



WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future

WEBINAR

Regional Training of National OIE Focal Points for Wildlife

Intermediate cycle training round

20 - 24
September | **2021**

Georges Phrem, Lebanon
Wildlife focal point
CITES M.A

Member experiences: OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN WILDLIFE DISEASE REPORTING





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Wildlife in Lebanon

Wildlife reduced to boars, hyenas, foxes
No real surveillance activities,
except for wild birds

HPAI (contingency plan since 2004)

- Lebanon being on the migration pathways
- Collaboration with bird watching societies (NGO),





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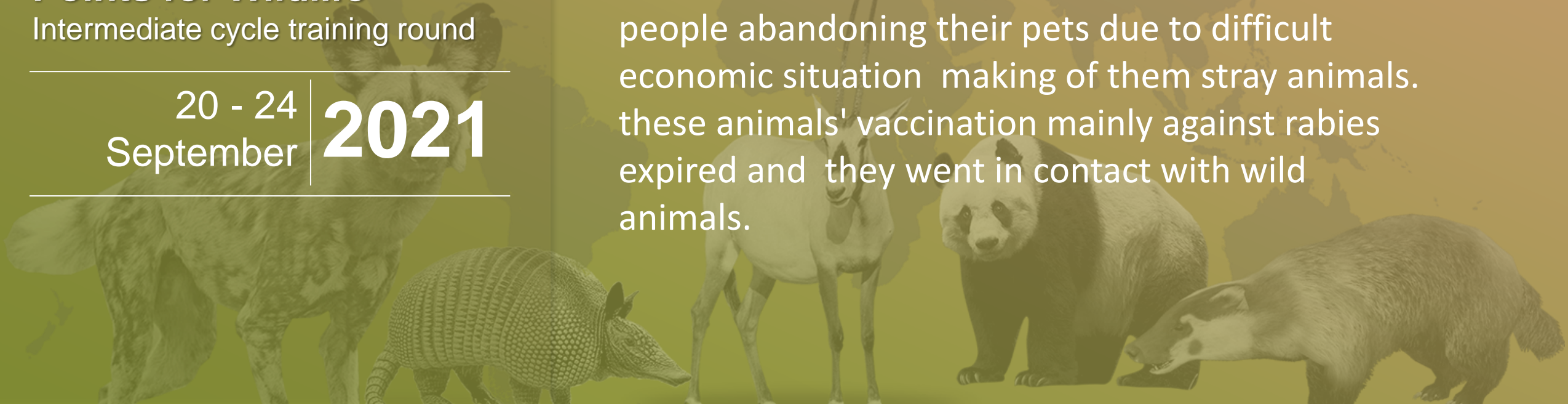
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Challenges faced:

The current situation in Lebanon is facing, mainly after the 4th of August blast : lack of electricity , leading to lack of internet coverage scarcity of fuel.

people abandoning their pets due to difficult economic situation making of them stray animals. these animals' vaccination mainly against rabies expired and they went in contact with wild animals.





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The priorities being set to assure the needs of the population.

Due to the failure of the economy since 2019, it is becoming harder to convince decision makers to attribute funds for surveillance activities. Even whenever these funds are available, wildlife diseases surveillance and eradication are not a priority.





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The OIE is assisting in overcoming this challenge through :

- a multisectoral project led by the OIE RR ME for the elimination of dog-mediated human rabies.
- This project is being put in place with the support of Animal welfare NGO's and WHO.





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Conclusion:

Lebanon participated in all training seminars for focal points on wildlife, cycles 1 to 5, all been held in Africa with our African colleagues.

Close collaboration with the Lebanese focal point on animal diseases notification (WAHIS).

The department related to wildlife diseases in the Animal resources directorate needs more intersectoral collaboration, especially with the Ministry of Environment, and concerned stakeholders.



Thank you for your attention!

