

Key elements to organise a mass dog vaccination campaign



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Key points



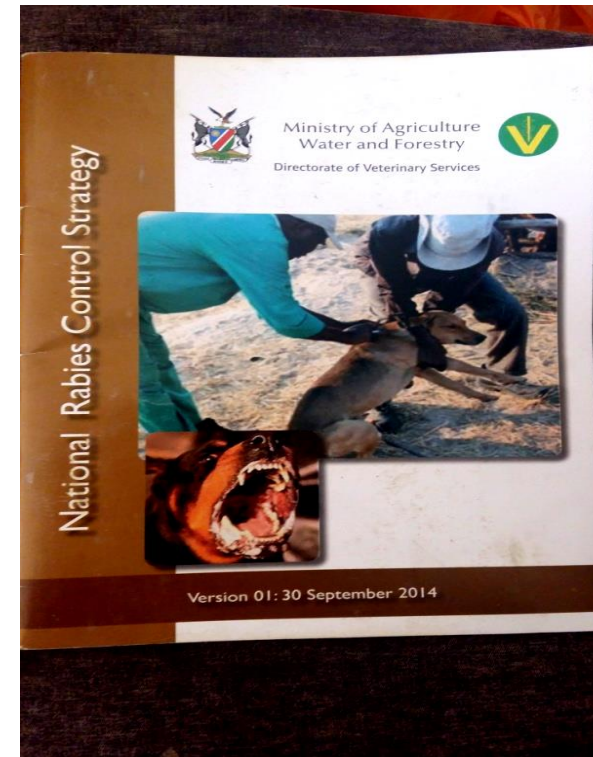
- Main objective of dog vaccination as control measures should be geared towards prevention and elimination of dog mediated human rabies.
- Theoretical, a 70% of vaccination coverage (WHO, 2013) is enough to achieve control and eventual elimination of rabies.
- Mass vaccination of dogs is the most successful and sustainable method for control and possibly elimination of dog mediated human rabies (OIE, 2015).

Important elements of any given vaccination campaign

- Legal framework and political will
- Leadership
- Budget allocation
- Training
- Public and stakeholder commitment
- Logistic
- Planning

Legal framework and political will

- Rabies should be a notifiable disease both for humans and animals (regulatory framework)
- National and regional laws (Policies and Legislations)
- Well defined control strategies in place
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in place
- Support from the decision makers



Leadership

- National committee appointed- National coordinator
- Regional committee- Regional coordinator
- Implementation level- Champions
- Well trained vaccination team leaders and vaccinators, animal handlers and educators



Public and stakeholder commitment

- **Collaboration across sectors and disciplines is crucial;**
 - Present the burden of rabies and the feasibility of addressing it together
 - Find a common ground towards implementation process
 - Own the project
 - requires consistent and sustained commitment, underpinned by strong health and veterinary systems.
 - working together to raise awareness and commitment to step-up the fight against rabies.



Training of staffs/personnel

- To be facilitated by the relevant training authority (ies).
- To be conducted on a regular basis and should cover:
 - ✓ Legislations
 - ✓ SOP and response guidelines
 - ✓ Campaign planning and executions
 - ✓ Information dissemination and awareness rising
 - ✓ Disease diagnosis
 - ✓ Advise on post-exposure therapy
 - ✓ Animal welfare, handling and vaccination
 - ✓ Record keeping



Logistics 1/2

- Resources
- Infrastructure (cold chain maintenance)
- Transport (car or quad bikes)
- Equipment and material
 - ❖ Vaccines
 - ❖ Handling equipments
 - ❖ Megaphones
 - ❖ Syringes and needles
 - ❖ Cooler boxes
 - ❖ Certificates
 - ❖ Tables and chairs



Logistics 2/2

- Safety boxes
- Water/food clothes for the vaccinator
- well defined team compositions and their roles
- Record keeping



Planning -Important consideration

- Target area (where) Hot spot area?
- Target population (dogs 70% coverage)
- Timing and frequency (when and how often)
 - ✓ consider social aspects of the community involved
 - ✓ Time of the year
 - ✓ depends on population turnover, duration of immunity
- Period (how long is campaign) clearly defined and be short to avoid fatigue
- During weekends or during school holidays to improve turnout (children often bring their dog)



Target area

- Whole country, region, constituency
- Have data on annual incidents of dogs/year and human rabies through dog bite incidents
- Knowledge of the current epidemiological situation through surveillance
- Knowledge of dog population(size and ecology)
–dog/human ratio



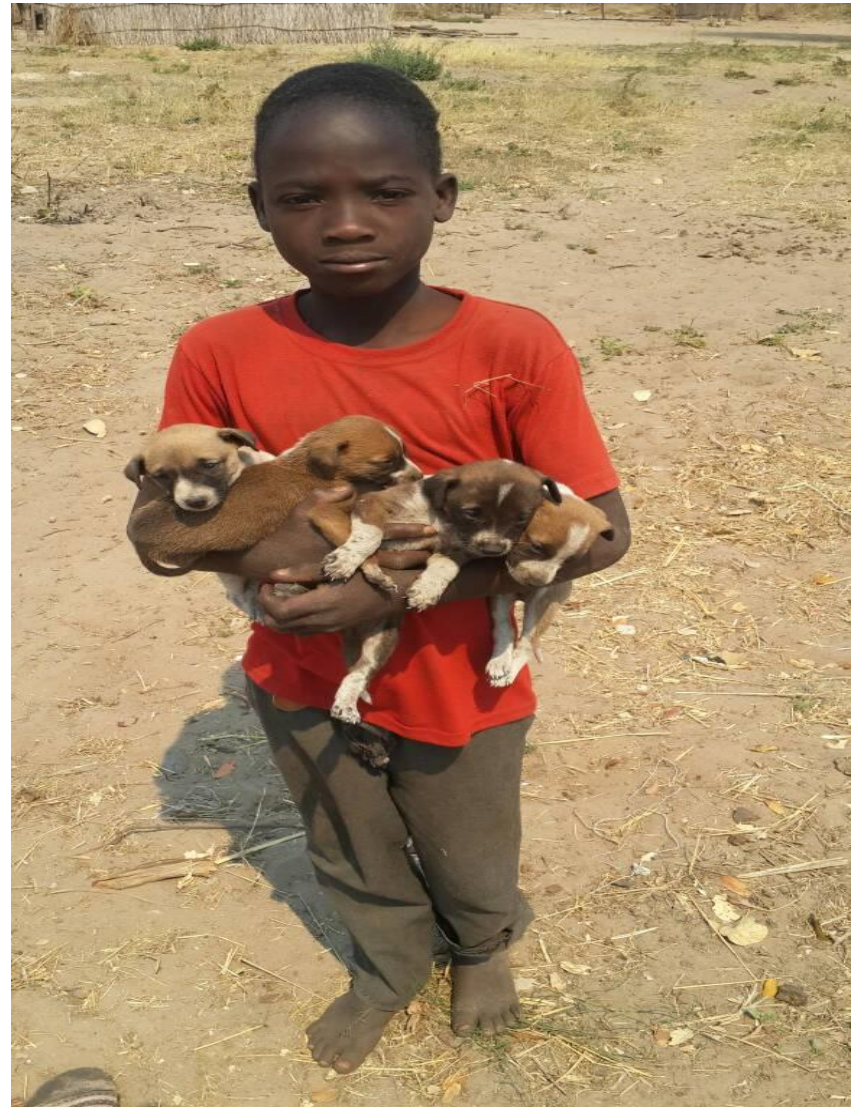
Target population

- All dogs, regardless of:
 - Age, Weight, Health.Avoid too sick animals (surveillance purpose)
- Cats when presented at vaccination point campaigns



Timing and frequency

- Annual basis but can be conducted more frequently (high turnover)
- During weekends or during school holidays to improve turnout (children often bring their dog)



Surveillance

- Record keeping of past trends
- Active and passive surveillance an ongoing activity
- All reported suspected cases must be investigated
- Surveillance networks and laboratory diagnostic should be in place/ put in place and sustained



Monitoring and evaluation

- Are targets set in the action plan achieved?
- What were the constraints and how best could be solved?
- Current trends in the disease
- 'post-mortem' meetings with stakeholders to evaluate, correct action and disseminate results



Thank you!

