









Antimicrobial Resistance Multi Partner Trust Fund

The AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund supports Morocco in establishing the first One Health governance mechanism to address AMR





In 2019, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the World Health Organization (WHO), launched the Antimicrobial Resistance Multi-Partner Trust Fund (AMR MPTF). In the context of Morroco, established for two years, this project aims to drive forward the implementation of the national multi-sectoral plan to prevent and control AMR in Morocco through the "One Health" approach.

Since adopting this collaborative approach, several initiatives have been launched. These include establishment of an integrated AMR monitoring system, regulatory aspects for the institutionalization of AMR programs, evaluation of laboratory capacities towards accreditation and a communication plan to raise awareness on AMR.

The project's development stage demonstrated the excellent dynamics that already existed between the key partners working in the field of One Health. Building on this existing collaboration between technical teams, the organizations joined forces with three Ministerial Departments of Health, Agriculture and Environment to raise awareness on AMR and advocate for intersectoral partnership at a strategic level.

For the first time in Morocco, the AMR MPTF project enabled the establishment of a One Health governance system for AMR bringing together key stakeholders to address common issues. This innovative system consists of:

- A steering committee with representation at a high level by the ministers of the three governmental departments and the representatives of FAO, WOAH and WHO
- A technical coordination committee comprised of the technical officers of FAO,
 WOAH and WHO and the focal points of the three ministerial departments
- A national scientific project coordinator specifically recruited by the project to coordinate all partners and facilitate the implementation of this project.

The official launch ceremony of the project was a significant step to raise awareness as well as mobilize and engage high-level decision-makers around the issue of AMR. The meeting involved the Minister of Health, the Secretary Generals of agriculture and environment as well as the representatives of FAO, WOAH and WHO. Their active participation showcased their strategic vision and commitment to collectively address AMR.

Additionally, a national workshop on "the Progressive Approach to Antimicrobial Resistance Management (PMP-AMR)" was organized under the coordination of FAO and the involvement of the technical coordination committee. The approach consisted of a step-by-step self-assessment of the implementation status of the National Action Plans on AMR. While oriented to the food and agriculture sectors, the workshop still highlighted the methodology and assessment tools that can be tailored to other sectors to achieve sustainable antimicrobial use and stewardship.

Among other organized activities was a scientific webinar on current AMR data in Morocco targeted for professionals in human and animal health as well as the environment.

Since adopting this collaborative approach, several structural activities are currently in progress. These include establishment of an integrated AMR monitoring system, regulatory aspects for the institutionalization of AMR programs, evaluation of laboratory capacities towards an accreditation system and a communication plan to raise awareness on AMR. All activities are always addressed through a One Health approach.

The governance mechanisms adopted in this project is a demonstration of the successful impact of the AMR MPTF in Morocco. The AMR MPTF has been able to activate collaborative working between the Quadripartite with national governments and other stakeholders. This is key to catalyze domestic funding for AMR NAP implementation and to ensure for the sustainability of results at the close of the AMR MPTF project in Morocco.