Overview of MERACON: Aims, objectives and the way forward

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MERACON: Returning to rabies elimination
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What is MERACON?
• The Middle East, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and North Africa Rabies Control Network (MERACON)

• Regional network dedicated to rabies – coordinated by GARC

• Continuing successes from the former MEEREB network

• Aligned with other regional rabies control networks and the Global Strategic Plan
What are the aims of MERACON?
MERACON Aims

1. **Align countries with the Global Strategic Plan**
   - Provide support to countries working towards rabies elimination
   - Unite countries with the common goal of rabies elimination

2. **Generates advocacy and awareness**
1. How does MERACON fit in with the Global Strategic Plan?
1. MERACON and the Global Strategic Plan

• Country-centric approach

• Means to **share knowledge** and lessons learnt

• Provide **training** and means to **disseminate latest tools, technologies and strategies**.

• Support and enhance **collaboration** – both nationally and at the regional levels
GSP desired Outcome:
A means to share ideas and knowledge to develop a shared vision.
• MERACON unites countries in a region that face similar challenges

• It brings people together to share ideas

• Facilitates regional cooperation, collaboration and networking

• Addresses transboundary nature of rabies
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Provide training and means to disseminate latest tools, technologies and strategies.
What MERACON offers countries:

- Guidance with National Strategies
- Surveillance tools
- Education and Training
- Awareness and Advocacy
Developing and Revising National Strategies:

SARE workshops
SARE Workshops

The SARE tool will help you to:

- Develop or revise your national strategy
- Develop a medium-term workplan
- Demonstrate progress
- Highlight successes
Education and Training
Education and Training

MERACON provides education materials and training on the following:

- Online rabies certificate courses
- Dog population management
- Mass dog vaccination
- Surveillance and data reporting
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MERACon
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2. Generates Advocacy and Awareness
Advocacy and Awareness

• Celebrate World Rabies Day

• Advocate for support

• Raise awareness about rabies regionally and internationally

• Share stories to raise awareness
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The way forward
Way forward

• Introduction to tools and resources
Way forward

• Introduction to **tools and resources**
  • Learn about available tools
  • Understand how they can help you
Way forward

• Introduction to tools and resources

• Advocate for rabies elimination and raise awareness
Way forward

• Introduction to tools and resources

• Advocate for rabies elimination and raise awareness
  • Share your stories.
  • **GARC** can help disseminate stories about achievements, progress, no matter how small.
  • Put your **country** on the **global radar**.
Way forward

• Introduction to **tools and resources**

• **Advocate for rabies elimination and raise awareness**

• **Request training and assistance**
Way forward

• Introduction to tools and resources

• Advocate for rabies elimination and raise awareness

• Request training and assistance
  • MERACON can only help you if you request assistance.
  • Ask for detailed training on a tool of interest.
  • Request assistance in developing a strategy.
  • Send an email and we will help wherever possible.
Way forward

• Introduction to tools and resources

• Advocate for rabies elimination and raise awareness

• Request training and assistance
Conclusion

• Creates a **regional approach** to control rabies.

• **Shares knowledge, tools, training**, ideas and creates a shared vision.

• **Aligns countries in a region with the Global Strategic Plan of Zero by 30.**

• A network to **support your efforts** to achieving rabies elimination.
Thank you

For more information on MERACON visit:

https://rabiesalliance.org/networks/meracon

Or contact us at:
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