

Antimicrobial use and antimicrobial resistance

As misuse and overuse of antimicrobials can lead to the development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) develops international standards on their responsible and prudent use in animals. Through its Annual Report, the **Observatory** intends to assess the uptake of these standards.

Critically important antimicrobials are still being used as growth promoters in animals

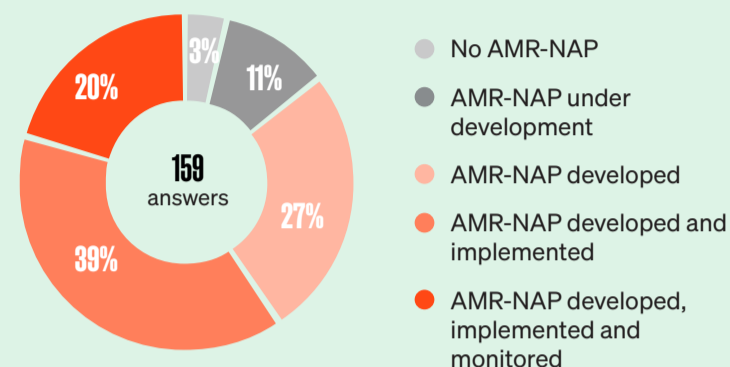


Percentage of Members using critically important antimicrobials as growth promoters in animals
Source: ANIMUSE Global Database, 2020-2021

An increasing number of Members are implementing national strategies against AMR

Around **60%** of Members implement and/or monitor a National Action Plan on AMR (AMR-NAP) in the animal sector

x3 ↑
2016 2021
This figure is 3 times higher than it was in 2016, the year after the launch of the Global Action Plan on AMR



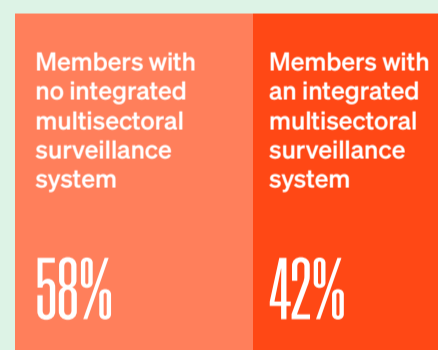
Percentage of Members with different levels of development of their AMR-NAP
Source: Tracking Antimicrobial Resistance Country Self-Assessment Survey (TrACSS), 2016-2021

AMR national surveillance systems need to be further developed

Almost **1/4** of Members do not have an animal AMR surveillance system

Other Members have surveillance systems at various stages of development. For instance, **44%** of them conduct systematic data collection and monitor levels of AMR, with laboratories that follow quality assurance processes.

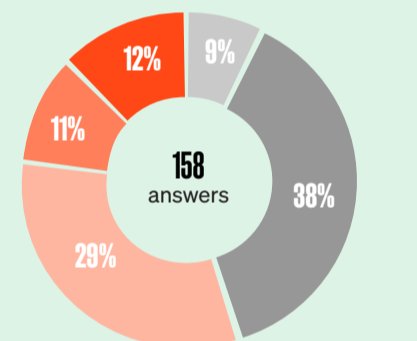
Less than half of Members have an integrated multisectoral surveillance system for AMR and antimicrobial use (AMU) in place



Source: TrACSS, 2020-2021

Training on AMR is widespread across Members

Over **90%** of Members provide training on AMR and AMU in the veterinary sector either through *ad hoc* courses, core curricula for graduating veterinary professionals or continuing professional training.



Members' AMR training and professional education in the veterinary sector

Data on AMU are available in the factsheet of the 6th *Annual Report on antimicrobial use in animals* published in June 2022.

Recommendations

World Organisation for Animal Health

- Advocate for the responsible use of antimicrobials by the private and public sectors.
- Reinforce capacity building activities on AMR and AMU.

Members

- Stop using antimicrobials as animal growth promoters if they are listed by WHO or WOAHA as critically important.
- Members using other antimicrobials as growth promoters are encouraged to systematically accompany their use with a risk analysis, in line with WOAHA's recommendations.
- Implement and monitor a National Action Plan on AMR and improve surveillance systems.
- Provide continuing professional training on AMR and AMU.

Access the full information [here](#)

Please consider the data limitations outlined in the full Annual Report when consulting this document.