

# 4th regional Workshop on Dog Population Management for West Eurasia countries (SDWE4)

Country Report on national situation from 2019-2023 Years

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World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health

Organisation  
mondiale  
de la santé  
animale

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal



# I. Understanding country situation

- The territory of Georgia covers 69,700 km<sup>2</sup>
- 12 regions, 65 districts, 3211 villages;
- 165 State veterinarian;
- 150 Food Safety inspector;
- 650 contracted veterinarians;



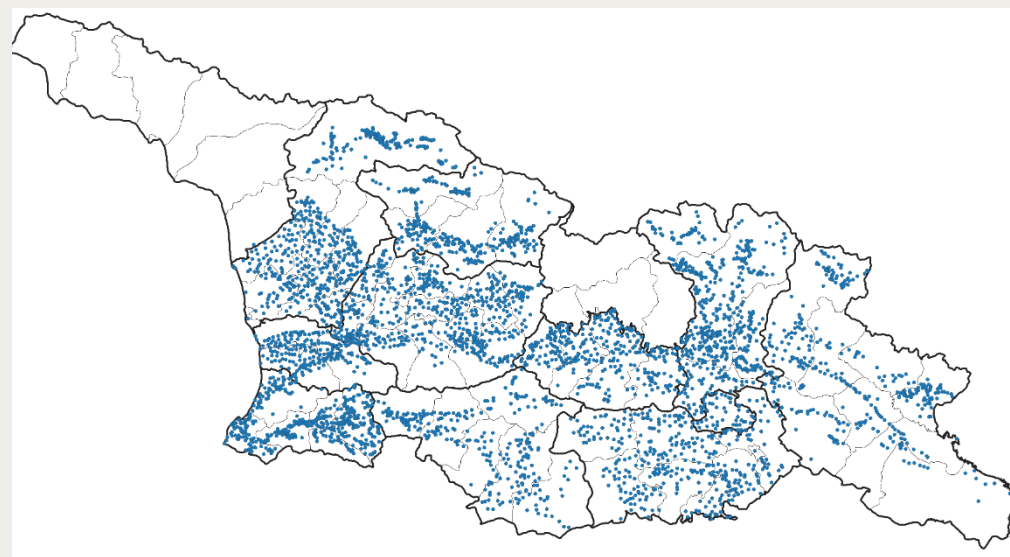
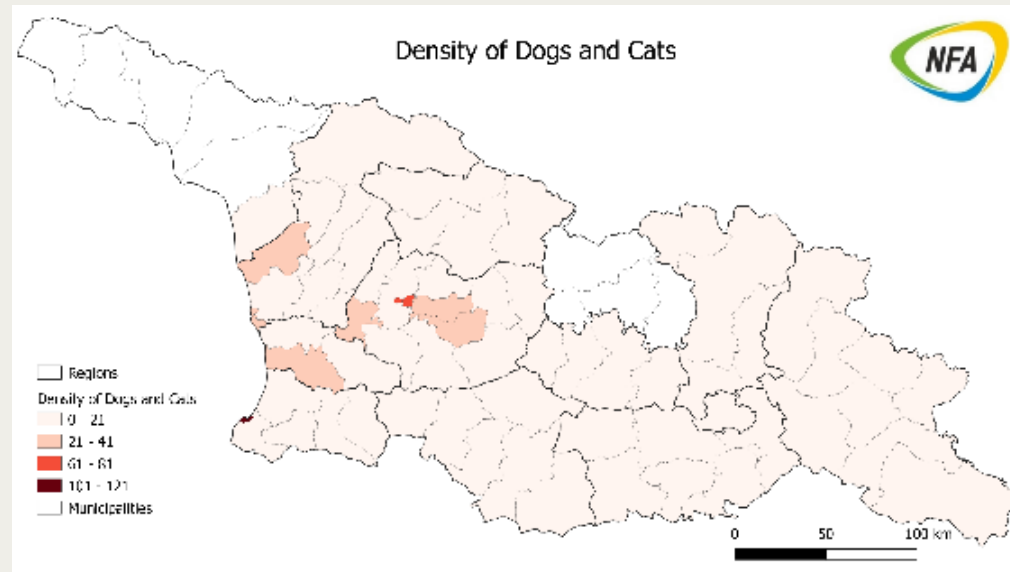
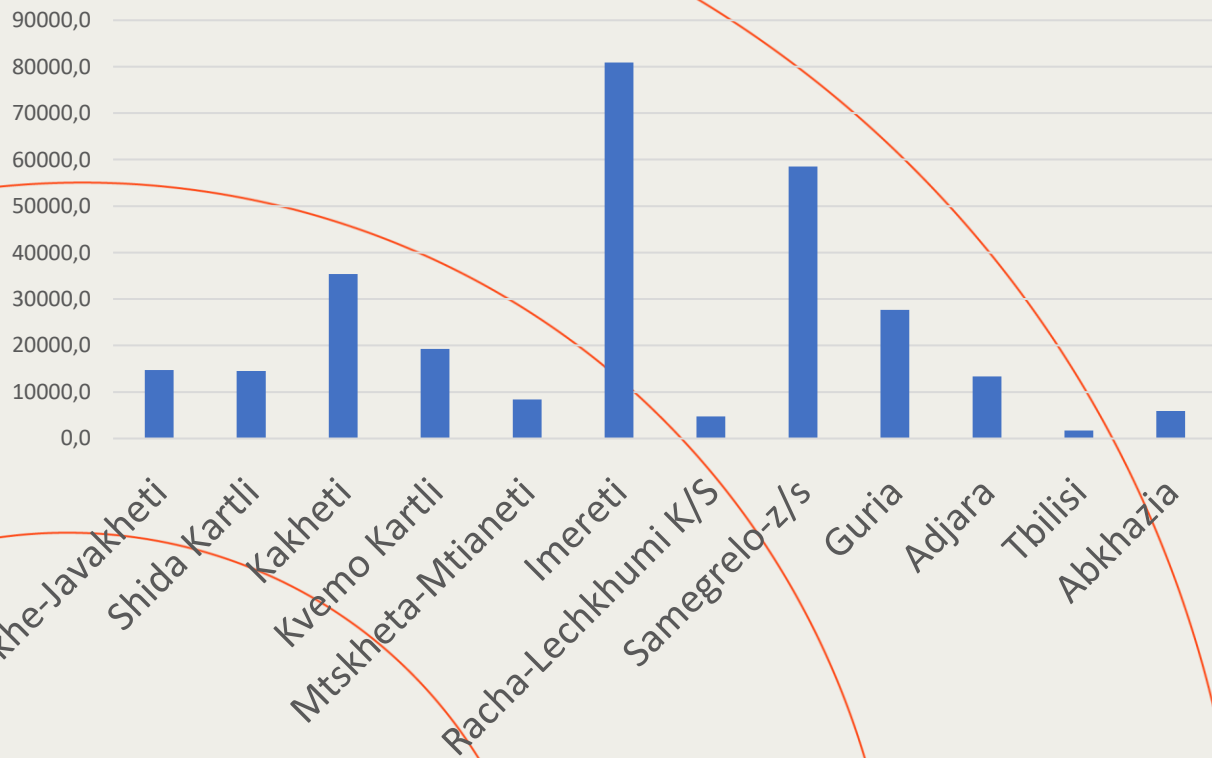


# I. Understanding country situation

Existing animals:

- Owned dogs/cats 300,000 – 350 000;

Number of Cats and Dogs





# I. Understanding country situation

- estimate the free roaming dogs and owned dog population and describe their demographic characteristics in 4 urban and 4 rural communities in Georgia.
- The Goal of this project were:
  - Conduct sight re-sight of roaming dogs
  - To calculate the human: dog population ratio
  - Compare the density of dog populations between urban and rural communities
  - Estimate a country level dog population in Georgia



# I. Understanding country situation

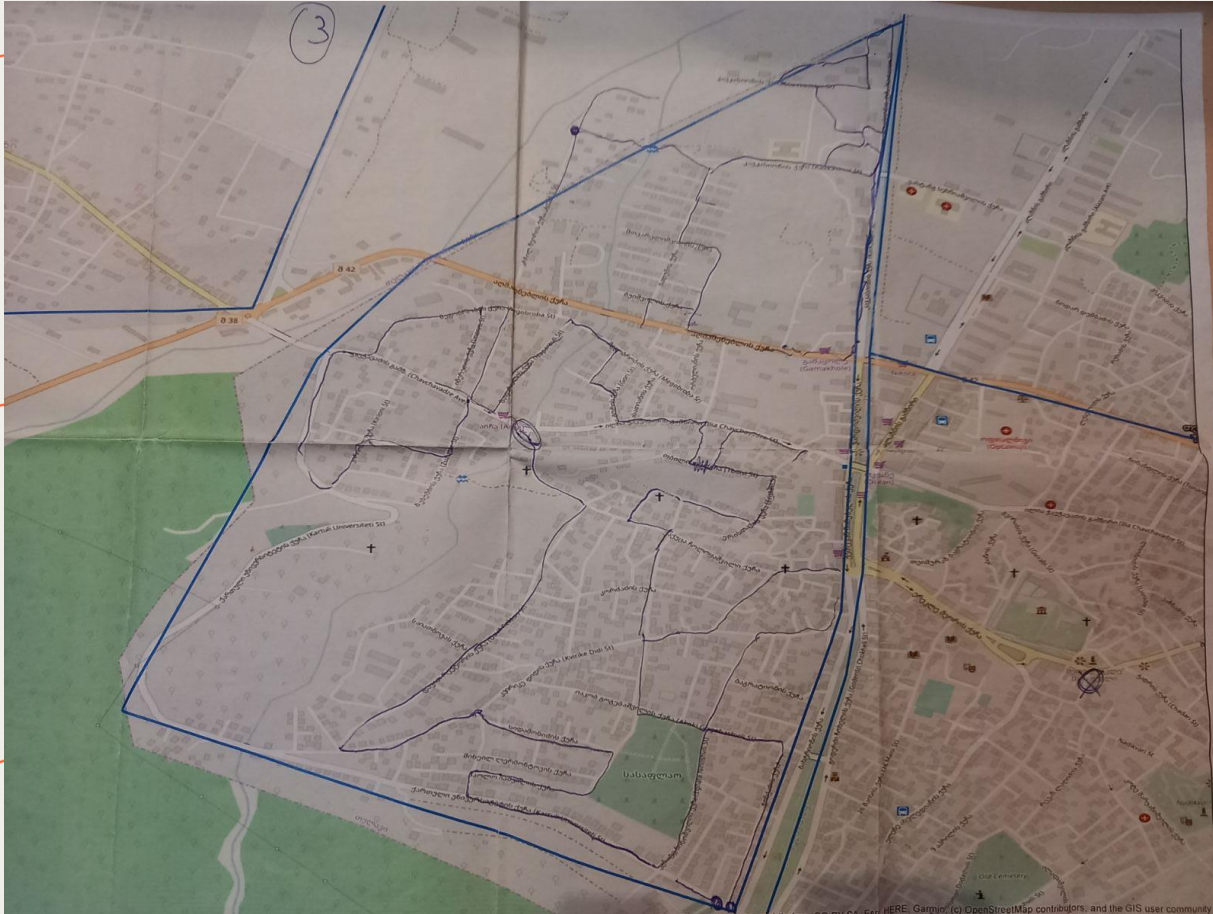
- **Strategies for Dog Population Census:**
  - **Household Survey (HHS) - how many owned dogs are allowed to roam in the community**
    - 96 households from each selected site
    - Number of dogs owned, roaming status, breeding, vaccination
  - **Sight Re-sight (SRS)**
    - Mark re-sight procedures
    - Day 1 spray water-soluble blue coloured vegetable dye
    - Day 2, same location – count marked and unmarked dogs
      - Date, time and GPS location of dog
      - Approximate age of dog (adult v. juvenile)
      - Sex of dog (female v. male)
      - Previously sighted (paint marking v. absence of paint mark)





# I. Understanding country situation

Field work:



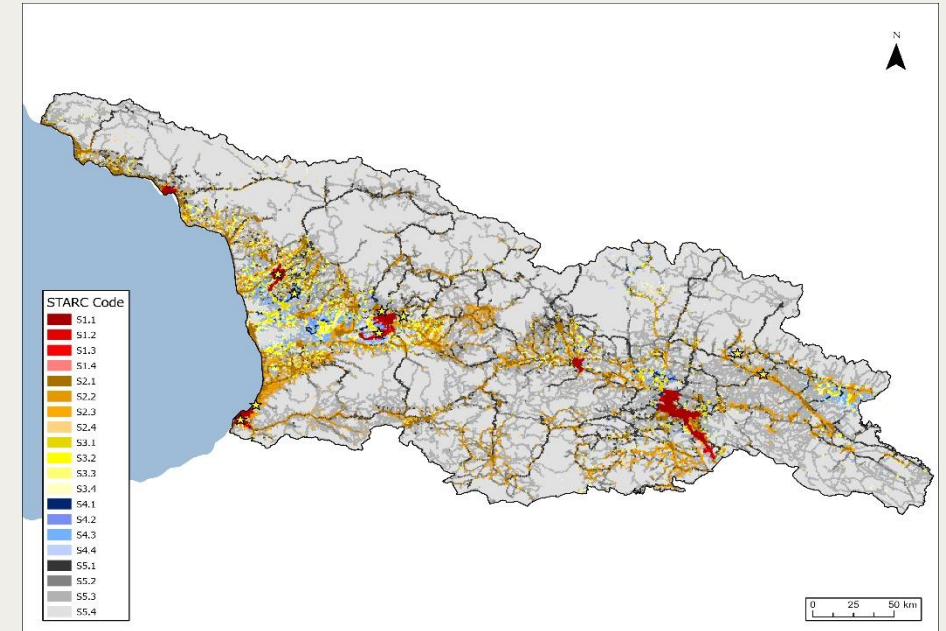
Telavi Urban area working map





# I. Understanding country situation

- Results:
- Human:dog Ration
- High 2.2 – 1 dog
- Lower 12.4 – 1 dog
- Average 8 – 1 dog
- Based on this study estimated number of owned and free roaming dog is appeared about 450 000 without Tbilisi;



Enumeration Site	Unadjusted HDR	Adjusted HDR (95% CI)	Difference (%)	Adjusted Empirical Estimate (95% CI)
R - Amer	2.2	2.2 ( 4 - 1.5 )	0%	1221 ( 662 - 1780 )
R - CHOAMA	5.2	5.2 ( 8.4 - 3.8 )	0%	526 ( 326 - 725 )
R - KB1/T3	3.5	2.9 ( 4.8 - 2.1 )	17%	541 ( 335 - 747 )
R - LS1/T2	3.7	3.1 ( 5.8 - 2.1 )	17%	239 ( 127 - 351 )
R - SA1/T1	2.4	2.4 ( 3.4 - 1.8 )	0%	376 ( 264 - 499 )
R - VA1 (6)	2.9	2.9 ( 10.5 - 2.1 )	0%	271 ( 75 - 375 )
R - ZA1 (7)	7.0	5.8 ( 14.2 - 3.6 )	17%	269 ( 109 - 429 )
R - ZA2 (8)	4.6	4.6 ( 8.4 - 3.2 )	0%	371 ( 204 - 537 )
U - BATUMI	12.4	12.4 ( 52.3 - 8.5 )	0%	5926 ( 1406 - 8644 )
U - KU2/N1	2.3	2.3 ( 2.9 - 2 )	0%	428 ( 344 - 512 )
U - KU4/N3	5.9	5.9 ( 10.4 - 4 )	0%	5793 ( 3288 - 8538 )
U - KU9/N2	9.3	9.3 ( 22.5 - 5.8 )	0%	2602 ( 1077 - 4169 )
U - TL2/T3	5.7	5.7 ( 9 - 4.2 )	0%	536 ( 341 - 730 )
U - TL3/T1	10.7	10.7 ( 24.8 - 6.2 )	0%	266 ( 115 - 463 )
U - TL5/T2	4.8	4.8 ( 8.1 - 3.4 )	0%	584 ( 344 - 823 )
U - Z1/G1	3.1	3.1 ( 4.4 - 2.4 )	0%	620 ( 440 - 800 )
U - Z2/G2	3.9	3.9 ( 6.9 - 2.6 )	0%	881 ( 491 - 1319 )
U - Z3/G3	5.1	5.1 ( 10.2 - 3.3 )	0%	1008 ( 503 - 1566 )



# I. Understanding country situation

- **Responsibilities:**
  - The owner of the animal is responsible for managing the population of owned dogs and cats;
  - Municipal service is responsible for free roaming dogs. In particular:
    - Management of free roaming dog populations;
    - free roaming dog population control;
    - Monitoring and evaluation of free roaming dog population;

With the Support of the NFA, municipal services and non-profit organizations, a draft law on domestic animals was prepared, which was submitted to the legislative body for approval.





# I. Understanding country situation

- **Reasons of increasing animals in Georgia:**
  - Wrong management (attitude) of owners in relation to their pets;
  - Refusing of Abandonment of pets;
  - Migration of animals from villages to cities;
  - Favorable natural conditions;
  - Low number of shelters in Georgia;



## II. Control measures

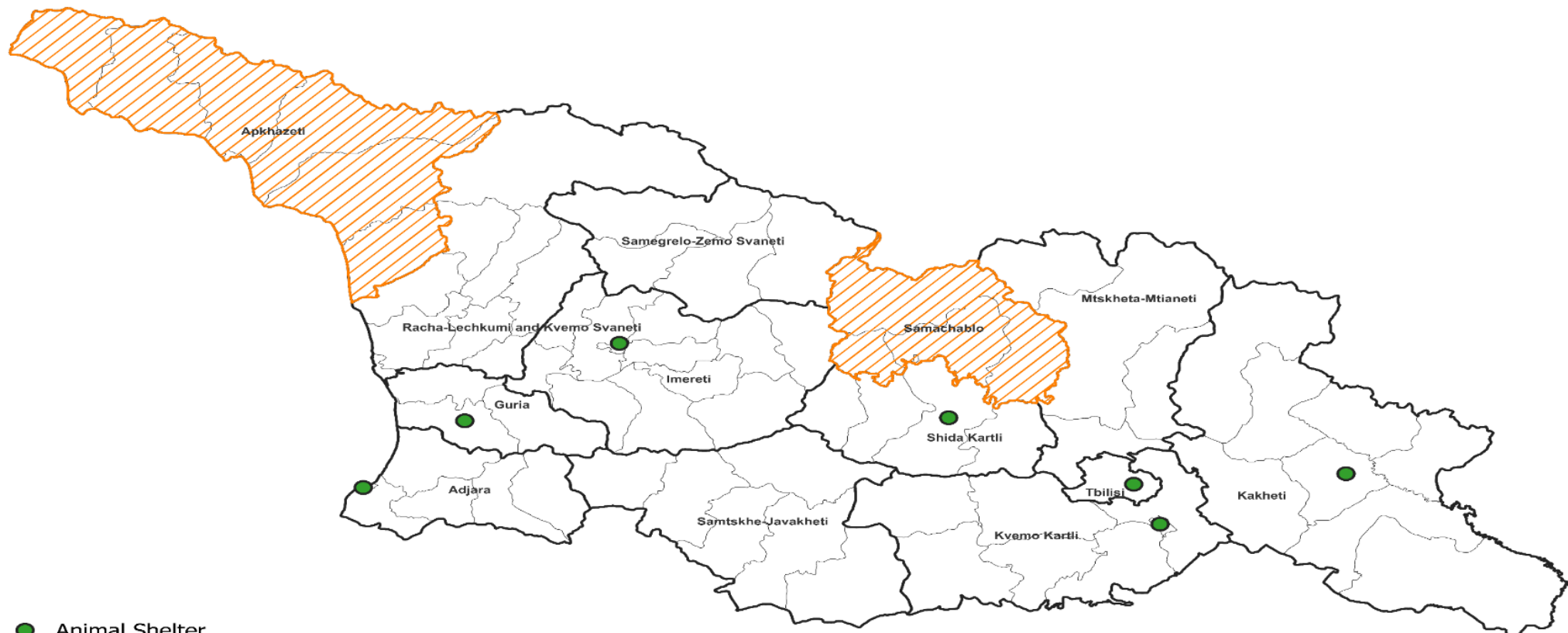
- **7 Shelters are registered in Georgia;**
  - Up to 700 dogs and cats can be accommodated in seven shelters at the same time;
  - About 25,000 dogs and cats are treated during the year;
  - In total, shelters are served by 30 veterinarians and up to 80 support staff;



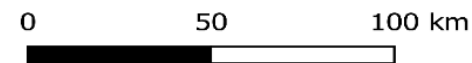
NATIONAL  
FOOD  
AGENCY



### Animal Shelters



- Animal Shelter
- ▭ Regions
- ▭ District
- ▨ Occupied Territories





## II. Control measures

- **Control of Shelters**
  - State control in shelters is carried out by the National Food Agency, which includes:
    - Scheduled and unscheduled inspections;
    - Verification of document;
    - Requirements for arranging animal shelters;
    - Requirements for veterinary drugs, including controlled drugs;



# III. Monitoring and evaluation

- Central level monitoring and evaluation of dog population management is not implemented;
- Municipal services individually assess the quality of the work they perform:
  - Number of animals identified and registered;
  - Number of calls registered in the shelter;
  - Number of actions performed;
  - Number of sick animals identified and registered;
  - Number of euthanized animals identified and registered;
  - Number of personnel trained in animal population management;





## III. Monitoring and evaluation

- Future Plane:
  - Establish Identification and registration system (NAITS) in shelters;
    - The National Food Agency supervises the operation of the system;
    - The system has a module (working version) for registration of domestic animals;
  - At this stage, 3 municipal shelters have access to the system;
    - User name and password were given to the user of the system;
  - The system has a Wikipedia module, where instructions for working in the system are described;



## IV. Rabies dimension

- Overall budget for Rabies activities are **800,000 GEL (280,000 USD)**;
- Control Measure Against Rabies in Georgia:
  - Massive prophylactic vaccination of dogs and cats;
  - Mandatory vaccination of susceptible animals in case of outbreak;
  - Active and passive surveillance campaign;
  - Post-Vaccination seromonitoring;
  - Study of distribution of Rabies cases within a wild animals;
  - Supervision on exposed animals within the 10 days.
  - Awareness campaign;



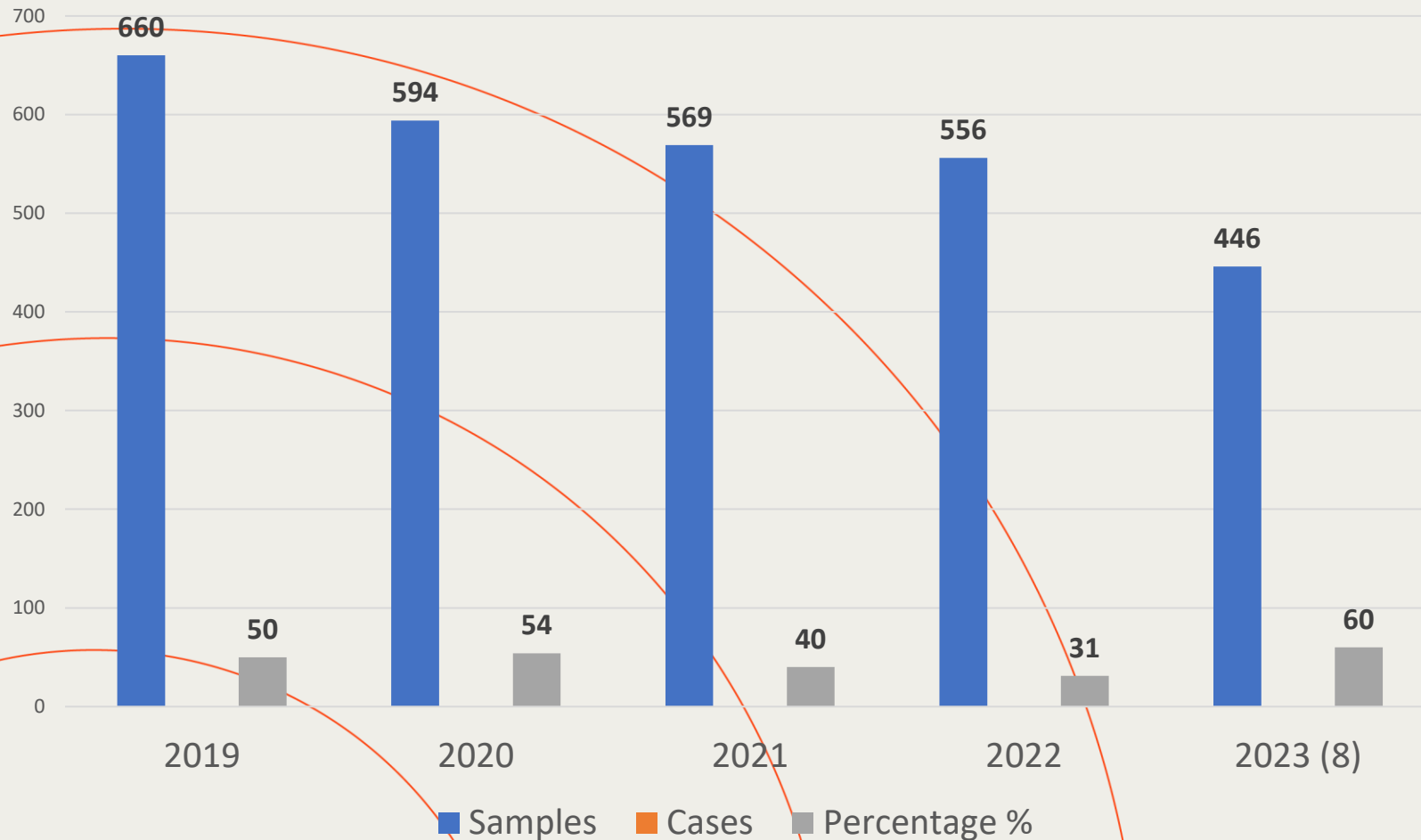
## IV. Rabies dimension

- A new quarantine rule to combat rabies was approved In 2023;
- Assessment of the risk of spreading rabies from wild animals to domestic animals and assessment of the risk of spreading rabies from unattended animals to domestic animals.
- Government Decree „Preventive measures to be conducted against Rabies in 2019-2023” is in place;



## IV. Rabies dimension

Samples and Cases Ratio



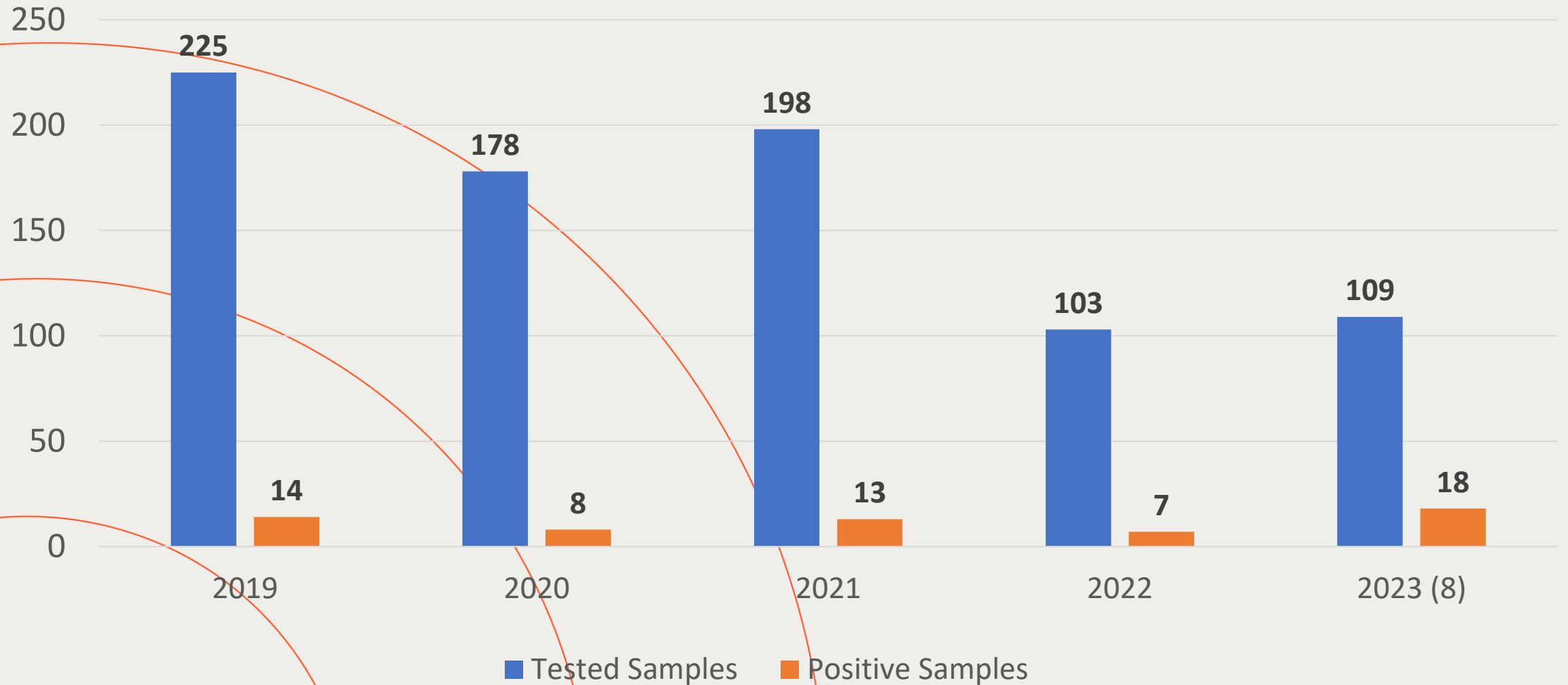
In 2019-2023 (8) years

- 2 825 tested samples;
- 236 positive samples;
- 565 average samples submitted to the SLA;
- 8,4% Average positive samples;



## IV. Rabies dimension

Surveillance on stray dog population in Georgia

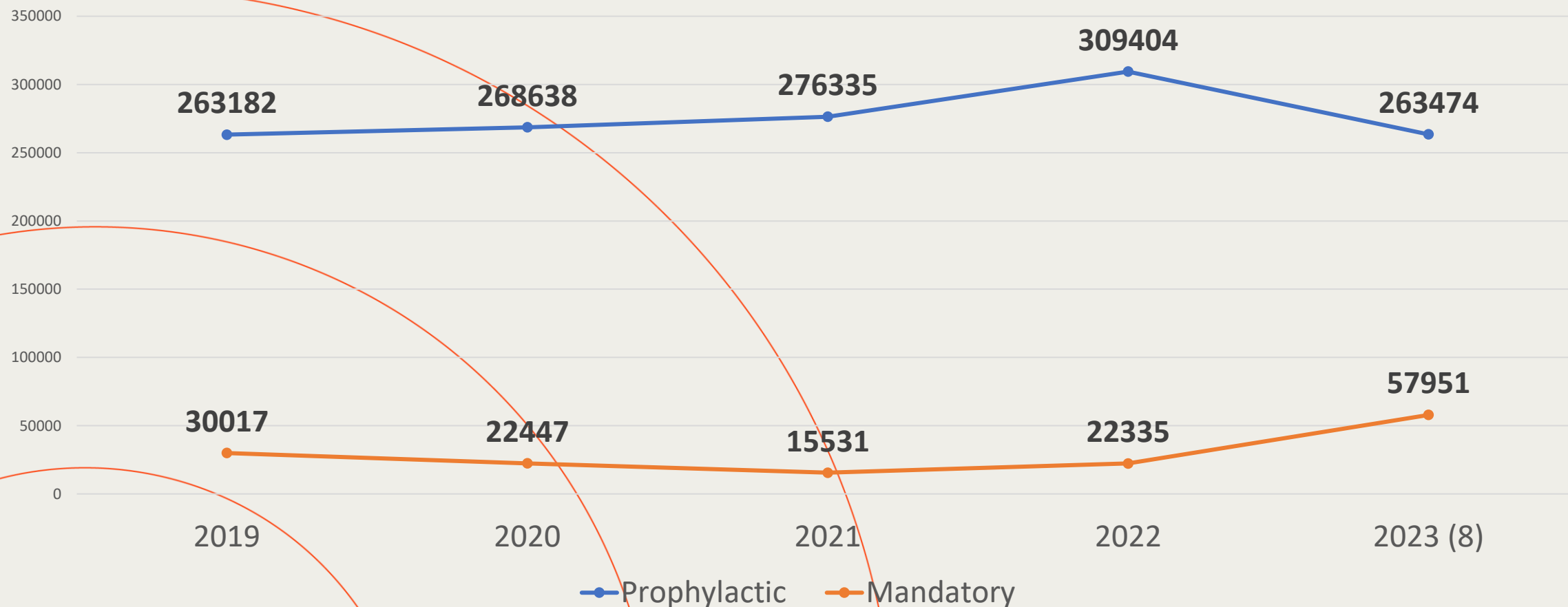






## IV. Rabies dimension

Prophylactic and mandatory vaccination in animals





## V. Country roadmap Key Actions

Actions to be Done	Responsible Authority
Increasing vaccination coverage	National Food Agency
Conduct activities defined by the quarantine rules	National Food Agency
Registration and Identification System (NAITS) operating in the shelters	Animal shelter
Control of animal movement	National Food Agency
Improving the education level of the population	Healthcare - National Food Agency
Adoption of a legislative document on the welfare of domestic animals	Local government
Development of a long-term strategy for controlling the population of roaming animals	Local government



# Thank you

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