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President

**The Role of Private Veterinarians  
in Rabies Elimination**



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# Why Private Veterinarians Must Act

- Professional education and competence
- Reliable vaccination procedures
- Medical records
- Dog identification
- Education on responsible ownership
- Relationship with regulatory authority
- Strengthening professional networks





# Vision for WVA Community-based Rabies Prevention Projects

- ▶ Develop a sustainable framework to eliminate dog-mediated human rabies from communities by:
  - Engaging private sector veterinarians (VMAs) and human medical colleagues in effective rabies prevention protocols
  - Coordinating all required sectors concurrently for sustainable rabies control

**SUCCESS DOESN'T  
HAPPEN OVERNIGHT.  
KEEP YOUR EYE ON  
THE PRIZE AND  
✓ DON'T LOOK BACK.**





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# What are the potential barriers?

- Limited veterinarians in the area
- Limited resources
- Poor record keeping
- Dog identification
- Perceived competition from charitable groups
- Weak veterinary association support
- Poor government support
- Other priorities take precedence



*the time is*  
**now!**





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# Critical Success Factors

- ▶ Committed WVA Member leadership
- ▶ Local animal welfare organizations
- ▶ Ministries of Health and Agriculture
- ▶ Private practitioners from the community – incentives?
- ▶ Dog mass vaccination programs
- ▶ Government support
- ▶ Humane dog population management



the time is  
**now!**



# Critical Success Factors

- Public health & dog bite prevention education
- Continued surveillance and monitoring
- Engagement of veterinary & medical students & VEEs
- Outcomes assessment
- Community public health workers
- Corporate and public partners
- Identification of local “champions”



*the time is*  
**now!**





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# Strategies and Tactics 2016

- Define project application & requirements
- Identify WVA Member receptive communities
- Consider benefits for DVM engagement
- Develop project proposals for partners
- Establish committed “steering” working group
- Identify key contacts & providers in each required segment



*the time is*  
**now!** 





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**Thank you**

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