Strategies to Prevent (STOP) Spillover

Lassa Virus and Ebola Virus Risk Frameworks

The risk framework below, "*Mastomys* Rodents Are Infected with Lassa Virus," was developed using outcome mapping techniques in conjunction with the Joint Risk Assessment Operational Tool (JRA), 2020). It provides a risk framing for the problem of Lassa Virus in Sierra Leone that incorporates a qualitative behavioral risk assessment approach with activities such as identification of risk factors and consequential risk impacts. It also identifies interventions and actors at risk of exposure under three village STOP Spillover settings, including transfer of virus from Forest to Village to Host, from Host to Village, and consideration of seasonal variation in the Host to Village spillover.

By evaluating likelihood for risk by these three risk factors defined by community members and outcome mapping teams, this risk framing provides context for the risk impact and defines intervention-specific interfaces—a key component of risk characterization. It also provides a list of actors at risk of exposure, further supplementing the target and specificity of the risk reduction exercises at the heart of STOP Spillover's activities. The community participatory component in these risk framing exercises became critical as the interventions were implemented and adopted by the community.

MASTOMYS RODENTS ARE INFECTED WITH LASSA VIRUS



What are the risk questions?

The risk framework below, "Bushmeat Are Infected with Ebola Virus," provides risk framing that was central to the interventions in the wild bushmeat markets in Sierra Leone. This framing was designed early on in the outcome mapping process and in partnership with community One Health-Design Research and Mentorship (OH-DReaM) working groups. It provided initial identification of risk factors at three critical village interfaces: Forest to Village to Host, Human to Human, and a seasonal construct for Host to Village STOP Spillover events.

The health and financial consequences of the risk impacts were clearly identified at each interface and interventions were designed to specifically address each of these factors using the Joint Risk Assessment Operational Tool (JRA, 2020). For each interface, the community was crucial in identifying the actors at risk and ultimately in implementing actions that translated the framing into clearly identifiable results. This risk framing not only set the stage and context but, with the early inclusion of the community in characterizing the risks for these scenarios, provided critical initial engagement, which lead to successful implementation of crucial, targeted interventions.



What are the risk questions?