Innovative dog vaccination campaign delivery

Miss Amanda Naude

On behalf of the Department of Veterinary Services

Zimbabwe

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Department of Veterinary Services
Vaccination campaigns have been implemented in Zimbabwe since the 1950’s. Limited resources, however, restricted these campaigns to annual static-point vaccination campaigns focusing on the rural settlements. The urban areas were often neglected in these campaigns, and the estimated vaccination coverage in cities and larger towns declined.
Rabies in the capital city of Zimbabwe

• The neglect of the urban areas became evident in 2011 when an increase in animal rabies cases was detected in the capital city – Harare

• Outbreak officially declared but the outbreak could not be epidemiologically defined.
Rabies-positive and negative cases, Harare Province (2010 - 2017)
The rabies outbreak was **not slowing down**

Dogs remain the most important reservoir species – **need to be vaccinated**

The Department of Veterinary Services did not have a well-coordinated multi-sectoral approach and had limited vaccine – **limiting dog vaccination to only the national campaign (annually)**
What was the solution?
What was the solution?
Government and Animal Welfare teamed up

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Planning and community engagement
Vaccination

Department of Veterinary Services

Vaccination

Technical assistance and resources
Approach
Approach
All of the project partners underwent training using the GARC Education Platform

- Rabies Educator Certificate
- Animal Handling and Vaccination certificate
Preparation for campaign

• Animal vaccine,
• Animal handling equipment
• GARC Data Loggers (GDL)
donated by GARC and World Animal Protection
• 5841 dogs vaccinated

• ±18 000 doses of vaccine remaining

• WRD = mass dog vaccination campaign inside the city
Thank You

This work is made possible by the generous support of World Animal Protection. The contents, however, is the responsibility of the Global Alliance for Rabies Control and the various in-country partners (Zimbabwe) and do not necessarily reflect the views of World Animal Protection.