

Country Progress Update Liberia

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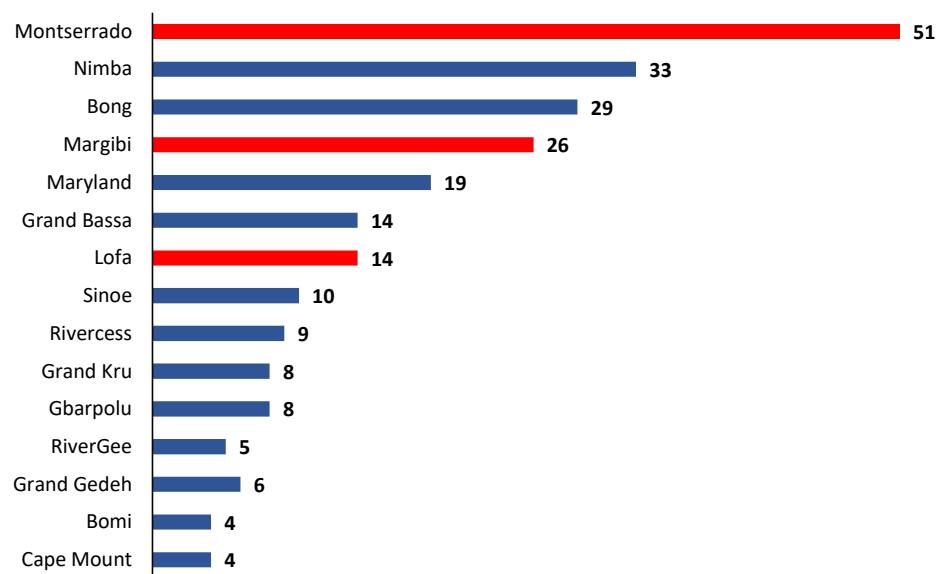


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Background information

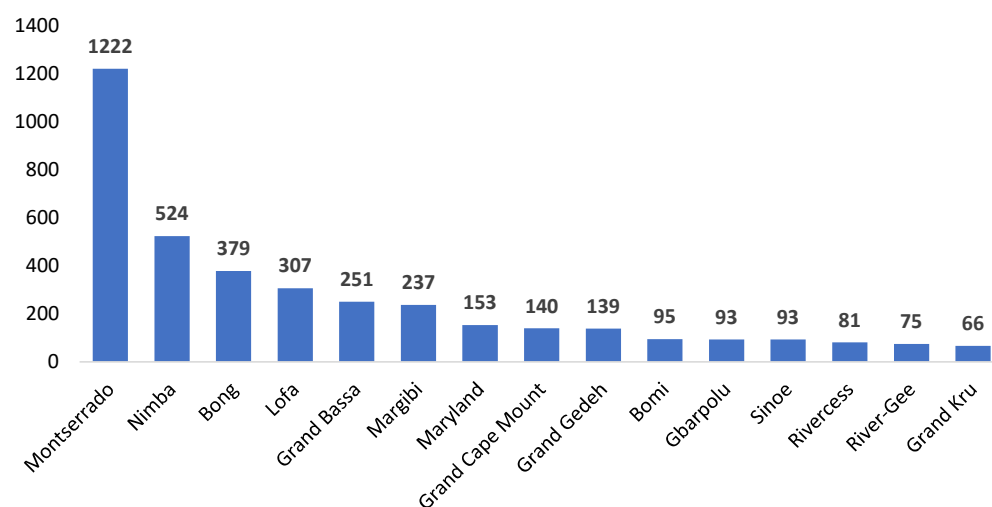
- In Liberia, rabies is among priority diseases listed in the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR), Animal Disease Surveillance Response (ADSR) and the One Health Governance Manual as zoonotic disease targeted for elimination in the country.

Figure 1: Distribution of cases of human exposure to animal- bites per county from Epi week 23-31, 2019



Source: NPHIL Line list, 2019

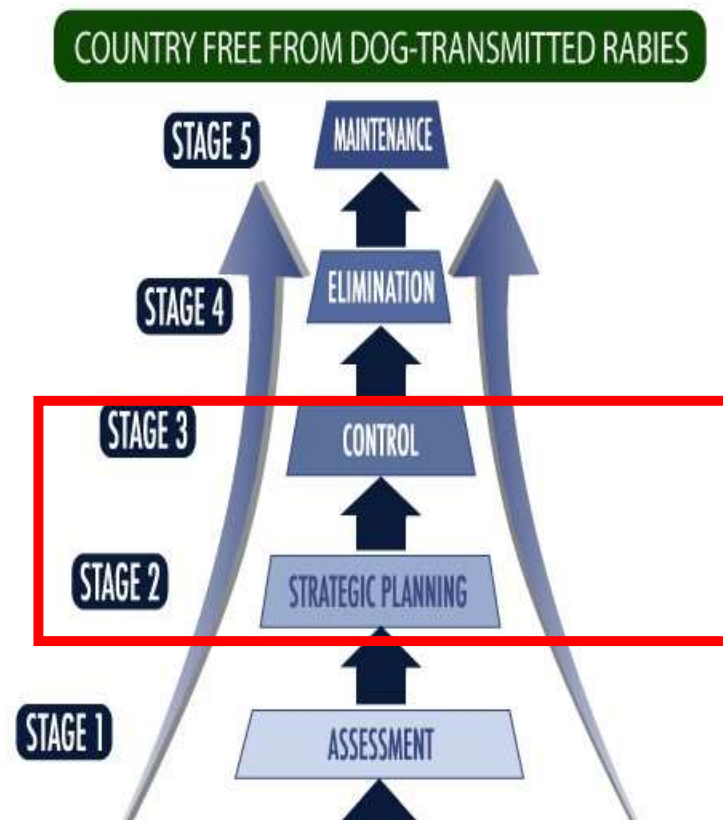
Figure 2: Estimated dog population per county, 2018



Source: National Action Plan for Rabies Control (2020 to 2013)

SARE Score

- The last SARE workshop was held in May 2018.
- The workshop was an in-country workshop that brought together line ministries, sectors, agencies, development partners for the elimination of rabies
- The last SARE assessment showed Liberia at stage 1.5
- The SARE workplan developed is being used to direct activities such as: advocacy, public awareness on rabies prevention and control, vaccination, health promotion messages, media publicity and the Rabies Education Platform



5 Prioritized rabies activities

- 1) Validation of the National Action Plan
- 2) Advocacy for support of the planned activities
- 3) Conduct Dog population and KAP surveys
- 4) Increase public awareness on rabies prevention and control and continue on-going surveillance
- 5) Conduct Dog Vaccination annually

Accomplished activities since last SARE

- Stepwise Approach toward Rabies Elimination (SARE) assessment conducted
- Development and validation of the National Rabies Action Plan, 2019-2023
- Establishment of a robust Rabies Technical Working Group (TWG) under the One Health Platform chaired by Ministry of Agriculture
- Approval for recruitment for a consultant to conduct Dog population and KAP surveys
- Massive Celebration (vaccination, media publicity, public awareness) on World Rabies Day 2019, in 3 hotspot counties that have been laboratory confirmed
- Heightened surveillance with all sectors (animal human and the environment)

Budget and Finance

- Most of the activities within the SARE workplan is being funded and supported by development partners. For example, procurement of vaccines and consumables has been funded by FAO Liberia, every year.
- The approval for the recruitment of consultant(s) to conduct the dog population census and the KAP survey, also being supported by World Bank/REDISSE Project

Planned activities for the next year

- Establishment vaccination centers for rabies prevention and control including treatment and management (dog and cat)
- Transportation support for routine dog vaccination teams (vehicles, fuel, DSA, etc)
- Procurement of solar refrigerators and cold chain facilities for sample storage at county level (for animal samples including rabies)
- Conduct the dog population census and the KAP survey
- In collaboration with AFENET/LFETP-v to use GARC Education Platform to improve the skills and knowledge of County Animal Surveillance Officers and Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) at the sub-national level in rabies prevention and control
- Liberia is not only using the SARE workplan, but also other workplans (under the One Health Platform) that supports rabies activities

What next?

My view for Liberia in terms of rabies (like every other country), through dedication, collaboration, and coordinated efforts, is to work harder to eliminate human-dog mediated rabies by the year 2030.

THANK YOU



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