

# Data and Surveillance Requirements

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Animal





## 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**



## Why isn't rabies more of a priority?

Indicator Location	Reported number of human rabies deaths				
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Angola	No data	274	No data	No data	No data
Botswana	0	0	No data	No data	No data
Eswatini	0	No data	No data	No data	No data
Lesotho	0	No data	4	No data	No data
Madagascar	15	No data	No data	2	8
Malawi	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Mauritius	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Mozambique	35	35	No data	No data	No data
Namibia	6	No data	No data	No data	No data
South Africa	9	6	17	19	8
United Republic of Tanzania	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Zambia	44	No data	No data	No data	No data
Zimbabwe	8	No data	No data	No data	No data



## Why should we report and share data?


- **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 we collect?

- Data should help inform national programme and monitor progress
- Available sources include:
  - United Against Rabies Minimum Data Elements
  - WOAHA Terrestrial Code and Manual
  - WHO NTD Roadmap Tracker and Toolkit for Routine Health Information Systems Data
  - WOAHA WAHIS
  - WHO Global Health Observatory

 Minimum Data Elements for Monitoring and Evaluation of National and International Rabies Control Programs.  
Version 2, January 2023





## Human Rabies (7 data elements)

Element	Description
Case classification	The number of suspected human rabies cases investigated during the calendar year
Source of infection	The number of confirmed human rabies cases (clinically or laboratory) by the species of animal responsible for virus transmission.
Rabies Virus Variant	The number of confirmed human rabies cases (laboratory) by the rabies virus variant.
Gender	The gender of confirmed human rabies cases (clinically or laboratory)
Age	The age of confirmed human rabies cases (clinically or laboratory)
Disease outcome	The number of confirmed human rabies cases (clinically or laboratory) that died or survived.
Vaccination status	The vaccination status of confirmed human rabies cases (clinically or laboratory)



## Human Rabies Exposures (4 data elements)

Element	Description
Case classification	The number of people with WHO category II or III exposures identified through standard reporting and case investigation during the calendar year, by the case classification of the offending animal
Source of exposure	The number of WHO category II or III human rabies exposures by the species of animal responsible for exposure (laboratory, clinically confirmed, or suspected exposure)
Gender	The gender of WHO category II or III human rabies exposures (laboratory, clinically confirmed, or suspected exposure)
Age	The age of human rabies exposures (laboratory confirmed, clinically confirmed, or suspected exposure)



## Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (3 data elements)

Element	Description
Exposure Case Classification	The number of people who received rabies PEP during the calendar year, by the case classification of the offending animal
Source of exposure	The number of people who received rabies PEP by the WHO Exposure Category.
Rabies Immunoglobulin	The number of people with category III exposures who received rabies immunoglobulin



## Animal Rabies (5 data elements)

Element	Description
Dogs	The number of suspected rabies cases in dogs investigated during the calendar year.
Livestock	The number of suspected rabies cases in livestock investigated during the calendar year.
Bats	The number of suspected rabies cases in bats tested during the calendar year.
Other Species	The number of suspected rabies cases in other species tested during the calendar year.
Rabies Virus Variant	The number of confirmed animal rabies cases (laboratory confirmed) by the rabies virus variant.

Response options for dogs and livestock include responses for: **laboratory confirmed; clinically confirmed; suspected case; laboratory – negative**



## Animal Rabies (5 data elements)

<sup>5</sup> For the purposes of rabies surveillance, the WHO and WOAHA defines a **confirmed rabid animal** as a suspect or probable rabid animal confirmed using a standard diagnostic test as defined by WHO or WOAHA (see also, Annex A) ([WHO TRS](#), [WOAHA Terrestrial Code 8.15.12](#)).

<sup>6</sup> For the purposes of rabies surveillance, the WHO and WOAHA defines a **probable rabid animal** as a suspect rabid animal with a history of bite from another suspected rabid animal or a suspected rabid animal that is killed, dies, or disappears within 5 days of illness onset (see also, Annex A) ([WHO TRS](#), [WOAHA Tech. Rev. Sci.](#)).

<sup>7</sup> For the purposes of rabies surveillance, the WHO and WOAHA defines a **suspected rabid animal** as a susceptible animal that shows any change in behaviour consistent with the following clinical signs: hypersalivation, paralysis, lethargy, abnormal aggression, abnormal vocalisation, diurnal activity of nocturnal species (see also, Annex A) ([WHO TRS](#), [WOAHA Terrestrial Code 8.15.12](#)).

<sup>8</sup> For the purposes of rabies surveillance, the WHO and WOAHA defines a **non-rabid animal** as a suspect or probable rabid animal where rabies is ruled out by laboratory testing or appropriate observation period (see also, Annex A) ([WHO TRS](#), [WOAHA Tech. Rev. Sci.](#)).



## Dog Population Management (3 data elements)

Element	Description
Vaccination	How many dogs were vaccinated against rabies during the calendar year.
Vaccination Method	What method(s) of dog rabies vaccination were practiced during the calendar year (select all that apply, provide numbers vaccinated by each method if available?)
Sterilization	The number of dogs that were sterilized within the calendar year.

- As you've demonstrated – excellent tools available to help with collecting data
- **Data still needs to be reported to WHO and WOAHA**

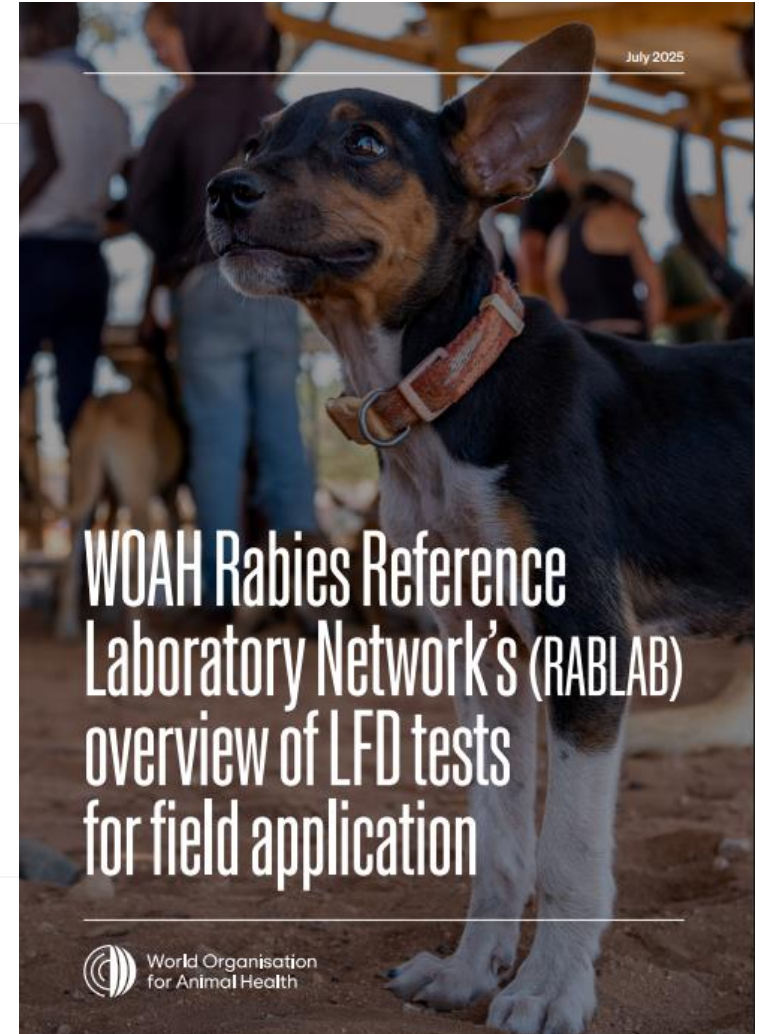
Reference Laboratory network  
for rabies



## 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.

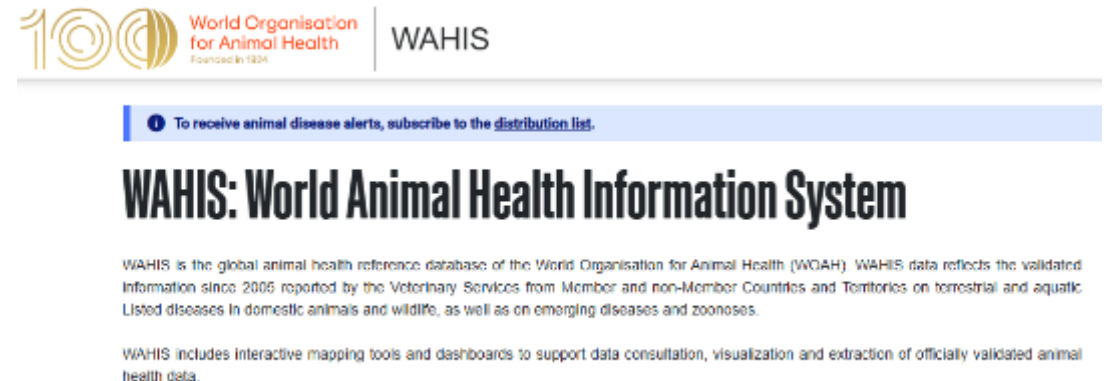
[Find out more](#)





# What do I do with this data?

- Field → **National** → International
- Share between competent authorities (especially between human and **animal health sectors**)
- Can facilitate by having a **national point of contact for rabies**
- Health authorities → WHO Global Health Observatory
  - But to have complete data, **Veterinary Services** need to share animal health data
- **Veterinary Services** → WOAHA World Animal Health Information System
  - Early warning system
  - Monitoring system (six-monthly updates)
  - Annual reports





- **Stepwise Approach to Rabies Elimination (SARE)**

- Can help develop or revise national strategy and work plan, and demonstrate progress through repeat assessments

- **WOAH Endorsement**


- Countries with a robust, One-Health control strategy in place for rabies control.

- **WHO Validation**

- Countries with zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies for at least 24 months.

- **WOAH Self-declaration**

- Countries free of dog-mediated rabies

 'Zero by 30' Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators  
Version 1, January 2025





## How to apply for endorsement

In line with our procedure and guidelines, Members need to compile documents that evidence:

- ✓ A good understanding of human and dog demographics and epidemiology of the disease on their territory
- ✓ The capacity of the Veterinary Services, along with effective collaboration with other competent authorities
- ✓ Measures to control dog-mediated rabies including surveillance and diagnosis
- ✓ A dog-mediated rabies control strategy with a clear work plan, timelines and budget for the following five years

[www.woah.org/official-disease-status](http://www.woah.org/official-disease-status)



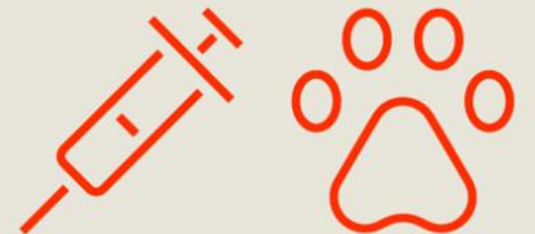
© World Organisation for Animal Health/FAO, Debrah

## Timeline

- **Submission** of dossier to WOAHA Status Department – **early August 2026**
- Review of dossier by *Ad hoc* group, and recommendation to Scientific Commission for Animal Disease (SCAD) – October 2026
- Review of dossier by SCAD, and recommendation to General Assembly – February 2027
- Approval by General Assembly – May 2027

# Maximise your country's efforts against rabies

Apply for endorsement of your official control programme for dog-mediated rabies





## 2. Financial obligations

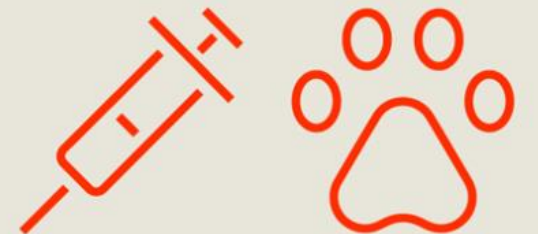
### 2.1 FEE AMOUNTS

In accordance with Resolution No. 16 of the 2020 Adapted Procedure, financial obligations are as follows (in Euros):

	WOAH Members <i>(except least developed countries)</i>				Least developed countries (Members) based on the current official UN list			
	AHS, CSF and BSE	CBPP/FMD	PPR	Dog-mediated rabies	AHS, CSF and BSE	CBPP/FMD	PPR	Dog-mediated rabies
<b>First time application<sup>1</sup></b>								
<i>Entire country</i>	9,000	7,000	5,000	N/A	4,500	3,500	2,500	N/A
<i>One or more zone(s) at the same time</i>	9,000	7,000	5,000	N/A	4,500	3,500	2,500	N/A
<i>Endorsement of an official control programme</i>	N/A	2,000	2,000	2,000	N/A	1,000	1,000	1,000

# Maximise your country's efforts against rabies

Apply for endorsement of your official control programme for dog-mediated rabies





- **Introduction**
  - including human demographics and dog demographics
- **Governance**
  - including competent authorities, veterinary authorities, human health system, other competent authorities, and legal framework
- **Current status and control of dog-mediated rabies**
  - including epidemiology, rabies surveillance, rabies diagnosis, dog-mediated rabies control strategy, case investigation protocol, national and international collaboration, rabies awareness and education programmes
- **Workplan, timelines and budget** for the next five years

## Guidance documents

- Questionnaire to compile documented evidence of compliance with requirements
- Guidance document on application
- Standard operating procedures
- Form for annual reconfirmation
- [www.woah.org/en/disease/rabies/#ui-id-2](http://www.woah.org/en/disease/rabies/#ui-id-2)



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### GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON APPLICATION FOR ENDORSEMENT OF AN OFFICIAL CONTROL PROGRAMME FOR DOG MEDIATED RABIES

This guide is designed to assist Members compile information according to Article 8.15.11. of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*. It includes examples of figures and table templates that can be found in the following appendices with cross-references to specific sections of the questionnaire for application for an endorsement of official control programme for dog-mediated rabies.

Providing high-quality figures like those in the examples is not mandatory but should be provided when available.

Please note that the content of the referenced scientific articles is not related to or part of the guidance.

#### Appendix A: Epidemiology (Section 3. a. of the questionnaire)

Example of Table of cases for humans and animals (by species) showing date of detection. For more examples visit United Against Rabies' [National Strategic Plan template](#) and [WHO data collection template](#).

Number of rabies cases					
	Time period (last years)				
	-4 years	-3 years	-2 years	-1 year	Current year
<b>Human</b>					
<b>Dog</b>					
<b>Livestock</b>					
<b>Cat</b>					
<b>Bat</b>					
<b>Other wildlife</b>					

# Thank you!

# Questions?

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