



Regional Training Workshop on Strengthening Capacity for Rabies Control in the Southern African Development Community: Collective Action for dog-mediated rabies elimination by 2030

Crossroads Hotel, Blantyre, Malawi
Date: 21-24 April 2026

Day 1: 21 April 2026, Tuesday

Time	Program	Responsibility	Time
8.00-8.30	Registration	Nomsa Thekiso	30
8.30-9.00	Opening ceremony Welcome and opening Remarks by WOAHS Sub Regional Representative Opening Remarks by GARC Opening Remarks by Mission Rabies Opening Remarks by CVO, DVS Malawi	Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo Dr Andre Coetzer Dr Andrew Beron Dr Julius Chulu	30
9.00-9.05	Objectives of the training/workshop	Tenzin Tenzin	5
9.05-9.20	Introduction of the participants	Tenzin Tenzin	15
9.20 – 9.30	Pretest quiz /questionnaire - online	AJ Beron	10
Session 1	From Global Commitments to Regional Action: Tracking Progress Toward Rabies Elimination		
9.30 – 9.50	WOAH standards and tools on rabies	Rachel Tidman	20
9.50 –10.05	Global operation of Mission Rabies activities and experience	Inga McDermott	15
10.05 –10.20	GARC support towards rabies elimination	Andre Coetzer	15
10.20 –10.35	WOAH activities on rabies control in the SADC countries	Tenzin Tenzin	15
10.35 –11.00	Tea Break and Group Photo session		25
11.00 –12.30	Country presentation (5 min each)		80
12.30 –13.00	Discussion		30
13.00-14.00	Lunch		
Session 2	Understanding Dog Ecology and Population Estimation Tools to Support Mass Dog Vaccination campaign		
14.00 –14.20	Why Dog Ecology and Population Matters for Sustainable MDV campaigns and Rabies Control?	Julie Corformat	20
14.20 –14.40	Beyond Guesswork: Guideline on dog population estimation methods	Maurice Murungi	20
14.40 – 15.00	Q&A		20

15.00 – 15.30	STARC mapping & dog population estimates	Catherine Swedberg	30
15.30 –15.45	Tea Break		15
15.45 –16.45	STARC Mapping & breakout discussions	Catherine Swedberg	60
16.45 – 17.30	Roundup discussion on STARC mapping	Catherine Swedberg	45
19.00	Welcome cocktail dinner		

Day 2: 22 April 2026, Wednesday

Session 3:	From Planning to Field Delivery: Tools and Strategies for High-Impact MDV campaign		
8.00 – 8.30	Dog population structures & MDV delivery approaches	Inga McDermott, Nelson Mundira	30
8.30 – 9.15	Workshop session on vaccination methods - LEGO	Catherine Swedberg	45
9.15 –9.45	Application of the VaxPlan Tool to Plan and Design Effective Mass Dog Vaccination Campaigns	AJ Beron	30
9.45 –10.15	Application of Digital Tools to Plan, Track, and evaluate MDV Campaigns	AJ Beron Ayla Malan	30
10.15 –10.30	Tea break		15
10.30 – 11.00	Application of Digital Tools to Plan, Track, and evaluate MDV Campaigns ...continue	AJ Beron Ayla Malan	30
11.00 – 13.00	App campus exercise	Inga McDermott, Dagmar Mayer Ayla Malan	120
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch Break		
14.00 – 15.00	App data review – visualization of data	AJ Beron Ayla Malan	60
15.00 – 15.30	Vaccination practical activity	Catherine Swedberg, James Hood	30
15.30 – 15.45	Tea Break		15
15.45 – 16.15	Post-vaccination evaluation	Maurice Murungi	30
16.15 – 16.45	Post Vaccination evaluation discussion	AJ Beron	30
16.45 – 17.15	Community engagement & awareness	Julie Corfmat, Lusungu Ngulube	30

Day 3: 23 April 2026, Thursday (Field visit)

Session 4	Morning - Field visit to vaccination site, Vaccination methods; dog handling; vaccine management; field data collection		
7.00 – 8.00	Briefing and tips on dog handling during vaccination	Julie Corfmat	60
8.00 – 12.00	Travel to the field -vaccination site and return back to the hotel	MR Malawi Team/DVS	120
12.00 – 13.00	Review and visualization of the field data	AJ Beron / Ayla Malan	60
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch Break		60
	Afternoon - Lab visits in Blantyre Vet Lab and demonstration on occipital foramen method of brain tissue sampling and use of LFD		
14.00 – 16.00	- Brain tissue sampling demonstration via occipital foramen method -LFD application demonstration	John Michembo/ Andre Coetzer / Tenzin Tenzin	
16.00 – 16.30	Dog handling practical exercise	Julie Corfmat, Dagmar Mayer	30
16.30 – 17.00	Tea break and end of day 4		

Day 4: 24 April 2026, Friday

	Day 4		
Session 5	Oral Rabies Vaccine – a complementary tool to parenteral vaccination programs		
8.00 – 8.05	Recap of Day 2		
8.05 – 8.20	Oral Rabies Vaccination (ORV) in Dogs: History, Principles, concepts and requirements for vaccines	Thomas Muller (virtual)	15
8.20 – 8.35	ORV implementation in Africa setting – Namibia experience	Conrad Freuling (virtual)	15
8.35 – 9.00	ORV application - Planning, Field Implementation and experience sharing	Ad Vos (virtual)	20
9.00 – 9.10	ORV implementation operation aspect in Namibia	Haimbodi/Tenzin	10
9.10 – 9.30	Discussion on ORV and demonstration of placebo baits		20
Session 6	Evidence for Elimination: Improving Rabies Surveillance, data collection, data sharing and data reporting		
9.30 – 9.45	Surveillance Requirements for Freedom from Dog Mediated Rabies - How is rabies surveillance data used to plan MDV campaign?	Rachel Tidman	15
9.45 – 10.00	Tea Break		15

10.00 – 10.30	What is IBCM? – sharing field experience in Asia/Africa to enhance rabies surveillance using IBCM	John Michembo	30
10.30 – 11.30	Application of digital tools (REACT App and GARC App) to implement IBCM	John Michembo, AJ Beron and Ayla Malan	60
11.30 – 12.30	REACT App and GARC App exercise	John Michembo, AJ Beron and Ayla Malan	60
12.30 – 13.00	Discussion		30
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch		
14.00 – 14.20	Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) for Rabies: Field Applications to Strengthen Rabies Surveillance	Paola DeBenedictes (virtual)	20
14.20 – 14.30	Discussion		10
Session 6	SADC Rabies Control Network		
14.30 – 14.50	SADC Rabies Control Coordinator Network and way forward	Tenzin Tenzin	20
14.50 – 15.10	Discussion on the Network	Tenzin Tenzin	20
15.10 – 15.25	Tea Break		15
15.25 – 15.50	Post training evaluation -online	AJ Beron and Tenzin Tenzin	25
15.50 – 16.00	Summary of key takeaways from the workshop	Tenzin Tenzin	10
Session 7	Closing session		
16.00 – 16.30	Certificate awarding		30
16.30 – 16.45	Closing session	WOAH, MR, DVS	15

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