Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

# The International FAO Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring (InFARM) system

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## What is InFARM?

InFARM is a global information system consisting of an IT platform and related FAO activities that assist countries in collecting, collating, analysing, visualizing, and effectively utilizing their AMR surveillance and monitoring data in animals and food.

The overarching goal of InFARM is to help countries develop and strengthen operational national surveillance systems that can efficiently contribute to generating reliable and timely evidence on AMR in animals and food at national, regional, and global levels. In pursuit of this goal, InFARM aims to:

- Improve capacities to meet global AMR standards.
- Promote high-quality AMR data generation.
- Analyse and share information on AMR prevalence and trends.
- Detect emerging AMR traits.
- Guide evidence-based interventions against AMR.
- Aggregate data to estimate the global extent and burden of AMR.
- Integrate AMR surveillance into risk analysis processes.

## What AMR data are collected under InFARM

InFARM primarily hosts and presents AMR data generated through phenotypic antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) from:

- Priority bacterial species of public health significance, including foodborne pathogens, and commensal indicator bacteria from animals and food sources.
- Bacterial pathogens causing impacts in animal health and productivity.

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## What are the requirements for participation in InFARM?

Countries can participate in InFARM by complying with three minimum requirements:

- 1. Identify peripheral and national reference laboratories generating AMR data, and national structures overseeing AMR surveillance activities as key components of a network for national surveillance of AMR in animals and food.
- 2. Identify national lnFARM focal point(s) with knowledge and experience in epidemiology and/ or microbiology, and data management of AST results to submit information and AMR data into the IT platform.
- 3. Commit to gradually establish national systems for surveillance of AMR in animals and food. FAO provides guidance to countries in the progressive implementation of AMR surveillance in animals and food with tools such as the Assessment Tool for laboratories and AMR Surveillance Systems (ATLASS).

## What are the benefits of InFARM for countries?

Through the submission of information and data on AMR countries participating in InFARM will:

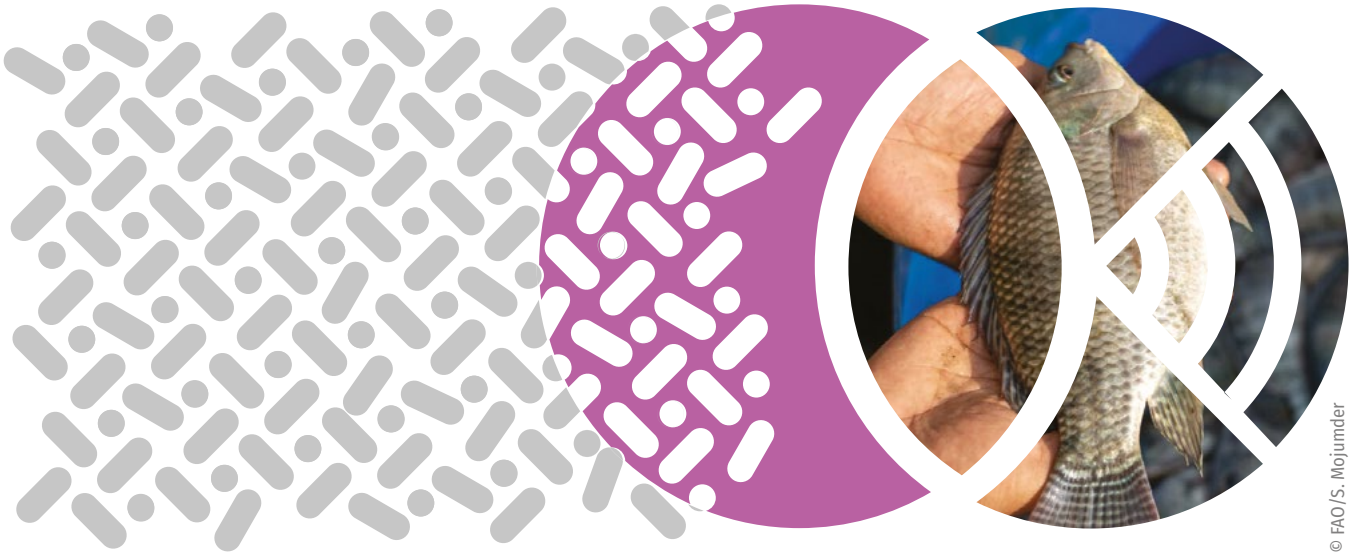
- Get access to a safe space to store AMR data across multiple surveillance programs and at customizable levels of confidentiality.
- Get access to interactive data visualizations with easy export options for various uses, such as official reports, presentations, and publications.
- Get access to a centralized repository of documents to provide context to country AMR data, including national surveillance plans, protocols, and reports from the application of FAO assessment tools.
- Improve coordination in AMR data generation, collection, collation, and analysis.
- Contribute to global One Health AMR surveillance efforts.

## How can countries enrol in InFARM?

FAO will invite members to join the InFARM system through various channels, reaching national authorities responsible for surveillance in animals and food on an annual basis.

Countries should complete two questionnaires identifying focal points across surveillance programmes and mapping core functions and components of surveillance networks. Countries that generate AMR data in animals and food are strongly encouraged to also submit these data into the IT platform.

A manual that offers more detailed guidance on the implementation of InFARM is available here.



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For more information, please contact FAO-AMR-InFARM@fao.org