


# Investing in Animal Health to Curb AMR

A Strategic Call to Empower WOA's Leadership  
on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

 World Organisation  
for Animal Health

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AMR already contributes to **over 1 million human deaths** worldwide each year and to annual **GDP losses of US\$17 billion** in livestock production systems. Without coordinated action, these figures are expected to rise, reaching staggering levels **by 2050**:

**39** Million  
human deaths

**US\$ 1.7** trillion in annual global  
livestock GDP losses

Drug-resistant pathogens do not respect borders. Resistant bacteria circulating in animals can spread to humans, plants, the environment and across entire supply chains. The **2024 United Nations Political Declaration** on AMR confirms a formal global consensus: AMR demands immediate, coordinated and well-financed action across all sectors.

Every global agenda has an AMR dimension. Those that embrace it will deliver stronger, more durable results. Those overlooking it are putting at risk every investment made.

If left unaddressed, antimicrobial use (AMU) in agri-food systems risks accelerating resistance at a scale that will undermine decades of medical progress, and negatively impact food security and economic prosperity worldwide.

## Prevention Pays

Current investment to effectively tackle AMR in animal health remains critically insufficient. Public and philanthropic sources allocated only **7% of total AMR research and development funding to animal health between 2017 and 2024**. This is just 6 cents out of every US\$10 directed to animal vaccine research and development. Meanwhile, the cost of inaction is alarming: cumulative GDP losses from animal-to-human transmission of resistant pathogens could reach up to US\$5.2 trillion in by 2050.

Yet the animal health sector is also where some of the most proven, cost-effective interventions, including vaccination, biosecurity, surveillance and stewardship, can generate outsized returns for both animals and people.

**US\$ 120**

Billion GDP gain:  
from achieving 30% reduction  
in livestock AMU within 5 years

**US\$ 7.7**

Trillion costs averted:  
Through One Health AMR actions &  
focus on animal health stewardship

## WOAH, your partner in animal health

WOAH is the only intergovernmental body mandated to set science-based international standards for animal health, including those addressing AMR and AMU in animals. With more than 100 years of institutional expertise, WOA has technical credibility among governments, industry, and academia, as well as a proven capacity to identify and collaborate with multiple relevant partners. This makes WOA an unique actor for addressing AMR in the animal health sector, through a platform that reaches every corner of the globe.

### ● A global infrastructure to drive change

**183** Members  
under one  
governance  
framework

**300+** Reference  
Centres  
worldwide

WOAH is also a founding and key actor in the **Quadripartite** alliance with FAO, UNEP and WHO

### ● Science-based AMU/AMR standards

WOAH develops and updates standards to **prevent and control animal diseases**, considering **vaccination, biosecurity and animal welfare**, as well as guiding the **prudent use of antimicrobials**. WOA also **supports its Members in effectively implementing these standards** at national and regional level.

### ● Filling critical data gaps for evidence-based decisions

**150+** Members  
contribute  
annually to  
WOAH's ANIMUSE

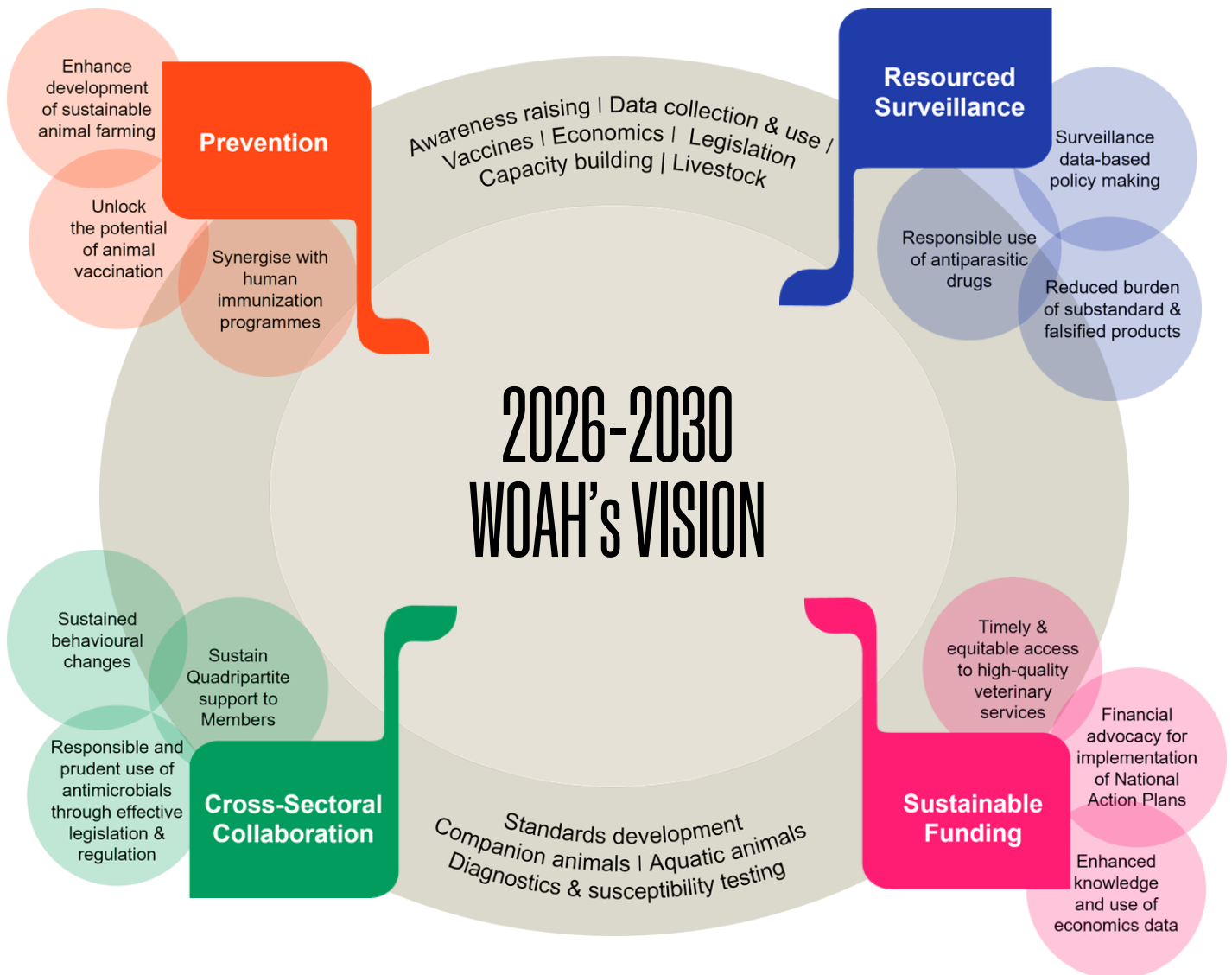
**80+** Members  
participated in  
WOAH's V-SAFE  
pilot system

### ● Global partnerships to translate commitments into action

**70+** Memoranda of Understanding signed with partners in the veterinary & pharmaceutical sectors, producer organisations, international organisations and NGOs

# Investment needs: Four Priority Pillars

With an overall investment of €20 million, WOAAH's five-year (2026-2030) AMR roadmap will be able to achieve:



## How to partner with WOAAH



Through supporting WOAAH's World Animal Health and Welfare Fund (World Fund), a multi-donor trust fund built by voluntary contributions from Members, intergovernmental organisations, philanthropic foundations, the private sector and other sources, our Resource Partners are part of our global effort to sustainably improve animal health and welfare worldwide.

**Act now, invest smart  
by partnering with WOAAH to tackle AMR**

These four priority pillars comprise WOAAH's support to the animal health sector to honor the commitments from the United Nations Political Declaration on AMR by 2030, as well as to effectively implement the updated Global Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance 2026–2036.

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