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AFRICA ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE

AFRICAN UNION
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES

ANAW
AFRICA NETWORK FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

THE AU-IBAR 2021-2022 SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE 'INSTITUITIONAL PREPAREDNESS OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO ELIMINATE RABIES BY 2030'

(This presentation is being given on behalf of the AU-IBAR who are the sole owner of this survey data with Permission form Dr Hiver Boussini – Animal Health Lead AU-IBAR, Hiver.Boussini@au-ibar.org)

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ACTION FOR PROTECTION OF ANIMALS AFRICA

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Study Objectives

Overall Objective

- To support development of a CONTINENTAL DOG-MEDIATED RABIES ELIMINATION STRATEGY

Specific objectives was to:

1) Review literature on the rabies landscape in Africa,
2) Understand the policy and institutional preparedness for the end rabies by 2030 campaign
3) Establish country-specific profiles of policies, institutions, and prepa
   rabies elimination towards supporting national rabies elimination s
   and programs (add-on).

Study Outputs

1. Landscaping of policies and institutional arrangements for rabies elimination in Africa by 2030
2. Abridged version of Landscaping of policies and institutional arrangements for rabies elimination in Africa by 2030
3. Baseline survey on the preparedness of African countries to eliminate rabies by 2030
4. Country profiles on their rabies preparedness (43)
5. Included in reports are PESTEL (with literature revie
   SWOT (with baseline survey)

Methodology

- Literature Review
- KAP survey on Kobo collect from December 2021 and April 2022
- 58 respondents interviewed
- 43 CVO questionnaires/ interview done
- Analysis on 39 (71%) CVOs and 16 (29%) from partner organisations.

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Literature Review

Landscaping of policies and institutional arrangements for rabies elimination in Africa by 2030

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Observations from literature

Reviewed 200 documents

- In Africa, the annual livestock losses from rabies US$ 280 million; GDP loss of US$ 773 million
- Wildlife rabies from livestock grazing around national parks and illegal wildlife hunting
- 80% of human cases in rural areas; >40% of rabies deaths in children (primarily boys) aged less than 15 years.

- Literature academic, biased for monitoring, surveillance, virus typing.
- Not enough quantitative data to help plan a rabies program

Literature Gap

- Insufficient economic, planning and institutional data for one-health project formulati
(processes, workplans etc.).

- Very little literature to guide policy formulation

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Online Survey

Baseline survey on the preparedness of African countries to eliminate rabies by 2030

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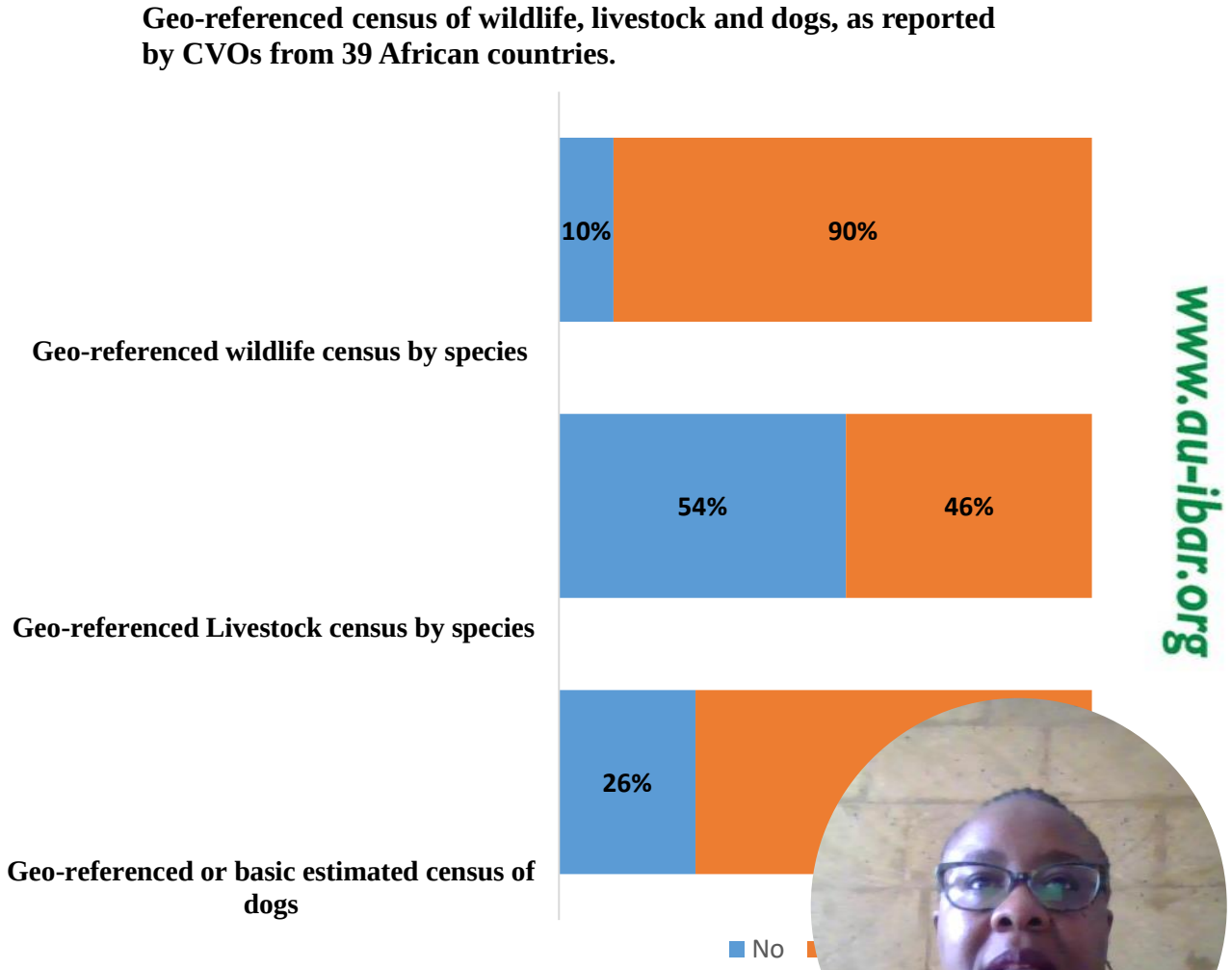
Animal Population Data

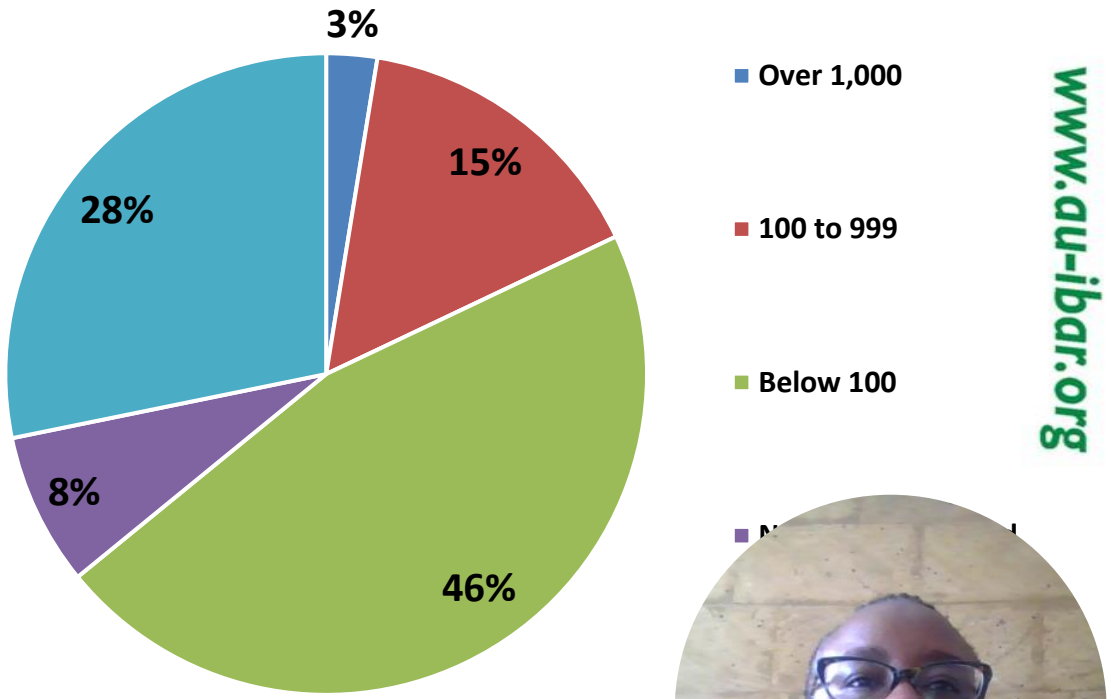
- No geo-referenced dog census (74%) and wildlife (90%)
- Lack of reliable rabies morbidity and mortality data
- No gender-disaggregated data
- 69% CVOs don't aware when national census is done.
- 16% countries do national census every 1, 5 or 10 years.
- 26% countries guesstimate dog populations



Dog, Livestock, Wildlife rabies numbers

- Tanzania highest dog rabies - 2,030
- 8 countries No data on rabid dogs
- 72% No data on livestock rabies deaths
- Chad and Algeria highest livestock deaths
- 5 countries with wildlife rabies deaths
- Most have no wildlife data

Number of dogs infected by rabies per in 2021 (39 CVOs)

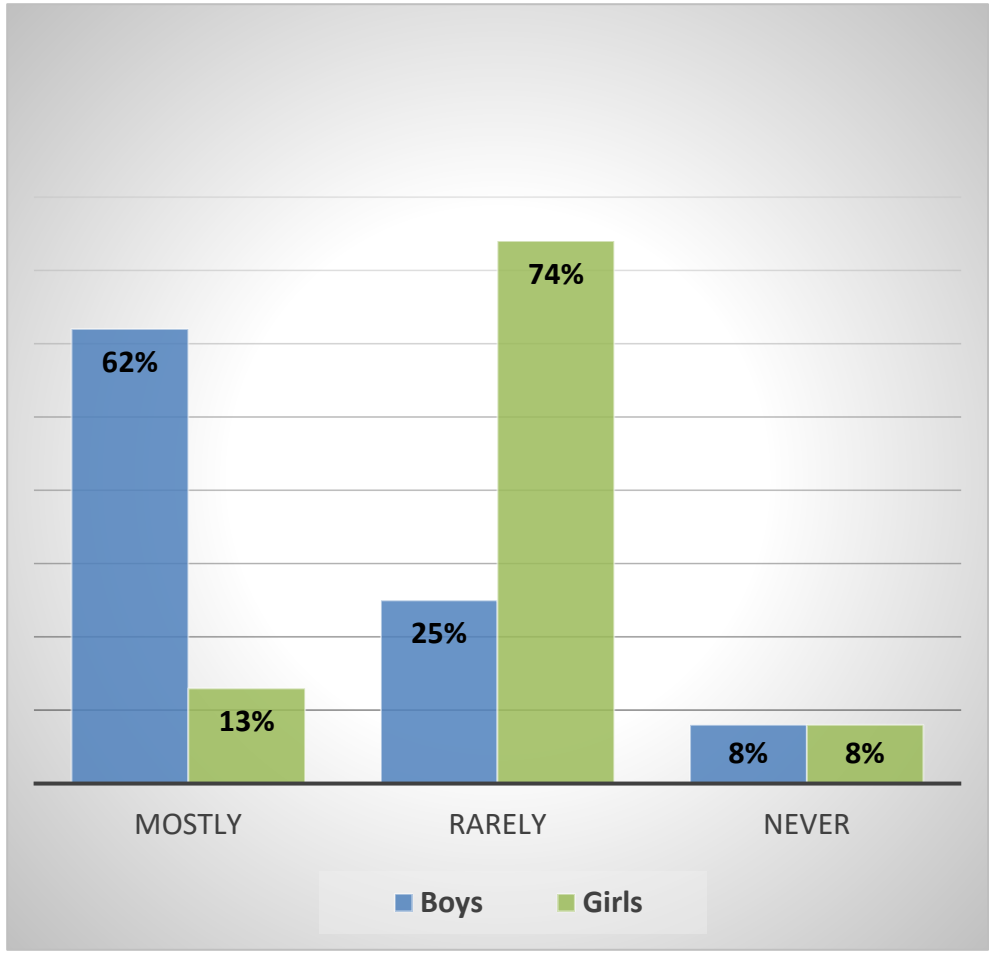


Dog Population Management

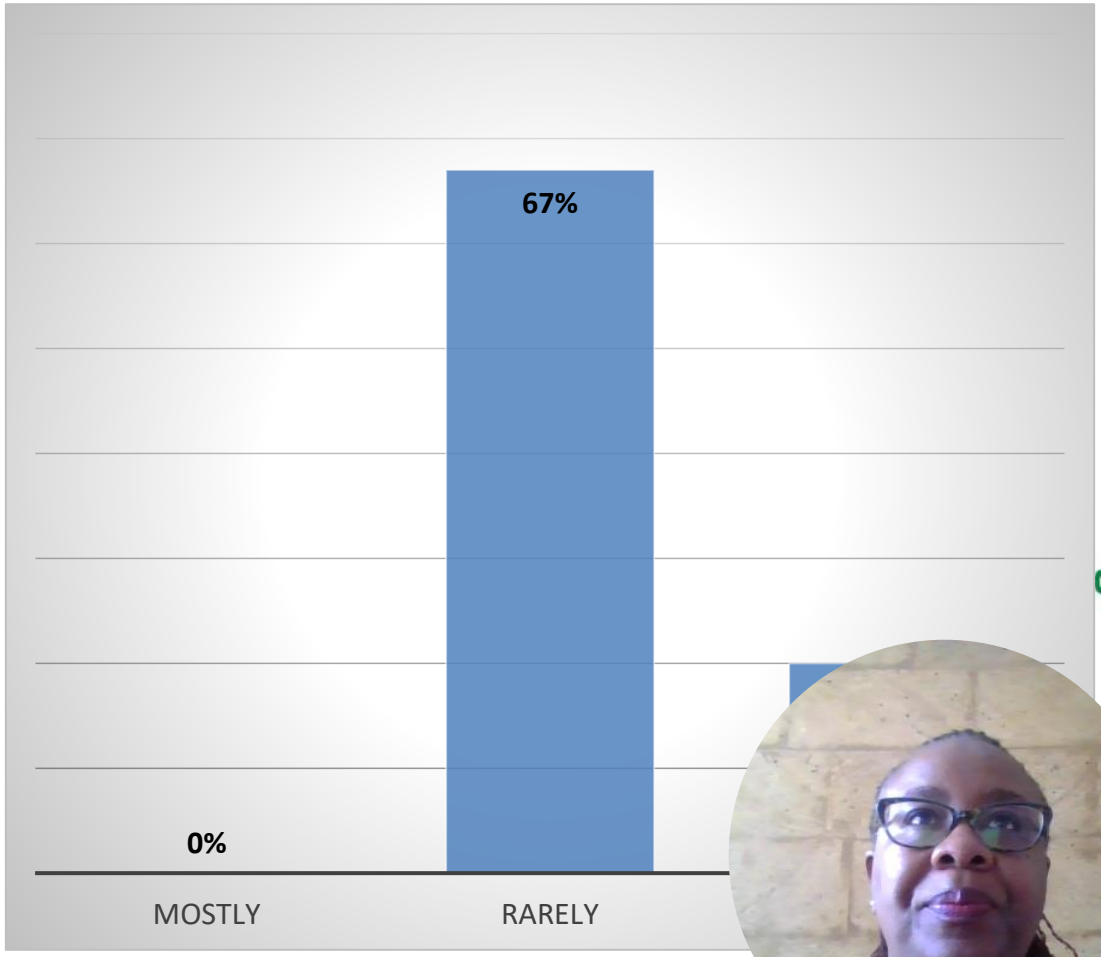
- 87% CVOs believe vaccinations and DPM together not vaccinations alone.
- All 39 CVOs believed rabies and DPM for education, chiefs, religious, influencers.
- 85% believe DPM for wildlife; 50% partners don't know DPM importance in wildlife.
- 62% CVOs believe rabies has affected wildlife populations.
- Challenges for wildlife rabies management– lack of fu
  No dog census; inadequate wildlife surveillance, exp
  of dog populations, hunting dogs not regulated

Gender and vulnerability disaggregated Data
who takes dogs for vaccinations?

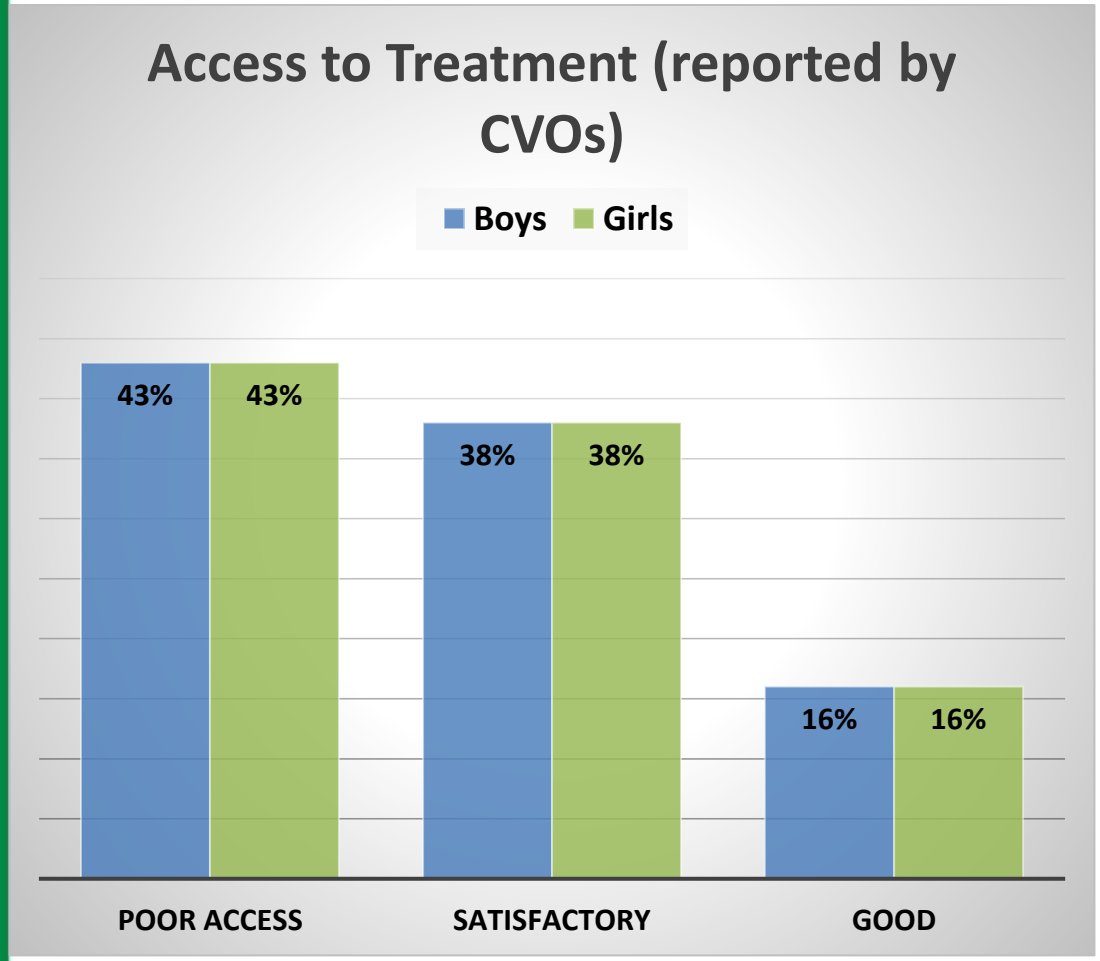
Boys or Girls

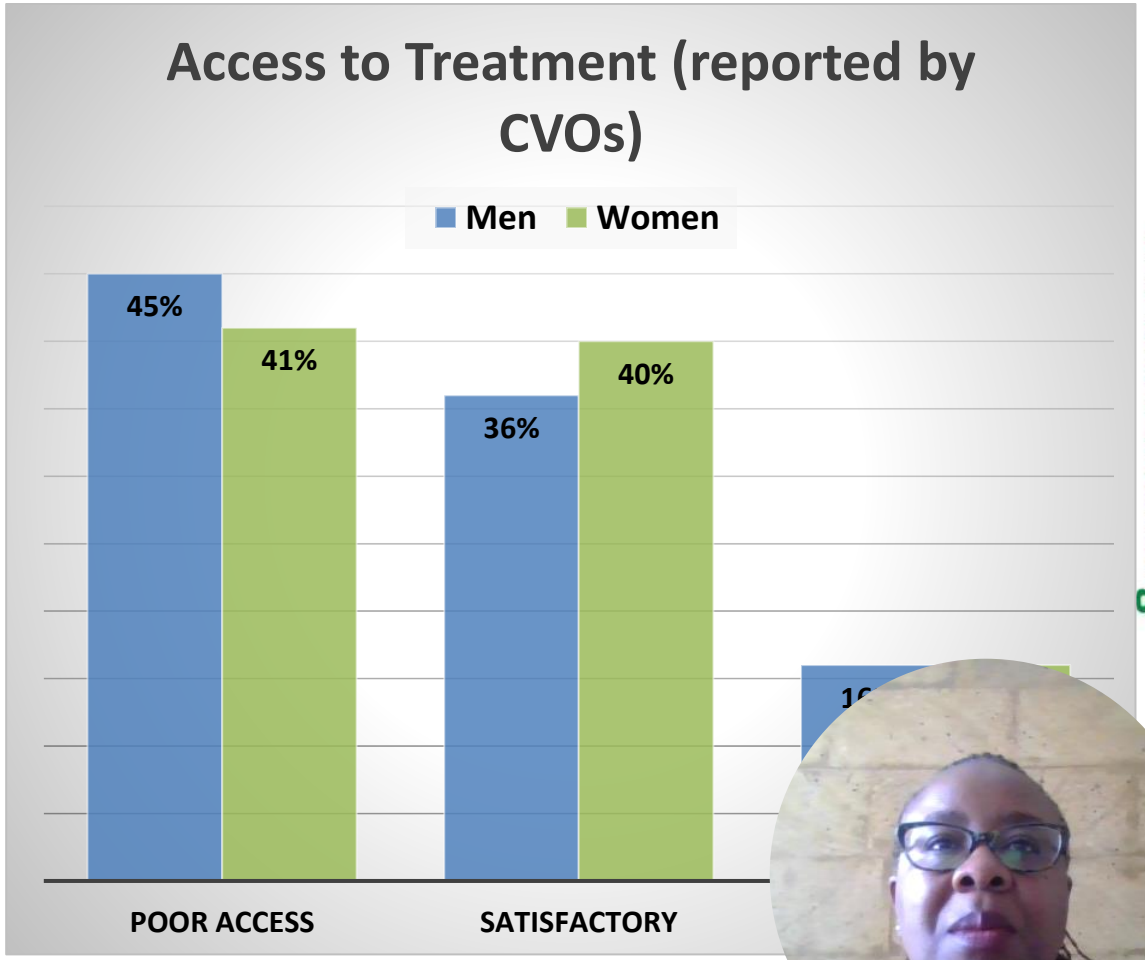


PLWD



Gender and vulnerability disaggregated Data who has access to treatment?

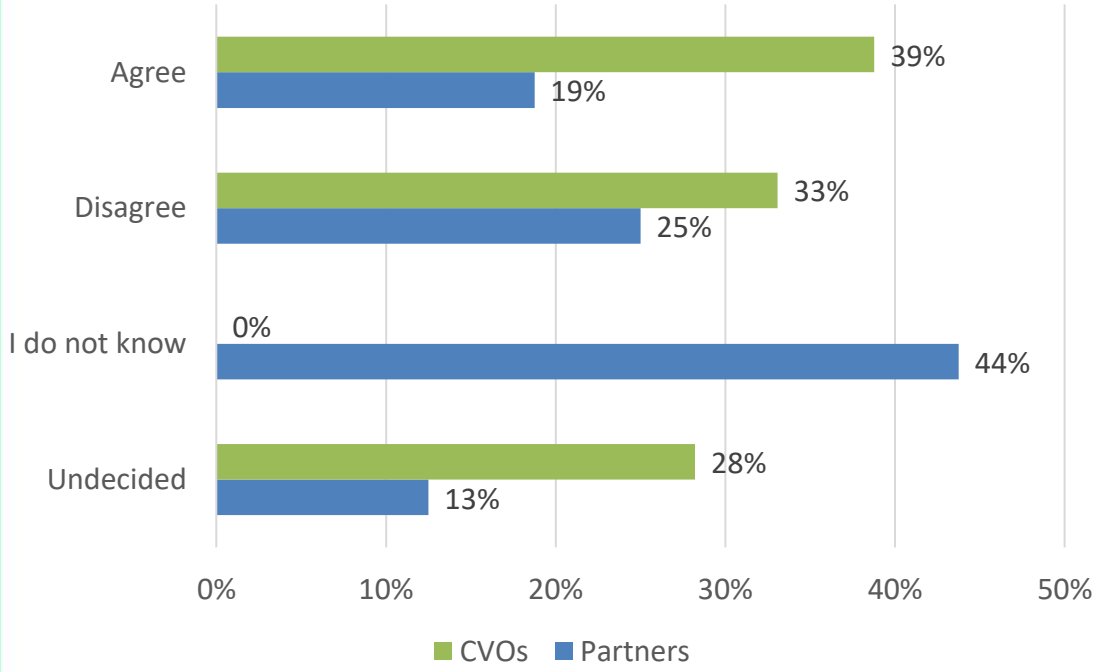




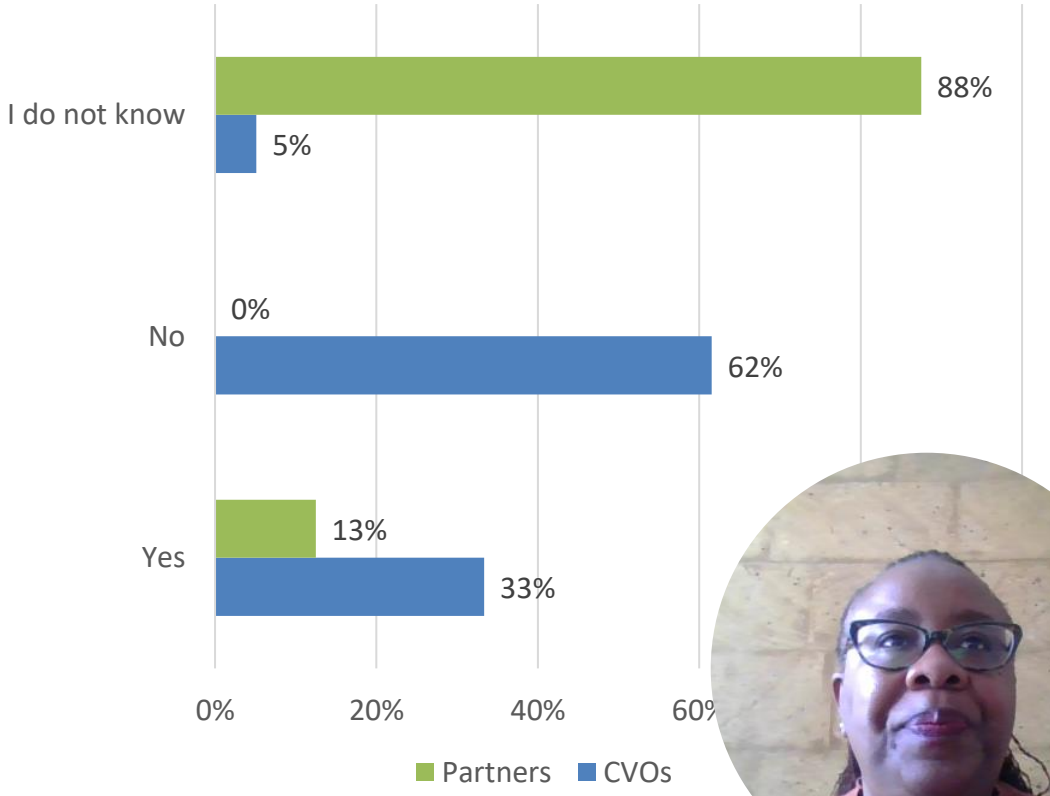
Politics and Governance

Political Support not translating to multisectoral guidelines, regulations or budget allocation

Parliamentarians attention to legal instruments that support zoonotic control and rabies eradication (39 CVOs and 16 partners)



Legal instruments that support rabies control in place (39 CVOs and 16 partners)



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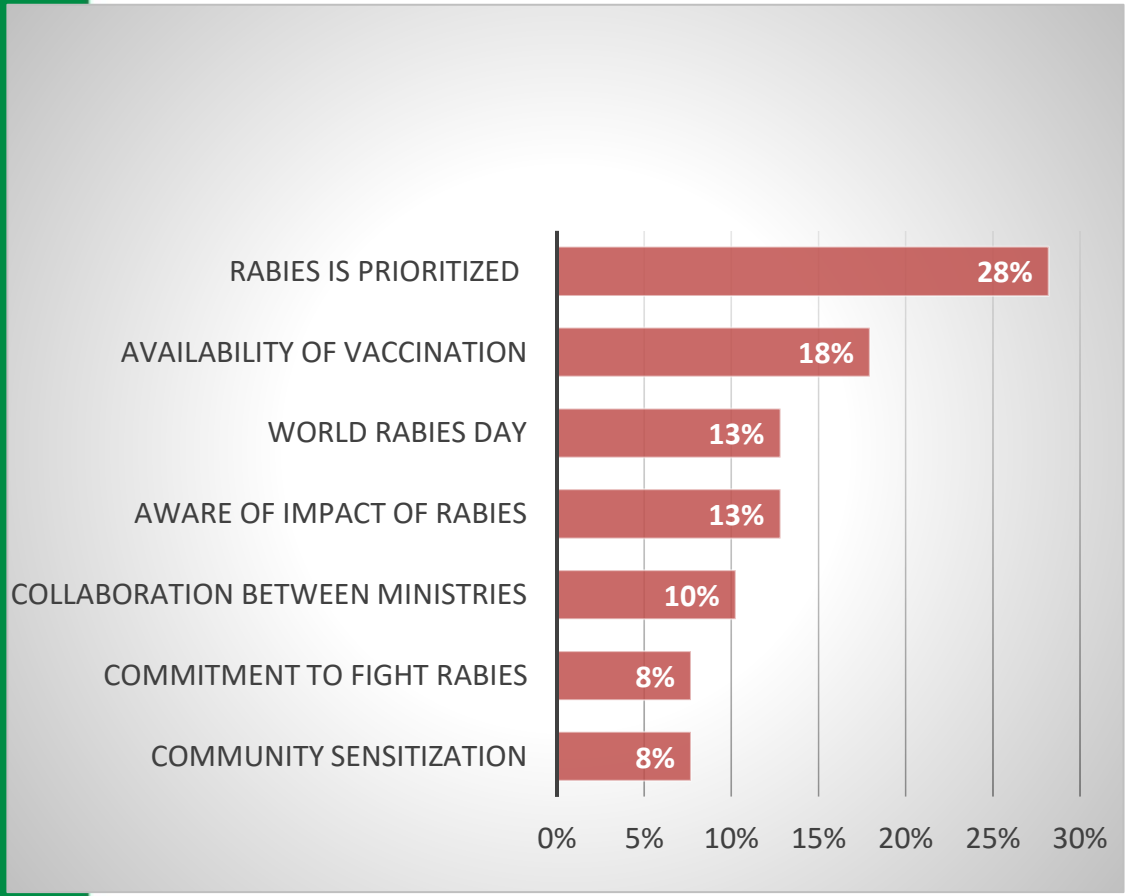
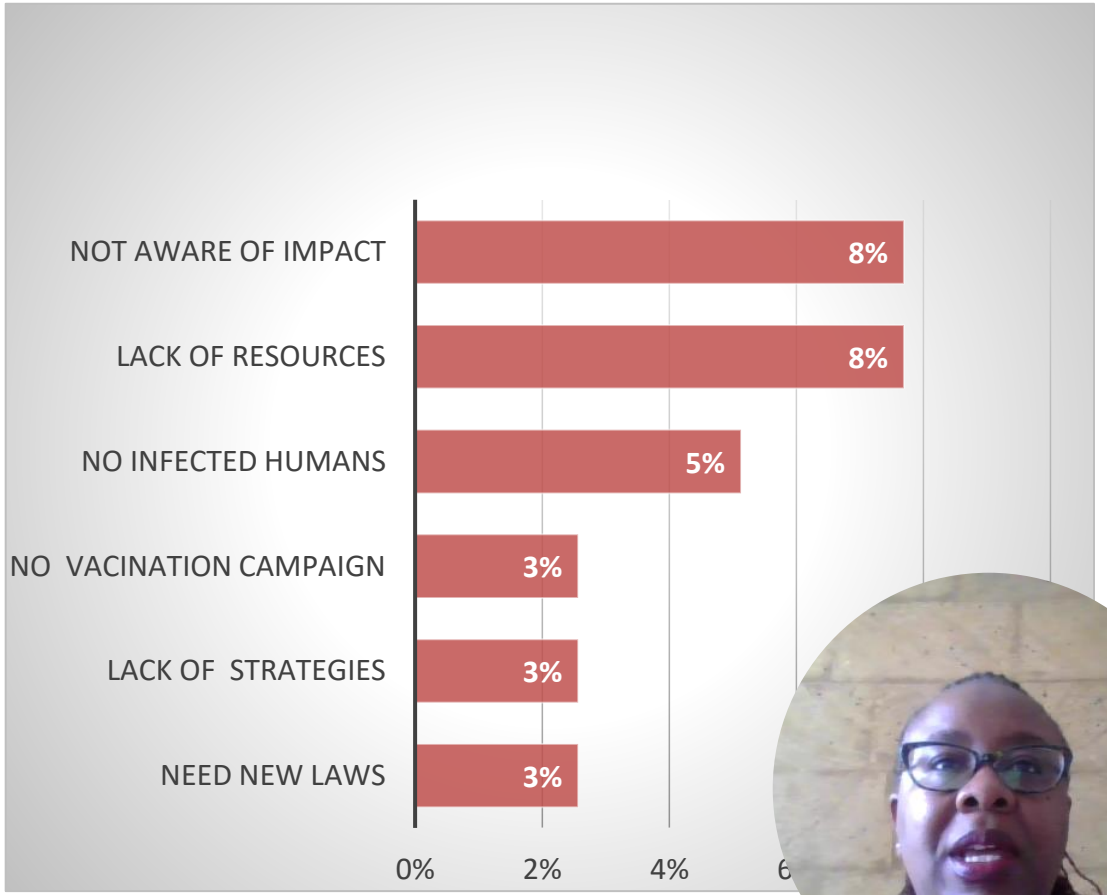
Reasons for high and low priority on rabies from politicians

- **Main Reasons CVOs perceived high priority from political structures**



- **Main Reasons CVOs perceived low priority from political structure**



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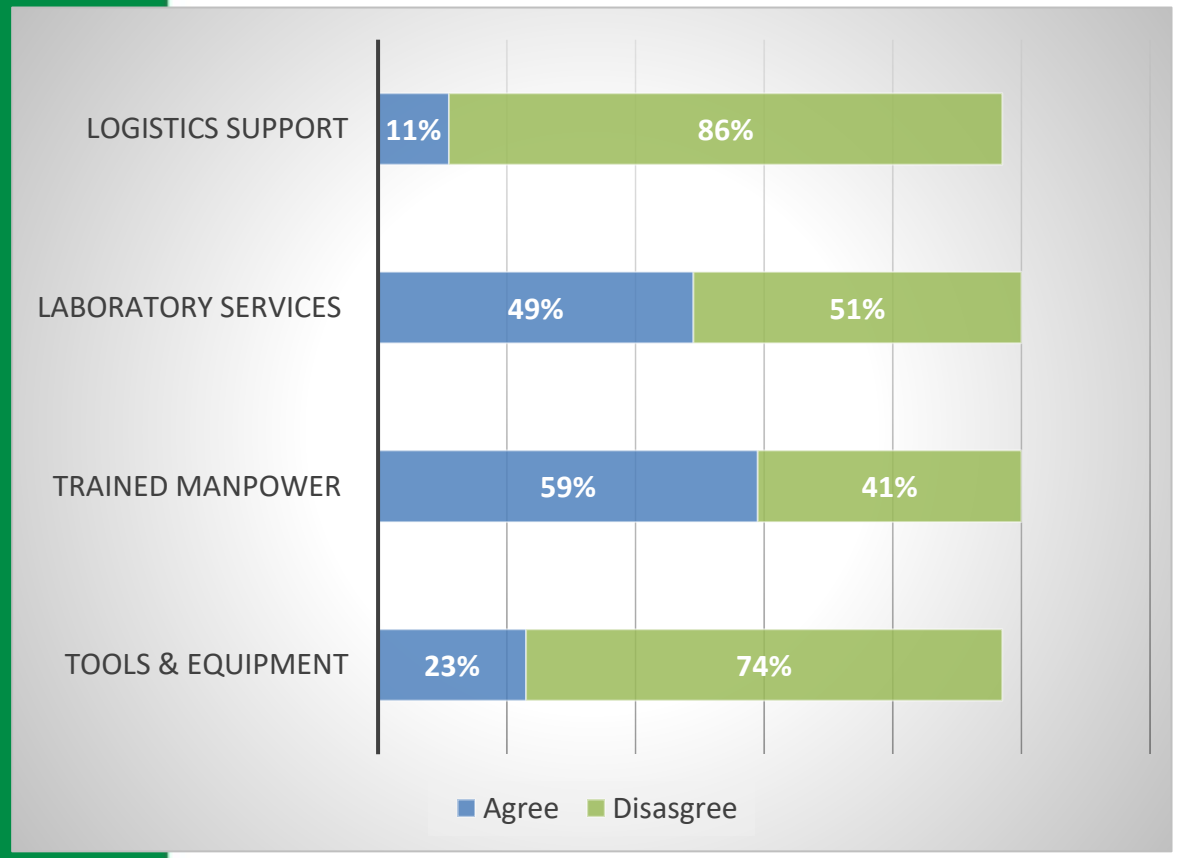
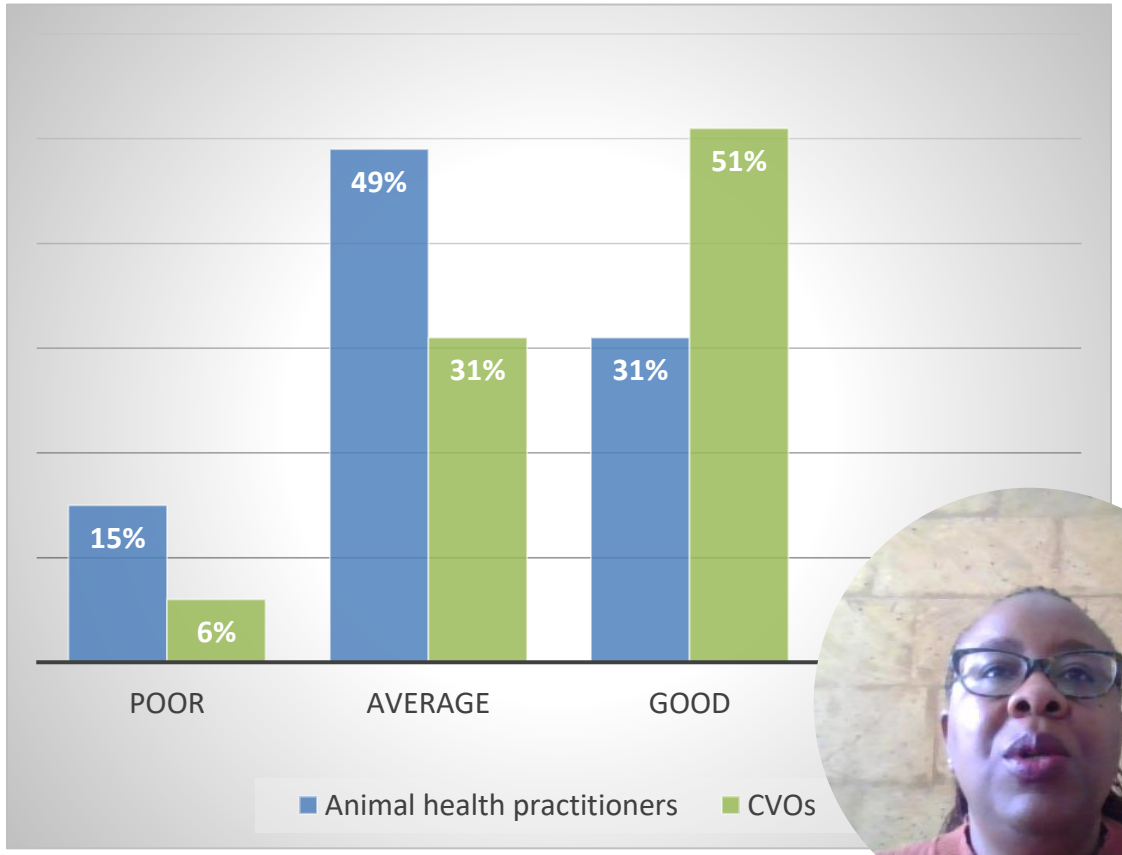
Institutional Capacity

logistics, equipment, knowledge

- **Logistics, tools and equipment to deliver NRE**



- **Technical knowledge to run the NRE program**



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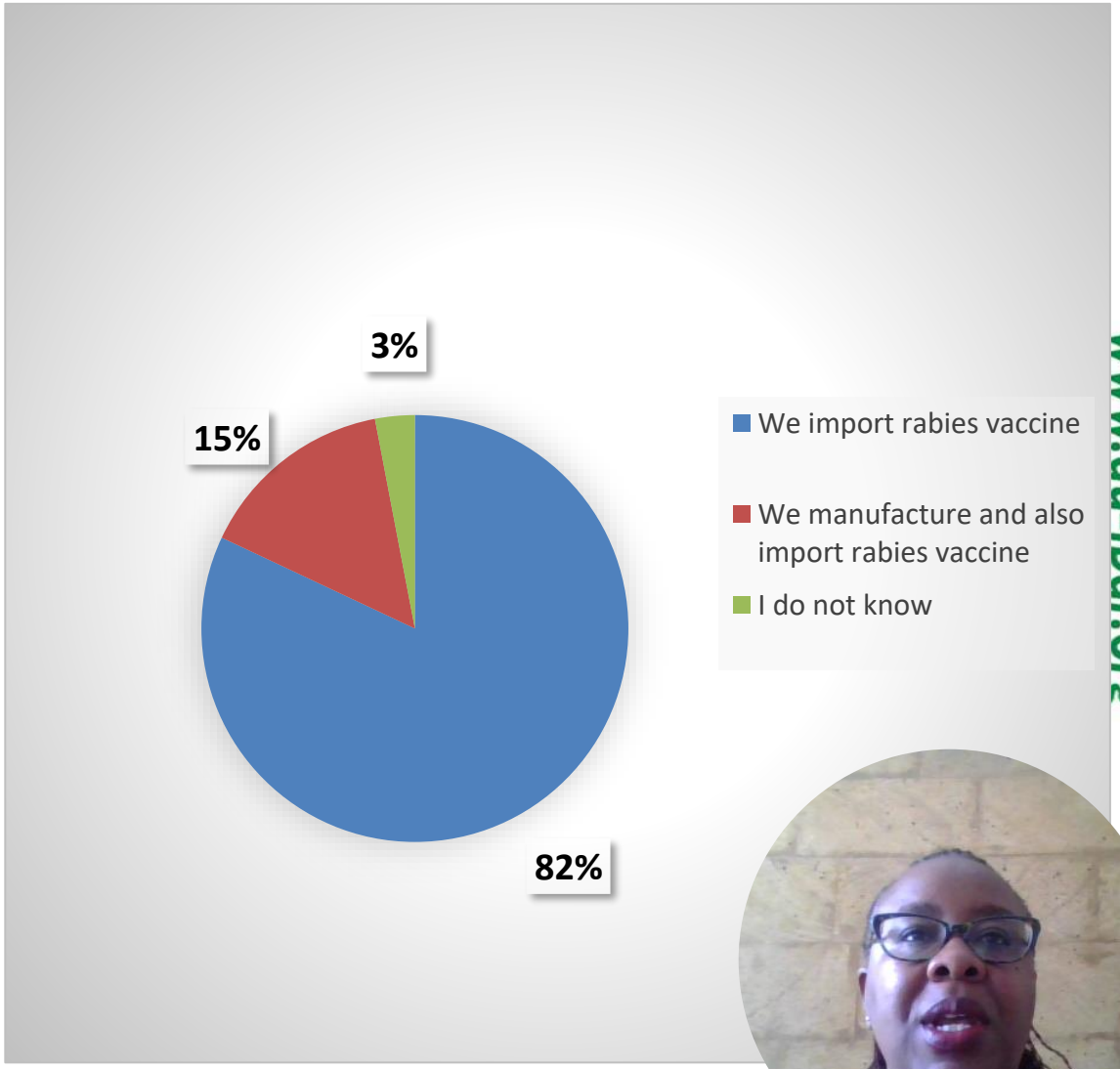
Institutional Capacity Training

Type of training undertaken	No. of Countries	% of assessed Countries (39)
Epidemiological diseases surveillance	32	82%
Dog Bite Prevention and Management	25	64%
Sensitisation and Awareness for Rabies	24	62%
Animal Rabies diagnosis & Reporting protocols	18	46%
Disease Control Drills	18	46%
Animal First Aid	18	46%
Human Rabies treatment protocols	17	44%
A veterinary disaster response team	17	4
Human First Aid	17	

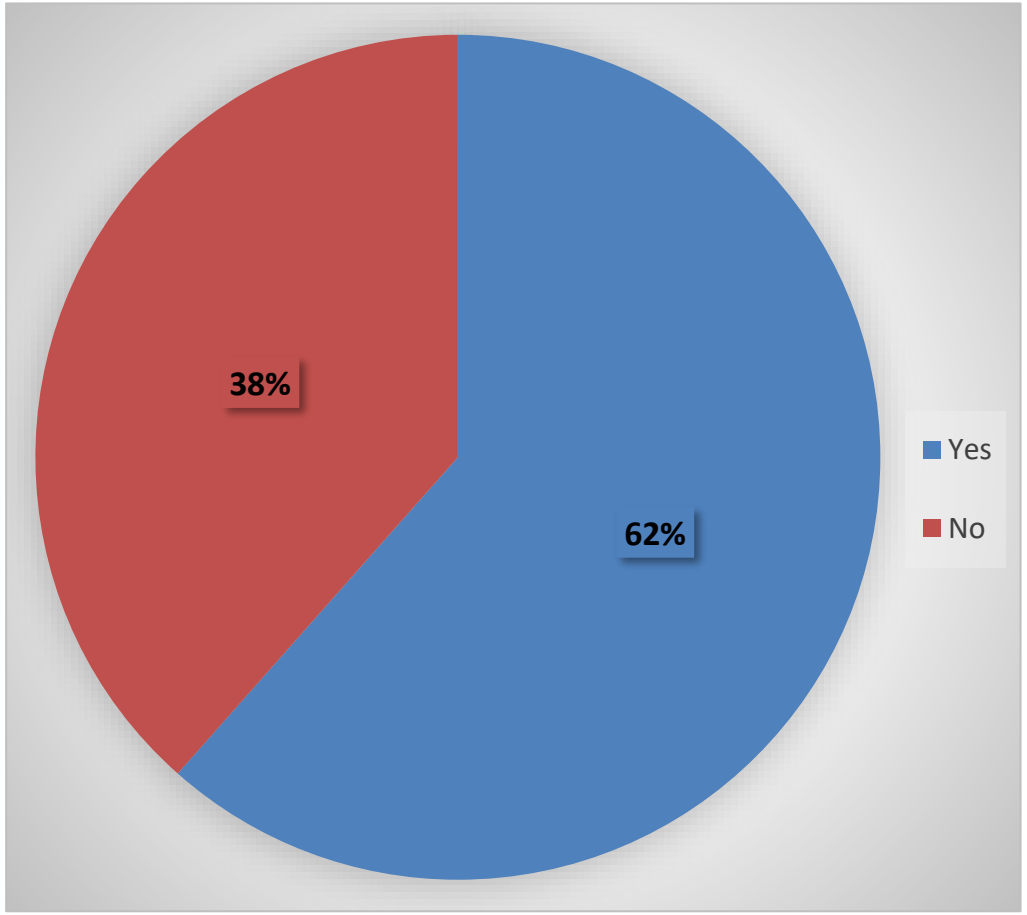
Institutional Capacity
Vaccines

- 62% CVOs and 38% partners No PrEp and PEP for veterinary, human and wildlife teams in the rabies process.
- 74% have national cold chain system for animal vaccines.
- 15% purchase through OIE vaccine bank.
- Most countries have >50% vaccine deficit against planned.



Rabies Testing reagents, tools & equipment

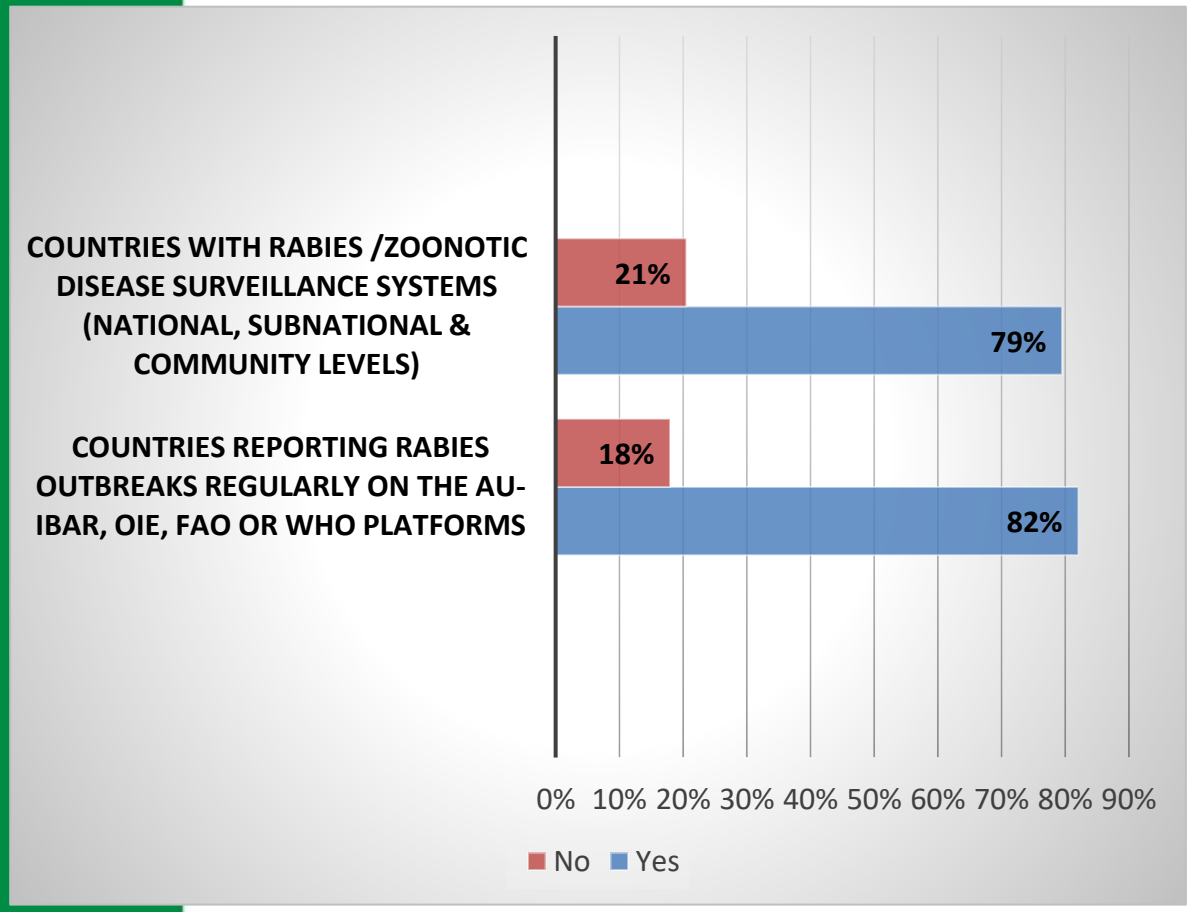
Availability of reagents and equipment
N=26



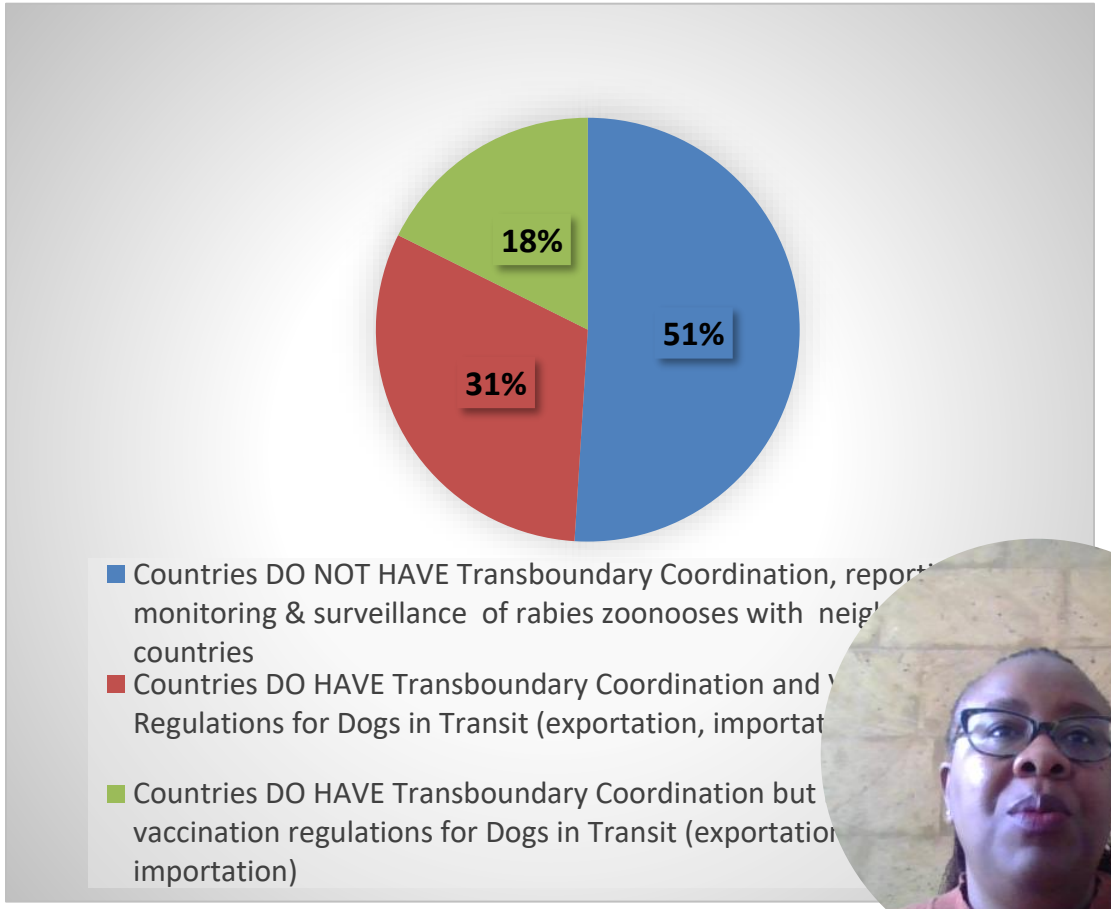
Abbreviation (Test)	Full Name	Countries using test (n=16)
DFAT	Direct Fluorescent Antibody Test	12
DRIT	Direct, Rapid Immunohistochemical Test	1
ELISA	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay	1
FAT	Fluorescent Antibody Technique	3
FAVN	Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralization Test	1
FITC	Fluorescein isothiocyanate labelled antibody	1
IVCC	Viral Isolation on Cell Culture	
MIT	Mouse Inoculation Test	
RFFIT	Rapid Fluorescent Foci Inhibition Tes	
RT-PCR	Reverse transcription polymerase cha reaction	

Monitoring & Surveillance

Countries with in-country rabies/zoonoses surveillance and reporting to OiE, FAO, AU-IBAR, or WHO



Monitoring & Surveillance of Dog rabies for transboundary and dogs-in-transit



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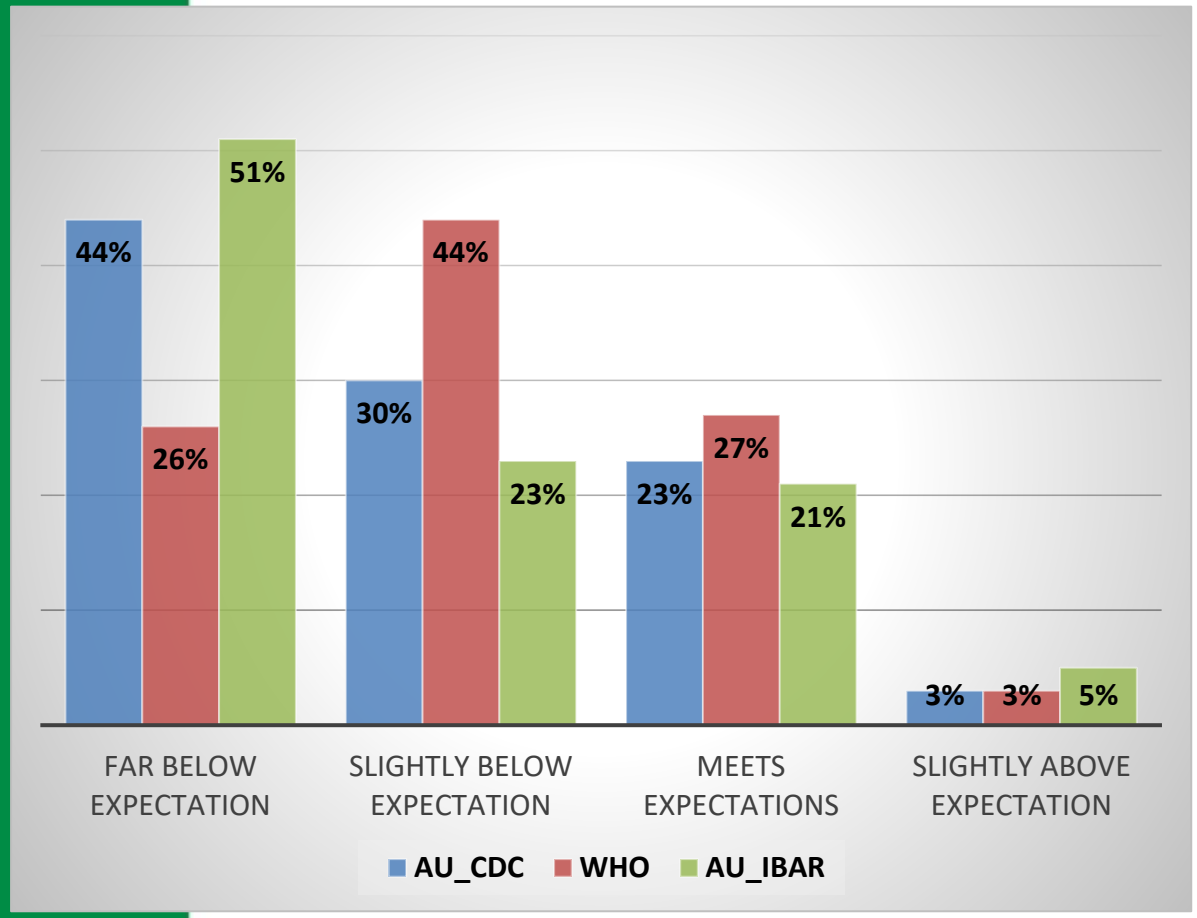
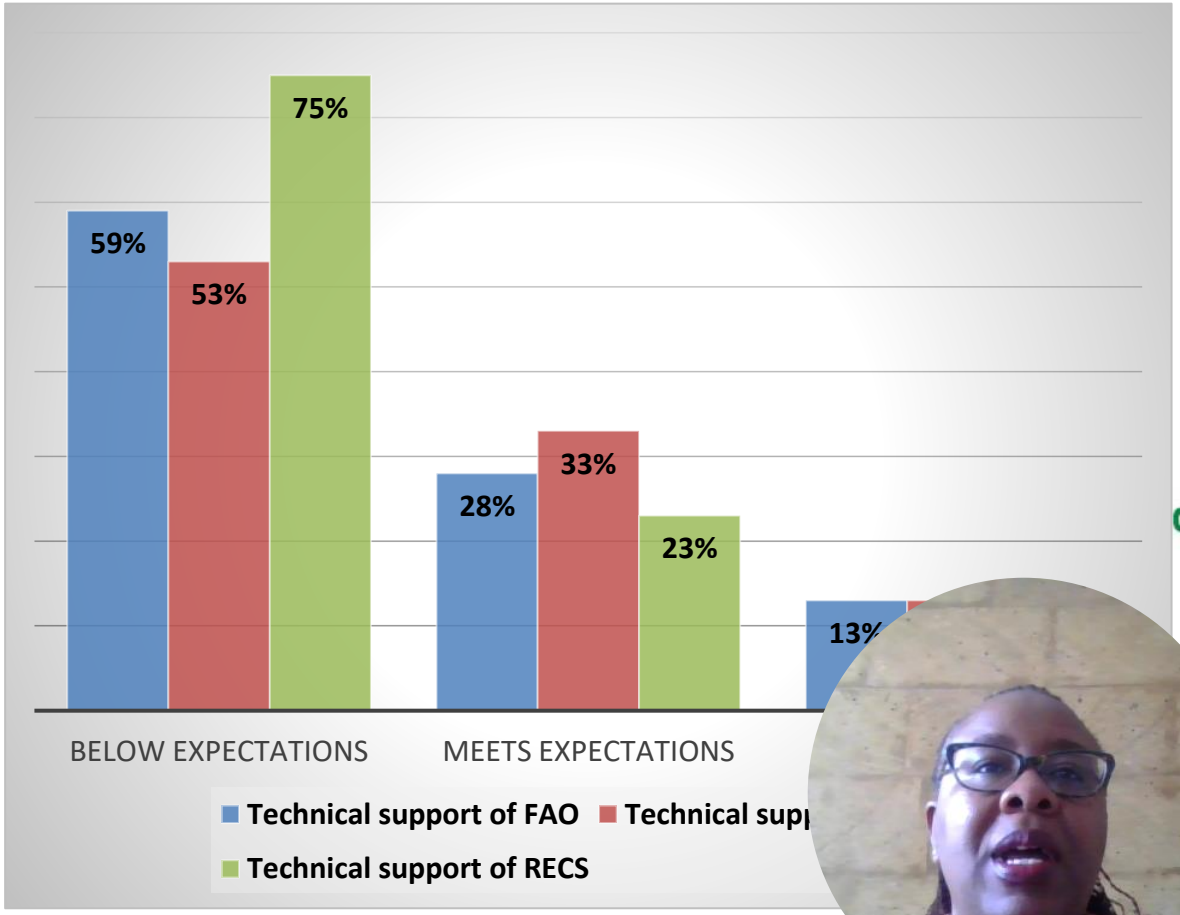
Continental Coordination

Regional Coordination

Leadership and coordination of rabies elimination at the continental level for AU-IBAR, AU-CDC & WHO (CVO rating)





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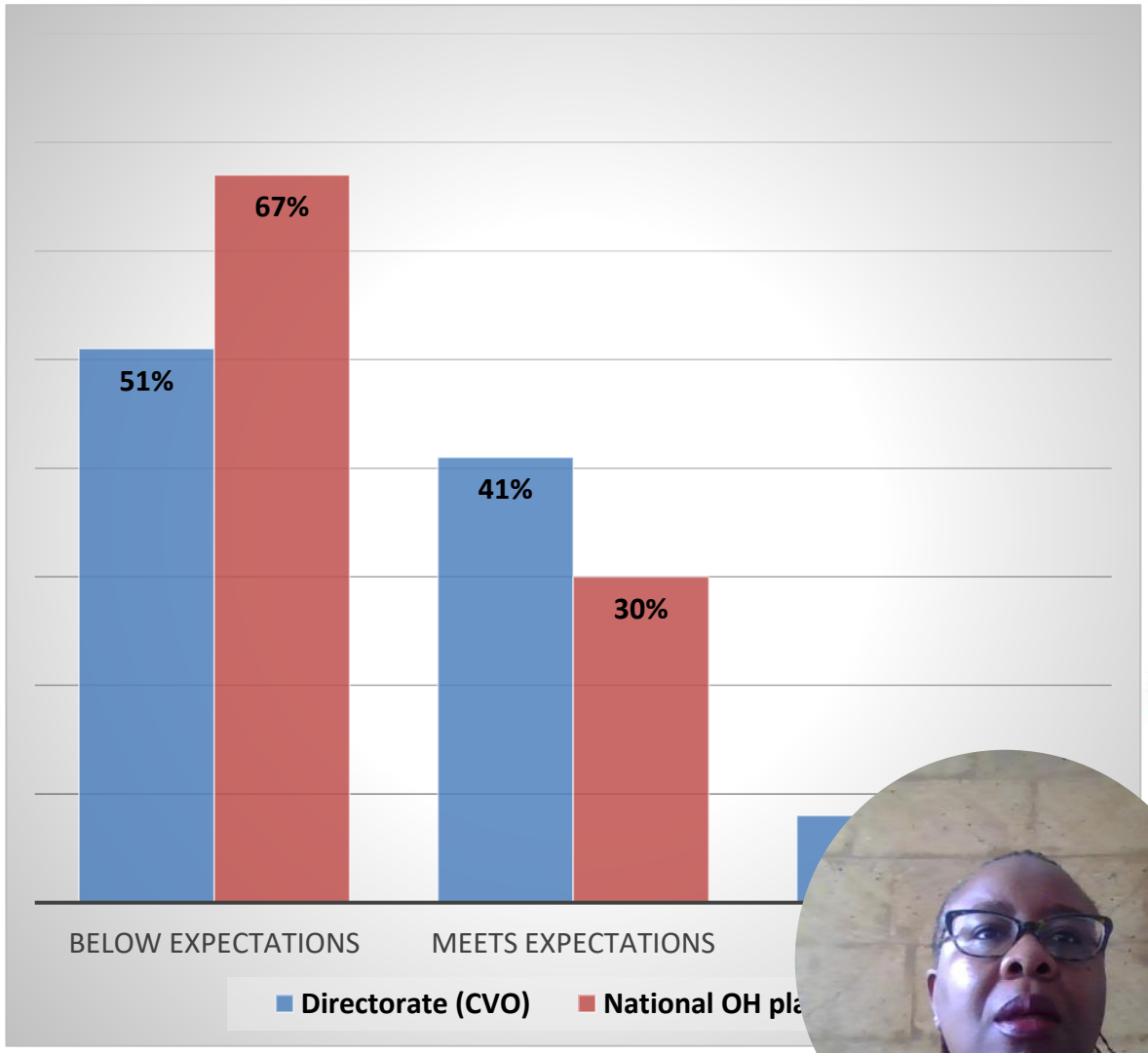
National Coordination

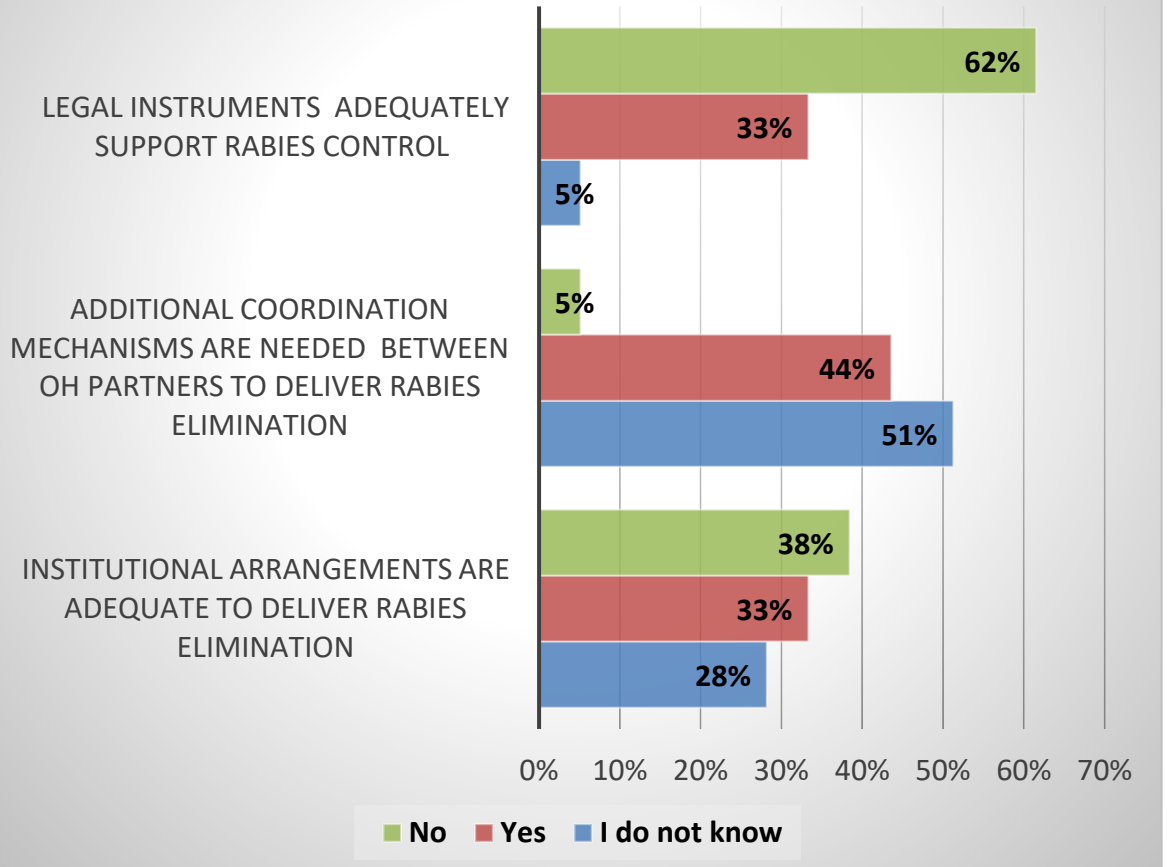
CVOs attributed the poor coordination

- lack of good leadership
- few rabies programs
- inadequate rabies vaccines
- inadequate support from RECs,
- lack of a regional rabies elimination strategy.
- inadequate resources,
- technical support not readily available
- lack of geo-referenced population data on dogs, livestock and wildlife

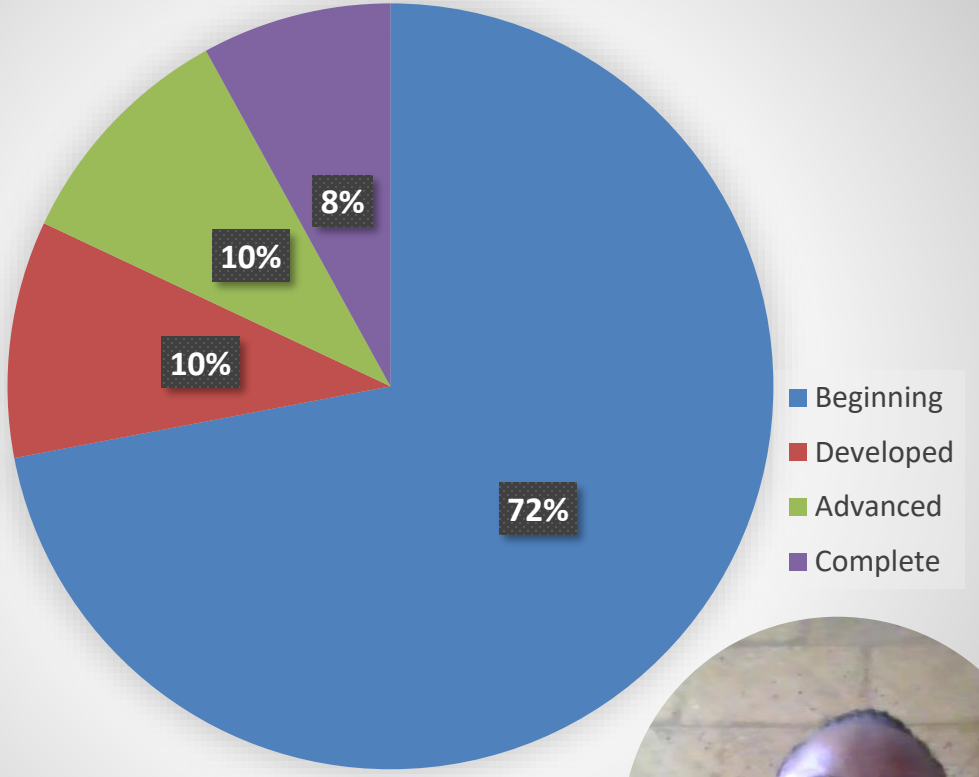


National Coordination

Coordination mechanisms, legal and institutional arrangements to support rabies in place (39 CVOs)



Stage of strategies for National Rabies Elimination & DPM



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PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL RESOURCES IN AF

National Coordination

- Inadequate inter-sectoral coordination between livestock and wildlife authorities
- Poor technical and institutional coordination between the organisations, networks, private partners and government stakeholders
- Limited Cross-boundary linkages and collaborations.
- 38% CVOs said YES and 62% said NO to country's laws providing a robust institutional framework for NRE and DPM
- 72% NRE is at formative stages; NRE advanced (Uganda, Kenya, Algeria, Morocco); NRE developed Eritrea, Tanzania, Rwanda, Tunisia)
- 54% CVOs country's rabies control laws and animal welfare laws (namely, dog ownership regulations, breeding, owning, selling, disposal, and registration) LACK strong institutional integration for OH rabies coordination.
- 18% countries have specific rabies laws and regulations providing legal basis for rabie activities (Morocco, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Mali, Algeria, Kenya and Tanzania).
- Most Countries have Zoonotic Contingency plans as building block. BUT Togo, Liby Djibouti NO contingency plans.
- 11 countries have rabies plans

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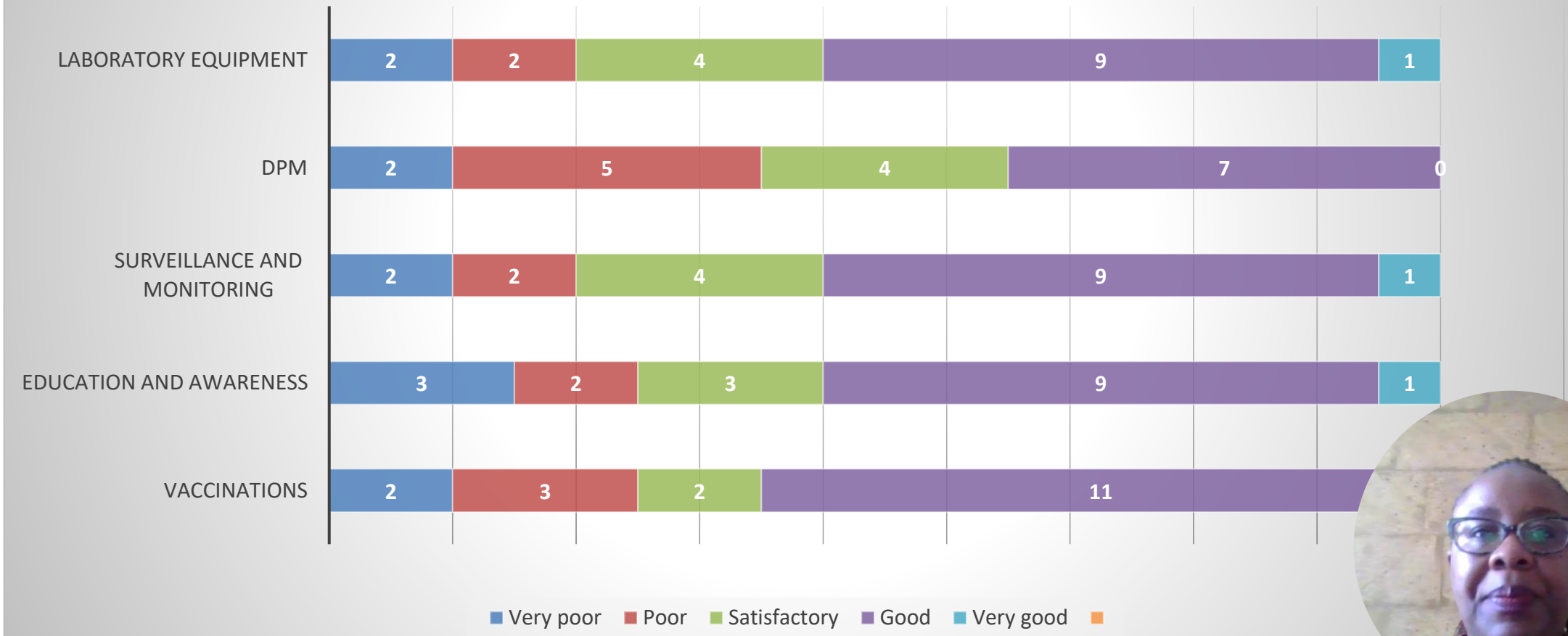
Quality of the SARE planning, 18 CVOs done SARE



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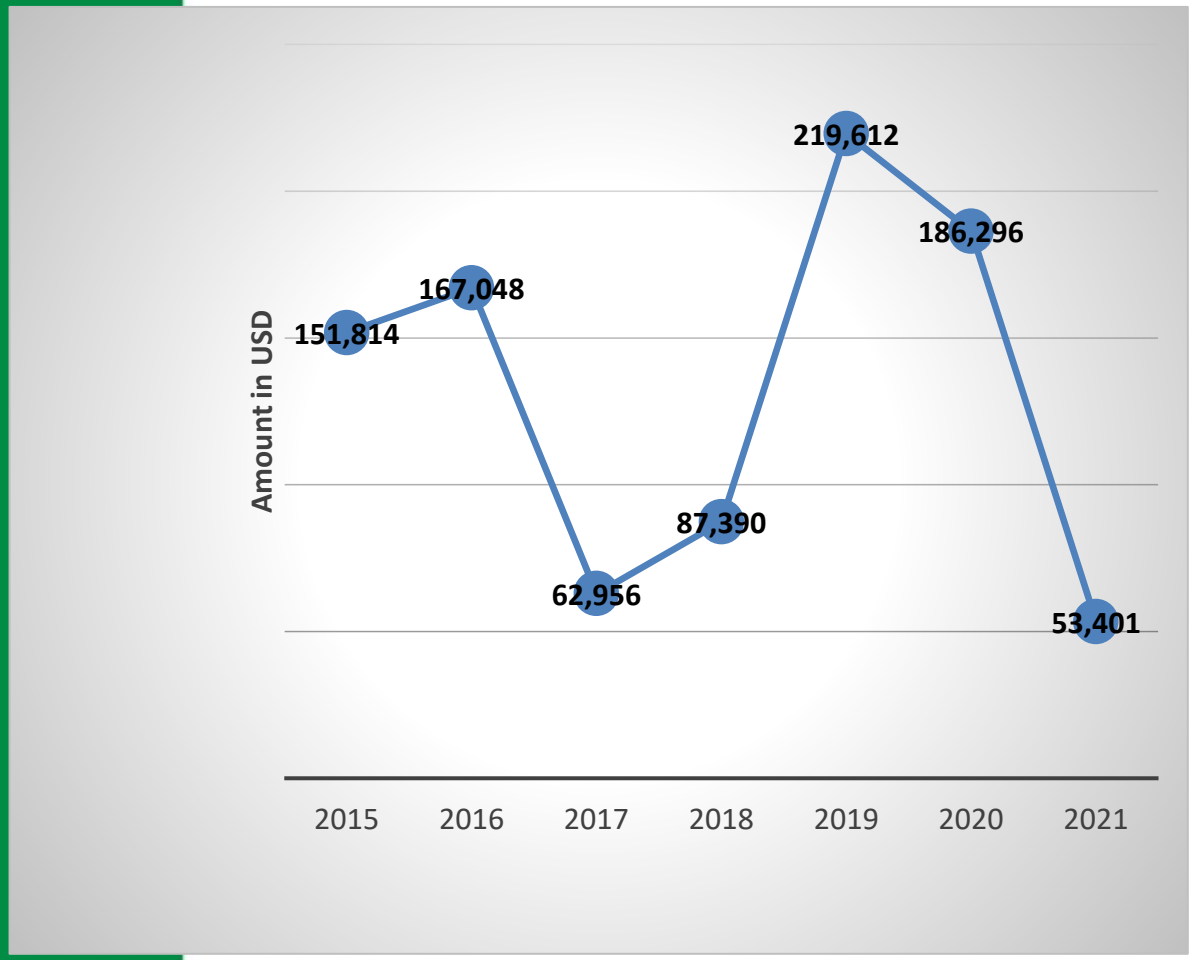
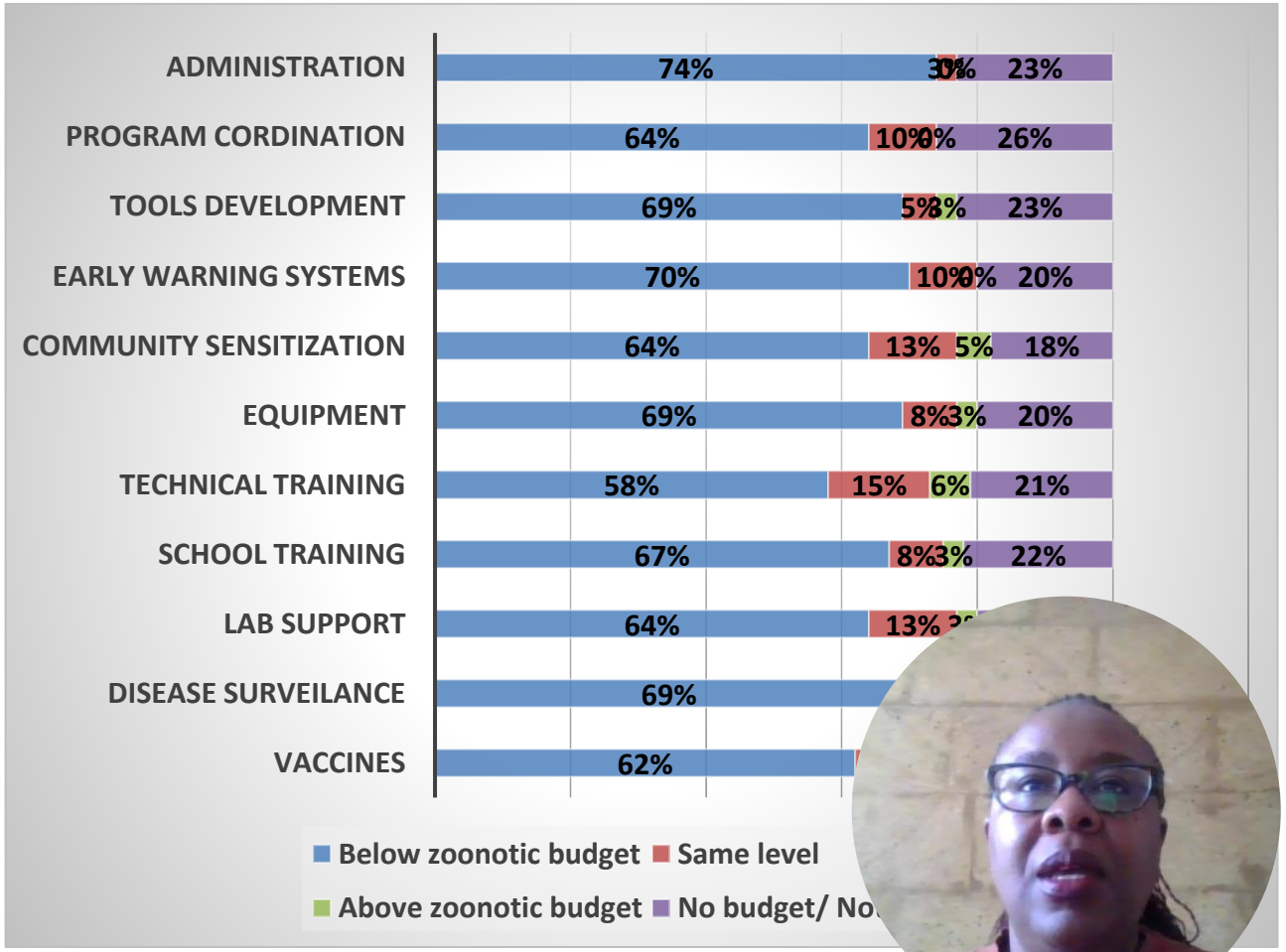
Rabies Budgets

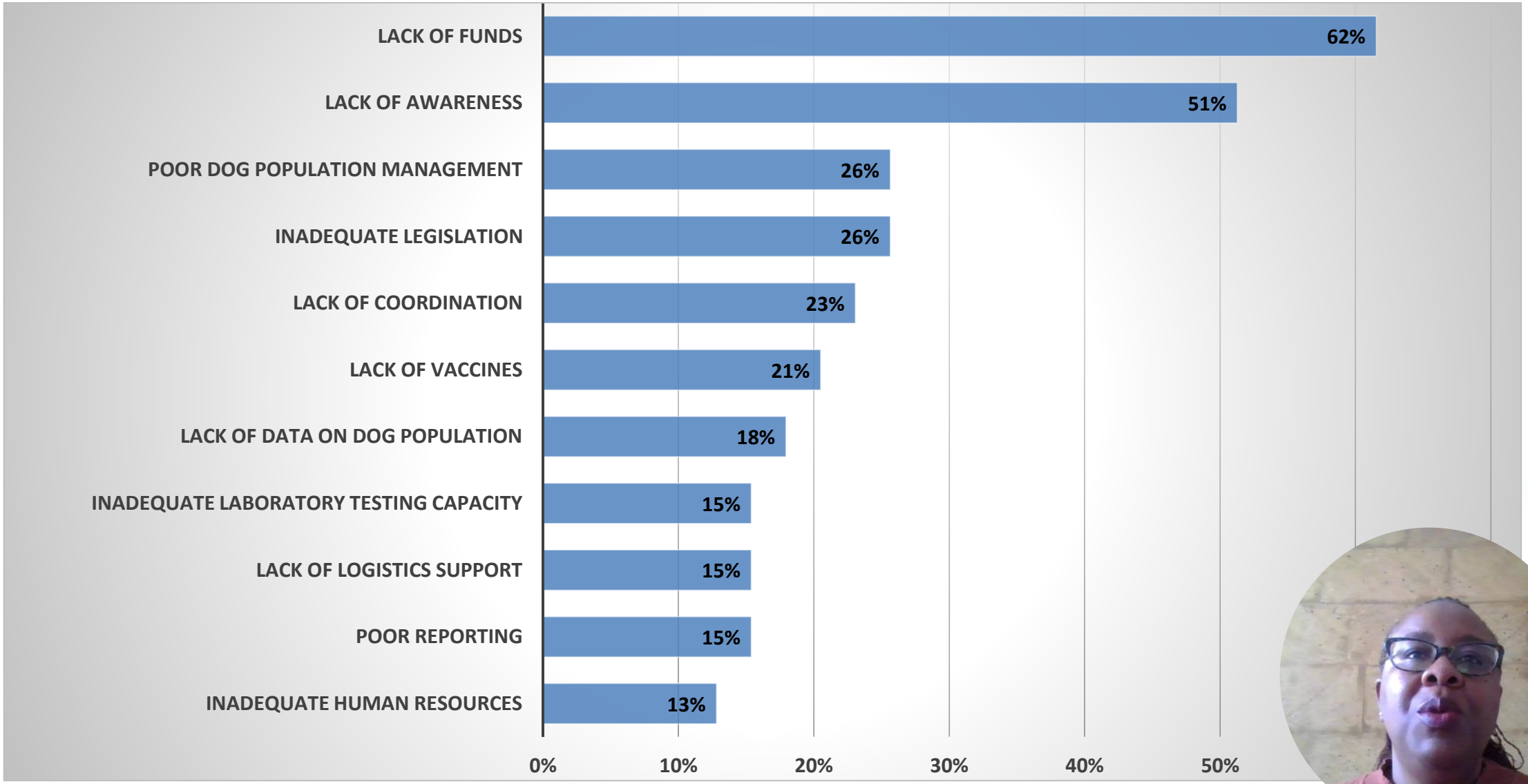
Trend in annual rabies budget between 2015 and 2021, (n=13)



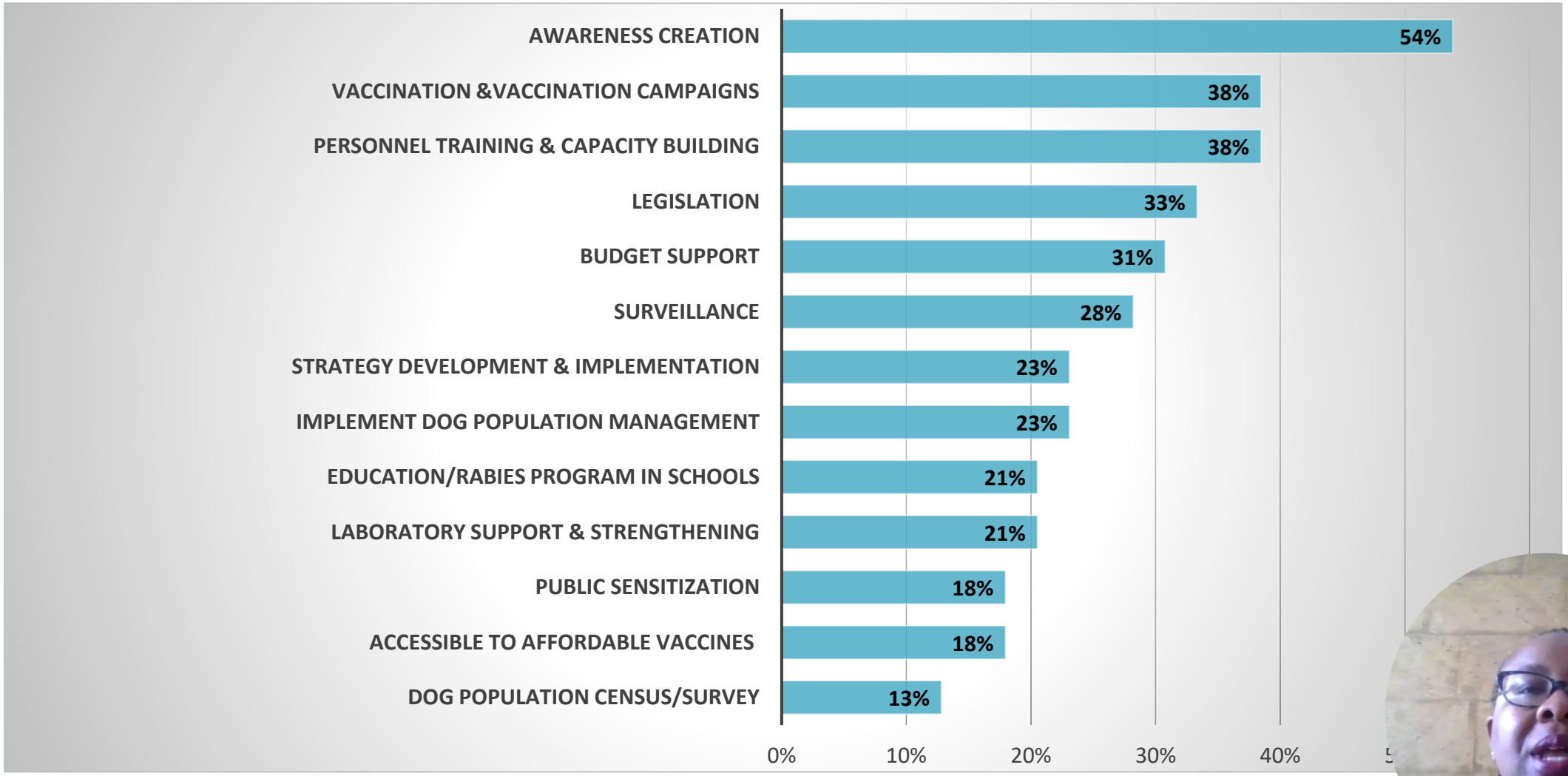
Rabies budges compared to zoonotic diseases



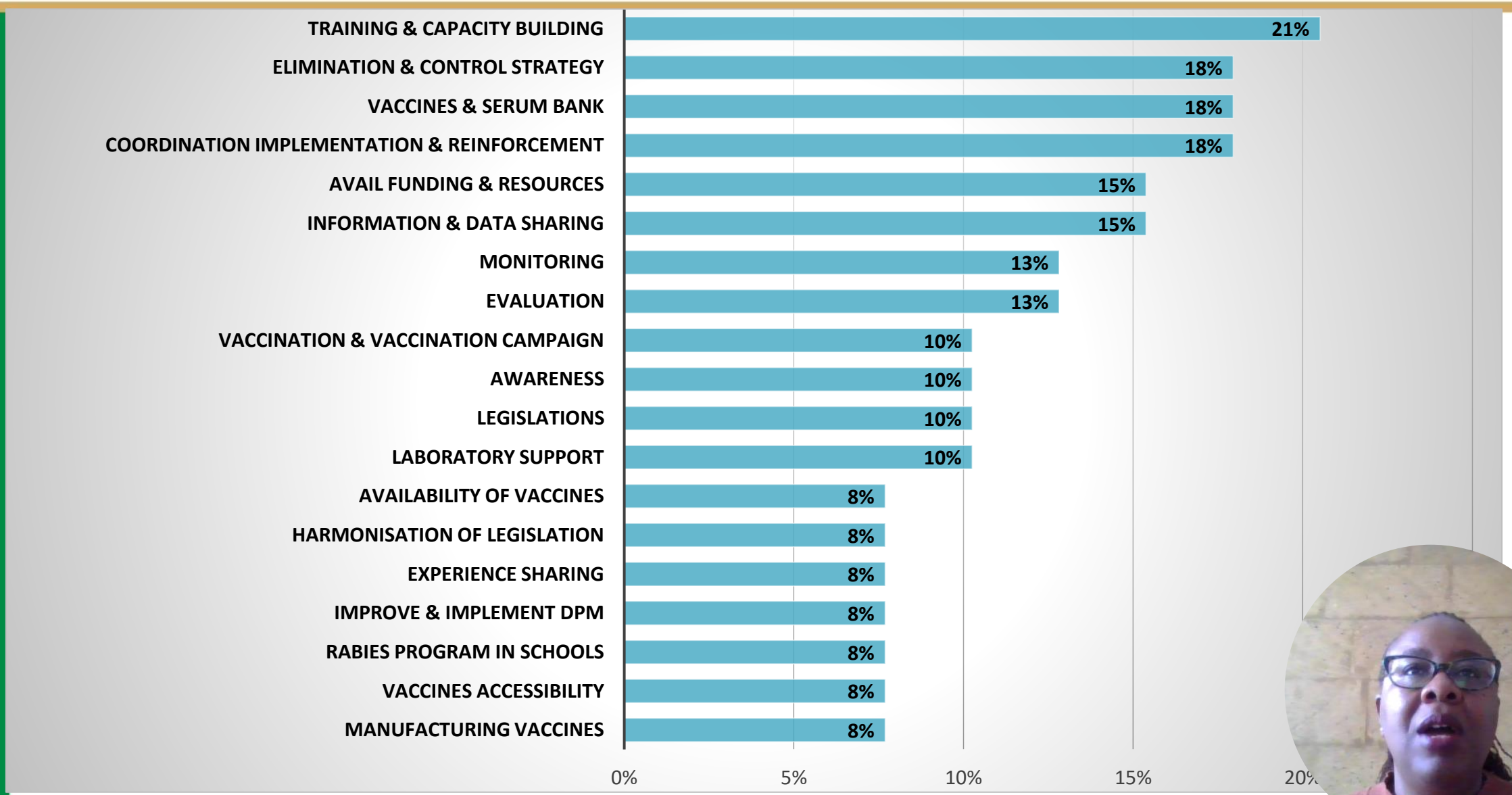
Gaps in current Rabies Elimination Activities



CVOs ranked recommendation (National Level)



CVOs ranked recommendations (Continental Level)



Study Recommendations

Political Advocacy

Increase Zoonotic Budgets

Continental & National Rabies Elimination Strategies.

Rabies specific Regulations to clarify roles & responsibilities between OH actors

Ring Fence funding for rabies elimination

Training & Education

Gender disaggregated and vulnerability data

Monitoring & Surveillance

Geo-referenced; Species- specific Animal Census

Research

Coordination

Vaccination

Dogs in Transit

Hunting Dogs

Cross-border surveillance & coordination

PrEP & PEP

Dog Population Management

Wildlife

Laboratory mapping & reagents

Rabies Awareness

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Institutional Policy

1. Develop a continental rabies elimination strategy.
2. Support national rabies control and elimination strategies
3. Regional and continental bodies provides technical expertise, enhance coordination, improve leadership for NRE strategies.
4. Rabies protocols included in transboundary disease management at the national, regional and continental levels NOT lumped with other zoonotic diseases.
5. National level, the relevant public bodies should develop regulations that assign specific roles and responsibilities especially inter-ministerial and inter-departmental coordination in the reporting, information sharing, monitoring and surveillan rabies elimination strategies.
6. Improve coordination of national One Health platforms by clarifying the responsibilities of non-state actors.

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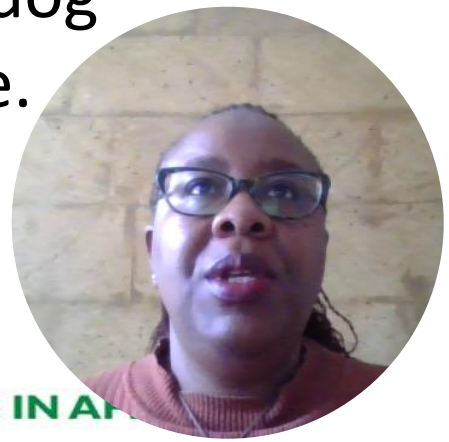
Awareness Creation

1. Create awareness among the relevant parliamentary committees to provide budgetary support for the NRE.
2. Lobby governments and development partners to increase funding for sufficient supply of rabies vaccine for both dogs and front-line workers.
3. Create community awareness on dog population management - improving dog welfare, first aid to victims of dog bites, dog registration, fertility control and vaccination compliance.



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Capacity Building

1. Strengthen the lobbying capacity of communities to demand that governments increase funding for rabies elimination.
2. Strengthen the capacity of border public health and security personnel to effectively undertake rabies cross-border monitoring and enforcement for dogs-in-transit.
3. Training of veterinary technicians in mass dog vaccinations, dog population management surveillance and reporting within the One Health system.
4. Training of human health technicians in dog bites management, monitoring surveillance and reporting within the One Health system.
5. Map out the national laboratories, select some laboratories as the n diagnostic and testing center's, equip them with cost effective diagn and train laboratory technicians in rabies diagnostics

6. Studies on dog ecology and epidemiology to guide evidence-based rabies elimination programming, monitoring and surveillance.

7. Undertake geo-referenced and species specific census for livestock, dogs and wildlife for CRE and NRE.

8. Incorporate gender-based programming to achieve over 70% coverage and that no dogs are left behind. Example: during mass vaccinations, dogs of vulnerable people may be missed out because they are unable to access the service. Furthermore, the interaction between gender and rabies is not taken into account when planning rabies elimination programs.

Mobilize Resources

1. Governments should increase animal health vote to livestock budget - zoonotic disea… ring fence rabies elimination budget.
2. Development partners to mobilize resources to support the Continental, Regio… National Rabies Elimination Strategy.

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