

Concept Note

Title: Second Consultation Meeting on Regional Monitoring and Surveillance Guideline Volume 5: “*Monitoring antimicrobial use at the farm level*”

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Background and justification:

Lack of systematic and regular collection of high-quality data on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and antimicrobial usage (AMU) in livestock is a recognized gap in the food and agriculture sector in many countries that merits attention and collective action. To help countries in addressing this, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN FAO) through the support of the FAO implemented USAID Project on Addressing Antimicrobial Usage in Asia’s Livestock, Aquaculture and Crop Production Systems (OSRO/RAS/502/USA) is working to progressively reinforce AMR and AMU surveillance initiatives in the region.

One of its key initiatives, in partnership with stakeholders in the region, is the development of a suite of regional guidelines on monitoring and surveillance of AMR: **Volume 1** (*Monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in bacteria from healthy food animals intended for consumption*); **Volume 2** (*Monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in animal pathogens from diseased livestock and poultry*); **Volume 3** (*Monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in aquaculture*); **Volume 4** (*Monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in animal pathogens in the animal environment*), and; **Volume 5** (*Monitoring antimicrobial use at the farm level*). The Regional Guideline Volume 5 is co-developed between the FAO and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

The OIE coordinates global monitoring of AMU in the animal sector, where countries voluntarily provide their national AMU data. These data are mainly originating from sales and imports of antimicrobial agents considering the OIE List of Antimicrobial Agents of Veterinary Importance. While these data provide a basis for the global view of AMU in the animal sector, a parallel collection of data at the farm level is an opportunity to provide the needed granularity for a more comprehensive understanding of AMU (differences between animal species, production and age groups, reasons for use, routes of administrations etc.).

The Regional Guideline Volume 5 aims to become a practical tool for countries, primarily in the Asia-Pacific region. It provides guidance on the definition of AMU monitoring objectives, how to develop a data collection plan, analyze and report data, and how to operationalize such monitoring in the region.

A preliminary regional consultation took place on November 8-9, 2018, jointly organized by FAO Region Asia and the Pacific (RAP) and OIE Regional Representation in Asia and the Pacific (RRAP) and Subregional Representation in South-East Asia (SRR-SEA). It led to an initial draft, further refined over time via external consultations and collective work between FAO and OIE.

To move forward, FAO-RAP and OIE are organizing the Second Consultation Meeting on the Regional Monitoring and Surveillance Guideline Volume 5 (*Monitoring antimicrobial use at the farm level*). It will consist in a series of three virtual meetings on 27-28-29 April 2021. The consultation will bring together country representatives, as well as regional and international experts in the field of AMU monitoring.

Objectives/Outcomes

1. Refine the current draft of the Regional Guideline Volume 5, and;
2. Plan the ways forward towards the finalization of the guideline.

Expected Outputs:

1. Additional inputs and recommendations to improve the Regional Guideline Volume 5, and;
2. Clear steps on the ways forward towards the finalization of the Regional Guideline Volume 5.

Key inputs/ Main Activities:

1. Draft of the Regional Guideline Volume 5, and;
2. Virtual technical discussions.

Implementation Methods:

1. General presentation of the draft of the Regional Guideline Volume 5, and;
2. Step-by-step revision of the guideline.

Timing/duration and Location:

Date: 27-28-29 April 2021 (3 days of virtual meeting), 2-4 pm Bangkok Time