

The Petri Dish

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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 to the first Petri Dish issue of 2022.

We started this year with the January webinar where we celebrated nine Nigeria Fellows who completed their Fellowships. They received their certificates from the co-chair of the Nigeria AMRCC at a ceremony in Abuja, while Fellows and mentors from around the world joined in online. It was great to see everyone together and we look forward to sharing the next cohorts' celebration with you at the April webinar.

In February we launched the Alumni Network and have now chosen the interim Steering Committee. Thank you to everyone who sent in applications but, for Fellows, do remember that you must have completed your Fellowship in order to apply. The first meeting of the committee will take place in March and we look forward to hearing about plans for the future and seeing how the Alumni Network shapes up.

The results from Fellowship Scheme satisfaction survey for the last quarter of 2021 have come in and it was pleasing to see that the overall response rate from Fellows was up. We are still struggling to obtain more responses from the Beneficiary Institutions so if any of you have any ideas how we might improve on that, please let our team know. We are in the process of reviewing the responses, as the survey results play a key part of our learning and contribute to shaping the Fleming Fellowship programme.

In addition to activities around Fellowships that are coming to an end, many Fellows are just starting out. I would like to introduce two of our newest Fellows by congratulating Nelly Puspandari and Nuryani Zainuddin, AMR Policy Fellows from Indonesia in Human Health and Animal Health respectively. They recently took part in the orientation meeting and, over the next few weeks, we look forward to seeing what activities they are planning with their mentors.

Very best wishes,



Upcoming Events

March Fellows Webinar – Wednesday 2nd March, 08:30 GMT -

The upcoming March Fellows Webinar will feature a presentation from the Technical University of Denmark (DTU), the grantee leading the [EQAsia Project](#), a Fleming Fund Regional Grant. This project aims to improve the quality of bacteriology diagnostics for AMR in the Asia region.

Invitations to the March webinar have been included with this issue of the Petri Dish. Please contact FlemingFellowshipScheme@mottmac.com with any questions on connecting to this event.

Quarterly Reporting Deadline – Monday 11th April 2022 - The reporting deadline for the January - March 2022 quarter is 11th April.

Host Institutions please submit monitoring forms and financial reporting forms and supporting documents for relevant cohorts, as well as updated asset inventories by this date.

2022 Fleming Fellows Symposium, Steering Committee EOI Deadline – Friday 18th March 2022 - We have begun planning the 2022 Fleming Fellows Symposium and are looking for Steering Committee members to lead the organising of our annual global event.

Host Institution team members who are interested in joining the Steering Committee, please submit an expression of interest to FlemingFellowshipScheme@mottmac.com by 18th March. Within the EOI email, include a preference for Symposium dates (two consecutive half-days) between 19th September and 17th October 2022.

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](#).

Reading List

Antimicrobial resistance surveillance in Europe 2022: 2020 data -

Antimicrobial resistance remains a major public health concern in the WHO European Region, with estimates from the European Union/ European Economic Area (EU/EEA) alone showing that each year more than 670 000 infections are due to bacteria resistant to antibiotics and approximately 33 000 people die as a direct consequence.

This report is the first in a series published jointly by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the WHO Regional Office for Europe that includes AMR data from invasive isolates in Europe. Read the report [HERE](#).



#AMRSOS

Global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in 2019: a

systematic analysis - Antimicrobial resistance poses a major threat to human health around the world. Previous publications have estimated the effect of AMR on incidence, deaths, hospital length of stay, and health-care costs for specific pathogen–drug combinations in select locations.

The study (funded in part by the Fleming Fund) from the Global Research on Antimicrobial Resistance (GRAM) Project provides the most comprehensive and robust estimates on the global burden of AMR to date. It estimates that in 2019, there were 1.27 million deaths globally attributable to AMR, higher than HIV/AIDS or Malaria. Access the GRAM project paper [HERE](#).

January Webinar Recap

The first webinar of 2022 was an exciting opportunity to celebrate nine Nigeria Cohort I Fellows who came to the end of their fellowships.

Lead mentors Nandini Shetty and Rene Hendriksen (from Host Institutions the UK Health Security Agency and the Technical University of Denmark, respectively), shared their experience with the Fellows over the past two years.

The Fellows also presented their individual projects and activities. These included engaging with AMR technical working groups in Nigeria, contributing to the launch of a national AMR community of practice, attending workshops both in Nigeria and around the world, having several articles published, as well as presenting at monthly Fleming Fellowship webinars and taking lead roles at the 2020 and 2021 Fellows Symposium events.

Anna Wechsberg, the International Director of the UK Department of Health and Social Care, delivered a congratulatory address for the Fellows. Anna spoke to the Fellows' accomplishments and their commitment to their Fellowships while being heavily engaged in their local COVID-19 responses.

The Fellows, many of whom were able to gather in Abuja, were also joined by co-chairs of the Nigeria AMRCC, Peter Umanah and Tochi Okwor, who awarded the Fellows with their certificates.

Congratulations to the Nigeria Cohort I Fellows:

- Eme Ekeng: NG01 AMR Laboratory, Human Health
- Ini Adebiji: NG02 AMR Laboratory, Human Health
- Oluwabunmi Idowu Fagbamila: NG03 AMR Laboratory, Animal Health
- Victoria Olusola Adetunji: NG04 AMR Laboratory, Animal Health
- Emmanuel Benyeogor: NG05 AMR Surveillance, Human Health
- Charles Emejuru: NG07AMR Surveillance, Animal Health
- Mabel Aworh: NG08 AMR Surveillance, Animal Health
- Oluwadamilola Abiodun-Adewusi: NG09 AMU Surveillance, Human Health
- Mwapu Ndahi: NG10 AMU Surveillance, Animal Health



Top: Peter Umanah and Tochi Okwor (co-chairs of the Nigeria AMRCC) took part in the celebration and webinar from Abuja

Bottom: (L-R) Idowu Fagbamila, Eme Ekeng, Mabel Aworh, Abiodun Egwuenu (completing activities in 2022), Emmanuel Benyeogor, Ini Adebiji, Victoria Adetunji and Charles Emejuru (Oluwadamilola Adewusi attended the event virtually).

February Webinar Recap

The February Fellows Webinar launched the Fleming Fellows Alumni Network. Fleming Fund Technical Lead, Toby Leslie, presented the aims and objectives for the Alumni Network:

- Continued engagement of key staff at Fleming Fund supported sites (Beneficiary Institutions)
- Engagement across One Health disciplines and countries
- Improved and maintained quality of services
- A sense of ownership and teamwork
- Global opportunities to be involved in AMR
- Continued professional development
- Opportunities to apply for small scholarships or travel bursaries to support professional development

The Alumni Network is guided by the principals of being owned by Fellows, with a focus on continued learning, One Health and sustainability, with equity and access for all Fellows.

Steering Committee and Next Steps

The webinar also included an open call for Fellows and mentors to join the Alumni Network Steering Committee. Following the webinar, the following Fellows and mentors were successfully selected for the Committee:

- **Ini Adebisi, Alumnus Fellow, Nigeria**
- **Emmanuel Mayenga, Alumnus Fellow, Tanzania**
- **Jennifer Bonnah, Alumnus Fellow, Ghana**
- **Victoria Adetunji, Alumnus Fellow, Nigeria**
- **Roderick Card, mentor at the Animal and Plant Health Agency**
- **Rene Hendriksen, mentor at the Technical University of Denmark**

Over the coming weeks, the Steering Committee will be developing the terms of reference, communication strategy, and initial activities for the Alumni Network.

We look forward to welcoming more Alumni Fellows and mentors to the Network in the near future.

Field Notes

Reflection – SHPA Virtual Foundation Seminar in Infectious Disease

Ágata do Espírito Santo Soares, Timor-Leste AMU/AMC Surveillance fellowship

The virtual seminar in infectious diseases was held in June 2021 by The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA). Attending this seminar was an opportunity to improve my understanding of Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) and infectious diseases.

The presenters at this seminar were highly experienced and the materials supplied were very practical from a clinical perspective. The real-life patient cases presented were fantastic, and I felt that it was a great opportunity to improve my understanding of the AMS and infectious disease fields. The seminar was particularly applicable to my role as a senior pharmacist and an AMU/AMC Fellow.

A highlight of this experience, for me, was to “meet” my AMS pharmacist colleagues from Australia. This seminar provided us with self-paced learning material which I can share with my colleagues and other pharmacists in Timor-Leste to improve their practice.

I experienced a slight challenge participating during the breakout session discussion due to a minor language barrier. Despite this, I felt that the seminar was beneficial overall and will be useful for applying AMS and infectious disease concepts and learnings into my daily practice in the future.

I am so grateful to SHPA and to my mentors at the Doherty Institute for giving me this wonderful opportunity to join the seminar.

Please continue sending reflections and summaries of courses, meetings and visits to FlemingFellowshipScheme@mottmac.com.

We look forward to publish more of these activities in the Petri Dish throughout the year.

Satisfaction Survey Results

The most recent round of the Fellowship Scheme satisfaction survey, from October - December 2021, saw a high level of reported satisfaction from Fellows who are making progress on workplan activities, and from Beneficiary Institutions and Host Institutions within the scheme.

Reported satisfaction was also higher across all respondents compared to the previous survey from January - March 2021 (see graph below for comparison).



Fellow Responses

The recent survey results showed similar trends to previous surveys. At least 90% of Fellows who took part in the survey responded that they were satisfied (or higher) with their Host Institution, the responsiveness of their host institution, and the quality of mentorship.

In addition, 95% of responses indicated that professional development activities provided by their Host Institution has been relevant to both their role and future career options.

According to Fellows, international and in-country travel restrictions have been the main COVID-19-related impacts on their fellowship activities since March 2021.

Beneficiary Institution Responses

The most recent survey results also displayed similar trends to previous surveys, with at least 90% of responses from Beneficiary Institutions showing a level of satisfaction (or higher) with the benefits of the Fleming Fund Fellowship Scheme.

Responses from Beneficiary Institution reflected that participating in the scheme has improved the capacity of their institution and they would be happy if other staff applied to the scheme in the future.

For the respondents from these Institutions, the most prevalent key benefits of participating in the Fellowship Scheme are technical capacity, leadership capacity and strategy development.

Host Institution Responses

Like Fellow and Beneficiary Institution survey results, the most recent survey results from Host Institutions showed similar trends to those from previous surveys.

At least 90% of Host Institutions respondents indicated that they were satisfied (or higher) with the benefits of the Fleming Fund Fellowship Scheme, the compatibility of selected Fellows to their thematic area for development, and the engagement of selected Fellows with their workplan.

Additionally, at least 95% of Host Institutions that responded to the survey would be happy to take part in another Fleming Fund Fellowship Scheme or work with Fellows after the Fleming Fund has ended.

Next Steps

Currently, the Fellowship Team is reviewing the satisfaction survey results with attention to the challenges and risks highlighted in responses. We will provide more information on our next steps and actions to address these challenges in future Petri Dish issues.

The satisfaction survey is an important platform for Fellows, Host Institutions and Beneficiary institutions to feedback on the Fellowship Scheme. The next survey will be sent out between July-September 2022.



Welcome New Fleming Fund Fellows

This month, we are welcoming new Policy Fellows from Indonesia. These Fellows have all taken part in Orientation Meetings with their Host Institution and are currently working with mentors on developing workplans.

You can learn more about their professional backgrounds and motivation to join the Fellowship Scheme from the biographies below.

Join us in welcoming Nuryani and Nelly.



Nuryani Zainuddin – AMR Policy, Animal Health (Indonesia)

I am the Director of Animal Health in the General Livestock and Animal Services Directorate within the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture. My directorate is responsible for policy formation and implementation, as well as providing technical guidance and evaluation in the field of animal health.

As a government veterinarian, I am concerned with animal protection, disease investigation and prevention, and veterinary drug control. I have experience collaborating with human, aquaculture and environmental sectors, and have worked on a joint initiative to develop the AMR National Action Plan. I also worked on increasing AMR and AMU surveillance capacity and raising AMR awareness with national stakeholders, including academic institutions, private sector corporations and farmers.

Through this Fellowship, I want to increase my capacity in policy strategy development for AMR and antimicrobial control in Indonesia, while collaborating with different sectors on controlling antimicrobial use.



Nelly Puspendari – AMR Policy, Human Health (Indonesia)

I am a medical doctor and also a clinical microbiologist. I am currently a Senior Policy Analyst in the National Institute of Health Policy and Development within the Ministry of Health.

In addition to my role in the Ministry of Health, I have been involved in the Indonesia AMRCC and the development of the AMR National Action Plan.

I was the focal point for National Coordinating Centre for AMR Surveillance. Through my career, I have worked on several AMR studies and surveillance projects in Indonesia.

Thank you Nelly and Nuryani for your introductions. Next month, we will be featuring biographies of Fellows from eSwatini.

Free Online Technical Course on Tackling Antimicrobial Resistance



The Open University's course on tackling AMR is still available to all Fleming Fellows.

Successful completion of each module is rewarded with a Digital Badge that you can display on your CV and, on

completion of an entire pathway, you will be awarded a Statement of Participation.

You can find out more and read the prospectus [HERE](#), or go straight to the Open University course site [HERE](#).