

PRESENTATION ON PPR -RABIES VACCINATION

Panel discussion on joint vaccination focused on Rabies and PPR
Virtual meeting | 6 January 2022

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OUTLINE

- Introduction
- PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIESWHAT LED TO THE SUCCESS
- Sensitization, COLLABORATION, INVOLVEMENT OF CAHW,

Introduction

PPR and Rabies in sierra Leone

- ❖ PPR and Rabies are both vaccine preventable diseases
- ❖ Both diseases are threats to animal health and are endemic in the country
- ❖ Once contracted, the survival rate is low
- ❖ Report shows that rabies and PPR are spreading at an increasing rate in the country affecting farmers , communities and the nation at large
- ❖ Globally, these diseases have been identified for eradication by 2030,
- ❖ National strategic plans for the eradication of both diseases have been developed

- Several awareness creation has been ongoing for early detection and reporting of suspected cases of PPR and Rabies in all districts across the country
- With support from donor agencies, series of vaccinations against PPR and Rabies have been conducted in all districts across the country.

- ❖ Rabies was first suspected in Sierra Leone in 1949
- ❖ In 1951 a suspected case of rabies was confirmed at the veterinary diagnostic laboratory in Teko
- ❖ The rabies vaccination campaign started in 1954, where 157 dogs were vaccinated
- ❖ In 1957, 300 dogs were vaccinated
- ❖ Rabies control and prevention reached its peak in 1971, where 13 people died of rabies
- ❖ In the same year 4700 dogs were vaccinated

- ❖ Dog vaccination campaign continued to address ad-hoc outbreak of rabies on to the present moment

- ❖ PPR is suspected to have arrived in Sierra Leone after the end of the civil war in February 2002
- ❖ It was as a result from the purchase of infected animals from neighbouring countries for restocking
- ❖ Animal movement led to wide spread of the disease in the entire country with cases reported in all districts

- ❖ Based on the results of self-assessment using the PMAT, the country is currently in stage 2 (control stage) of the PPR GCES
- ❖ A national strategy for the control and eradication of PPR was developed (2018) and revised/updated/validated in December 2019 with FAO support

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PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES WHAT LED TO THE SUCCESS

- ❖ The first important step for fighting rabies and PPR is to increase awareness around the diseases
- ❖ In contributing to increasing awareness around rabies and PPR, the Government of Sierra Leone through the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) launched a national communication campaign last year on the control of PPR and rabies.



ROAD MAP TO SUCCESSES IN THE COMBINED 2021 PPR AND RABIES VACCINATION EXERCISE

SENSITIZATION

- ❖ During the sensitization, courtesy calls were made to the following institutions/personnel
- ✓ The District Agric. Officer (DAO)
- ✓ Local councils (chairman, Chief Administrator and agriculture committee chair)
- ✓ Paramount chiefs
- ✓ Livestock owners and CAHWs in the communities
- ✓ Section/town chiefs, youth leader and mammy queen

❖ The following steps were observed :

- ✓ Purpose of the visit and expected benefits of the pending exercise
- ✓ Methodology of the exercise and expected roles of every stakeholder
- ✓ Encouraged time for questioning and responses
- ✓ Encouraged them to spread the information to their subjects and to other communities

WHAT LEAD TO THE SUCCESSES

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- ❖ High collaboration with District offices of MAF, taking onboard the DAO, M&E and personnel in the Crops and Forestry Divisions.
- ❖ Involvement of Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) to support the vaccinators
- ❖ Timely assembling of all vaccines and consumables at the designated locations utilizing MOHS facilities prior to the vaccination exercise.
- ❖ Involvement of the University lecturers and students (Animal Sc. And public health Depts.) in the sensitization exercises and lab staffs as vaccinators.

- ❖ Intensive radio sensitization programs (Discussions and Slots)
- ❖ Involvement of chieftom, section and community/village stakeholders (P.Cs, mammy queens, Youth leaders, and section & town chiefs) in the sensitization exercise
- ❖ Fore-runners were also sent to all the communities with megaphones to sensitize community members and more especially animal owners for the pending exercise
- ❖ Effective collaboration with and total involvement of staffs of Ministry of Health and sanitation especially at District, chieftom & community levels (DSOs & In-charges)

- ❖ Refresher training conducted for personnel participating in the entire vaccination exercise
- ❖ Total involvement of local stakeholders including Paramount chiefs who prevailed on their chiefs to treat the exercise with seriousness deserves
- ❖ Involvement of local council authorities including Agric. Committee chairperson and Mayors in the sensitization exercises
- ❖ Strong joint follow-up, monitoring and supervision team comprising personnel from animal Health unit of MAF, MOHS, FAO and a community stakeholder

- ❖ Prior to the vaccination, hot spot chiefdoms were identified in all the districts in the country
- ❖ Vaccinators were trained for the exercise
- ❖ Responsibilities were assigned to the team of vaccinators such as recorders, sample collectors and vaccinators for both PPR and rabies
- ❖ Vaccination was successfully carried out and reports are available

❖ CHALLENGES

- ❖ Cold chain for storage of vaccines at District level
- ❖ Low skilled manpower as vaccinators
- ❖ Inadequate mobility to reach every livestock production sites.
- ❖ Renumeration of students from three universities (Njala, UNIMAK and EBK)
- ❖ Funding for yearly sustainability.