



The  
**Fleming Fund**

**Our Activities: Governance**

# Support Strong National AMR Governance

## Introduction

The Fleming Fund was founded to help tackle drug resistance to create a healthier world. By building partnerships with governments and equipping them to collect and use data, we encourage countries to use antibiotic drugs better and invest in appropriate strategies to tackle AMR. Our governance work is underpinned by the principle of country ownership and developed in close alignment with countries' own national priorities, strategies and plans.

## Our Approach

The Fleming Fund aligns with global standards on developing surveillance systems and building AMR governance structures, such as those published by the World Health Organization's Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS). The GLASS Manual for Early Implementation sets out a framework for establishing a National Coordinating Centre, national reference laboratories and surveillance sites. Through our grants we fund these surveillance systems and the necessary supporting governance architecture, ensuring that data collected throughout the laboratories is analysed and used by the national government.

Because AMR is a One Health issue, meaning bacteria transmit between humans, animals and the environment, the strategies we use to tackle AMR must incorporate multiple government ministries, not just national health ministries. As One Health is a core programme principle for the Fleming Fund, we attempt to bring together multiple sectors and government departments in all the work we do.



*Fleming Fund Fellows in Nigeria meet the British High Commissioner in Abuja during a ceremony inaugurating the Fund's investment in the Nigeria.*

## Our Activities

### National Action Plans

National Action Plans provide a blueprint for national action to tackle AMR, yet some countries have not developed or formalised their plans and many existing plans are not yet fully costed. During the initial stages of the programme, the Fleming Fund has supported the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Organisation for Animal Health to help governments develop and start to implement AMR Action Plans. The objectives for Fleming Fund Country Grant have been developed to ensure they align with the National Action Plan. Under current funding, grantees are supported to carry out the objectives within the plan, while communicating progress and liaising directly with the national government.

### AMR Coordination Committees

AMR Coordination Committees act as the core group of national influencers and experts on AMR and work to catalyse action from the national government on

drug resistance. Typically, committees are convened by national governments and comprised of experts from multiple sectors (due to the One Health aspect of AMR). They help develop strategies for action or recommend new regulation or policies. The Fleming Fund supports the establishment and development of these committees, funding meetings, national symposiums, strategy development efforts or required equipment.

### Surveillance Strategies

In addition to supporting National Action Plans, the Fleming Fund also helps develop national AMR surveillance strategies, which provide a specific roadmap for collecting, sharing and using AMR data from different sectors. Grantees work alongside AMRCC members and other technical experts in country to draft these documents and ratify them within their national government. Strategies also help boost global data sharing initiatives, like directing national laboratories to share surveillance data with the WHO's Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS).

### Governance in Practice

**Uganda's Director General of Health Services Dr. Henry Mwebesa, presented this speech on behalf of the Honorable Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, Uganda's**



*Uganda's Director General of Health Services helps launch the Fleming Fund investment in Ugandan laboratories with Patrick Mubangizi, Regional Coordinator for East and Southern Africa.*

### Minister of Health

The Ministry of Health acknowledges the great support from the British Government rendered to the Ugandan Government regarding addressing the country challenge of antimicrobial resistance which has been realized through the first phase of the Fleming Fund country grant support for various components for surveillance for AMR and capacity building in a One Health approach as stipulated by

the National Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance.

AMR is therefore a cross-cutting problem whose causes and consequences span beyond human health to involve the environment, agriculture as well as the economy. Its containment therefore requires a concerted multi-sectoral approach in the spirit of one health.

In response to the problem, the Ministry of Health in collaboration with partner Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs) under the One Health Platform involving Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries, the Ministry of Water and Environment, the Uganda Wildlife Authority and with technical support from the National AMR Taskforce, WHO and the Uganda National Academy of Science embarked on developing a National Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance.

I am glad to note that this plan was finalized, launched and was officially signed off by the directors of the said MDAs for implementation. This plan provides guidance to address AMR under five key focus areas which include;

Laboratory based surveillance for resistant bacteria, Antibiotic Stewardship and Use Surveillance, Infection Prevention and Control strategies within our hospitals and healthcare facilities, AMR Public awareness and lastly, AMR national Research Agenda.

Further to that, am glad to let you know that Ministry of Health through its Laboratory and Pharmacy departments is implementing activities of Surveillance for bacterial resistant germs and prudent use of antibiotics and stewardship respectively as well as those in IPC, Public awareness and research. This has been made possible by support from our government and partners.



### Laos' Minister of Health HE Bounkong Syhavoung, celebrated the Fleming Fund during the annual Partners Conference in Vientiane

*"The Fleming Fund is useful for everyone. It can help protect our society and the health of people, especially those who are vulnerable. [The Fleming Fund] is great assistance not only for Laos but for other developing countries."*

Left: Fleming Fund representative and HE Bounkong Syhavoung, Minister of Health of Lao PDR, meet during a reception.

## AMR Governance Structures

### Policy Makers & Regulatory Bodies

Develop and implement new national health regulations

### National Government Ministers

Help change health policies according to recommendations from AMRCCs and propose new regulations

### AMR Coordinating Committees

Design and deliver the national AMR agenda according to evidence and propose policy changes to ministers

### Technical Working Groups

Deliver AMR agendas at a local level, set up new activities and propose policy changes to AMR Coordinating Committees

### Surveillance Sites & Laboratories

Gather evidence of antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial use and present findings to the Technical Working Group

The Fleming Fund is a £265 million UK aid programme supporting up to 24 low- and middle-income countries generate, share and use data on antimicrobial resistance. Visit [www.flemingfund.org](http://www.flemingfund.org) for more information.

