## **WOAH** support towards the elimination of dogmediated Rabies in the **African Region**

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Africa Regional Seminar on Rabies. Gaborone, Botswana

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Organisation Organisation mondiale for Animal de la santé animale

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#### North Africa

#### WOAH Twinning Projects



Pasteur Institute (Tunis) vs ANSES Nancy (France)

Twinning on rabies diagnostic capacity building

National Vet School de Sidi Thabet (Tunis) vs IZS Teramo (Italy)

Twinning project on animal welfare, with a focus on stray dog pop management Pasteur Institute of Tunis is an approved lab to test the effectiveness of rabies vaccines in dogs, cats, and ferrets (EU Decision n. 2021/545, 26/03/2021).

(2021 - 2022)

National Zoo-sanitary Monitoring Center (CNVZ) conducted studies on dog population in several areas of Tunisia to understand the ecology of dogs

Support dog sterilization campaigns + building vaccination and sterilization centers by the Municipalities

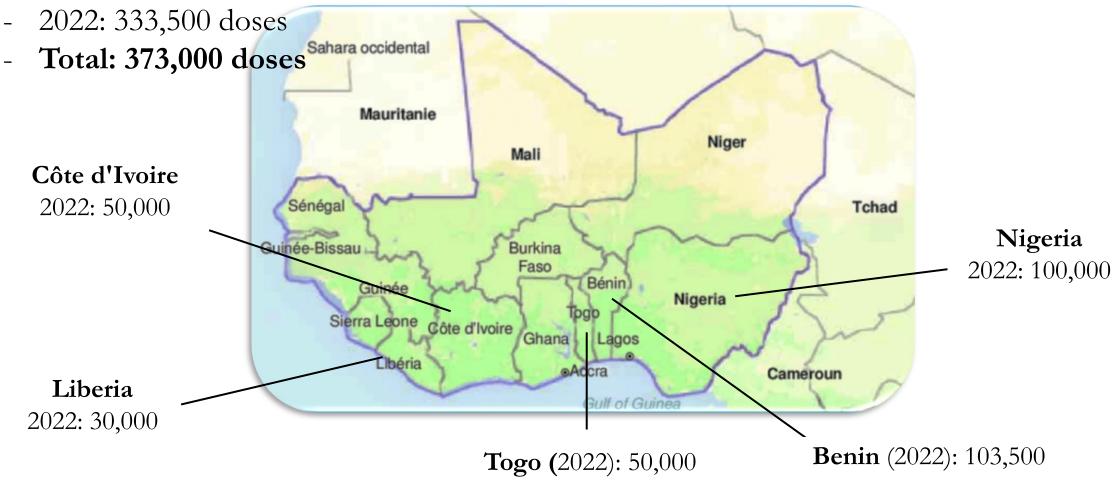


- Rabies vaccine deliveries from WOAH Vaccine Bank and mass dog vaccination campaign
  - Algeria, Tunisia conducted MDV using WOAH-donated vaccines
  - Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco regularly conduct MDV campaigns using selfpurchased vaccines
- Public awareness education campaign on rabies
  - WOAH supports World Rabies Day events every year
- Capacity building on rabies
  - Tunis (28 Sept 2022): Rabies control strategies with Ministry of Agriculture & Pasteur Institute
  - Tunis (29 Sept 2022): Scientific day on Rabies Control Strategies & PPP
  - Morocco (29 Sep 2022): Ministry of Health organised a conference in Rabat with the coordination of WHO, WOAH, FAO

## Central and Western Africa

# Rabies vaccine deliveries from the WOAH Rabies vaccine bank to stimulate mass dog vaccination campaign

- 2021: 39,500 doses



(2021 - 2022)

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#### Developing a national rabies strategic plan

 Supported Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone to develop NSP



Building rabies laboratory diagnostic capacity

• Twinning Project between APHA/UK and CVL Sierra Leone (2021-2023) 03

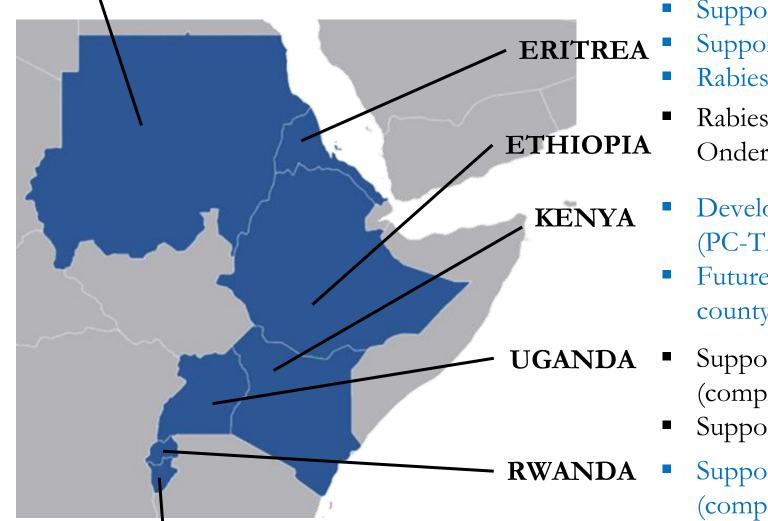
Rabies elimination Project in Cameroon (2022-2026)

(2021 - 2022)

- Mass dog vaccination
- Awareness education
- Strengthening laboratories and surveillance

## **Description Eastern Africa**

• SUDAN support to the development of NSP, contract prematurily closed



- Support for dog population census
- Support to laboratory capacity building
  - Rabies vaccine delivery 75,000 doses
  - Rabies Laboratory Twinning agreement between Onderstepoort OVR & Sebeta NAHDIC
- Development of a scale-up national Project (PC-TAD)
- Future support for vaccination in Machakos county (via ILRI and VSF-G)
- A Support to the development of a NSP (completed, awaiting endorsement)
  - Support World Rabies Day 2021
  - Support to the development of a NSP (completed, awaiting endorsement)

**BURUNDI** • Support to the development of a NSP (contract forcibly closed, NSP unsatisfactory...)

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#### Southern Africa

#### Rabies vaccine deliveries from WOAH rabies vaccine bank (5 Members): 450,000 doses

Country	Total doses of deliveries	Year of delivery	Funding source
Botswana	50,000	2022	BMZ German Project
Eswatini	50,000	2022	BMZ German Project
Mozambique	50,000	2022	BMZ German Project
Namibia	100,000	2021	BMEL German Project
	150,000	2022	BMEL German Project
Zambia	50,000	2022	BMZ German Project
Total	450,000		

Green shaded: Rabies Vaccine received from WOAH Rabies Vaccine Bank (2014- Dec 2022)

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• In Africa: 28 countries benefited from WOAH Rabies Vaccine Bank (10.27 million doses of rabies vaccine delivered so far

(2021 - 2022)

- In 2022: 800,000 rabies vaccine doses have been delivered to 10 Members in the African region
  - WOAH, WHO, and direct purchases by countries
- It played a catalytic role and encourages countries towards rabies elimination program

## Southern Africa

- Establishment of Southern African Rabies Laboratory Network (RABLAB)
  - FLI, Germany Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia (conducted training on 20-22 Sep 2022)
  - Onderstepoort Veterinary Research (OVR) Institute, RSA Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Malawi, Zimbabwe (Training in March 2023)
- WOAH Rabies Laboratory Twinning Project

FRIEDRICH-LOEFFLER-INSTITUT

**FLI** Bundesforschungsinstitut für Tiergesundheit Federal Research Institute for Animal Health



Parent laboratory



Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft





Candidate laboratory, Namibia



(2021 - 2022)



"Strengthening the Namibian Central Veterinary Laboratory in rabies diagnostics, control and research"

## Support

Support to the development of national rabies strategic plan (NSP)

• Botswana, Lesotho, Zambia

Facilitate

#### WOAH endorsement of official rabies control programme

- Virtual regional training workshop (4-6 May 2022)
- 80+ participants from 28 Members from Africa
- Deadline for submission = September 2023

## Support

#### World Rabies Day events (28 September)

- Financial support provided Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia
- Africa Regional Rabies Webinar (27 Sep 2022) 412 attended

## Southern Africa

- Rabies Elimination Project in Namibia (2016-2026)
  - Mass dog vaccination campaigns
  - Oral rabies vaccination field trails
  - Public awareness education programmes on rabies
  - Rabies surveillance
  - Capacity building
  - Inter-sectoral and regional collaboration

**Result** = reduction of rabies incidences in both animals and humans in Namibia





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Human rabies deaths in Namibia

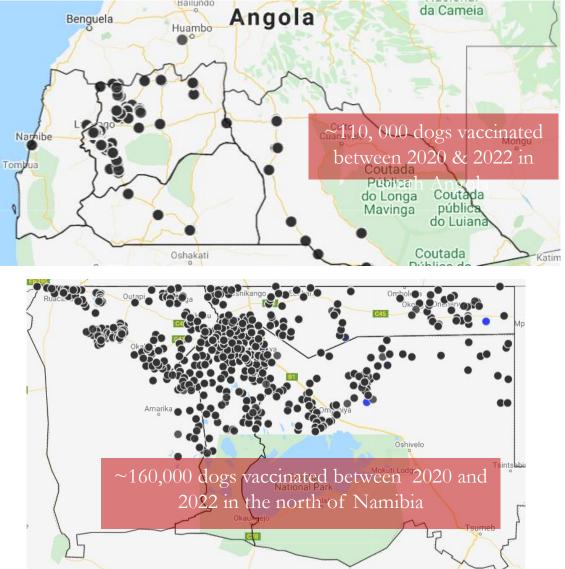


## Cross-border rabies control and collaboration:

Namibia and Angola as an example







(2021 - 2022)

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## Conclusions

- Rabies vaccine deliveries through WOAH Vaccine Bank
- Developing National Strategic Plans for Rabies
- Facilitating WOAH endorsements of official rabies control programmes
- Rabies diagnostic capacity building through Twinning Projects, networking, and training
- Capacity building of Veterinary services training / workshops / webinars
- Public awareness education campaigns support World Rabies Day events (28 September)
- Implementaion of rabies elimination projects



# Building a successful control programme for dog-mediated rabies

#### Surveillance and reporting in animal populations:

to monitor the evolution of the disease and detect potential cases as early as possible

#### Vaccination campaigns: to tackle the disease at its main animal source

Effective management of free-roaming dogs in line with WOAH Standards: to reach an immune or rabies-free dog population while ensuring that animal welfare is respected

#### Public awareness and education campaigns: to improve the understanding of the risks related to rabies, as well as how to prevent them

# **Thank you!**

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