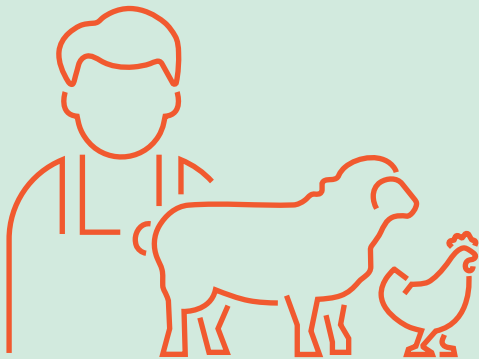


Fighting antimicrobial resistance

A guide for **farmers**



Imagine a world where infections and diseases in animals, humans and plants cannot be treated. This worst-case scenario could become a reality as some bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites develop resistance to the drugs we use to fight them. Antimicrobial resistance, or AMR, has become one of the most pressing health issues of our time.

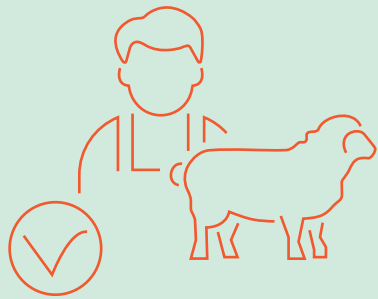
Solutions exist and you have a role to play to address this global threat.



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

As a **farmer**, you have a key role in preserving the efficacy of antimicrobials worldwide. Whether it be by implementing appropriate disease prevention measures to reduce the need to administer antimicrobials to your animals, or by making sure that, when you do use antimicrobials, you do it responsibly in consultation with your veterinarian. Furthermore, your actions have an impact on global health, as drug resistant pathogens could spread between animals, humans, and plants.

Here is what you can do.



Implement **good husbandry and biosecurity practices**

Because antimicrobials will never replace proper animal care, you should **be mindful of your animals' health and welfare daily**.

By improving your farming practices, implementing hygiene programmes and following good husbandry and biosecurity principles, **you can prevent the introduction of pathogens** which could place your animals' health and your livelihood at risk.

In this way, you can **reduce the need for antimicrobials**, and thus prevent antimicrobial resistance.

Vaccinate your animals

To reduce the need for antimicrobials and the related costs, **vaccinate your animals**. Vaccines, when available, can provide life-long immunity to your animals for certain diseases.



Did you know?

By implementing good husbandry practices and vaccination, some farmers have significantly decreased antimicrobial use whilst enhancing productivity, safeguarding their livelihoods and boosting local economies.

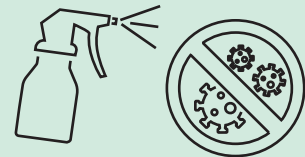
Simple practices to implement:



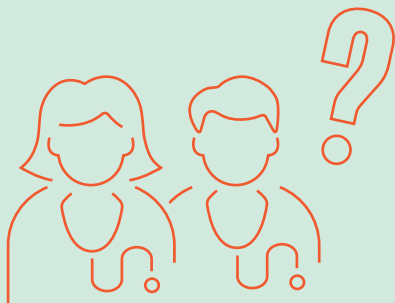
WASH
your hands
regularly



WEAR
dedicated
protective
clothing and
footwear



**CLEAN AND
DISINFECT**
animal housing,
equipment and
vehicles regularly



When should you seek veterinary advice?

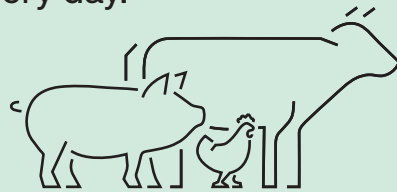
Sometimes, antimicrobials are necessary. But that is not always the case. If you use antimicrobials when your animals do not really need them, these antimicrobials may no longer work when eventually you will need them. You will not be able to treat diseases in your animals that were previously treatable. This may lead to significant economic losses to your business and affect your livelihood.

Only an animal health professional can know when it is safe and responsible to treat your animals with antimicrobials, and which antimicrobials to use. For this reason, you should **never medicate by yourself** and never buy antimicrobials from unauthorised sources and retailers, as they could be substandard or falsified. Only use antimicrobials when **prescribed by a veterinarian or an animal health professional**.

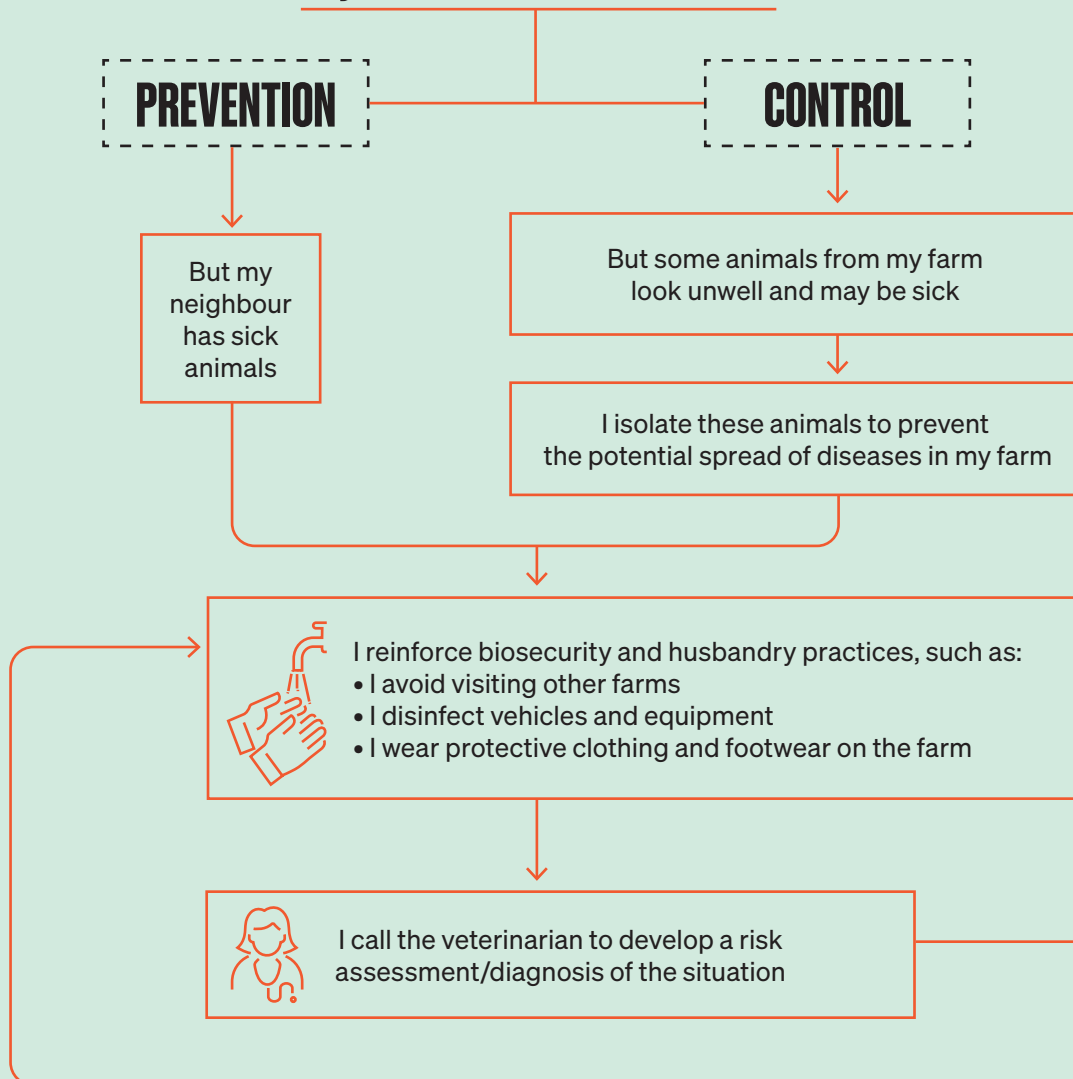
If a veterinarian has prescribed antibiotics for your animals, make sure to **respect the prescribed dosage, frequency of dosing, length of treatment and withdrawal period**, even if your animal already seems cured.

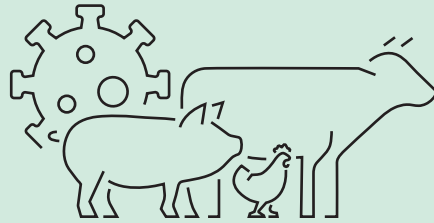
MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS TO FIGHT AMR

Find out the best decisions you can make to preserve the efficacy of antimicrobials every day.



My animals are not sick





My animal or animals are sick

TREATMENT



I call the veterinarian

After examining my animals and performing lab tests if needed, the veterinarian makes a diagnosis and discusses the treatment options with me

Non-antimicrobial options or alternatives to antimicrobials are applicable

Antimicrobials, such as antibiotics, are needed. I get a prescription

I buy the antimicrobials from an authorised source and do not ask my neighbour for them

I follow the instructions provided by the veterinarian on dosage, frequency of dosing and duration of treatment. I comply with the withdrawal period to protect consumers and my family

I keep records of what I have done/used and the animal(s) treated

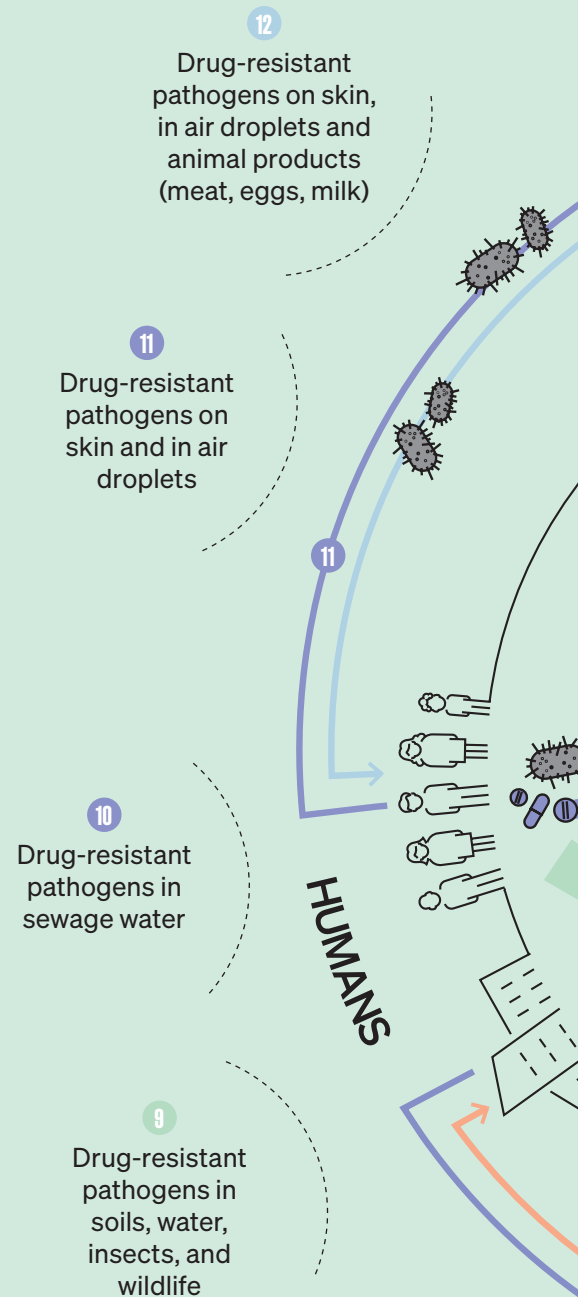
I store or dispose of unused antimicrobials according to the manufacturer indications, and do not reuse them without veterinarian supervision

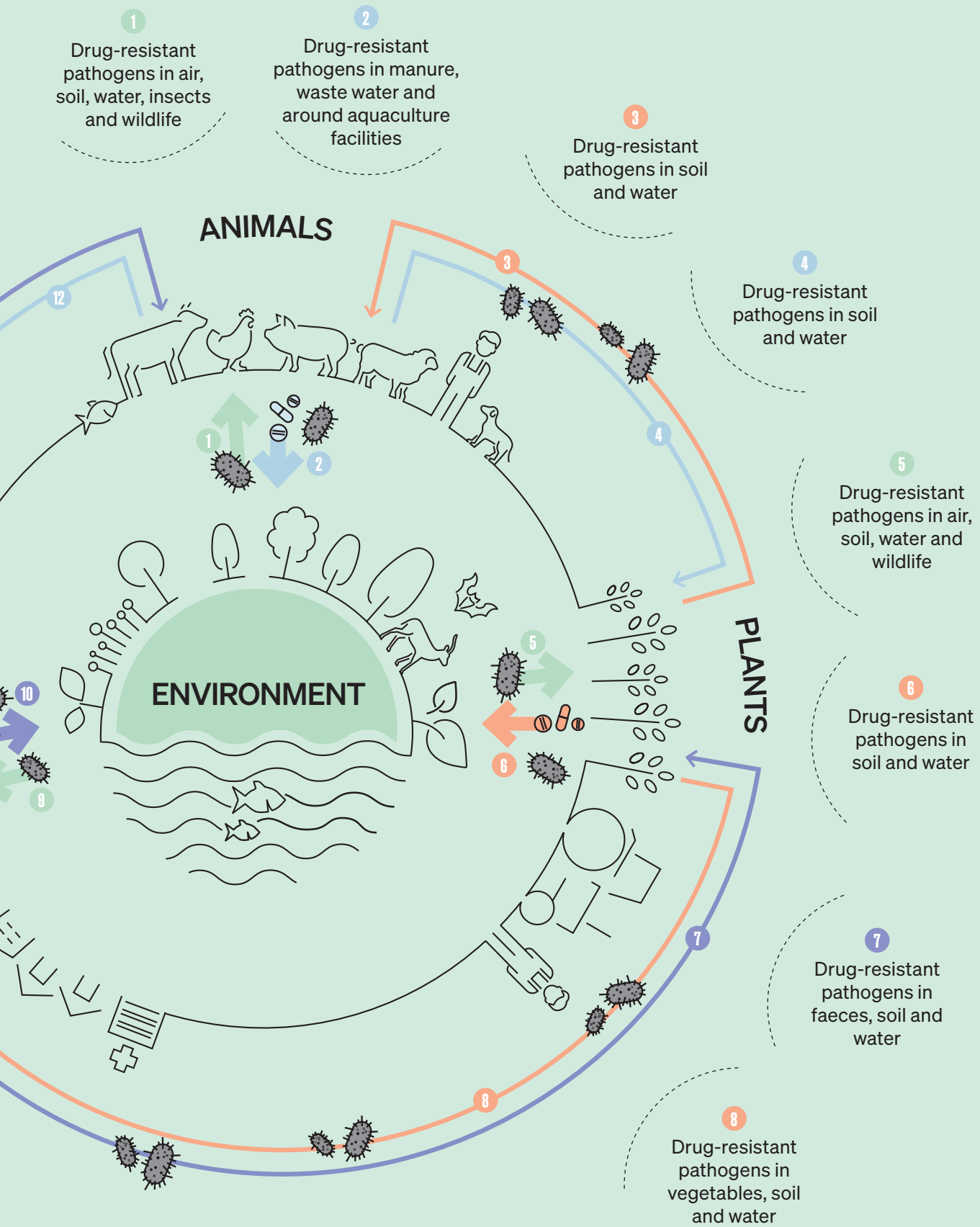
YOUR ROLE IN THE GRAND SCHEME OF ONE HEALTH

Did you know that the way you use antimicrobials in your farm can affect animal health, but also human health, plant health and the environment? In a world where everything is interconnected, your decisions have the power to help curb AMR, thus to impact positively on everyone's health.

Antimicrobials for growth promotion: why you should phase out this practice

Because antimicrobials should only be used when your animals' health or well-being are compromised. Use of antimicrobials to boost productivity in healthy animals is not a veterinary medical use. Moreover, it is not considered a responsible use, unless a thorough analysis of its potential consequences for animal and human health is carried out by competent authorities. To enhance productivity, many other solutions exist, such as the provision of good quality feed and potable water. These alternatives do not put your animals—nor human health—at risk by encouraging the rise of AMR.







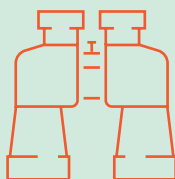
BROWSE

[our portal on AMR for information
on the responsible use of antimicrobials](#)



DISCOVER

[our Global Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and
the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials in Animals](#)



HELP MONITOR

[antimicrobial use and antimicrobial resistance trends
in animal populations in your country](#)

Use antimicrobials with care.

Because animal health is our health, it's everyone's health.



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The
Fleming Fund

