



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization



World Organisation
for Animal Health

World AMR Awareness Week 2026

One Health, one action: Prevent AMR now



#WAAW
#AntimicrobialResistance
#AMR



What is WAAW?

World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW) is a global campaign held every year from 18 to 24 November to raise awareness and encourage global action to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR). With various events and activities organized worldwide, WAAW brings together stakeholders across human, animal, plant and environmental health through a One Health approach.

Get involved

Drug-resistant microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites, can emerge and persist in humans, animals, plants and the environment, and spread between them. AMR is therefore a One Health challenge, affecting human and animal health, food security, the environment and economies worldwide.

The misuse of antimicrobials in humans, animals and plants is a major driver of AMR. Poor infection prevention, limited access to quality diagnosis and treatment, weak healthcare and animal health systems, pollution and environmental contamination from wastewater and waste can also create conditions that contribute to the emergence, persistence and spread of resistant microorganisms and antimicrobial resistance genes.

AMR is also influenced by interconnected global pressures, including climate change and the movement of people, animals and goods. Addressing AMR therefore requires coordinated action across human, animal, plant and environmental systems. And because AMR crosses sectors, borders and generations, everyone has a role to play.

This guide offers key information to help you join and participate in the WAAW campaign. The accompanying resource package is designed for adaptation across countries, sectors, languages and audiences.



2026 Theme and call to action

One Health, one action: Prevent AMR now

Our world is more connected than ever. The medicines that save lives, the food we produce, the economies we depend on, and the health of our environment are all connected. When drug-resistant microorganisms emerge and spread, they impact our health, animal health, food security, economies and sustainable development. Their emergence and spread are also influenced by the health of our environment.

Bacterial AMR is already associated with more than 4.7 million deaths annually. Without urgent action, AMR could cause up to [39 million deaths](#) between 2025 and 2050, and cost the global economy [US\\$7.7 trillion](#) by 2035, disproportionately affecting low- and middle-income countries.

AMR is no longer a future challenge; it is a global threat. Around the world, governments, health professionals, veterinarians, environmental experts and practitioners, farmers, researchers and communities are already taking action to prevent AMR. They are improving the access, responsible use and safe disposal of antimicrobials, strengthening water, sanitation and hygiene, promoting sustainable food systems, diagnostics and vaccines, reducing pollution and protecting the environment. Every action matters.

World AMR Awareness Week 2026 shines a spotlight on this shared responsibility. Under the theme “***One Health, one action: Prevent AMR now***”, the campaign calls on everyone to do their part, recognizing that the health of people, animals, plants, and the environment is closely interconnected and interdependent, and that actions in one sector can benefit them all.



Choose your action

The theme “*One Health, one action: Prevent AMR now*” encourages every stakeholder to commit to at least one meaningful action during WAAW.



Governments and policymakers:

Turn political commitments into funded, measurable action by implementing multisectoral national action plans on AMR and strengthening accountability.



Human health professionals and facilities:

Prevent infections, improve access to quality diagnosis and treatment, prescribe and use antimicrobials responsibly, strengthen safe management of healthcare waste and wastewater, and ensure safe disposal of unused antimicrobials.



Veterinarians and animal health professionals: Prevent disease and reduce the need for antimicrobials in animals through vaccination, biosecurity, surveillance and timely diagnosis. Ensure antimicrobials are prescribed and used responsibly, while supporting access to quality veterinary medicines and their safe disposal.



Farmers and food producers:

Adopt good husbandry, hygiene, vaccination and biosecurity practices to reduce infections and the need for antimicrobials, working with animal health professionals to ensure their responsible use when needed, while protecting soil and water through responsible manure, fertilizer, wastewater and waste management.



Environmental, water, waste and wastewater professionals:

Prevent and reduce antimicrobial residues and resistant microorganisms entering the environment through stronger pollution prevention, safe waste and wastewater management, environmental surveillance and responsible treatment and reuse of wastewater.



Researchers, academia and innovators:

Accelerate research and equitable access to diagnostics, vaccines, treatments and alternatives to antimicrobials, while strengthening One Health evidence and surveillance, including research and innovation on environmental drivers, pollution prevention, sustainable chemicals, and waste and wastewater solutions.



Private sector and industry:

Apply responsible and sustainable production, procurement, marketing, use and disposal practices throughout pharmaceutical, health and food value chains, including pollution prevention and safe management of waste and wastewater.



Civil society and communities: Promote infection prevention, vaccination, responsible antimicrobial use and safe disposal, pollution prevention and effective waste management, and hold decision-makers accountable for delivering commitments.



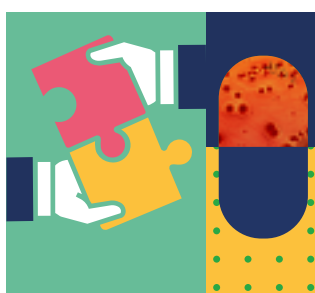
Young people and educators:

Build AMR knowledge and champion practical One Health actions in schools, universities and communities.



Media and communicators:

Make AMR understandable, visible and actionable by sharing evidence-based information, practical solutions and examples of progress.



Funders and development partners:

Invest sustainably in coordinated implementation of the One Health approach to AMR, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. Everyone: Choose one concrete action, take it now and encourage others to act because every action matters.

Campaign resources and materials

 Multilingual WAAW 2026 materials will be made available through the [WAAW 2026 Trello Resource Hub](#) (online)

 For more campaign information and updates visit the official [Quadrupartite Joint Secretariat](#) webpage for the event

Check the listed online resources regularly and begin planning as soon as core materials are released. Share the package proactively with regional, national and local partners.

Social media toolkit

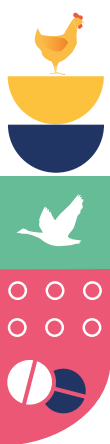
As we do every year, we encourage everyone to use social media to help raise awareness about AMR and inspire action. Here are a few tips to get you started.

Campaign hashtags

- ▶ Use: **#WAAW**, **#AMR**, **#AntimicrobialResistance**

Tips

- ▶ Choose concrete actions you are taking to prevent AMR
- ▶ Use real examples from your sector or community
- ▶ Focus on one clear action to prevent AMR per post.
- ▶ Use real examples from your sector or community.
- ▶ Tag relevant partners and organizations, including **@FAO**, **@UNEP**, **@WHO** and **@Worldanimalhealth**.
- ▶ Include campaign visuals whenever possible.
Use the official WAAW 2026 visuals for inspiration!
- ▶ End posts with a call to action.



Sample posts

General audience

Antimicrobial resistance affects people, animals, plants and the environment. This #WAAW 2026 we're taking one action to help prevent AMR. What's yours?

Environment sector

Preventing pollution and safely managing waste and wastewater helps reduce the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance while protecting our planet. Take action this #WAAW

Health sector

Preventing infections and using antimicrobials responsibly helps protect lives today and preserve treatments for the future. Join us during #WAAW. #AMR

Youth

One action can make a difference. Learn, share, act and lead to help prevent AMR in your school, university or community. #WAAW

Animal health sector

Healthy animals mean reduced need for antimicrobials. Vaccination, biosecurity and disease prevention are critical actions against AMR. #WAAW

Content ideas for influencers and messengers

- ▶ Ask trusted voices to share one practical action to prevent AMR.
- ▶ Post a short video on using and disposing antibiotics responsibly.
- ▶ Share simple tips on preventing infections.
- ▶ Show ways to keep medicines and other harmful waste out of the environment.
- ▶ Encourage followers to choose one action to prevent AMR for #WAAW.



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For sector-specific resources, we recommend visiting the respective websites of the relevant organizations:

FAO | UNEP | WHO | WOAH

Need support or want to share your WAAW activities?

FAO Antimicrobial-Resistance@fao.org

UNEP beat.pollution@un.org

WHO waaw@who.int

WOAH communication@woah.org

