

National Action for Global Change on Antimicrobial Resistance



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**World Health
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Table of Contents

Antimicrobial resistance: the rising tide of a global health security threat	3
Vulnerabilities in the Western Pacific Region	4
Knowledge and perceptions of antibiotics in the Western Pacific Region	7
Changing mindsets about using antibiotics	8
World Antibiotic Awareness Week 2015: a global movement to support regional change	13
Preparing for regional change	14
Raising awareness: country stories	14
China	17
The Lao People's Democratic Republic	20
Samoa	22
Viet Nam	24
Turning the tide: how to improve antimicrobial use and stop a killer	27
Global actions to contain antimicrobial resistance	28
Charting the path to combat antimicrobial resistance: country stories	33
Partnerships to tackle antimicrobial resistance through multisectoral action	34
Regional Action Agenda for the Western Pacific	35
Need for holistic, multisectoral national action plans	32
Australia	34
Fiji	36
The Philippines	38



Antimicrobial resistance: the rising tide of a global health security threat

Antimicrobial resistance: the rising tide of a global health security threat

Antimicrobial resistance is a global problem. Infections and the emergence of resistance to the drugs used to prevent and treat them have readily spread across geographical borders, threatening global health security. Rapid transport of infectious agents and their resistant genes has been facilitated by increasing global connectivity, obliging countries of all income levels to take responsibility to contain the spread.

In the absence of safe and effective treatment for bacterial infections, the practice of modern medicine is compromised, limiting our ability to treat common infections and carry out lifesaving procedures, including surgeries and cancer chemotherapy. Antimicrobial resistance also has the potential to impede the achievement of the Sustainable

Although antimicrobial resistance is not a new problem, commitment to and coordination of actions to contain it remain inadequate. The growing problem of antimicrobial resistance requires an immediate cross-sectoral response to ensure future generations have access to effective antimicrobial medicines.

Vulnerabilities in the Western Pacific Region

The Western Pacific Region is one of the most diverse of all the World Health Organization (WHO) regions, as it includes some of the world's least developed countries as well as highly developed and emerging economies. As the Region is also the most disaster-prone region in the world, countries may be even more susceptible to

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