

# National Forum of Leptospirosis of Nicaragua

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## **Epidemiological situation of leptospirosis in Nicaragua and the Intersectoral Plan**

*Dr. Edmundo Sánchez, Ministry of Health /Nicaragua*

*Presented by Mr. Eduardo Jiménez, Zoonosis National Expert, MINSA/Nicaragua*

Mr. Jiménez made an extensive presentation of the epidemiological situation of leptospirosis in Nicaragua, mentioning important and determining aspects for the appearance of leptospirosis outbreaks: environmental and climatic factors, as well as the socioeconomic status of the population. He outlined the epidemiological history of the disease in Nicaragua, mentioning the years with the most significant outbreaks in the country: 1995, 2007 and 2010. It was during these years that the characterization and identification of serovars in the country were made, the laboratory technique was improved, the isolation of leptospires in domestic animals was performed and, multidisciplinary and intersectoral teams started to be formed to control outbreaks. His presentation also showed the geographical boundaries of the area with the highest number of cases, known as "The Corridor of Leptospira", which is formed by Managua, León, Chinandega and Estelí, and their corresponding municipalities.

Finally, he described the response actions for outbreaks in the country, organized into three stages that include rodent control, chemoprophylaxis, community involvement, training of health personnel and health communication.