



Post vaccination surveys

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When to do a post-vaccination survey



- When initial population estimates are uncertain
- After vaccination campaigns to assess coverage
- When coverage is below target, identify gaps and barriers

Key things to consider:

- Vaccination should proceed using best available estimates
- Post-vaccination surveys improve accuracy over time
- Iterative refinement strengthens programme efficiency



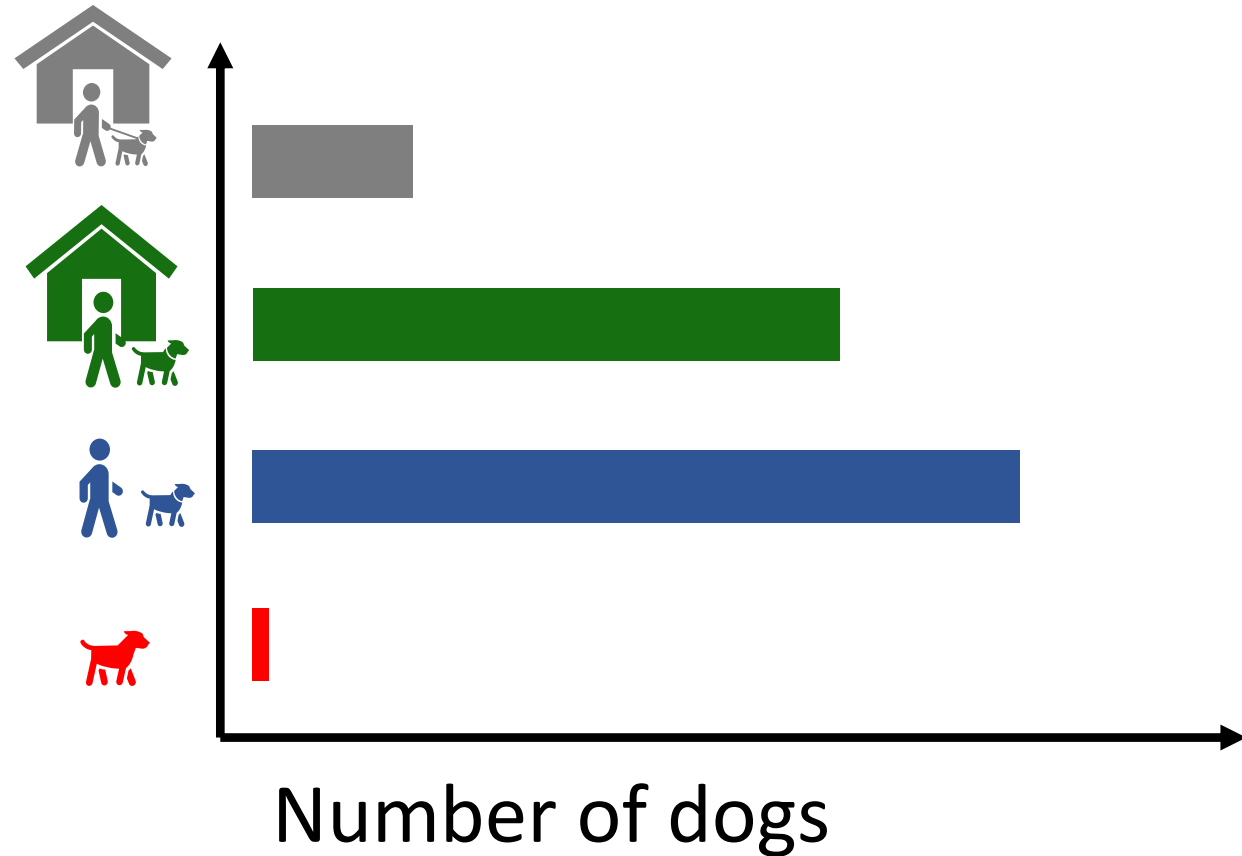
Vaccination & marking requirements:

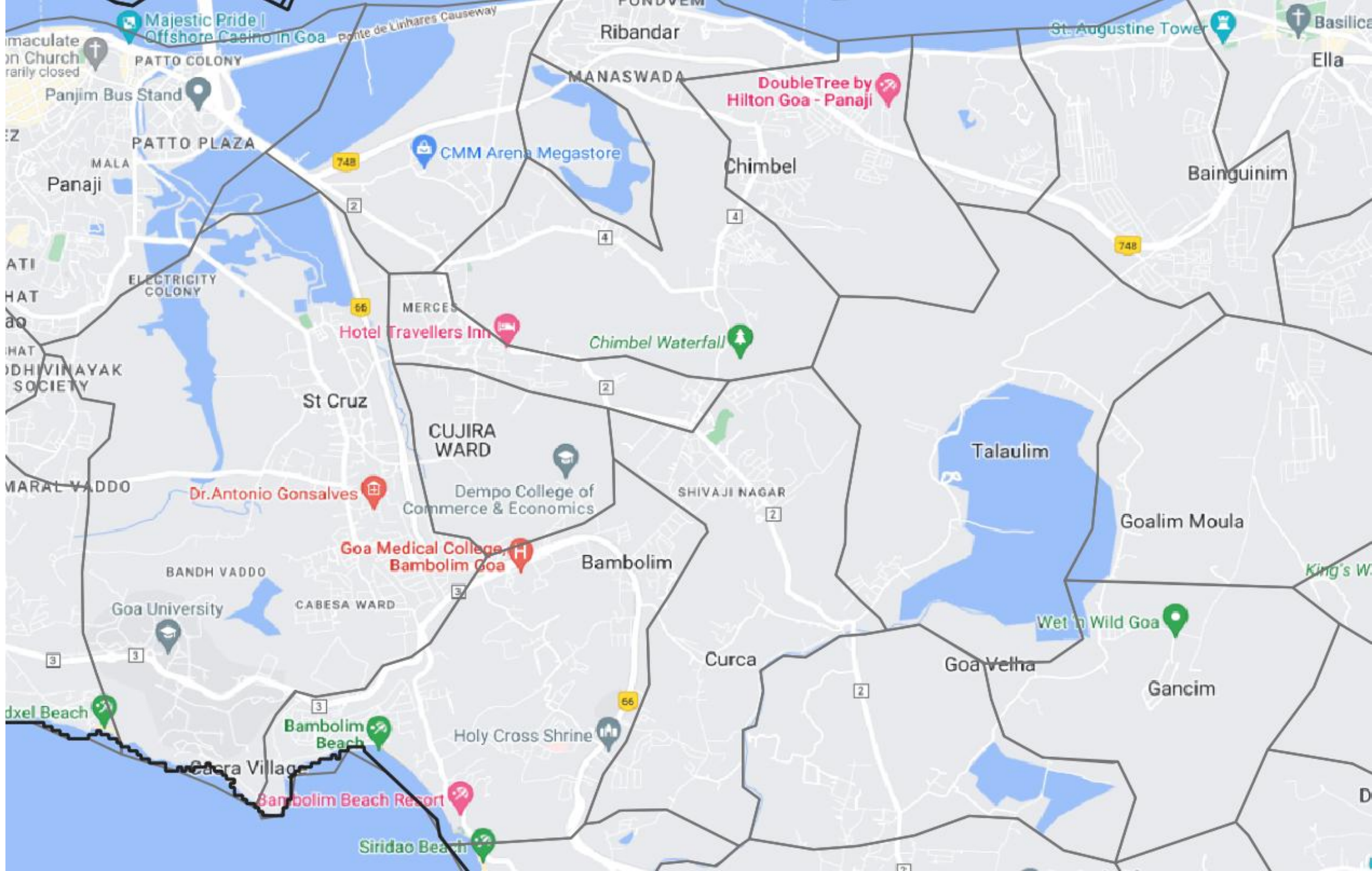
- Mark vaccinated dogs (collars or paint)
- Record all vaccinated dogs (marked and unmarked)
- Capture ownership, location, and confinement status
- Ensure free-roaming marked population is clearly defined



Survey methods

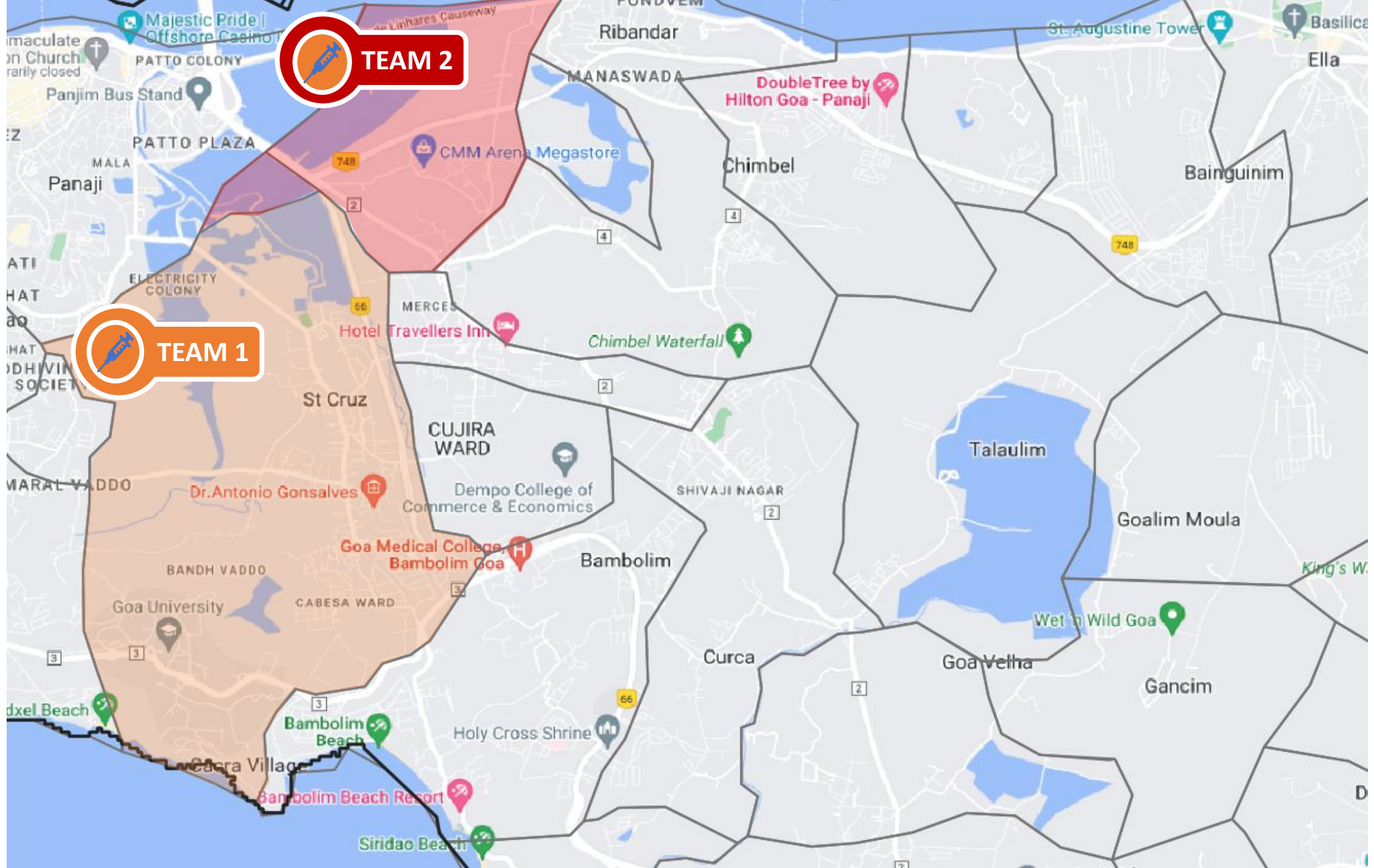
- Direct street counts (free-roaming dogs)
- Household surveys (owned dogs)
- Combined approach preferred where feasible
- Ensure representative sampling (avoid bias near vaccination sites)





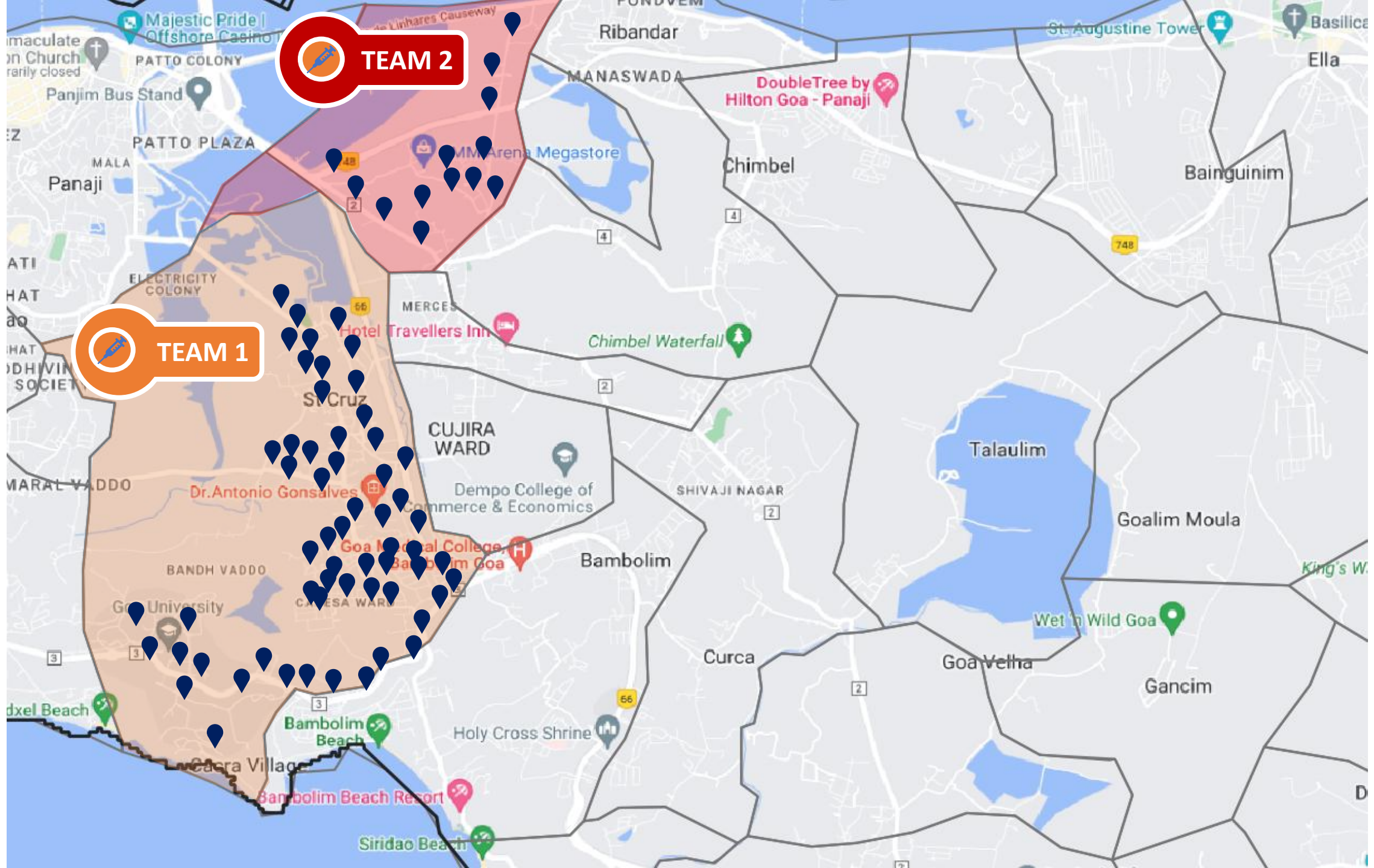
 **TEAM 2**

 **TEAM 1**

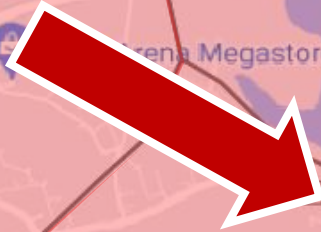


TEAM 2

TEAM 1

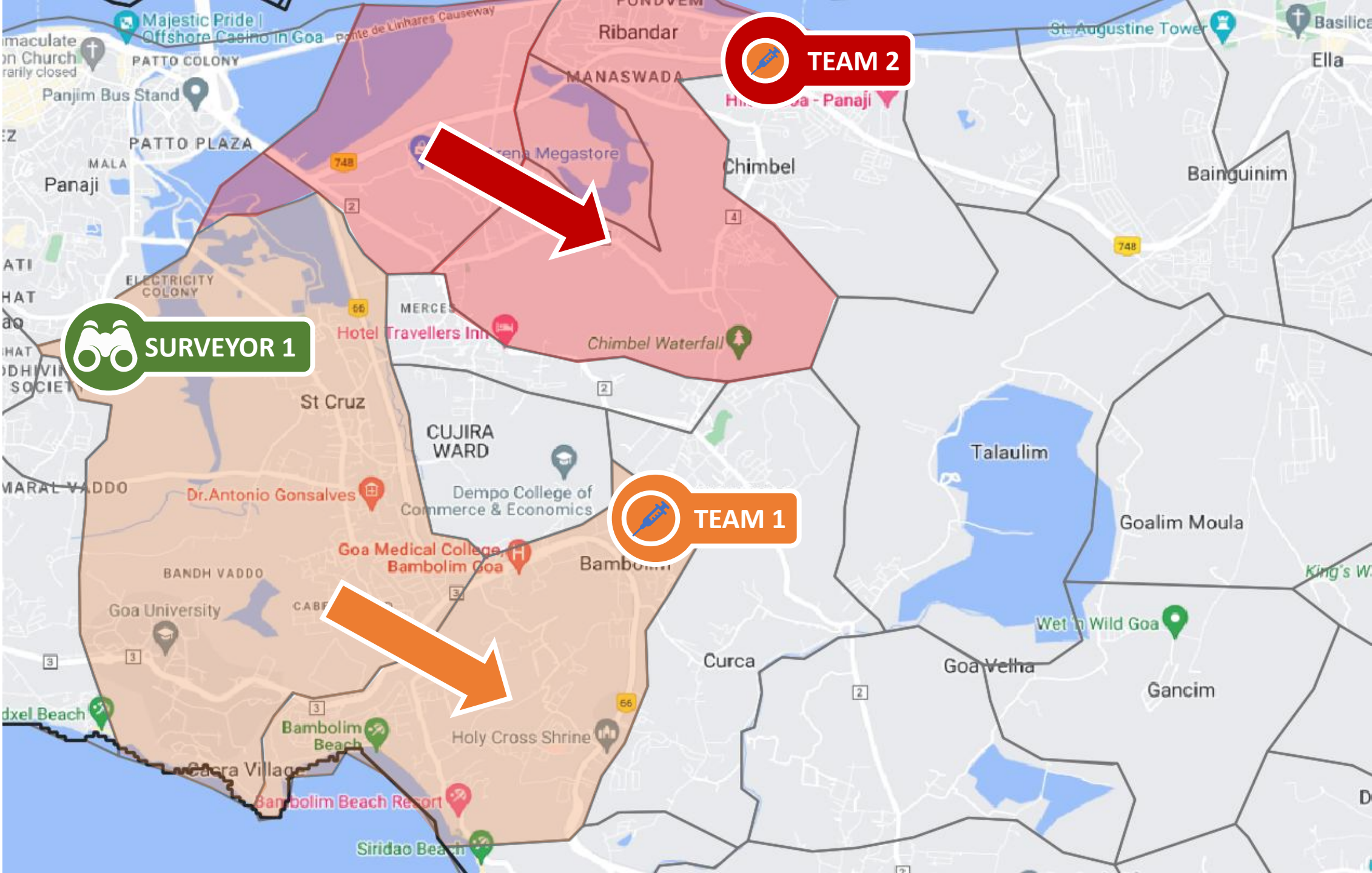


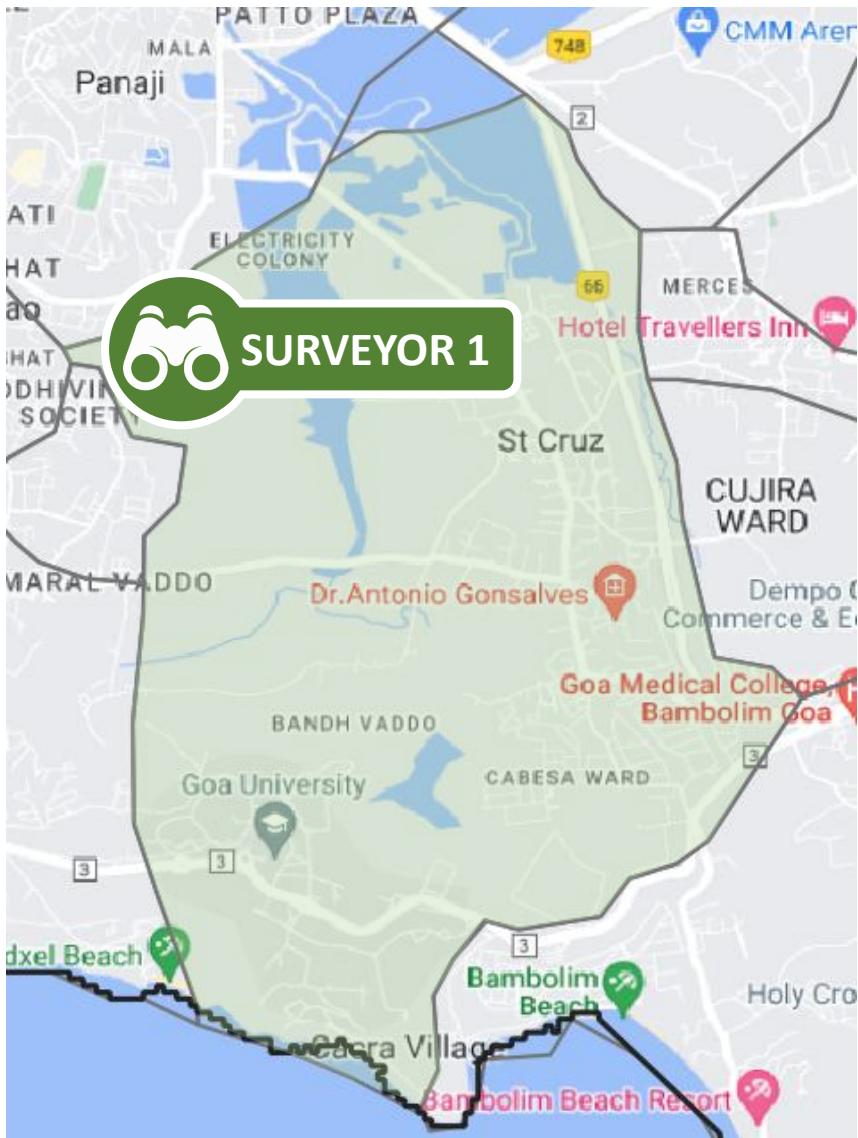
 **TEAM 2**



 **SURVEYOR 1**

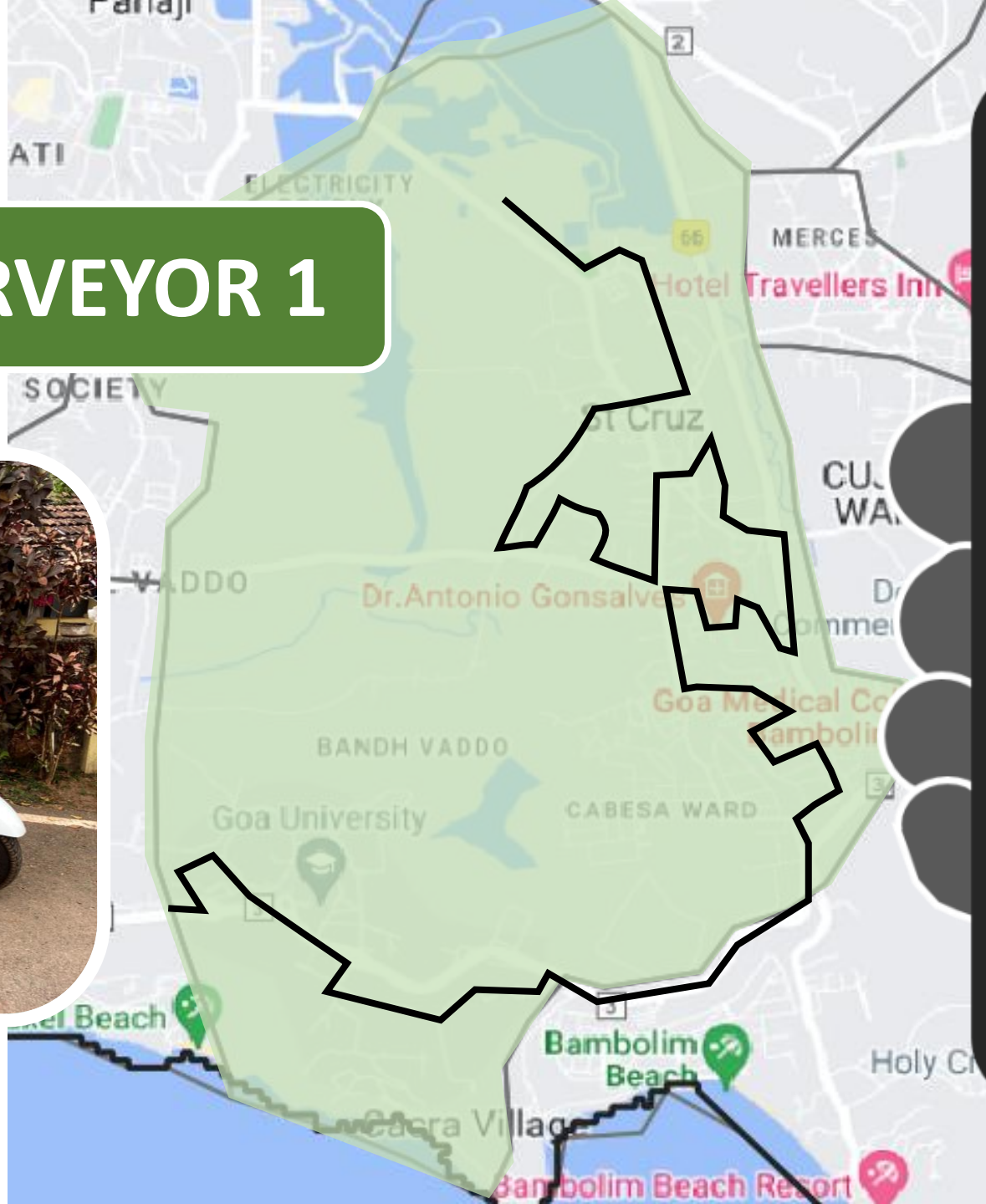
 **TEAM 1**







SURVEYOR 1



Survey timing



- Conduct survey 24–72 hours post-campaign
- Allow behaviour normalisation (>24 hours)
- Minimise mark loss (<72 hours)
- Survey early morning or late evening



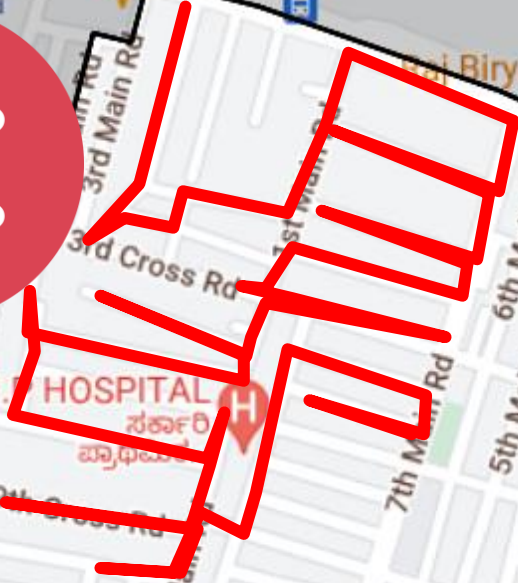
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Key points

- Survey in days after vaccination
 - Marks only last 2-3 days
- Zig-zag route across zone
 - Roads should be representative of whole region
 - E.g. 20% main - 80% residential



Zig-zag to sample the whole zone





Day1 – 44%



Zone coverage?

- High variability in vaccination coverage between repeats
- Single surveys are not reliable at the zone level
- Average of multiple surveys provides reliable mean coverage across a region

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access


A comparison of population estimation techniques for individually unidentifiable free-roaming dogs

N. V. Meunier¹, A. D. Gibson^{2,3}, J. Corfmat², S. Mazeri^{2,3}, I. G. Handel¹, L. Gamble², B. Mde C. Bronsvort³ and R. J. Mellanby^{1*}






Day1 – 44%

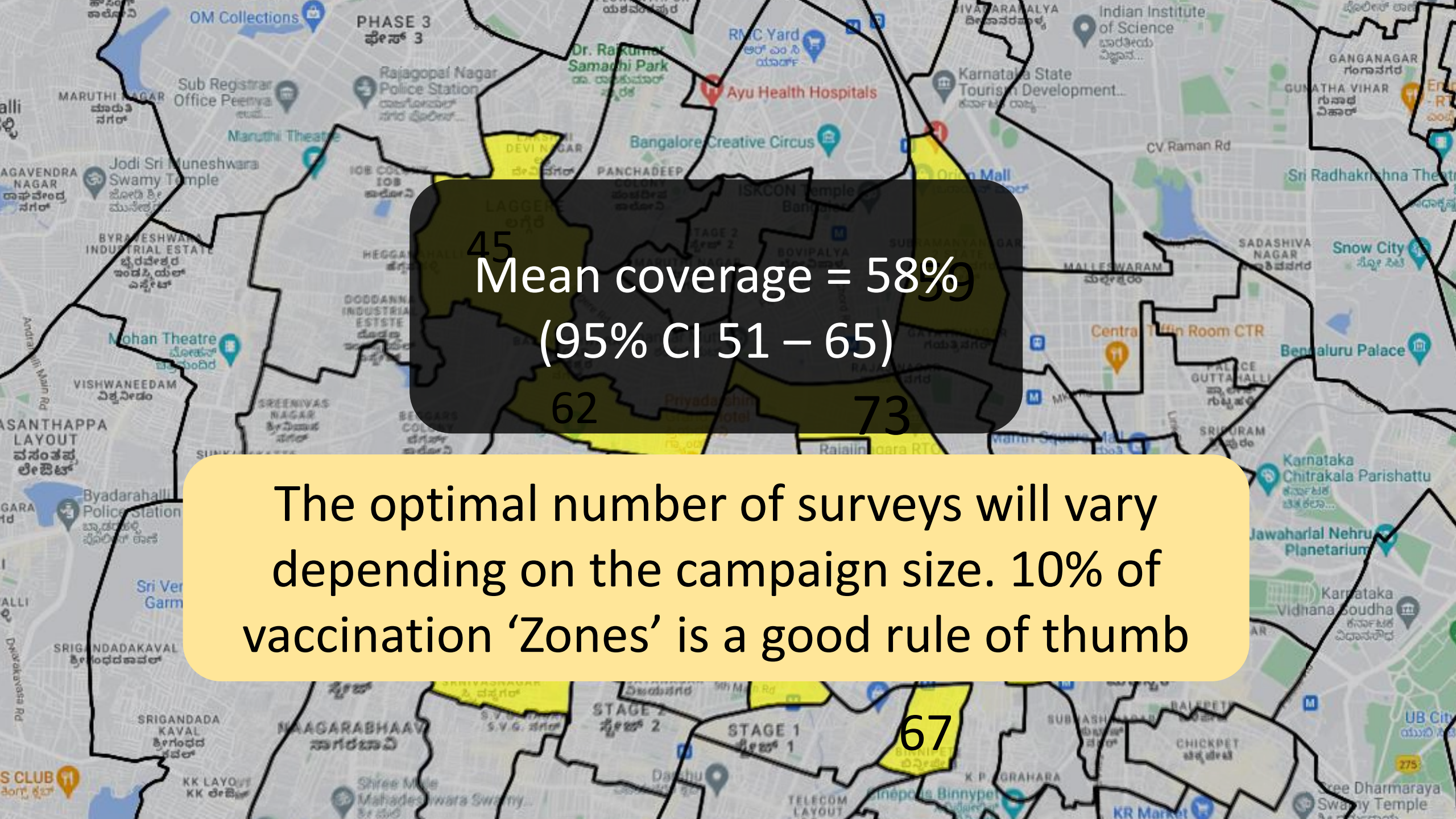


Day2 – 61%



Day3 – 56%





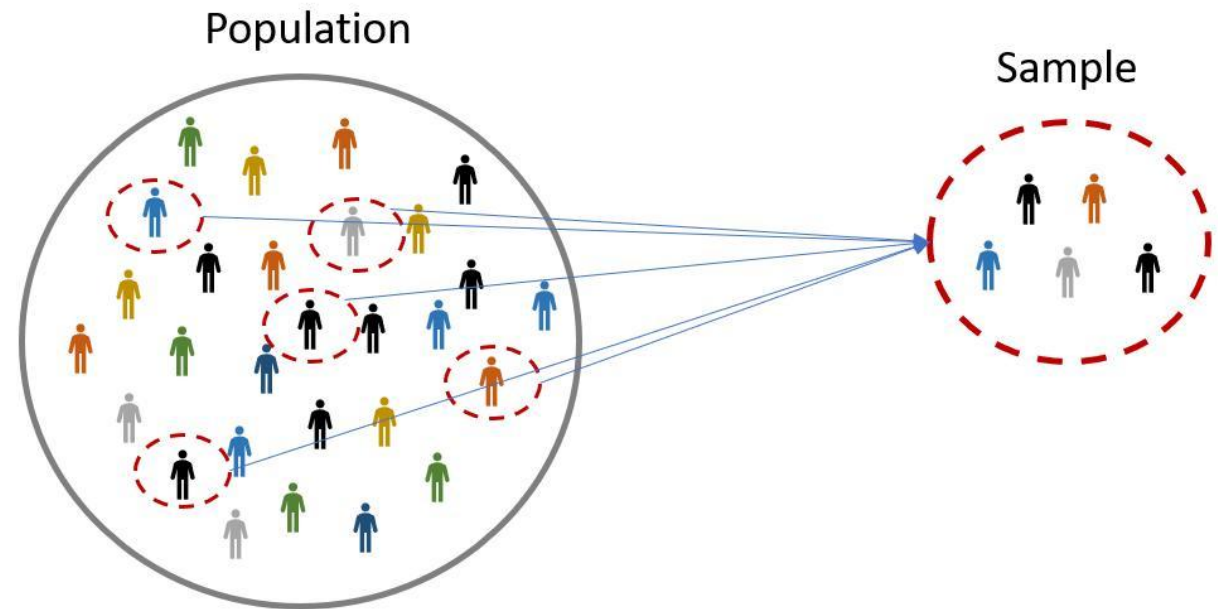
45
Mean coverage = 58%
(95% CI 51 – 65)

The optimal number of surveys will vary depending on the campaign size. 10% of vaccination 'Zones' is a good rule of thumb




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Sample size determination

- Minimum sample size:
- $n = 96 / (1 + (96/N))$
- Provides 95% confidence within $\pm 10\%$ precision
- Use rough population estimate (N for calculation)






PV surveys can provide approximate population estimates

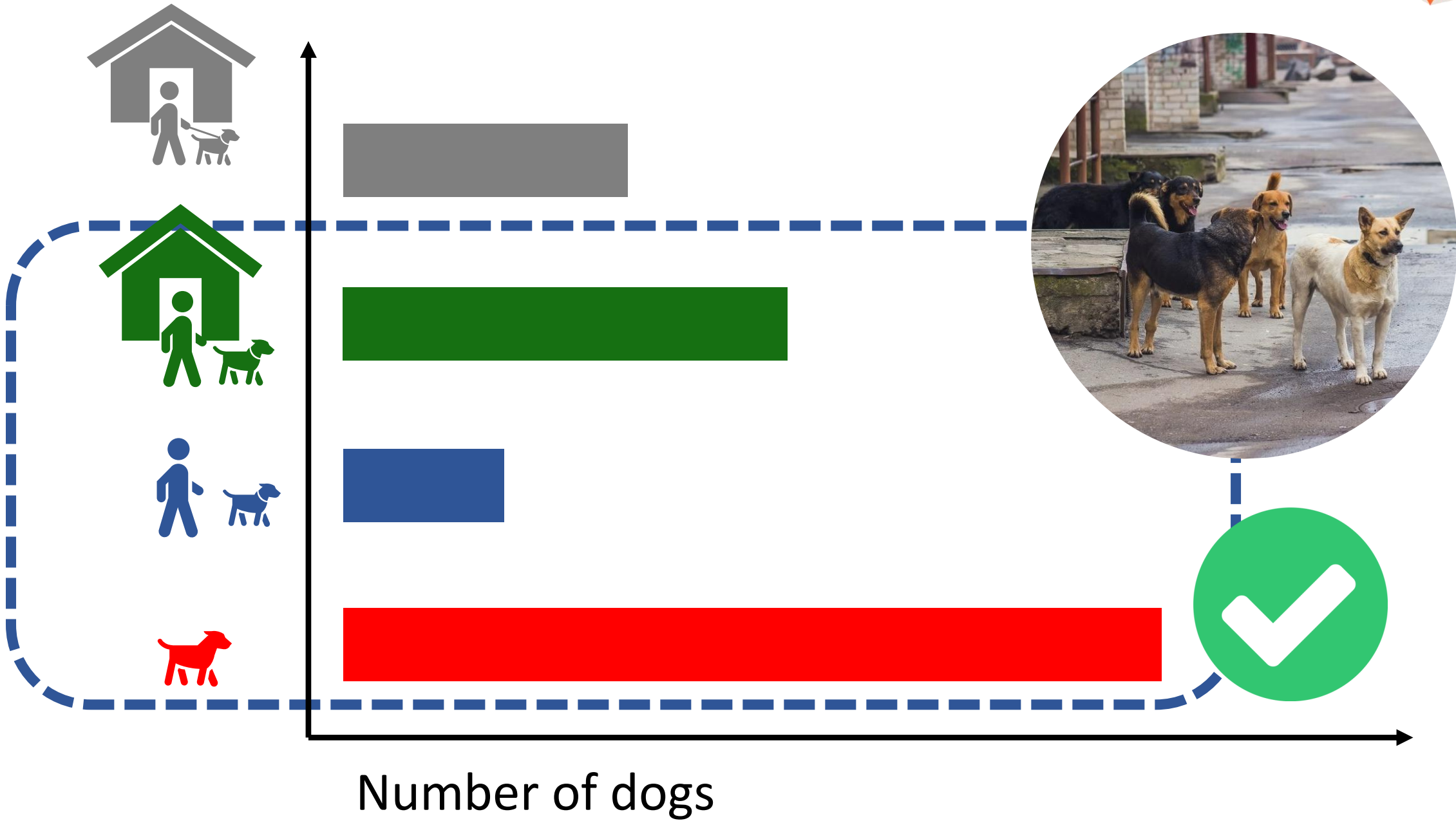
- A campaign **vaccinate 4,395** dogs 
- A total of **2,741 dogs** are sighted on pv surveys. 
- Of dogs seen on pv surveys, **1,932 dogs** are vaccinated. 

$$\text{Total population} = \frac{(\text{Total vaccinated}) \quad (\text{Total sighted})}{(\text{Total vaccinated dogs sighted})}$$

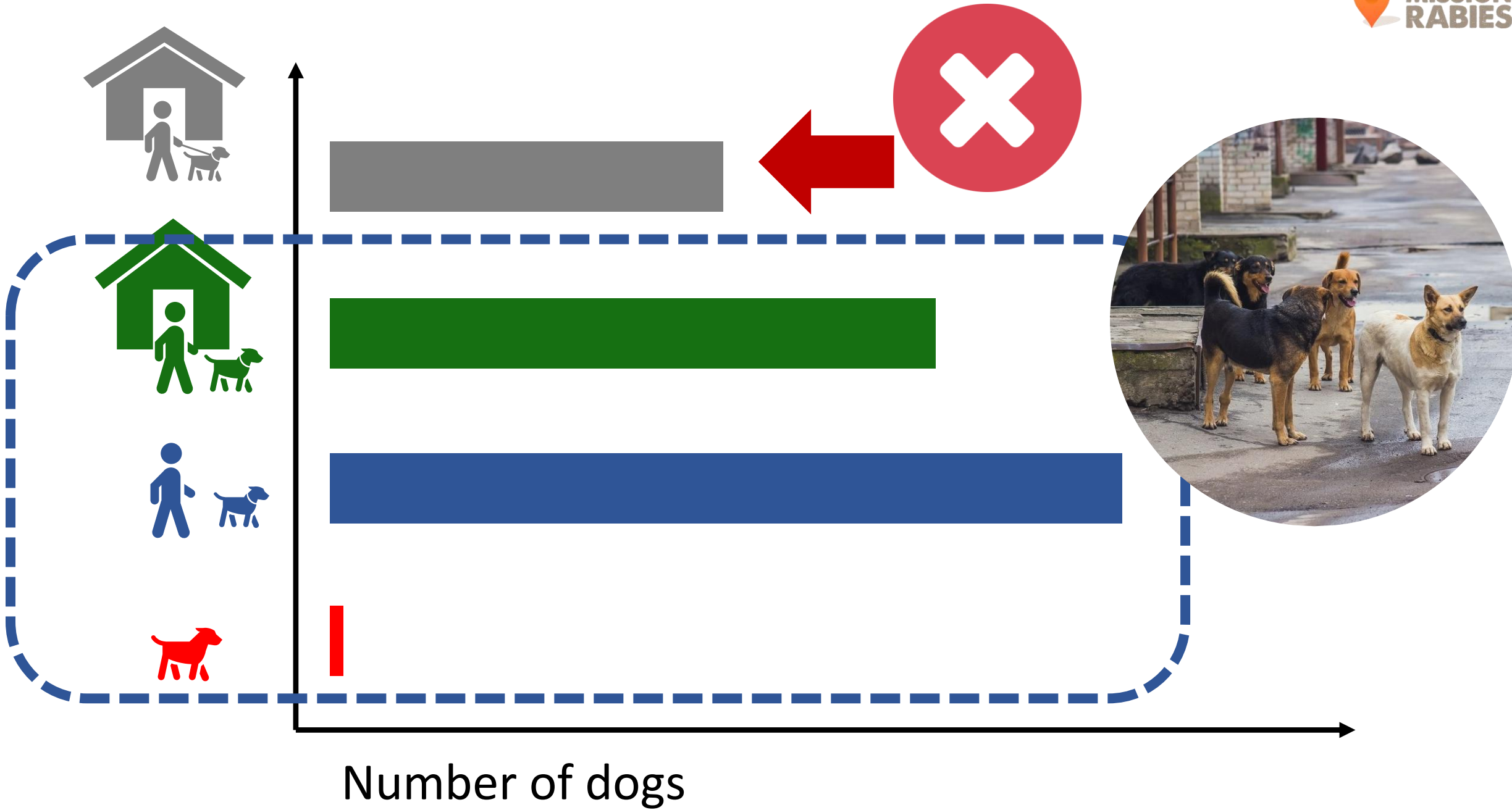
PV surveys can provide approximate population estimates

- A campaign **vaccinate 4,395** dogs 
- A total of **2,741 dogs** are sighted on pv surveys. 
- Of dogs seen on pv surveys, **1,932 dogs** are vaccinated 
- Lincoln–Petersen estimator:

$$\text{Total population} = \frac{\begin{matrix} \text{vaccine syringe icon} \\ (4,395) \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \text{binoculars icon} \\ (2,741) \end{matrix}}{\begin{matrix} \text{binoculars and vaccine syringe icon} \\ (1,932) \end{matrix}} = 6,235$$



Number of dogs



Consistent method across surveys is crucial



- Things we can't control:
 - Dog location
 - People's behaviour
 - Weather
- But we can be **consistent** in what we can control:
 - Survey methods
 - Speed of travel
 - Time of survey

Timing is everything



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Timing is everything



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Timing is everything



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Avoid contact

- DO NOT call the dogs towards you or make any noises
- Do not stroke or pet the dogs
- NEVER FEED the dogs in the study areas (whether surveying or not)
- Dogs have good memories and over time may grow to either like or avoid the surveyor – this would invalidate the results of our study





Thank you!!!

