Rabies stakeholder meetings

A starting point for the national programmes
Need a strategy for a good Rabies Elimination Plan

National Rabies Elimination Plans have been drafted in many countries, but:

- No clear strategy/One Health approach
- No clear budget
- No dedicated working group
- Timeline unrealistic
- No clear tasks outlined nor defined responsibilities
Rabies Stakeholder Meetings, 2018 - West Africa

- FAO, GARC and CDC collaboration funded by USAID (in the framework of the Global Health Security Agenda - GHSA project)

- 5 Rabies stakeholder meetings:
  - Guinea: 26-30 March 2018
  - Cote d’Ivoire and Ghana: 22-25 May 2018
  - Liberia and Senegal: 28 May- 1 June 2018

- One health meeting
Rabies Stakeholder Meetings - 2018

- Developed multisectoral action plans for rabies elimination by 2030 using the SARE assessment tool and the tool Practical Workplan Toward Achieving Rabies Elimination
  - The PWARE tool is to help countries strategically eliminate canine rabies by facilitating the development of a core Action Plan for the country based on the activities highlighted during the course of the SARE assessment

- Developed budgeted long-term canine vaccination programmes using the CDC GDREP tool

- Created Rabies Technical Working Groups (TWG) in all beneficiary countries
Drafting of the National Rabies Elimination programme with specific budget for each activity (6-11 August 2018)

Budget and narrative of the National Rabies Elimination Programme finalized (3-7 September 2018)

Official validation of the National Rabies Elimination Programme: 24th September 2018

Organization of the World Rabies Day: 28th September 2018
Ghana: Update from May 2018

- Submission of National Rabies Action Plan to Minister of Food and Agriculture to engage in the multisectoral coordination and collaborative activities of the Ghana Rabies Control and Prevention work plan (31 August 2018)

- In partnership with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to participate in the celebration of World Rabies Day Celebrations 28-29 September, 2018
Guinea: Update from May 2018

- Established a TWG for Rabies within the national OH platform
- Following 4 national workshops 2 in Kindia (24/30 June) and 2 in Conakry (3/7 September 2018) - elaboration of National Rabies Elimination programme
- Procurement of autopsy kits and ice boxes to strengthen field sampling
- Training of the central veterinary laboratory (LCVD) on rabies diagnosis (FAT, DRIT and RT-PCR)
- Acquisition of human vaccines by the Ministry of Health (making them available in the regions)
- Revision of the prices of humans vaccination (from 133 USD to 33 USD for 4 doses)
- Endorsement of the Action Plan finalized by the Minister of Livestock, the Minister of Health and the Minister of the Environment: The signature of the ministers will appear on the preface to the Action Plan.
- Organization of the WRD on the 28th Sept 2018: the official presentation of the Action Plan will be done during the celebration of the WRD
Senegal: Update from May 2018

- Meetings held between the key stakeholders (public health, animal health, private sector, local authorities, communities, international organizations, national and international NGOs, etc.), to define roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the National Rabies Elimination programme.

- Operational subgroup "rabies subgroup" established as part of the Zoonoses working group (High Council for Global Health Safety One Health).

- Strategic control and prevention plan developed and drafting of the narrative.

- KAP survey on rabies in the localities of Mbour and Kédougou finalised.

- Dog population estimation study for Senegal finalized.

- National Rabies surveillance programme finalization is on-going.

- Joint investigation (MoA/MoH) of rabies cases in Ziguinchor (2), Kaolack (2) and Saint-Louis (1).
Liberia: Update from May 2018

- A short-term National Rabies action plan (2019-2023) drafted May/June 2018. The Rabies TWG now finalizing draft document which is to be validated soon.

- FAO as part of the Rabies TWG is actively involved in the organization of World Rabies Day. The theme for World Rabies Day 2018 in Liberia is “Rabies: Share the message. Save a life”. Emphasis being given to education and awareness raising/sensitization in preventing canine rabies. The day is celebrated together with a dog vaccination campaign.

- FAO Liberia will support WRD by procuring 2500 doses of rabies vaccine and consumables needed for the dog vaccination campaign, working closely with the Rabies TWG.
Ethiopia: Update on Rabies Activities

- September 2015; Inter-ministerial zoonotic diseases prioritization using the CDC tool prioritized rabies to be among the top five priority zoonotic diseases in Ethiopia;

- 2016/17; Established a multi-sectoral Rabies TWG (RTWG) through a series of stakeholder consultations;

- 19 – 23 June, 2017; Prepared zero draft national Rabies control and elimination strategy using the SARE tool;

- 18 – 22 September, 2017; Finalized draft strategy and developed a Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) with support from M&E expert from FAO ECTAD EA;

- 03 - 05 January, 2018; Developed estimated budget plan for the national rabies control and elimination strategy;

- 02 – 03 April, 2018; Validation of the National Rabies Control and Elimination Strategic Plan (together with Anthrax counterparts);

- 16-17 April, 2018; FAO supported hands-on training on: biosafety, sample collection and diagnosis of rabies at the Shola veterinary laboratory; and

- 04 – 09 June, 2018; rabies out break investigation, awareness creation in SNNP/ Dawro Zone/ Tercha town;
Tanzania: Update on Rabies

No stakeholder meeting so far but discussions initiated on National Rabies Elimination plan. So far:

- **Data collection and analysis**: Supported investigation of outbreaks of Rabies in human, dogs and cats (4-8 May 2018)

- **Prevention and control**: Facilitated mass dog and cats vaccination in Moshi Kilimanjaro Region (n=33 700 Rabies vaccine doses supplied from OIE Vaccine bank) - May 2018, ongoing

- **Labs diagnosis**: strengthen lab diagnostic capacity (procurement of reagents and kits, participation to PT)

- **One Health approach**: Trained 81 subnational OH Rapid Response Teams (OH RRT) to enhance coordinated multi-sectoral response at subnational levels

- **Communication**: Provided a range of IEC materials for rabies awareness campaign

- National stakeholder meeting planned in next few weeks
To reach the « Zero by 2030 » goal ...

- Extend the FAO-GARC-CDC model of cooperation to develop national rabies elimination plan in other countries where rabies has been listed as a priority zoonotic disease.

- Need for a regional approach:
  - AU IBAR, Africa CDC, AFRO, relevant NGO, research institutes and academia, and RECs.

- Collaboration to continue between FAO, GARC, WHO, OIE and CDC to:
  - Promote the global elimination plan and related tools and approaches.
  - Develop resource mobilization strategies (national and external funding), including advocacy documents to effectively implement national rabies elimination plans.
One of the major findings of the WHO Joint External Evaluation conducted in June, 2017 was as follows:
“There is a critical need for continued and expanded multi-sectoral communication and coordination. One of the resounding themes of the JEE discussions was the need for a greater integration between the health and animal sectors. There is, likewise, a broader necessity to encompass all the relevant sectors involved in the implementation of a One Health approach. Significant differences exist between the capacities of the Ministry of Health (MOH) and Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries (MAAIF) when it comes to preparedness, real time surveillance and emergency response, creating vulnerabilities for both human and animals as zoonotic diseases spread - these gaps need to be urgently addressed”.

This observation prompted the following recommendation as a priority cross-cutting action:
“Immediately establish and strengthen mechanisms for programmatic coordination, communication and better integration across sectors, and particularly focus on animal health so as to reinforce capacity in preventing and responding to zoonotic diseases, and combat anti-microbial resistance in-line with the One Health approach”.

There are functional disease surveillance and reporting systems for both the human (eIDSR) and animal (EMA-i) health sectors but these systems do not ‘talk’ to each other and this results in missed opportunities in terms of preparedness and response to disease outbreaks, particularly zoonoses, in either/both sectors.
Food for thought cont.......  

- EMPRES-i platform Global animal disease information system  
- EMA-i (Event Mobile Application) - A tool for rapid disease reporting and strengthening surveillance (real-time)  
- Prioritised diseases (max. 16)  
- To access/visualize from the field on a map geo referenced data of outbreaks available in the EMPRES-i database (“Near me”).

*Rabies in other livestock.......
Linking public health and veterinary services for integrated health systems

Key Elements

An integrated health system needs:
- Early detection in animal and human populations
- Multidisciplinary teams with relevant expertise and field experience
- IT system to link data collection, collation, analysis and reporting
- Laboratory diagnostic capabilities
- Response capacities (e.g., policies and SOPs across human and animal health (local, provincial, national, regional and international))
International Frameworks for Health Systems
Thank you