



# AMR Newsletter

## How we can achieve FAO action plan

December 2020 / 1st



## HIGHLIGHTS ON GLOBAL ACTIVITIES

### World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2020

18-24 November marked 'World Antimicrobial Awareness Week' and activities and events took place in HQ and across FAO regions. Highlights include:

- [The One Health Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial resistance](#) launched at a tripartite joint press conference with the tripartite DGs and the Prime Ministers of Bangladesh and Barbados on November 20.
- [Professor Dame Sally Davis](#), member of the Global Leaders Group for AMR, delivered a Key-note speech discussing AMR not just a health issue, but also a development problem in the AMR Webinar: A sustained One Health response for a sustainable global future on November 24. Panelist Dr Frank Berthe from the World Bank, and Dr Sasha KooOoshima and Dr Inna Punda, both from FAO were invited. The webinar was introduced by FAO's Deputy Director Dr Maria Helena Semedo and moderated by FAO's CVO Dr Keith Sumption.
- [A video on AMR](#) was published and viewed more than 1.3 million times on Facebook.
- [The FAO AMR Behaviour Change Community of Practice](#) and its online discussion platform has been launched. Over 200 participants attended, and some 100 people have since joined the online discussions (when), which will continue until 20 December.
- [The first ever joint WAAW event](#) has been held in Asia and Pacific region by the following counterparts: FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO RAP), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific, OIE Southeast Asia Sub-Regional Representation, World Health Organization (WHO) Southeast Asia Regional Office, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Asia and the Pacific.
- [A high-level communiqué](#) to commit to tackling AMR with a One Health approach at the Africa continental level has been jointly signed by the Regional Directors from the African Union (Africa CDC, AU-IBAR), the Regional Tripartite (FAO RAF, FAO RNE, OIE, WHO AFRO, WHO EMRO), and UNEP.
- [A leaflet on 'Antibiotics in Livestock'](#), translated into 16 major languages of Europe and Central Asia, has been launched as part of the FAO REUT regional campaign.

### Sectors in Action

**Codex Alimentarius.** The 43rd session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC43) has progressed its work on the revision of the Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance (CXC61-2005) to the next step. Discussions at CAC43 are available [here](#) and the current version of the revised text is available [here](#). It is expected that the revision will be finalized at the 8th session of the ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR08) to be convened during 2021 and adoption at CAC44 is expected by November 2021.

**Land and water (Environment).** New [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Russian](#) versions of the FAO/WHO/OIE publication "*Technical brief on water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH) and wastewater management to prevent infections and reduce the spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR)*" are now available.

### Tripartite collaboration & AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund (AMR MPTF)

Cambodia and Indonesia have received around 1 million USD funds each from AMR MPTF for their national projects in November. The fund will support the Tripartite joint actions in countries and address AMR under One Health approach.

One Global AMR MPTF Programme (2.8 m USD) with four technical components was approved at the 4th AMR MPTF Steering Committee meeting in October. The technical components are Environmental aspect of AMR, Monitoring and Evaluation of Global Action Plan, One Health Legal Assessment Tool, and Tripartite Integrated Surveillance System on AMR/AMU.

The Tripartite launched an [International instrument](#) on the use of antimicrobials across the human, animal, and plant sectors, on 20 November during press conference, chaired by Tripartite Directors-General.

## FAO/EU collaboration

- **A Letter of Intent** signed in September 2017 between EU and FAO, has been covering several areas of collaboration, including tackling the spread of AMR on farms and in food systems. This joint collaboration was made also possible through the well-known EU training programme *Better Training for Safer Food program* (BTSF).
- **A new EU Action Plan on AMR** was adopted by EU Commission in 2017, fully in line with the FAO-OIE-WHO Global Action Plan, and FAO addressed members of the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety regarding AMR in food and agriculture with that occasion.
- **The EU Council** invited FAO Director of the Animal production and Health in January 2020 to address the *Chief Veterinary officers working group* on FAO's AMR work.
- **An InfoPoint virtual conference** during the World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2020 was hosted by the European Commission in collaboration with the Tripartite Secretariat. It highlighted the ways in which the EU and the Tripartite are taking action to combat AMR at the global, regional and country levels. The event was opened by Deputy Director-General of DG DEVCO (Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development) Marjeta Jager, and Claire Bury, Deputy Director-General of DG SANTE (Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety).
- **A High level AMR Webinar** was jointly organized on 23 November by FAO Regional office for Europe and Central Asia and FAO's tripartite partners WHO and OIE, as well as the European Commission and the Euroasian Economic Commission. It was attended by European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), Head of Unit for Animal welfare and antimicrobial resistance, Andrea Gavinelli.
- **The EU Parliament AMR Working Group**, chaired by the EU parliamentarian Sarah Wiener, held an event in November 2020 to discuss how to improve the health of people, animals and the environment. The event was attended by Sabine Juelicher, Director for Food and Feed safety, Innovation (DG SANTE) and Dr Keith Sumption, Chief Veterinary Officer of FAO.
- **A EUR 9.6 million AMR project** in collaboration with the Tripartite collaboration is currently being implemented in 7 countries of Latin America supporting them to implement their National Action Plans using the One Health Approach ([here](#))

## FROM FAO REGIONS

### Latin Americas and the Caribbean

- **The Integrated Regional Project** (TCP/RLA/3708 and OSRO/GLO/812/NOR), launched in 2019, has successfully finalized in four LAC countries with a regional workshop in October 2020. The Project was implemented in Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay. It focused on the risk assessment process in terrestrial and aquatic animal production systems to adopt AMR containment strategies, and it. The project has been extended under NORAD until May 2021 and for TCP until July 2021.
- **Peru** submitted to the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) the Concept Note "*Confronting Antimicrobial Resistance with the One Health approach*", which has been selected and approved. The project document is currently in preparation.
- **Progressive Management Pathway (PMP)**. FAO AMR team is preparing for the application of the PMP in Costa Rica. Due to Covid-19, four phases have been proposed: 1.- translation of the PMP tool and materials (ongoing), 2.- virtual introduction (Nov 2020), 3.- training and data generation (Feb 2021), and 4.- final face-to-face workshop meeting (date TBC for 2021).
- **FAO-ATLASS**. Due to COVID-19, the implementation of the FAO-ATLASS tool during 2021 was modified to a mostly virtual activity. The tool, currently in the translation

## FAO Reference Centres

On **24 November, 2020**, the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES) was designated as FAO Reference Centre for AMR. To date, 6 reference centres have been designated, for more details, please refer to: [here](#)

**20 October 2020**, the Technical University of Denmark, National Food Institute (DTU Food) launched the kick-off meeting for the second phase of the Fleming Fund project "EQASIA". It aims to strengthening the provision of External Quality Assurance services for antimicrobial resistance to National Reference Labs across One Health sectors in Asia. FAO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific participated in the kick off meeting serving as project advisor in the scientific advisory board.

The FAO Reference Centre for AMR in UK has published two blogs describing activities carried out by the Centre, outlining One Health AMR approach in Nigeria ([here](#)) and giving a broader review of activities ([here](#)).

process, will promote the creation of a community of laboratories with a technical base, trained in AMR in the beneficiary countries as well as in SENASICA, Mexico, as a guest country.

- **World Antimicrobial Awareness Week in the region.** The regional office has participated in activities and events during WAAW, November 18-24, including:
  1. Environmental Health in the AMR context with a focus on primary production, organized by PAHO Paraguay on November 17.
  2. Food Safety and AMR organized by the National AMR Multisectoral Committee in Peru on November 18.
  3. The use of antimicrobials in agricultural health and food safety organized by SENASAG, Bolivia on November 18.
  4. The use of antimicrobials in agricultural health and food safety organized by AGROCALIDAD, Ecuador, on November 19.
  5. WAAW webinar organized by PAHO Colombia, on November 26.
  6. The AMR FAO RLC team produced two audio-visual campaigns for WAAW with six videos addressed the threat of AMR and the danger of inappropriate use of antimicrobials, with the participation of Tripartite experts.
- **Six new videos on AMR** have been published as part of the FAO LAC region WAAW campaign.
- **FAO AMR Legal Methodology.** The methodology for the analysis of AMR-relevant legislation in the food and agriculture sectors has begun since October, and currently the AMR regulations analysis is under way in each country in the region, to identify gaps in regulations that promote an adequate legal framework and governance for the containment of AMR.
- **Working together to fight Antimicrobial Resistance.** The UNJP/SLS/001/EC project has been reviewed and updated to respond to the current Covid-19 context.

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