



BANGLADESH



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

The Fleming Fund supported the revision of the National AMR Surveillance Strategy (2020-2025) in Bangladesh, and the 2025-2030 strategy is in progress. The 'National Strategy for Antimicrobial Resistance Containment in Bangladesh: 2017-2021' was developed by a multisectoral working group with the support of WHO. In January 2022, a second 'National Strategy and National Action Plan for AMR containment 2021-2026', was approved by the National Technical Committee and is currently under Cabinet review.

The new costed National Action Plan is expected to be reflected in the ministries' operational plans. The strong One Health coordination mechanism in Bangladesh prioritises AMR surveillance data sharing, supported by a functional multisectoral secretariat.

The Bangladesh Country Grant in phase 2 aims to build on and maximise the impact of investments made-to-date. This involves consolidating the surveillance system to support data-driven decisions and policymaking.

Phase 2 Country Grant – Expected Results



National AMR surveillance strategy to be reviewed, updated and implemented.



Scoping for the environmental sector to be included in AMR surveillance.



7 new sites - 3 human health (HH), 2 animal health (AH), 2 aquatics, and 1 environment — are to be supported, these sites achieving core standards as per the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine roadmap.



National External Quality Assurance (EQA) system to be rolled out.



Develop and seek government approval of a national framework for measuring laboratory improvement.



Phase 2



Country Grant

Grantee: DAI Global

Sub-grantees: International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Science University, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

Value: £3,200,000

Duration: Jan 2024 - Dec 2025

Fellowships

No. of Fellows: 10

Host Institute: Chinese University of Hong Kong

Total value: £1,309,012 (across multiple countries, including Bangladesh)

Total duration: Feb 2024 - Dec 2025

Regional Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Bangladesh)

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

Gender, Equity and Antimicrobial Resistance Mainstreaming (GEAR up)

Value: £2,199,925

Duration: Feb 2024 - Dec 2025

African Society for 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

International Vaccine Institute

Technical Assistance for Clinical Engagement Asia (TACE Asia)

Value: £1,882,436

Duration: Feb 2024 - Dec 2025

International Vaccine Institute

Capturing Data on Antimicrobial Resistance Patterns and Trends in Use in Regions of Asia (CAPURA)

Value: £3,186,597

Duration: Oct 2023 - Dec 2025

Technical University of Denmark

External Quality Assessment of Laboratory Data Asia (EQuAsia)

Value: £2,497,995

Duration: Nov 2023 - Dec 2025

Massey University

AMR and One Health South Asia (AMROH SA)

Value: £1,145,833

Duration: Jan 2024 - Dec 2025

International Vaccine Institute

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

Value: £1,687,091

Duration: Dec 2023 - Dec 2025

Strategic Alignment Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Bangladesh)

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: DAI Global

Sub-grantees: International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Science University, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

Value: £4,997,360

Duration: Jan 2020 - Dec 2023

Fellowships

Number of Fellows: 11

Host Institution: International Livestock Research Institute

Value: £880,000

Duration: Jun 2020 - Nov 2022

Regional Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Bangladesh)

International Vaccine Institute

Capturing Data on Antimicrobial Resistance Patterns and Trends in Use in Regions of Asia (CAPTURA)

Value: £2,240,878

Duration: Jan 2019 - Sep 2023



Technical University of Denmark

External Quality Assurance in Asia (EQAsia)

Value: £4,247,345

Duration: Jan 2020 - Oct 2023

International Vaccine Institute

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

Value: £2,715,217

Duration: Sep 2019 - Nov 2023

African Society for Laboratory Medicine

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

Value: £3,924,546

Duration: Oct 2019 - Apr 2023

Strategic Alignment Grants

(Across multiple countries, including Bangladesh)

Brigham and Women's Hospital

WHONET: Management and Analysis of Microbiology Laboratory Data

Value: £889,044

Duration: Apr 2022 - Feb 2024

Commonwealth Pharmacists Association

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

Value: £1,152,946

Duration: Dec 2021 - Feb 2024

Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics

FIND: Enhance Laboratory Capabilities, Data Visualisation, and Digital Health Platforms

Value: £2,586,227

Duration: Apr 2021 - Feb 2024

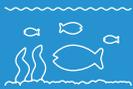
Phase 1 – Key Achievements



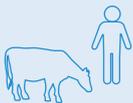
Supported the establishment of national reference laboratories for AMR in HH, AH, and aquaculture.

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12 HH and AH laboratories were refurbished and equipped, with training provided to staff on microbiological procedures and AST.



Carried out active AMR surveillance in AH and aquaculture sectors.



AH and HH laboratories were equipped with Biosafety Level 2 standards, enabling the generation and sharing of AMR data.



National reference laboratories and other key sites were enrolled in the External Quality Assessment programme.



Developed a National AMR Data Dashboard with a One Health approach, hosting data from all surveillance sites.



Conducted a study to determine the number of active antimicrobial ingredients used in poultry and dairy cattle.



Developed a pilot initiative to build the capacities of country stakeholders to translate AMR data and evidence into policy.



One Health Point Prevalence Survey was conducted in hospitals, pharmacies, and poultry and aquaculture farms.



Fleming Fellows worked on the One Health collaborative project: 'Prevalence of extended-spectrum beta-lactamases (ESBL) and carbapenemase-producing Escherichia coli in different human, livestock, aquaculture, and environmental samples in a semi-urban area of Bangladesh'.



Fleming Fellows undertook a Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practice study of drug sellers, with a focus on antibiotic stewardship.



Fleming Fellows developed AMR surveillance protocol and data collection tools for the Department of Livestock Services.



Clinical engagement workshops are held nationally and in medical colleges for optimal antimicrobial use (AMU) and AMR containment.



Conducted workshops on AMR and AMU/C surveillance, laboratory protocols, data management, data analysis, and AST. Standard Operating Procedures developed.



Fleming Fellow supported the Directorate General of Drug Administration to review and adapt antibiotic packaging.



The Fleming Fund

