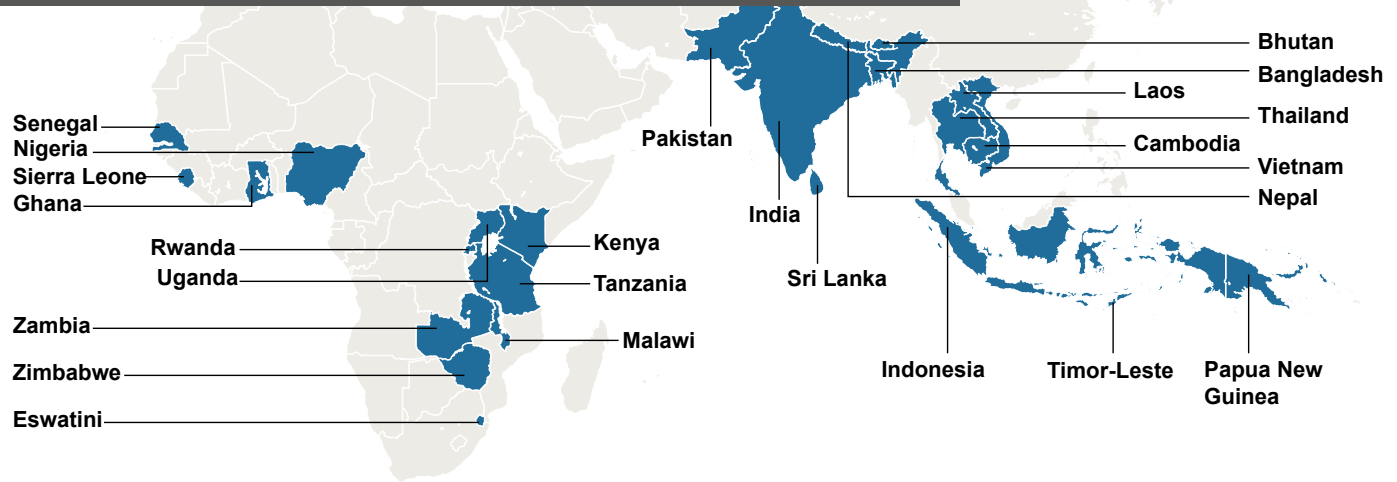# The Fleming Fund

Global action against drug resistance

"Without optimal surveillance systems in place, we are working in the dark. The Fleming Fund puts a spotlight on the data needed to make an impact on AMR across Africa and Asia."

Professor Dame Sally Davies
UK Special Envoy on Antimicrobial Resistance

Training laboratory staff at AMR surveillance sites in Nepal
Credit: WHO Nepal/Sujan Govinda Amatya

Fleming Fund is working with 25 countries

Senegal
Nigeria
Sierra Leone
Ghana

Rwanda
Uganda

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Eswatini

Kenya

Tanzania

Malawi

Pakistan

India

Sri Lanka

Bhutan
Bangladesh
Laos
Thailand
Cambodia
Vietnam
Nepal

Indonesia

Timor-Leste

Papua New
Guinea

*For representation purpose only

Spotlight on AMR

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the most pressing threats to human, animal, and environmental health. The complexity and scale of AMR requires coordinated global action. Over-reliance on antimicrobial drugs in healthcare and food production reduces their effectiveness in combating bacterial infections.

Globally AMR leads to an estimated 1.27M deaths each year. Without a robust response it will have a catastrophic impact on the global economy. The burden of AMR falls disproportionately on low- and middle-income (LMIC) countries, which have a lower capacity to address the problem and higher vulnerability.

Collecting quality, representative, and reliable data on antimicrobial resistance and antibiotic drug use allows countries to understand the risks they face. They are able to track changes in resistance patterns over time and determine the volume and types of antimicrobial drugs used. This information enables evidence-based interventions to address AMR.

The Fleming Fund is a UK aid programme led by the Department of Health and Social Care, supporting up to 25 countries across Africa and Asia to develop and maintain national AMR surveillance systems. Working with over 100 grantees, and managed by Mott MacDonald, the country and regional grants, and fellowships, provide funding and technical assistance to improve the generation and use of AMR data.

The Fund supports the development of AMR surveillance systems and encourages governments to use AMR data to inform policymaking and practice. This is achieved by strengthening laboratories and data systems and improves the workforce and its technical capabilities. Our work is aligned with the Global Action Plan for AMR and the National Action Plans of the countries we support.

SeqAfrica training in Ghana
Credit: Technical University of Denmark

Key achievements

The Fleming Fund has delivered investment and support in LMICs since 2018:

1M
samples collected and tested in supported countries, which feed into national surveillance systems reporting.

279
laboratories have improved the quality and availability of microbiology services for AMR testing in 22 LMICs where it is most needed.

148
human health surveillance sites generate AMR data to inform national and local policy and practice.

>18
countries report human health data to the international AMR database, WHO Global Antimicrobial Surveillance System (GLASS).

17
countries are implementing AMR surveillance in selected animal species to track resistant bacteria in agriculture and food production.

12
countries in Africa are now contributing to genomic data on 5 or more of the priority pathogens.

181
health professionals have been mentored and trained as Fleming Fund Fellows, gaining knowledge and skills as leaders in AMR.

>45K
training attendances recorded, helping health professionals lead AMR action in their countries.

Local impact, global reach

Strengthened laboratory capacity and AMR surveillance with Fleming Fund support is having an impact. It led to the early detection of two outbreaks of multi-drug-resistant bacteria in the pediatric intensive care unit in a hospital in South East Asia − thanks to the availability of diagnostic services. Once discovered, the hospital was assisted by the Fleming Fund in investigating the outbreak and initiating improved infection prevention and control to prevent fatalities.

Building momentum in the global fight against AMR

A second phase of the Fleming Fund was launched in 2023 with the UK government committing up to **£210M** in funding to support the production and use of high-quality AMR surveillance data. The Fleming Fund continues to strengthen the capacity of laboratories, the healthcare workforce and support policymakers to combat AMR. The second phase of the programme will:

Expand country grants to 25 countries, providing technical and financial support.

Provide expert technical assistance through 16 regional grants and three strategic alignment grants. This will build specialist skills and expertise in thematic areas, such as whole genome sequencing; external quality assurance; animal and One Health; gender and equity.

Provide 200 Fellowships within key institutions across human, animal, and environmental health sectors. Delivered by leading universities globally, the Fellowship Scheme builds the foundation of the AMR workforce.

Generate and use high-quality surveillance data to inform local and national action to control AMR into the future.

The Fleming Fund

UKaid
from the British people

M M
MOTT
MACDONALD