

## MALAWI



The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)'s Fleming Fund is a UK aid programme that supports up to 25 countries across Africa and Asia to tackle antimicrobial resistance (AMR), a leading public health threat, globally. The Fleming Fund invests in strengthening surveillance systems through a portfolio of Country Grants, Regional Grants, and Fellowships managed by Mott MacDonald and Global Projects managed by DHSC partners.

### Country Context

Malawi developed and implemented a Health Sector Strategic Plan I (HSSPI) from 2011 to 2016, which was followed by the Health Sector Strategic Plan II (HSSPII) from 2017 to 2022. A third version of the Health Sector Strategic Plan was developed in 2023 and will guide health sector investment until 2030.

Aimed at improving programme continuity within the health sector, and the overall contribution of the health sector to Malawi's progress. AMR was included in HSSPII and HSSPIII as a critical area of intervention as a framework for the development of a new National AMR Action Plan. The Public Health Institute of Malawi is the central home for all public health activities and provides leadership in disease surveillance, prevention, and outbreak response.

The Malawi Country Grant in phase 2 aims to build on and maximise the impact of investments made to date. This involves a focus on consolidating surveillance toward an integrated One Health system to produce data-driven decisions and policymaking.



### Phase 2 Country Grant – Expected Results

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Support 14 surveillance sites to progress to core level through mentorships, capacity building, equipment procurement, reagents, and consumables to strengthen the surveillance capacity.



Active surveillance in poultry, beef, and dairy sectors.



Human and animal health antimicrobial consumption (AMC) data will be linked to the National Central Database for aggregation, analysis, and to inform regulatory changes for AMR containment.



Development and implementation of strategies for private sector facilities and pharmacies to report AMR and antimicrobial use (AMU) data into the National Central Database.



Further development of the One Health Dashboard for comprehensive overview of AMR and AMU/C data from human, animal, and environmental health sectors. The Dashboard will be linked to all surveillance sites for real-time reporting and provide data to international platforms.



Capacity developed at three Centres of Excellence' supporting data use for procurement, prescribing, and dispensing antibiotics. AMR champions will develop a sustainable national stewardship programme involving multi-disciplinary teams of clinicians, pharmacists, nurses, and laboratory scientists.



Development of a plan for sustainable financing and governance structures across One Health sectors.

## Phase 2



### Country Grant

**Grantee:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Sub-grantees:** Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources/Natural Resources College

**Value:** £2,996,206

**Duration:** Jan 2024 - Dec 2025

### Fellowships

**No. of Fellows:** 10

**Host Institute:** University of Edinburgh

**Total value:** £2,618,001 (across multiple countries, including Malawi)

**Total duration:** Nov 2023 - Dec 2025

### Regional Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Malawi)

#### African Society of Laboratory Medicine

Mapping Antimicrobial Resistance and Antimicrobial Use Partnership (MAAP)

**Value:** £2,997,523

**Duration:** Dec 2023 - Dec 2025

#### African Society of Laboratory Medicine

External Quality Assessment of Laboratory Data Africa (EQuAfrica)

**Value:** £2,458,558

**Duration:** Oct 2023 - Dec 2025

#### African Society of Laboratory Medicine

Qualifying the Workforce for AMR Surveillance in Africa and Asia (QWArS)

**Value:** £2,200,050

**Duration:** May 2023 - Dec 2025

#### International Vaccine Institute

Regional Antimicrobial Resistance Data Analysis for Advocacy, Response and Policy (RADAAR)

**Value:** £1,999,956

**Duration:** Dec 2023 - Dec 2025

#### Technical University of Denmark

Whole Genome Sequencing and Bioinformatics Capacity Building in Africa (SeqAfrica)

**Value:** £3,595,802

**Duration:** Oct 2023 - Dec 2025

#### Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

Gender, Equity and Antimicrobial Resistance Mainstreaming (GEAR up)

**Value:** £2,199,925

**Duration:** Feb 2024 - Dec 2025

#### Fondation Merieux

Technical Assistance for Clinical Engagement Africa (TACE Africa)

**Value:** £1,822,408

**Duration:** Feb 2024 - Dec 2025

#### African Society for Laboratory Medicine

Technical Assistance for Data and Evidence Use Africa (TADEU Africa)

**Value:** £1,800,005

**Duration:** Feb 2024 - Dec 2025

#### International Livestock Research Institute

AMR and One Health East and Southern Africa (AMROH ESA)

**Value:** £1,150,000

**Duration:** Feb 2024 - Dec 2025

### Strategic Alignment Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Malawi)

#### Brigham and Women's Hospital

WHONET: Management and Analysis of Microbiology Laboratory Data

**Value:** £453,328

**Duration:** Mar 2024 - Dec 2025

#### Commonwealth Pharmacists Association

Surveillance and Prescribing Support for Antimicrobial Stewardship Resource Capacity Building (SPARC)

**Value:** £806,742

**Duration:** Mar 2024 - Dec 2025

## Phase 1



### Country Grants

**Grantee:** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Sub-grantees:** Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources/Natural Resources College

**Value:** £3,395,844

**Duration:** Mar 2020 - Sep 2022

### Fellowships

**Number of Fellows:** 6

**Host Institution:** University of Edinburgh

**Total value:** £480,000

**Total duration:** Jul 2020 - Jan 2023



### Regional Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Malawi)

**African Society for Laboratory Medicine**

Mapping Antimicrobial Resistance and Antimicrobial Use Partnership (MAAP)

**Value:** £3,159,259

**Duration:** Nov 2018 – Nov 2023

**Technical University of Denmark**

Whole Genome Sequencing and Bioinformatics Capacity Building in Africa (SeqAfrica)

**Value:** £6,633,221

**Duration:** May 2019 – Sep 2023

**African Society for Laboratory Medicine**

Qualifying the Workforce for AMR Surveillance in Africa and Asia (QWArS)

**Value:** £3,924,506

**Duration:** Oct 2019 – Apr 2023

**African Society for Laboratory Medicine**

External Quality Assessment of Laboratory Data Africa (EQuAfrica)

**Value:** £4,091,587

**Duration:** Oct 2019 – Sep 2023

### Strategic Alignment Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Malawi)

**Brigham and Women's Hospital**

WHONET: Management and Analysis of Microbiology Laboratory Data

**Value:** £887,722

**Duration:** Apr 2022 – Feb 2024

**Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA)**

Surveillance and Prescribing support for Antimicrobial Stewardship Resource Capacity Building (SPARC)

**Value:** £1,077,569

**Duration:** Dec 2021 – Feb 2024



## Phase 1 – Key Achievements



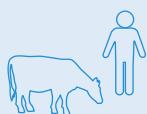
Eight human health and three animal health laboratories were renovated to the highest specification.



National Reference Laboratories recognised by the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services. Four human health sites enrolled for National Reference Laboratories Proficiency Testing.

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17 labs were enrolled on the External Quality Assurance (EQA) programme, strengthening pathogen identification and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing while improving access to EQA.



Human and animal health AMR and AMU/C data collected, analysed and submitted to the AMR National Coordinating Committee.



Malawi enrolled in the Global Antimicrobial Resistance and Use Surveillance System. Animal health data has been shared with the World Organisation for Animal Health.



Regional Grant MAAP worked with local stakeholders to identify, assess, prioritise, and collate existing AMR, AMC and AMU data. Data was analysed to provide national stakeholders with information on current surveillance capacity, data availability, resistance epidemiology, and AMC patterns.



Pharmacy data was collected from 24 target pharmacies, accounting for around 90% of the total antimicrobials consumed in public health facilities during review (2016-2018).

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70,548 total culture results were collected from 15 facilities across Malawi.



Strengthened cross-sectoral health approach during the One Health collaboration project with animal and human health Fellows working together.



2,144 participants trained in AMR practices, including basic microbiology; advanced microbiology; biosafety and biosecurity; quality management; sampling and sample transport; design and use of surveillance protocols; data collection, management, analysis, sharing, and policy use.



Fellows trained in AMR advance diagnostics and AMU surveillance, genome analysis, identifying World Health Organisation priority pathogens, data capture and handling.

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18 participants from Malawi participated in QWArS courses on epidemiology and laboratory microbiology.



The  
**Fleming Fund**

