

Sensitization of Public Educators in Rabies Control and Prevention

- **Goal of the Orientation program**

The training is intended to provide participants with the requisite knowledge on the rabies prevention and control, creating a cadre of public educators that would sustain awareness creation on rabies in the Upper West region.

- **Objectives**

- Discuss the current rabies situation in Ghana with special attention to Upper West Region with special reference to Lawra, Jirapa and Nandom districts.
- Discuss the basic facts about rabies including its description, signs and symptoms, preventive measures and the impact of rabies on the individual, family and country.
- Explain standard management of animal bites, human rabies, and adverse reactions to vaccination.
- Discuss the misconceptions about rabies.
- Discuss current rabies control programs towards rabies elimination in the country.
- Identify and discuss factors that influence effective implementation of Rabies Control and Prevention.
- Identify and build consensus on the role and responsibilities of stakeholders including community leaders in rabies control and prevention.

- **Key Contents**

3.1 Current Status of Rabies

- Ghana's Status
- Rabies Status in Lawra, Jirapa and Nandom districts
- Rabies Status in Upper West region

3.2 Basic Information about rabies

- Definition and epidemiology of rabies
- About Rabies
- Signs and Symptoms of Rabies
 - In animals
 - In humans

- Spread of Rabies
 - Between Animals
 - From Animals to Humans
- Protective actions against Rabies
- Avoiding Animal Bites and
- Caring for animal bites/actions to take when bitten by a dog or any animal
- Handling and disposing dead animals
- Responsible pet ownership
- Misconceptions about rabies.

3.3 Current Policy environment of Rabies Control and Prevention in Ghana

- Ghana Rabies Prevention and Control Action Plan: 2018 – 2023
- Message Guide for PZDs In Ghana
- Civil Society Organization Support for Rabies Control and Prevention
 - RIWA Ghana
 - Other Partners

3.4 Factors enhancing and hindering effective implementation of Rabies Control and Prevention

- Enhancing Factors
 - One Health Platform
 - Committed partners – international and local
- Challenges
 - Limited knowledge and understanding of rabies and its burden
 - Vaccination
 - Treatment
 - Socio-cultural factors
 - Political willingness and support
 - Financial and logistic availability
- **Role of Public Educators in Rabies Control and Prevention.**
- **Proposed Participants**

- Media (reporters, editors, and journalist) – Regional + District
 - Health Promotion Officer – District
 - Information Officer – District
 - SHEP Coordinators – District
 - Environmental Health Officer – District
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- **Facilitators**
 - Regional Veterinary Officers
 - Regional Director, GHS
 - Chairman, GJA
 - Lawra Municipal Director, GHS
 - Lawra Health Promotion Officer
 - RIWA Ghana
 - National Health Promotion Officer
 - NADMO????
 - Breakthrough ACTION