

Communities Against Rabies Exposure (CARE) Project



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Abstract

Inter-sectoral collaboration through the direct involvement and commitment of local authorities and community members are key in the successful implementation of a sustainable rabies prevention and control program.

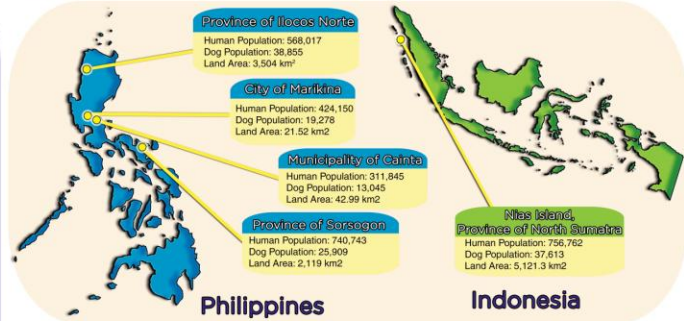
The Communities against Rabies Exposure (CARE) Project was implemented in 2012 in the Philippines (Provinces of Sorsogon and Ilocos Norte, City of Marikina, and Municipality of Cainta) and in 2014 in Indonesia (Nias Island in North Sumatra) through the support of World Animal Protection and the UBS Optimus Foundation. The principal objective of the CARE approach is to enable a community-led and sustained effort towards the elimination of the threat of rabies in humans and dogs.

Project interventions included the following:

- recruitment of village volunteers for the conduct of mass dog vaccination and as rabies speakers in the community;
- creation of local rabies committees;
- enacting local ordinances to support the rabies program;
- capacity building for laboratory, field and media personnel;
- development of stakeholder-specific communication materials;
- strengthening information sharing between medical and animal health personnel - a "one health approach" for early warning and rapid response for rabies suspect cases; and
- animal movement management campaign.

The value and impact of the CARE approach has been demonstrated. There were no human rabies cases reported while animal rabies cases decreased in most of the project sites in the Philippines during the course of the project. All indications are that community-led interventions against rabies will continue beyond the involvement of donor funding, offering the potential of sustained rabies control and elimination.

Project Overview



CARE Project Components

1. Prevention of dog bites and human rabies
2. Establishment of sustainable diagnostic and surveillance system
3. Elimination of rabies in dogs
4. Community awareness and mobilization
5. Integration of rabies prevention education in elementary schools

Project Outputs

I. Created an immune population of dogs to prevent rabies at source and its spread to humans.



III. Shared life-saving information to different intended audience with targeted messages to increase awareness on rabies, animal bite prevention, animal bite management and responsible pet ownership

A. For the Community



IV. Empowered community in the implementation of local rabies program through inter-sectoral collaboration and volunteerism



II. Enhanced early warning and rapid response system for suspect and confirmed rabies cases



B. For Children

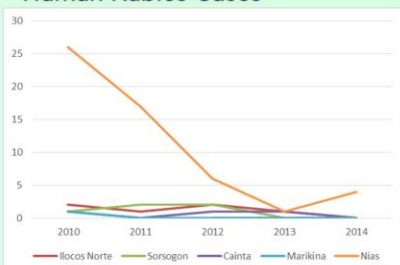


V. Trained personnel to implement various measures on rabies prevention and control



Project Impact

Human Rabies Cases



Canine Rabies Cases

