



United Against Rabies Forum

2022 Review

Priority areas and achievements of 2022

Over the past 12 months, the United Against Rabies Forum membership has expanded, now engaging more than 50 different member organisations from around the world – representing international organisations, governmental institutions, non-governmental organisations, academic and research institutions, and the private sector.

United Against Rabies members have continued to advocate for rabies within the wider One Health agenda, and we are pleased to share that our efforts have contributed to rabies control benefits being well-embedded in the One Health Joint Plan of Action, which was launched by the Quadripartite (FAO, WHO, WOAH and UNEP) in October 2022.

We have worked to engage the wider health development community, exploring synergies and mutually beneficial ways of interacting to strengthen health systems. We have also engaged local authority networks in discussions on rabies elimination and dog population management, in particular during the United Against Rabies webinar in October 2022, '[Tackling Rabies and Dog Population Management: the Role of Local Authorities](#)'.

The [United Against Rabies Forum website](#) was launched in May 2022, providing a central platform for stakeholders to access information, technical tools and other resources. We also launched our United Against Rabies Forum Newsletter in November 2022, helping disseminate key Working Group outputs, and inviting the wider rabies community to contribute to ongoing activities (e.g. submission of tools and resources, participating in surveys

Our Working Groups progressed activities that contributed to engaging, empowering and facilitating the work of national stakeholders, and we are pleased to highlight the following outputs that are available on our website:

- [A template for developing a country-specific National Strategic Plan for rabies elimination](#)
- [Guidelines for the Minimum Data Elements for National and International surveillance](#)
- [United Against Rabies Forum Toolbox](#)
- [United Against Rabies Forum Roadmap](#)
- [A template for mapping resource partners that can contribute to rabies control and elimination](#)
- [Case studies](#)
- [An example Pitch Deck](#)

The Forum consists of many experts who are willing and available to support rabies control and elimination efforts, and we encourage you to contact the Global Rabies Coordinator (globalrabiescoordinator@woah.org) if you have any queries regarding the above resources, or require technical support for your rabies control programme.

United Against Rabies Meeting 2022

A virtual review session involving all Working Group participants of the United Against Rabies Forum was held in November 2022. This meeting collected feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of the Forum, which have informed recommendations for improvement as well as Forum priorities.

This review session was followed by an in-person meeting 14-16 December at WOAH Headquarters in Paris of the United Against Rabies Steering Group and leads of each Working Group. The Paris meeting further consolidated the areas of feedback collected from the virtual session, recommend improvements for governance and mode of

operation, and defined the 2023 priorities of the Forum.

The inclusivity and diversity of the network was noted as a strength, especially in relation to engagement of experts and clear collective commitment by United Against Rabies Forum members to 'Zero by 30'. However, members noted that there was a need for improved engagement with rabies-affected countries, local leaders, communities and industry. Members also urged greater clarity around activities that can contribute to achieving the Forum's priority objectives.

A key output of this meeting was the endorsement of an ['Experts Call to Action on Rabies'](#), highlighting the need to scale up political commitment and investment, calling on stakeholders including Gavi to take urgent action on the shared vision set out in 'Zero by 30'.

United Against Rabies in 2023

In 2023 the United Against Rabies Forum will transition to a more efficient and sustainable mode of operation, prioritising activities that directly contribute to the following objectives and reporting directly to the Steering Group:

- Engage rabies-endemic countries and support development and implementation of National Strategic Plans
- Engage local authorities and communities to prioritise rabies elimination at the local level
- Engage with academic and industry partners to support country and regional implementation of rabies strategies.
- Promote improved surveillance, data sharing, and data reporting.
- Support advocacy and resource mobilisation, including promoting access to human post exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

The United Against Rabies Forum secretariat will continue to facilitate networking between members and other stakeholders to promote collaboration on activities that contribute to the broader objectives of 'Zero by 30'.

During 2023, the United Against Rabies Forum will also aim improve communication with the wider rabies community through quarterly webinars and newsletters to share news and events and highlight key outputs of the Forum.

We look forward to continuing to work with you, so please stay in touch and share your events, news and updates by contacting us through our website, or on social media.

Membership

United Against Rabies Forum membership is open to organisations committed to rabies control and elimination. Members are encouraged to promote and support the goals and activities of the Forum. Membership is free of charge and is valid for 3 years. Prospective members are encouraged to visit www.UnitedAgainstRabies.org or contact the Global Rabies Coordinator (globalrabiescoordinator@woah.org) for further information.

www.UnitedAgainstRabies.org

For further information about our work or membership, or to share any news or events, please write to globalrabiescoordinator@woah.org

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