

## FAO APPROACH

### Patrick Otto

Animal Production and Health Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)'s mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts. As a knowledge organisation, FAO creates and shares critical information about food, agriculture and natural resources in the form of global public goods. This is achieved through identifying and working with different partners with established expertise, and facilitating a dialogue between those who have the knowledge and those who need it, thereby turning knowledge into action.

FAO's Animal Production and Health Division contributes to the organisation's mission to achieve global food and nutrition security, under the overall strategic objective of 'increased and sustainable livestock production'. This overall strategy is intended to guide the development of the livestock sector towards socially desirable outcomes focused on safeguarding the three global public goods, namely equity, veterinary public health, and the sustainability of the environment and the natural resources used in animal production. Reduced animal disease and associated human health risks are a key pillar of the activities related to animal health.

Veterinary antimicrobials are essential resources for ensuring that animal production continues to make contributions to global food and nutrition security, and to household incomes and national economic development. FAO AMR capacity building aim at ensuring that these valuable resources are safeguarded by:

- promoting prudent and responsible use of antimicrobial drugs so that they maintain their efficacy and remain available to support livelihoods and to minimise associated public health risks,
- enhancing capacities to assess and manage AMR risks at all stages of the food chain and to implement surveillance and antimicrobial use monitoring,
- the development and the dissemination of tools, guidelines based on international standards,
- policy, institutional and technical capacity development,
- the promotion of good animal husbandry and health, and good hygienic practices.

