Showcase of developing a national rabies strategy based on the SARE-PWARE: Liberia

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Current situation in Liberia

Rabies is one of the priority diseases listing in the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) Guidelines and the Governance Manual of the One Health Platform

- **Human rabies**
  - Increase number of dog bite cases reported weekly has claimed the attention of all sectors

  - From Jan 2018: Over 950 cases of dog/animal bite reported
  - PEP distributed to public hospitals with support from WHO

Immediately notifiable diseases and events (active surveillance)	Diseases or events of international concern reportable under IHR 2005	Routine reporting: other major diseases, events or conditions of public health importance
Acute Bloody Diarrhea (Shigella)	Guinea Worm (Dracunculiasis)	Acute Watery Diarrhea
Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP)		Acute Viral Hepatitis
Cholera (Severe AWD)	Human Influenza (due to a new subtype)	Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI)
Human Rabies		Cataract
Lassa Fever	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)	Diabetes
Maternal Deaths		Diarrhea with dehydration in <5 years
Measles		Encephalitis
Meningitis1	Smallpox	Epilepsy
Neonatal Deaths	Other Public Health Event of International	HIV/AIDS (new cases)
Neonatal Tetanus	Concern (PHEIC)	Hypertension
Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers (including Ebola Virus Disease)	Includes: infectious, zoonotic, food borne, chemical, radio nuclear, or due to *unknown* condition	Hookworm
		Injuries (RTAs, domestic violence)
Yellow Fever		Malaria
Unexplained cluster of health events		Malnutrition < 5 years
Unexplained cluster of deaths		Mental Health
		Onchocerciasis
		Pertussis (Whooping cough)
		Severe Pneumonia <5 years
		Schistosomiasis
		Sexual Assault
		STIs
		Trachoma
		Trypanosomiasis
		Tuberculosis
		Typhoid

Source: Liberia IDSR Technical guidelines

Current situation in Liberia

Animal rabies

- Central Vet Laboratory (CVL) now equipped and staff trained to conduct rabies diagnosis with support from FAO and Swiss TPH

- Animal rabies first diagnosed in Liberia by CVL and confirmed by Padova Lab in Italy in 2018

Despite these activities, Liberia is only now starting to work towards rabies control and elimination – **needed a way to plan for the way forward**

National Workshop for the Development of an Integrated National Action Plan for the Control of Rabies in Liberia using the One Health" Approach:

Development of a National Strategy for Rabies Prevention and Control

Premise of meeting

The National Rabies stakeholders workshop was attended by multi-sectors - Selection was based on multi-sectoral approach for **ONE HEALTH**

Premise of meeting

- **Meeting focus:**
  - Stepwise Approach toward Rabies Elimination (SARE) assessment for Liberia
  - Development of a Practical Workplan for the Liberia's pending activities
  - Determination of Liberia's Global Dog Rabies Elimination Pathway (GDREP)

- **Envisaged outcome**: Short-term rabies action plan that can be funded and used in a short period of time.

SARE Assessment

- Over two days, the SARE assessment was completed by the participants

- The SARE tool was used as follows:
  - Measure progress
  - Acknowledged successful activities
  - identify gaps and areas to improve on

- **Liberia's assessment conducted and scored 1.5**

SARE Assessment

ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM SARE ASSESSMENT		
COMPONENTS	PENDING ACTIVITIES	ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES
Data collection and analysis	12	10
Prevention and Control	18	8
Laboratory diagnosis	8	5
Dog population related issues	12	0
Information, Education, Communication	17	2
Cross-cutting issues	7	4
Legislation	3	9

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Improving this needs an action plan

Practical workplan developed

- Over three days, a "Short-term rabies action plan" was developed using the SARE tool.

- Pending activities identified from the SARE were used to automatically develop a practical workplan for the country

- The workplan was updated based on inputs from the various stakeholders within the TWG

Short-term Rabies Action Plan
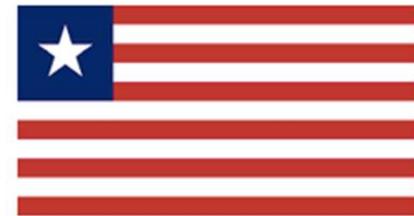
Liberia

2019 - 2021

GDREP assessment

The GDREP tool was used to estimate the amount needed annually towards rabies elimination
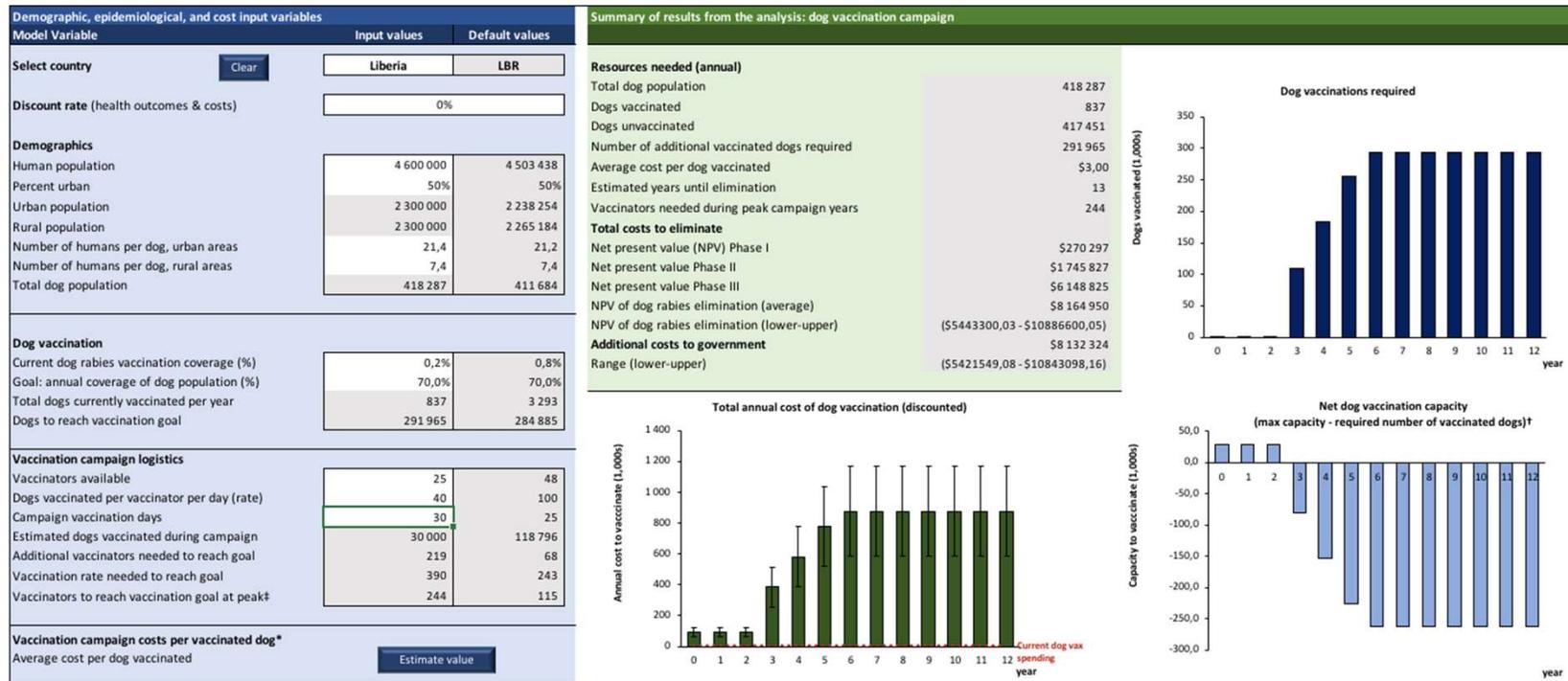
Workshop summary

- **Over a period of one week, Liberia undertook:**

- a comprehensive SARE assessment,

- cost estimation for rabies control and

- developed an action plan for the way forward

- Guidance during this process was provided by various subject matter experts from US-CDC, GARC, USAID, WHO, FAO and OIE

The "Next Steps"

- Validation of the National Action Plan
- Advocacy for support of the planned activities
- Conduct Dog population and KAP surveys
- Increase public awareness on rabies prevention and control
- Conduct Dog Vaccination annually
- Continue on-going surveillance
- Celebration of World Rabies Day 2018

Acknowledgement

- US-CDC
- USAID
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- PREDICT 2
- Partnership for Advancing Community-Based Services (PACS)
- Preparedness and Response

THANK YOU!