



ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAINING ACTIVITIES ON PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR) IN THE CONTEXT OF AN OVERALL “ONE HEALTH” APPROACH TO PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIONS AND REDUCING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE UNDER THE BETTER TRAINING FOR SAFER FOOD INITIATIVE

Contract number 2016 96 07

SUMMARY

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The spreading of antimicrobial resistance is a natural biological phenomenon, but lately a variety of factors have contributed to accelerate this dissemination. In Europe it is estimated that around 25.000 patients die annually as a result of infections caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria meaning an estimated cost of EUR 1.5 billion per annum. Combating antimicrobial resistance has become a global public health challenge.

In 2008, the European Council, through his own conclusions on antimicrobial resistance, called upon the Member States to strengthen surveillance systems and improve data quality on antimicrobial resistance and on consumption of antimicrobial agents within both the human and veterinary sectors. The EC Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance 2011-2016 established a 5 year plan, to prevent and reduce the spreading of AMR, and preserve the capacity to fight microbial infections from a holistic global approach.

The New Strategy to fight AMR is currently being prepared by the EU's One Health Network that was established during the EU Ministerial “One Health” Conference on AMR in Amsterdam in February 2016. The first of the three strategic pillars of the next Commission's communication on AMR (2017) is related to making the EU a best practice region on AMR.

2. OBJECTIVES

The present BTSF project covers the AMR issue from “One Health” holistic approach, being the overall objective of the training the dissemination of the information, training for best practices and upgrading national systems in relation to the surveillance and monitoring on antimicrobial resistance. The training also aims to provide training on the methods of prevention and control of **AMR in the veterinary and human medicine sectors** with a holistic approach to prevent the infections and reduce the bacterial resistance.

Specific objectives of the training

The purpose of the training will be to spread the knowledge between the participants of the implementation of the “One Health” approach on the use and resistance of antimicrobials, providing the best practices on the design, implementation and management of National Action Plans against antimicrobial resistance. The Plans will have to be implemented under the responsibility of the competent authority of the Member States. Each Member State therefore has an important role to play in ensuring



that these objectives are achieved. A key element of the training will be to not only make participants aware of best practices in the veterinary / food safety and human sectors, but to emphasize how vital is that a common approach is adopted throughout the Union.

With this purpose on mind, the training will aim at achieving the following objectives:

- Spread the knowledge of the implementation of the “One Health” approach on the use and resistance of the antimicrobials
 - AMR occurrence factors and general concepts;
 - AMR as an EU policy priority. European Commission Action Plan against rising threats from AMR 2011-2016;
 - European One Health Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR);
 - International initiatives in relation to AMR: WHO, UN, FAO, OIE, Codex Alimentarius, GHSA, TAFTAR, etc.;
 - Role of the EU Agencies in relation to the AMR: EMA, ECDC, EFSA.
- Provide the best practices regarding the design, implementation and management of National Action Plans against antimicrobial resistance
 - Source of data, measure units and categorisation. Harmonization of source of data and harmonization of measure units between the countries;
 - Joint interagency cooperation.
- Promote the use of common indicators, monitoring and surveillance systems of antimicrobials and AMR in both human and veterinary sectors
 - Integrated surveillance systems: harmonisation and best practices of monitoring systems for both sectors;
 - Knowledge gaps in relation to the environment: environmental mechanisms of AMR selection and transmission.
- Ensure that the trainees have a solid understanding of ways to collaborate and coordinate among the different national authorities as well as EU agencies involved in the monitoring and surveillance of the use of antimicrobials and their resistance.

3. CONTENT OF THE TRAINING

The participants will be invited to participate actively in discussions, debriefings and working groups. They will be given preparation tasks prior to the attendance to the session, updating their knowledge of EU legislation their sector and bringing examples of their national practices in their given sector.

To ensure a real holistic “One Health” approach where the animal and human health elements are both present in the Action Plan and able to interact, the programme is addressed to both human and veterinary / food sectors’ representatives. When a country is invited to the training, two participants from the same country should be attending. They shall represent the human and the veterinary sectors.



The general contents, adapted to the specificities and peculiarities of antimicrobial resistance, included in the four-days training course are:

- Occurrence factors of AMR and general concepts related to AMR;
- 2011 EC Action Plan against the rising threats from AMR with focus on its multi-sectorial approach and presentation of the results of the external evaluation of this Plan;
- New EU Action Plan against AMR;
- Overview of the EU legal framework applicable to AMR and the use of antimicrobials;
- Relevant international initiatives in the field of AMR (e.g. Codex Alimentarius, WHO, OIE and FAO initiatives, UN, TATFAR, GHSA initiative);
- Relevant EU rules and initiatives for monitoring and reporting of AMR in veterinary and human medicine, including bacterial species/ food/ animal combinations, sampling rules, rules for analysis, antimicrobial susceptibility testing and interpretation of results;
- Specific case of Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and of bacterial resistance to certain last-resort antibiotics for humans (colistin and carbapenems);
- Work of the EU agencies EMA, EFSA and ECDC to tackle AMR, including joint interagency cooperation;
- The role of environment in emergence and spread of AMR - how does the introduction of antimicrobials and resistant microorganisms from both human and animal sources contribute to AMR;
- Relevant EU initiatives for monitoring the use of antimicrobials in veterinary and human medicine and practical application of those rules:
 - Methods for the collection of data on the use of antimicrobials at different levels;
 - Collection of data by animal species (veterinary sector) and by patients' categories (human sector);
 - Units of measurement of consumption;
- Commission guidance documents on prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary and human medicine;
- Examples of “One Health” approach and good practices for strategies and actions aimed at promoting and strengthening the sensible use of antimicrobials in veterinary and human medicine.

4. TARGETED AUDIENCE

The training programme is mainly addressed to officials from Competent Authorities involved, preferably at central level, in the monitoring, surveillance, reporting and control activities for the correct use of antimicrobials and the resistance to them in public health and veterinary / food sectors.

The training course is mainly addressed to:

- **Senior officers from Public Health competent authorities**
- **Senior officers from Primary production of animals intended to be food competent authorities**



- **Senior officers from Food safety competent authorities**
- **Senior officers from any of the previous competent authorities involved dealing with environmental AMR related issues**

For this course, the participants need to be able to communicate in the English language and agree to actively disseminate the contents of the training course.

5. CALENDAR AND LOCATIONS

Year	Session	Dates to / from	Location, Country	Deadlines
2017	S1	2017-11-13/16	Madrid, Spain	2017-10-25
	S2	2017-12-11/14	Prague, Czech Republic	2017-10-30
2018	S3	2018-01-22/25	Copenhagen, Denmark	2017-12-11
	S4	2018-02-19/22	Stockholm, Sweden	2018-01-08
	S5	2018-03-19/22	Zagreb, Croatia	2018-02-05
	S6	2018-04-09/12	Prague, Czech Republic	2018-02-26
	S7	2018-05-28/31	Madrid, Spain	2018-04-16
	S8	2018-06-11/14	Sofia, Bulgaria	2018-04-30
	S9	2018-09-	Stockholm, Sweden	August 2018
	S10	2018-10-	Prague, Czech Republic	September 2018
	S11	2018-11-	Sofia, Bulgaria	September 2018
	S12	2018-12-	Madrid, Spain	October 2018
2019	S13	2019-01-	Zagreb, Croatia	December 2018
	S14	2019-02-	Sofia, Bulgaria	January 2019
	S15	2019-03-	Madrid, Spain	February 2019