

From Polio and Measles to Rabies and Anthrax: Leveraging 20 Years of Experience in Vaccine-Preventable Disease Surveillance for One Health Community-Based Surveillance in Ethiopia: the case of CORE Group Polio Project ; Muluken Asres (MPH, MA)

BACKGROUND:

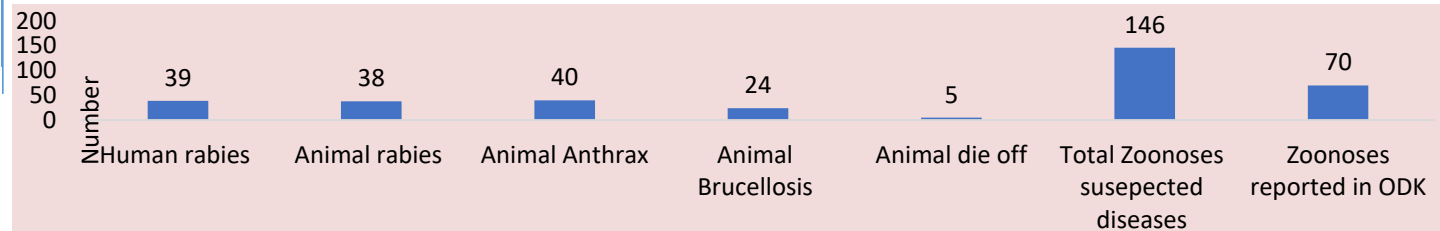
- The CORE Group Polio Project (CGPP) in Ethiopia is fully USAID funded being implemented in Ethiopia since 2001 and contributing a lot on polio eradication efforts.
- The project works on improving immunization service and selected Vaccine preventable diseases surveillance in 85 high risk, hard-to-reach, pastoralists, semi-pastoralist and border districts.
- Since 2003, CORE Group Polio (CGP) has been conducting Community-Based Surveillance (CBS) for Vaccine preventable diseases
- Most known human infectious diseases and about three-quarters of newly emerging infections are from animal sources.
- Given its longstanding presence and expertise in community engagement, the project recently expanded its scope to include zoonotic diseases, a component of global health security.

STUDY OBJECTIVE:

The objective is to share preliminary results of a One Health Community-Based Surveillance integration with the previous human diseases Community Based Surveillance.

RESULTS...

- Using house to house visit and other health education potential sites totally 2,417, 614 peoples reached through Health Education focused on VPDs and PZDs.
- A total of 3,000 PZDs targeted messages have been distributed in the form of poster that translated to three languages.
- VPDs and PZDs sensitization training done for a total of 221 key informants
- The key informants were religious, Clan and Kebele leaders.
- In Oromiya region, Borena zone, Miyo woreda a total of 40 participants in all Kenya bordering kebeles were conducted review meeting.
- In the meeting how to enhance crossing point case detection and crossing point vaccination and
- Reviewing of formal and informal crossing points were addresses
- Generally, the existing polio platform used to leverage the Priority Zoonotic Diseases Community Based surveillance



Suspected Zoonotic Diseases reported by CORE Group trained community members

METHODS:

- Quarterly implementing partners report used for verification
- Collecting human and animal diseases surveillance data through ODK reported by community volunteers.

RESULTS:

- Through the previous experiences it has been able to easily develop community case definition for Rabies, Anthrax and Brucellosis.
- A total of 10,000 CBS training manual prepared in three languages for the six diseases and distributed to the kebele level.
- Providing master CBS training for 168 project officers, surveillance officers, and veterinary experts.
- Cascaded trainings were given by integration of human and animal health sectors at woreda and kebele/village level which ultimately helps to enhance surveillance efforts in the project areas.
- Collecting the real-time electronic surveillance data via Open data Kit (ODK), which allows for extremely rapid suspect case reporting, verification, and follow-up by government and partners.
- Totally 146 PZDs suspected cases were reported and
- 70 suspected cases reported through ODK.
- 70 Project staffs have smart phones for CBS through ODK reporting and follow up.
- A total of 1414 kebeles/ villages have been implementing CBS for VPDs and PZDs and events
- A total of 1,022,957 house were visited by CVs/CAWs/HDLAs.

Area of Synergy for Polio and One health Projects

- **Budget**- With minimum budget support using the previous many years of project experiences, CORE Group increased surveillance targeted diseases from three to six and expand from Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) to Priority Zoonotic Diseases (PZDs).
- **Time** – Polio experiences shorten when to start the one health project as well as with the same time period it has been possible to manage efficiently six diseases training and surveillance activities which was previously for three diseases
- **Manpower Capacity**- using the One Health budget possible to increase the trained manpower number as well as the diversity (veterinarians) i.e 3 CVs per village to 5 CVs per village
- The Polio surveillance has been synergized during the PZDs surveillance training

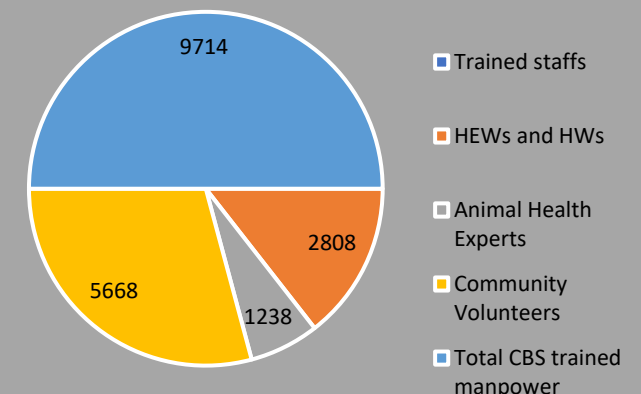
Community case definition development:

- The pillar for community surveillance
- Required several expert reviews
- ☑ CORE Group and it partners easily able to develop PZDs community case definition
- **Manual development:**
- ❖ Able to developed the CBS manual in very short period of time and the reasons were;
- Experience of partners and implementing partners during polio CBS manual development
- Able to integrate easily the one health CBS manual developing experts

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

It is very effective to integrate human diseases surveillance experience to the One Health Platform and communities are the most valuable resource in detecting and reporting an outbreak.

Number of lower level VPD and PZDs CBS Trained manpower



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