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The Role of Private Veterinarians in Rabies Elimination
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
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
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
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”
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
Thank you

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