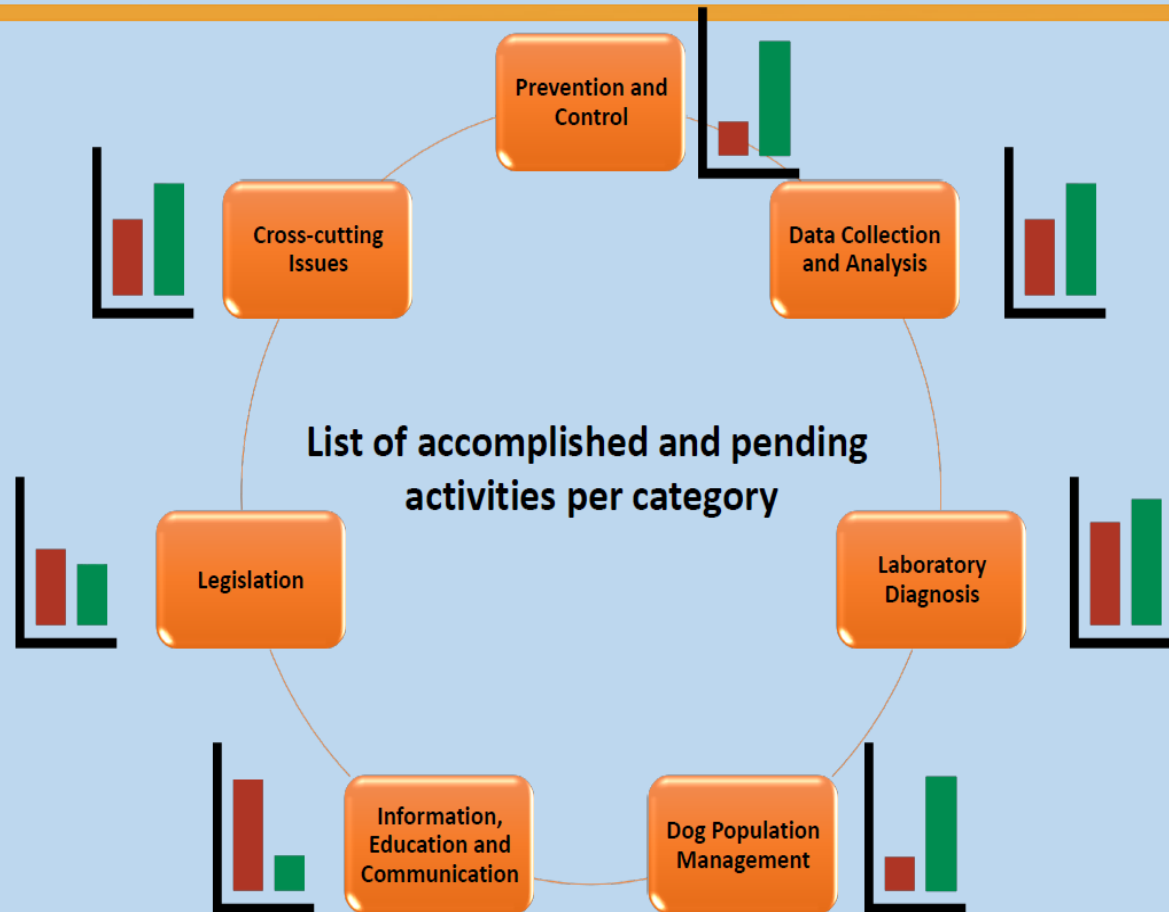
community for the elimination of human rabies deaths by 2030. Although the analysis showed that Ethiopia is still in the early stages of rabies control (Stage 0.5/5), the country shows great promise in

SARE evaluation Results of 2023 assessment

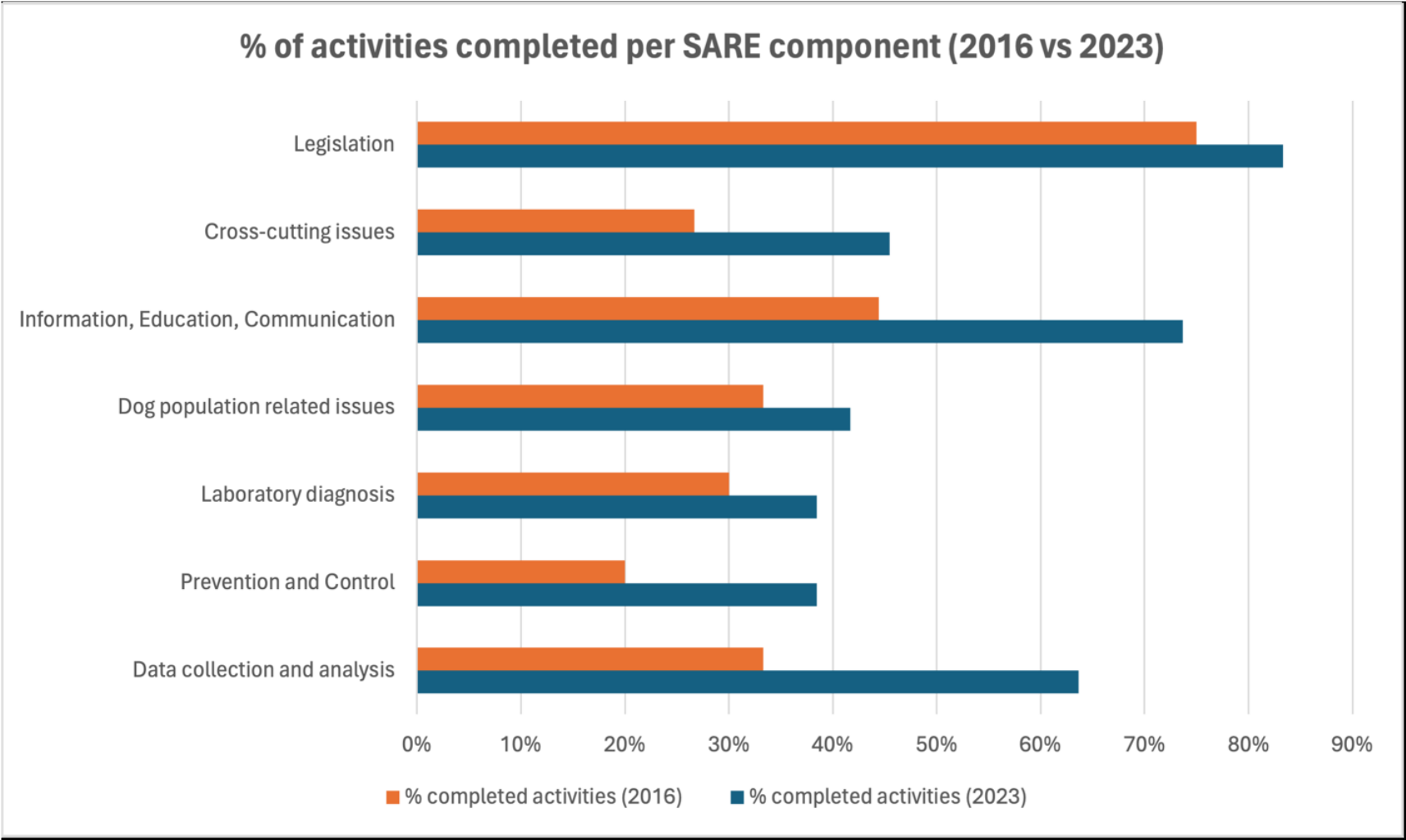
- A comprehensive assessment report of progress status score;
- Developed updated Workplan with time frames based on SARE tool outputs for tangible achievements
- Budgeted work plan for implementing sustainable dog-mediated Rabies control and elimination using the Global Dog Rabies Elimination Pathway (GDREP) tool;
- The roles and responsibilities of the implementing main stakeholders defined

SARE evaluation Pillars - accomplished vs pending activities

SARE assessment outputs



SARE assessment result showed tangible progress from stage 0.5 to 2.



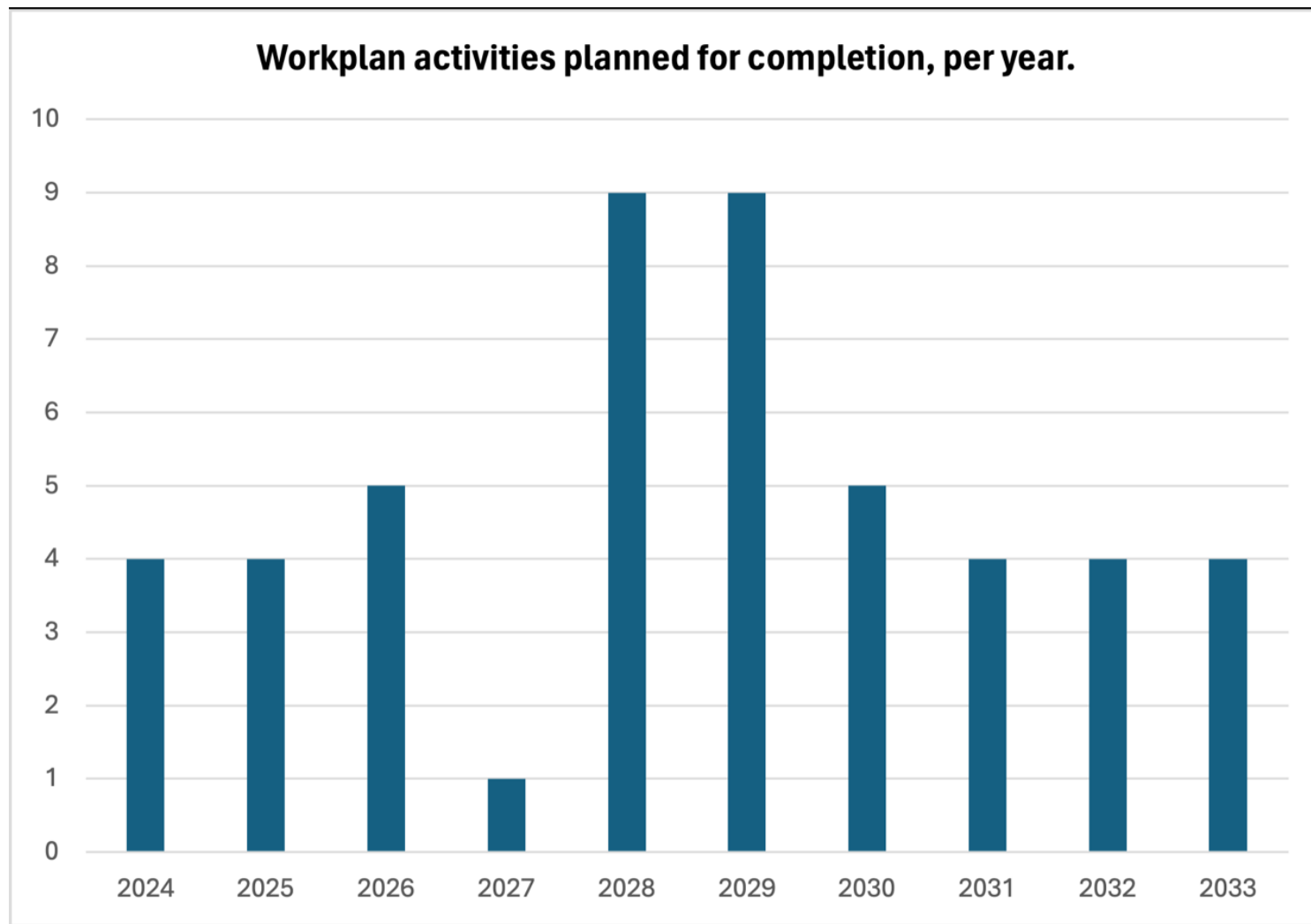
Graph depicts the % of completed activities per SARE component for Ethiopia in 2016 (orange) and 2023 (blue).

FUTURE PLAN

Phases	Implementation	
	time	activities
1	2018-2020	planning & preparation
2	2021-2023	in pre-selected areas
3	2024-2027	outside pre-selected areas
4	2028-2029	addressing remnant's
5	2030	maintain freedom

- ✓ We have achieved 2/5 SARE score
 - Remains several pending activities
- ✓ We only have < 7 years to reach “zero by 30”
 - the global target of critically reducing dog-mediated human rabies cases by 2030
- We have an estimated > 7 million dogs
- ✓ Vaccinate 70% of this pop. For the next yrs.
 - Accelerate a strong MDV campaign
 - Dog population management
 - Dog bite management
 - Admin. of the two PEPs
 - Continuous awareness creations
 - Surveillance and reporting
- ✓ We need to have **> 6, 086, 471 USD**

Rabies control and elimination work plan for “zero by 2030”



Graph depicting the default number of activities to be accomplished within each year, as depicted in the country-specific work plan generated during the workshop.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



- MOH/EPHI
- FAO :
- RTSL:
- JHU-CCP:
- US AID, CORE Group, WHO, GARC, UKHSA, VSF-G, AFROHUN,
- US-CDC
- OSU-GOHi
- **Universities:**
- **Regional Bureaus-**

LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR NATION RABIES FREE!

