



STEPWISE APPROACH TOWARDS RABIES ELIMINATION (SARE)

A PLANNING TOOL FOR COUNTRIES

- ▶ Dog-transmitted rabies (rabies) causes many related deaths daily worldwide, mostly in African and Asian countries
- ▶ Due to competing priorities, lack of resources and chronic under-reporting of cases the World Health Organization (WHO) classifies rabies as a neglected zoonosis
- ▶ Dogs are the predominant reservoir for human rabies: the vaccination of dogs against rabies is an effective method to prevent human cases.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) and the World Health Organization developed the *Stepwise Approach towards Rabies Elimination (SARE) tool* to support countries in planning the progressive control of dog-transmitted human rabies. The ultimate aim is that no persons will die anymore from this preventable disease.

SARE

Intended for self-assessment by countries of their rabies prevention and control activities, and to support and define what is required to move forward.

Six stages that enable countries to determine:

- ▶ what has been achieved/implemented so far and,
- ▶ what further needs to be done to control rabies in dogs to prevent human cases and achieve that nobody dies of this preventable disease anymore, and finally,
- ▶ what needs to be done to eliminate dog-transmitted human rabies.

Each stage consists of:

- ▶ **Topics:** Legislation; Data collection & analysis; Laboratory diagnosis; Information, education & communication; Prevention & control;
- ▶ Dog population related issues; and Cross cutting issues
- ▶ **Actions to implement** (the extend progressively increasing over the stages):
 - 1. Dog rabies vaccination
 - 2. Rabies awareness and communication
 - 3. Availability and accessibility of post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
- ▶ Description of the prevailing situation
- ▶ Definitions of the Target objectives, with links to relevant operational and technical sections in *The Rabies Blueprint* (www.rabiesblueprint.com)
- ▶ The essential "Keys" indicate what is required for a country to progress to the next stage

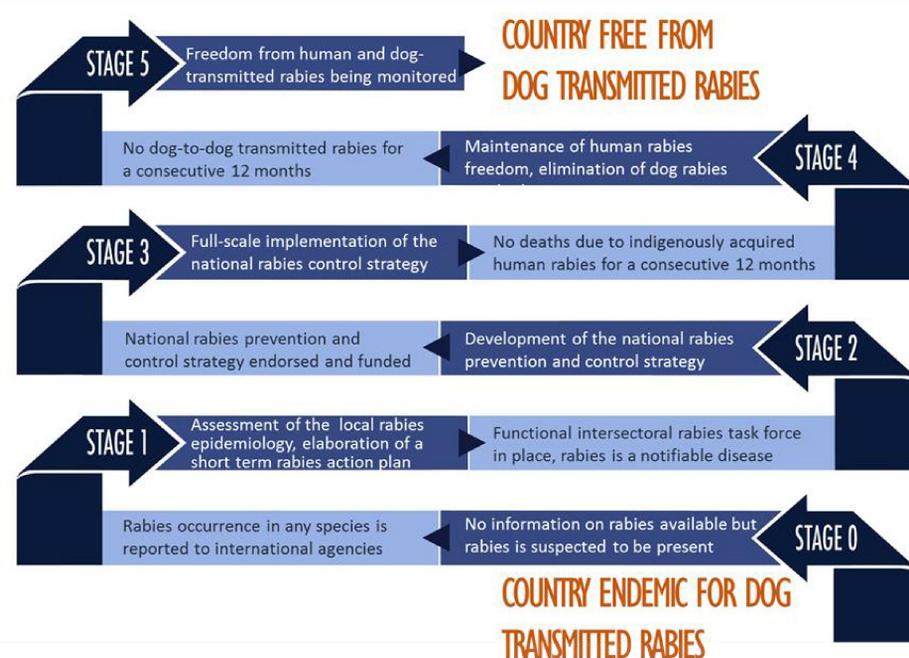


Fig 1. Diagram of SARE

USING SARE

A recommended start for a country, when engaging in SARE is:

RABIES STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION (RASC) TO KICKSTART RABIES ACTIVITIES

outline and organization details can be requested

- ▶ Brings together the various sectors in the country related to rabies: human and animal health, wildlife, animal welfare, communities, private sectors etc., to:
- ▶ Identify the needs for rabies control
- ▶ Evaluation of existing rabies prevention and control strategy
- ▶ Helps defining prevailing stage
- ▶ Develop an action plan to move to the next stage
- ▶ Establish an inter-sectorial **Rabies Taskforce**
- ▶ Intensify rabies vaccination of dogs and cats
- ▶ Increase awareness raising on rabies
- ▶ Set timeline
- ▶ Consider resources needed to implement the plan

All material to support the implementation of the action plan and progressive prevention and control of rabies can be found via the [rabies blueprint website](http://www.rabiesblueprint.com):

http://caninerabiesblueprint.org/IMG/pdf/stepwise_approach_toward_rabies_elimination_sept_2014.pdf

See Figures 1 and 2 for a diagram of the SARE roadmap and the list of Key objectives to be reached per stage, respectively.



Figure 2. List of essential Keys required before moving to the next stage in SARE