



**MISSION
RABIES**

MISSION RABIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



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FROM THE CEO

2019 was the year of awesome achievements for Mission Rabies! In one incredible year we vaccinated our millionth dog while our education teams reached their three millionth child. Both of these momentous numbers are massive milestones in our mission to stop all human deaths from rabies.

Crucially, all of the evidence is showing that hitting these targets for vaccinations and education is having the desired impact. The number of human deaths from this horrific disease is falling throughout our project sites. This is what it's all about.

Our on-going task is to keep this momentum going and affect even more life-saving change in rabies hotspots around the world. To this end, 2019 saw dedicated Mission Rabies teams vaccinate an average of 598 dogs every single day of the year.

On top of our scientific work being published in numerous publications including *MDPI* and *Science Direct*, our projects expanded into new countries to ensure that even more communities can be protected from rabies.

To all those who were part of this epic year, thank you! Nothing in this report could have been achieved without you and it's a privilege to have you join us on this journey. I'm massively excited about what we can achieve together throughout 2020.

Rock on!!

Dr Luke Gamble BVSc DVM&S FRCVS
Founder & CEO
Mission Rabies





RABIES IS THE WORLD'S
DEADLIEST
ZONOTIC DISEASE

99% OF HUMAN RABIES
DEATHS ARE CAUSED BY
INFECTED DOG BITES

DESPITE BEING 100%
VACCINE-PREVENTABLE,
RABIES KILLS
AN ESTIMATED 59,000
PEOPLE EVERY YEAR

WE EXIST TO
CHANGE THIS.

WHAT MISSION RABIES DOES

VACCINATE

We run mass canine vaccination campaigns in global rabies hotspots, by vaccinating 70% of a canine population we can achieve herd immunity and stop the spread of rabies in its tracks.

EDUCATE

With lack of awareness being a key reason why people die from rabies, we run life-saving education programmes equipping communities with the knowledge they need to stay safe.

ELIMINATE

Through repeated annual mass vaccination, we can eliminate rabies from an area. We are committed to working towards the shared global goal of eliminating canine-transmitted rabies by 2030!



ONE MILLION DOGS VACCINATED

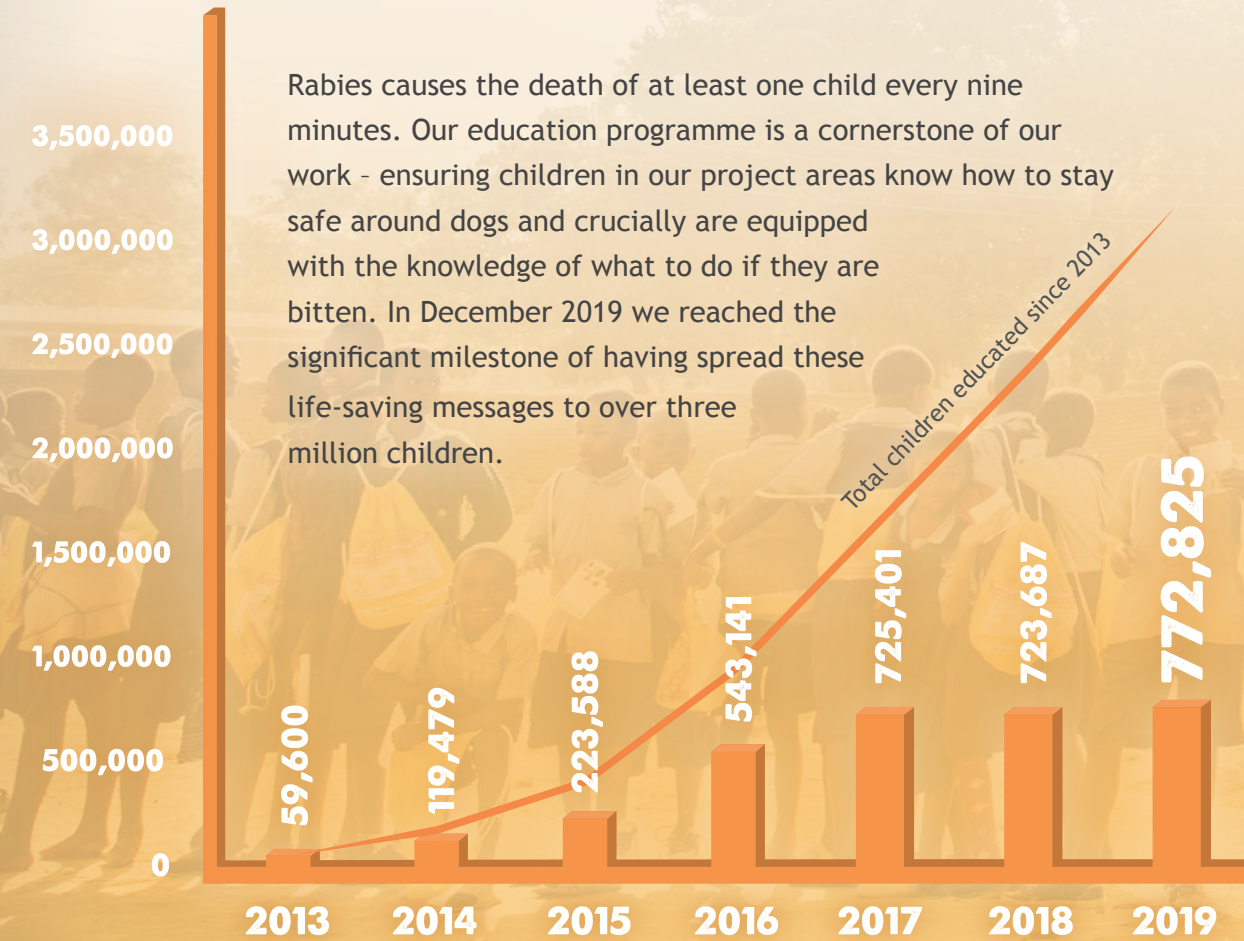
This year we celebrated vaccinating our millionth dog! This incredible milestone is the result of our teams working tirelessly over the past 7 years across rabies hotspots within the worlds most affected countries.



The total dogs vaccinated includes vaccinations delivered by our supported partners around the world using the WVS Data Collection App.

LIFE-SAVING EDUCATION REACHES OVER 3 MILLION CHILDREN

Rabies causes the death of at least one child every nine minutes. Our education programme is a cornerstone of our work - ensuring children in our project areas know how to stay safe around dogs and crucially are equipped with the knowledge of what to do if they are bitten. In December 2019 we reached the significant milestone of having spread these life-saving messages to over three million children.



INDIA

IN 2019

4,183

CALLS TO OUR
RABIES HOTLINE

With a third of all estimated human rabies cases occurring in India - the country is the world's hotspot for the disease. In 2019 our teams in Goa continued to work exceptionally hard to vaccinate as many dogs as possible - from the coastal beaches, to the rural interior, through all weathers, searching every corner to make Goa the country's first rabies-free state!

NO HUMAN DEATHS

IN GOA
IN 2019

IN 2019

96,178

DOGS
VACCINATED



IN 2019

170,107

CHILDREN
EDUCATED



THE MISSION RABIES TRUCK

Mission Rabies, in partnership with our sister charity Worldwide Veterinary Service, operates a truly unique, all-terrain, mobile veterinary hospital in India. The MR Truck hosts outreach campaigns, training courses and mobile clinics around India - championing canine welfare through providing free veterinary resources in areas no other veterinary services can reach.

The Truck also acts as an incredible engagement tool, raising awareness and encouraging communities to talk about rabies, humane population control and canine welfare. This year it made a special appearance at the Goa carnival, where our teams demonstrated their dog catching skills and delivered our messages to the 70,000 people in attendance!

IN 2019

240

VETS TRAINED

2,501

STERILISATIONS



MISSION RABIES TUK TUK CHALLENGE

To raise funds for the push into Thyolo District, Malawi, the UK Mission Rabies team completed a world first in 2019! Demonstrating the same determination as our vaccination teams, they navigated an unmodified Tuk Tuk around the challenging off road course at the East of England Land Rover Experience. You can check out their achievement by visiting go.missionrabies.com/tuk-tuk



MALAWI

We began our project in Blantyre in 2015, after the city's Queen Elizabeth Hospital recorded the highest number of child rabies deaths from any institution across Africa. Over the past four years, our teams have been working tirelessly to make this the lowest. Throughout 2019, we have been able to continue to improve efficiency at our projects in Blantyre, Zomba and Chiradzulu and for the first time extended our reach into Thyolo district.

IN 2019
506,290
CHILDREN EDUCATED
101,872
DOGS VACCINATED



UGANDA

87%

**VACCINATION
COVERAGE**

In 2019, we identified the need to protect the communities surrounding Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park from the threat of rabies, alongside the park's endangered mountain gorilla population. The region presented our teams with a unique challenge with multiple remote areas, we therefore adapted our methods, utilising radio to spread awareness amongst the most isolated communities.

IN 2019

3,321

**DOGS
VACCINATED**



CAMBODIA

Cambodia has one of the highest rabies death rates per capita of any country in the world. In Phnom Penh one child dies from rabies every week, we plan to change this. In September, in collaboration with the local government and partner charities Animal Rescue Cambodia and Phnom Penh Animal Welfare Society, we conducted a 10-day campaign across two of the city's districts.

IN 2019
5,418
DOGS VACCINATED

**THE LARGEST VACCINATION DRIVE IN
MISSION RABIES' HISTORY...**

Next we will tackle the biggest campaign in our history - vaccinating the entire province of Phnom Penh in just 10 days - that's a target of 100,000 dogs!

For this we will need an incredible team of volunteers to join us as we work together with our in-country partners. Be part of our biggest challenge to date!

Visit missionrabies.com to find out more!



GHANA

2019 saw Mission Rabies' first project in West Africa, as we headed to Ghana's Bosomtwe district - an area that has seen a recent increase in recorded dog bites. Following an intensive education programme run in partnership with the Ghanaian Health Services, our teams set up both static point clinics and delivered vaccinations door-to-door across these vulnerable communities.

IN 2019
4,370 DOGS VACCINATED



IN 2019
13,977 CHILDREN EDUCATED

TANZANIA

IN 2019
7,064 DOGS VACCINATED

Following three years of successful work with our partner charity Mbwa wa Africa in the Meru District of North East Tanzania, 2019 saw the development of a new vaccination strategy to tackle rabies in a rural setting. By setting up roaming static vaccination points, we massively increased efficiency and were able to expand to four additional wards. Alongside the 10 day vaccination drive, Mission Rabies' sister charity Worldwide Veterinary Service ran a sterilisation clinic, providing humane population control by neutering 295 dogs.

IN 2019
13,144 CHILDREN EDUCATED





EDUCATION

Whilst our vaccination drives work to reduce rabies within a community, our education programme equips children with the knowledge they need to stay safe and therefore helps to reduce human deaths immediately.

IN 2019 **772,779** **18,368**
CHILDREN **TEACHERS**
EDUCATED **REACHED**

In our interactive lessons, children learn about the dangers of rabies, how to stay safe around dogs and crucially what to do if bitten. We also run sessions across the wider community to ensure our messages are spread as far as possible.

2019 saw major progress for our education teams in India and Malawi, as rabies prevention became part of the school curriculum - rabies education will soon be delivered to over four million primary school children in Malawi and around seven million children ever year in India!



EDUCATION SAVES LIVES

Following a Mission Rabies lesson last year, we caught up with Simran in Goa when we re-visited her school.

She told us how she'd recently been chased by a dog and bitten. Thanks to the lesson taught by Mission Rabies, Simran went straight home and told her mother. Together, they washed the wound for 15 minutes with soap and water before going to the doctor for a full course of anti-rabies injections. Simran doesn't know for sure if the dog was infected with rabies, but our lessons helped her take the right actions to save her life.

Thanks to the work of our education officers, her mother can rest assured she is safe from harm.

70
VOLUNTEERS



FROM 8 COUNTRIES

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are vital to our work, bringing fresh energy and enthusiasm and enabling us to work on a scale that would not otherwise be possible. We are always looking for passionate individuals to join our teams - whether or not you are from a veterinary background, there are meaningful ways to get involved!

A PIONEERING PILOT IN CAMBODIA, BETH

"It didn't take us long to get into a flawless routine. Plenty of vaccinations were being administered and being able to assist the vets was so rewarding and allowed me to see the tangible difference I was having in the battle against rabies."

"As a "non-vet", I didn't really know what to expect. However, I soon realised that I had nothing to worry about. The Mission Rabies team and my fellow volunteers were a joy to work with throughout and I am already looking up dates for my next trip!"



LIFE AS A TANZANIA VOLUNTEER, PAM

"We are armed with syringes, vaccines and enthusiasm. As we arrive at our site, a primary school at the heart of the village, we are greeted by children waiting with their dogs. The children are bright eyed with tremendous smiles. Throughout the day children and adults alike come from all directions and paths with dogs of all ages for vaccination."

"While traveling home I couldn't help but feel a sense of pride for doing my small part to help with the worldwide elimination of rabies. Truth be told, I feel a little bit guilty because I think I am getting back far more than I could ever put in!"

Visit missionrabies.com/getinvolved to find out more!

A LASTING IMPACT FROM GHANA, KEMBA

"On day one of the Mission, I thought this is why I went to vet school! From our basecamp, we assembled our day's rations of informative brochures, ice packs, syringes, needles, vaccines, vaccine books, red livestock markers, lunches and waters."

We were paired with local drivers, veterinarians and Community Health Officers to ensure the best coverage of our individual areas."

"The inaugural Ghana Mission Rabies trip ended with us having changed the outlook of rabies in the Bosomtwe District and with the country living on forever in our hearts."

RESEARCH

Research continues to underpin everything we do at Mission Rabies. Our proof-of-concept projects are the test-beds to push the frontiers of operational research - developing effective and efficient approaches to mass dog vaccination, which can ultimately be implemented by governments on a large scale.

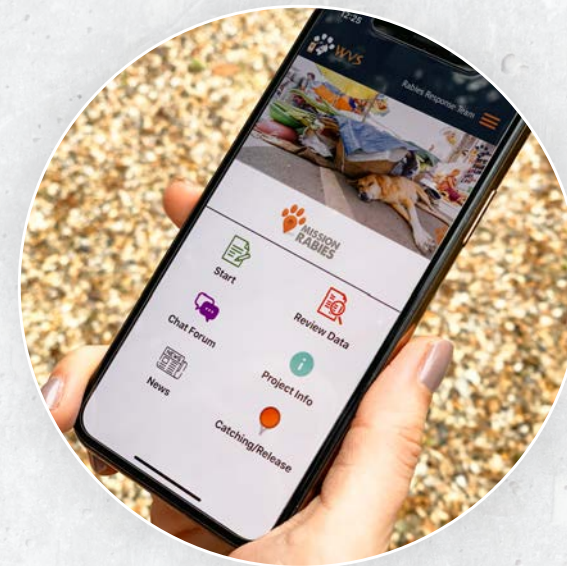
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Our continued collaboration with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) saw us support an emergency response to an outbreak of rabies on the border between Haiti and the Dominican Republic in January 2019. Use of the WVS App enabled rapid, centralised collection of data to understand the scale of the outbreak, rapid identification of people who had been exposed and the planning of a comprehensive vaccination response.

TESTING FOR THE FUTURE

In 2019, Mission Rabies published six scientific publications in peer-review journals focusing on the practicalities of running effective mass dog vaccination campaigns and identifying optimal approaches to achieving the critical 70% vaccination coverage needed. Our teams also coauthored on a further four with partners.

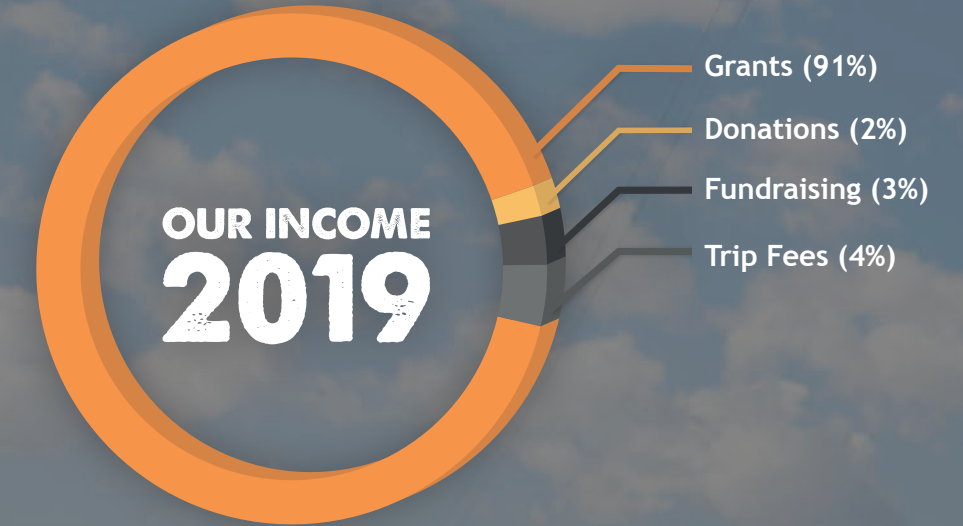
This pioneering research directly supports the planning of larger regional and national dog vaccination campaigns and maximises a government's chances of success when investing public funds in rabies control efforts.



FINANCES

During 2019, Mission Rabies spent £1,295,202 delivering life-saving projects in rabies hotspots around the world. This demonstrates an increase of 6.6% compared to 2018, clearly showing our determination to eliminate human deaths from rabies.

Matching this, our income for the year increased by 6% from 2018 to £1,335,269. Thank you to all who donated and fundraised to allow so much work to be completed.





THE FUTURE GET INVOLVED

Thanks to the passion and dedication of our volunteers and supporters, over the past 12 months we have been able to move ever closer towards the shared global goal of rabies elimination by 2030, however, there is still so much yet to achieve - we need your help to do so!

Moving forwards, we will continue to expand our existing projects across the world and will be taking on our biggest challenge to date in vaccinating 100,000 dogs in just 10 days in Cambodia.

To see how you could get involved and play your part in eliminating the world's deadliest disease visit www.missionrabies.com

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS



Thank you to everyone who enabled this incredible life-saving year to happen. From our awesome staff and volunteers on the ground around the world to our supporters who provide the vital funding, we couldn't do it without you.





MISSION RABIES

4 CASTLE STREET, CRANBORNE, DORSET, BH21 5PZ

WWW.MISSIONRABIES.COM

+44(0)1725 557225

ENQUIRIES@MISSIONRABIES.COM

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