

The Petri Dish

- **Upcoming Events**
- **Network News**
- **Field Notes**

We are always looking for stories from Fellows and opportunities to share knowledge. If you have a story or articles you'd like featured in a future newsletter, please email us!



FlemingFellowshipScheme@mottmac.com



FlemingFund.org

Welcome

Welcome to the May Petri Dish newsletter. We're happy to see how many Fellows and mentors have been able to meet up in-person over the last month and, in this issue of the Petri Dish, we report on some of the visits and benefits of being able to talk together in real time.

If you are planning a meeting and would like the Fellowship Team to attend, please give us as much notice as possible, even if the dates are provisional. We have a minimum six-week turnaround for travel planning, logistics and security clearance, which considers our carbon footprint and value for money; both of which are important to Mott MacDonald and our funders.

It's great to see that this month included in our Network News we have a report from the Fellowship Alumni Network Steering Committee, some will give a presentation on their work to date at the Fellows' webinar on 1 June. They will be asking Alumni volunteers to get involved in one of the three subcommittees, you'll receive more communication about this soon.

We also have a report from the inaugural meeting of the AMU Working Group held on the 5 May, chaired by Clare Chandler (LSHTM), with more from this group to come as they work through the membership and governance processes.

Many of you will know that the [7th World One Health Congress \(WOHC\)](#) will be taking place in Singapore from 7 to 11 November. This clashes with the [Fondation Mérieux AMR course](#) but is still looking likely there will be some Fellows and Fleming Fund staff in attendance. If you have a conference in your budget but haven't decided which one yet, please do consider the WOHC.

Wishing you all a very good month ahead,

Upcoming Events

June Fellows Webinar – Wednesday 1 June, 08:30 BST

For our Fellows webinar in June, we will hear from Bangladesh Cohort I Fellow Sabrina Yesmin on using antimicrobial consumption (AMC) surveillance data to make regulatory decisions in Bangladesh.

There will also be a talk from Pascale Ondo, from the African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM) on the [MAAP Project](#); a Fleming Fund Regional Grant. Invitations to the June webinar have been included with this issue of the Petri Dish.

Please contact FlemingFellowshipScheme@mottmac.com with any questions on connecting to this event.

July Quarterly Reporting Deadline

The reporting deadline for the April - June 2022 quarter is 11 July. Host Institutions please submit:

- Monitoring forms
- Financial reporting forms and supporting documents
- Updated asset inventories or confirmation that no assets have been purchased

If you require support or guidance on completing your quarterly reporting, please contact your regional Fellowship Scheme Officer or email FlemingFellowshipScheme@mottmac.com.

2022 Fellows Symposium - Save the Date

The upcoming Fleming Fellows Symposium will take place on 12-13 October. This year's annual event will be over two half-days, featuring thematic talks, interactive survey sessions, and panel discussions.

Registration and speaker sign-up links will be shared in June.

ARE YOU ON THE FLEMING FUND MAILING LIST?

The Fleming Fund sends out regular newsletters with more information on external events and achievements from across the programme, including Country and Regional Grants.

If you are not receiving these emails, you can sign up using [THIS FORM](#).

CwPAMS Sharing and Learning Event

30 June



The Commonwealth Pharmacists Association and the Tropical Health and Education Trust are hosting the Commonwealth Partnerships for Antimicrobial Stewardship (CwPAMS) Extension Sharing and Learning Event, virtually, on 30 June 2022 (09:00 – 13:00 BST).

This will be an opportunity to learn about what has been achieved through the CwPAMS programme and discuss with partners. There will also be a discussion with feedback, insights and suggestions on the sustainability of outputs and outcomes going forward. Register in advance [HERE](#).

Places are limited so sign up by 13th June.

The Fondation Mérieux AMR Course

7-11 November



The 3rd edition of the AMR Course will take place from 7 - 11 November at Les Pensières Center for Global Health.

This residential intensive training course has been jointly designed by Fondation Mérieux and the Université de Paris to support the AMR-Global Action Plan (GAP) and to address, from plan to action, the five objectives of the AMR-WHO-GAP.

The course is aimed at audiences from low-and-middle-income countries and advocates for a One Health approach to fight AMR, building capacity for critical decision-making through education, partnerships and networks.

Follow [THIS LINK](#) for further information and to register. Please also confirm your registration with Marianne Gojon-Gerbelot (marianne.gojon-gerbelot@fondation-merieux.org) who is keeping track of Fleming Fellows attending this course.

Upcoming Events

Antimicrobial Resistance: Multidisciplinary Approach LSHTM Online Short Course

4 - 8 July 2022

Addressing the need to understand multiple aspects of antimicrobial resistance, the course will enable attendees to develop interdisciplinary, multi-sectorial One Health responses and interventions to reduce the global threat of AMR.

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This course is aimed at those designing, implementing, and evaluating strategies to address AMR. It would be relevant, for example, to members of National Action Plan committees; policy and practice professionals who are required

to address and support AMR initiatives; mid-career scientists and postgraduate students; and clinicians who would benefit from an understanding of the public health importance of AMR and actions to tackle the problem.

The course will have a specific focus on AMR in low-and-middle-income countries. Applicants should have a good command of English, as all teaching will be in English. Click [HERE](#) to find out more and to register.

Reduced fees for applicants based in LMICs are available.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

We encourage Host Institutions and Fellows to send in events, articles and updates for future issues of the Petri Dish newsletter.

The deadline for submissions for the next Petri Dish is **Friday 17th June**.

Network News

Alumni Corner – May

The Alumni Network Steering Committee met in May, planning future activities and developing a structure for alumni Fellows, including topics Alumni Fellows could present or discuss at the upcoming Fellows Symposium in November. A list of topics will be shared with the Symposium Steering Committee for consideration.

Three Alumni Network key subcommittees were identified, these groups will focus on specific tasks and make recommendations on activities that will be useful for the Alumni Network. Interested Alumni Fellows will have a chance in the coming weeks to apply to join these subcommittee groups.

Introducing the Steering Committee Deputy Chair



Welcome to Emmanuel L. Mayenga who will be the Alumni Committee Deputy Chair, and completed an Animal Health AMR Surveillance Fellowship in Tanzania, focussing on foodborne bacteria in the country's food chain.

Emmanuel is a veterinary and public health research scientist with expertise in infectious disease epidemiology, biosecurity, infectious disease prevention and control, and food safety. He also has experience in rural community

development to alleviate poverty and improve food security.

Working at the Central Veterinary Laboratory in Tanzania, Emmanuel is a member of the AMR subnational technical working group on animals, agriculture, fisheries and the environment. He is also currently undertaking a Scientific Exchange Fellowship hosted by the University of Missouri.

Here, he is investigating the antimicrobial susceptibility of food-borne bacteria in chicken entering the food chain in Tanzania. As a research scientist, Emmanuel is looking to collaborate in the following areas: epidemiology of infectious diseases and zoonotic diseases, AMR, food safety and foodborne diseases, global health security and biosafety, and transboundary animal diseases of economic and public health importance.

Network News

New Working Group on AMU Surveillance

Fellows have continued to express the need for technical and specialist communities of practice, Host Institutions have also communicated the benefits of such groups; some of which have started their own to support Fellows they mentor.

In response to this growing interest in communities of practice, the Fellowship Team have hosted discussions on the topic in previous webinars and annual Fellows Symposium events. A central theme that emerged is the need for communities of practice to have a collaborative and sustainable approach to learning and development.

Therefore, the Fleming Fellowship Scheme is supporting the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) to set up a working group for Fellows on AMU Surveillance - to provide a learning platform for implementing surveillance activities in human and animal health, as well as the environment, across Fleming Fund countries.

The first AMU working group meeting took place in May. Both human and animal health Fellows, as well as Alumni Fellows, discussed aims, objectives, and group formats. Meetings will be held on a monthly basis, to support Fellows with surveillance issues, sharing ideas and experience on how best to carry out surveillance activities in practice.

Some topics that the working group will address in future meetings include:

- Antibiotic import data and producing data for monitoring and evaluating AMU/AMC
- Feedback to farmers after taking part in AMU surveillance activities
- Community AMS for veterinary groups focussed on farms
- Improving AMS on farms and in livestock markets
- Linking diagnostics and AMS in animals and humans

If you are interested in the AMU working group, get in touch at FlemingFellowshipScheme@mottmac.com

Field Notes

Ghana and Nigeria Fellows and Mentors Meet

In late April and early May, Cohort II Fellows from Ghana and Nigeria, Eric Boyce Sawyerr and Suliati Adeleke (respectively), met with their mentors - David Verner-Jeffreys, from the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, and Roderick Card, from the UK's Animal and Plant Health Agency - in Ghana.

The Fellows and mentors discussed how to achieve the tasks set out in their workplans, meeting with the heads of the Fish Health Unit in the Fisheries

Commission of Ghana, the Veterinary Services Directorate, and the Food and Safety Laboratory. There were also visits to two fish farms: the Water Research Institute aquaculture farm and West Africa Fishing Limited.

The five-day meeting offered opportunities for both Fellows and mentors to obtain first-hand knowledge of practices and issues at farm level.



Top: Andrew Joseph from the FAO Reference Centre in the UK, Mary Nkansah (head of the Fish Health Unit), Suliati and Eric.

Bottom: Visiting fish farms

Field Notes

Bangladesh Fellows Visit the Statens Serum Institute in Copenhagen

Report by Sagnjukta Roy, Abdul Kalam, Sabrina Yesmin and Nawroz Afreen, Human Health Fellows from Bangladesh Cohort I



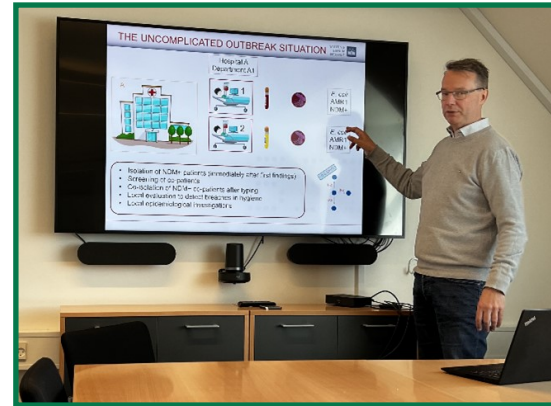
Top row: Fellows Sabrina Yesmin, Sangjukta Roy, Dr. Kalam and Nawroz Afreen. Bottom row: Andreas Petersen, Anders Rhod Larsen and Ute Wolff Sönksen, from SSI.

Together, we visited [Statens Serum Institut](#) (SSI) in Copenhagen, Denmark from 29 April to 5 May 2022 – where we received the heartiest welcome and lively interactions from our mentors at SSI during the introductory session. We went on to attend an interesting and informative session on the DANMAP system, the Danish programme for AMR and AMC surveillance. Exploring the use of antimicrobial agents and the occurrence of antimicrobial resistance in bacteria from food animals, food and humans in Denmark.

We also learned about EURGEN-REFLABCAP, a four-year project strengthening public health reference laboratories in 37 countries (including EU and non-EU countries) to detect antimicrobial resistance in priority healthcare-associated infections.

In the session on AMR/AMU analysis and visualisation, we learned about MiBA, the Danish microbiology database, and the system for AMR microbiology data input and analysis in Denmark – using different graphic presentations for AMR data.

We also studied whole genome sequencing in outbreak analysis and surveillance which was really very interesting, and new software called 'EPILINX'.



In the following days, we gained insight into Denmark's healthcare systems, which we found completely different from that of Bangladesh. During a session on livestock-associated MRSA, the laboratory Fellows were introduced to MRSA and CPE activities, learning about the new mecC of S.aureus gene, molecular activities on MRSA typing, and CPE sequencing.

We also attended a One Health meeting at the 4th International Conference on Animal Health Surveillance, learning about AMR/AMC/AMU surveillance systems in different countries, such as Denmark and France. We rounded up by discussing the present context of our One Health collaborative project, the results, some challenges, and the way forward.



Although the visit was shorter than initially planned, it was a great opportunity for us to be there and to learn directly from our mentors within their own working environments.

Above: Henrik Hasman from SSI presenting WGS of outbreak analysis and surveillance.

Left: Sabrina Yesmin attending the International Conference on Health Surveillance in Copenhagen.