

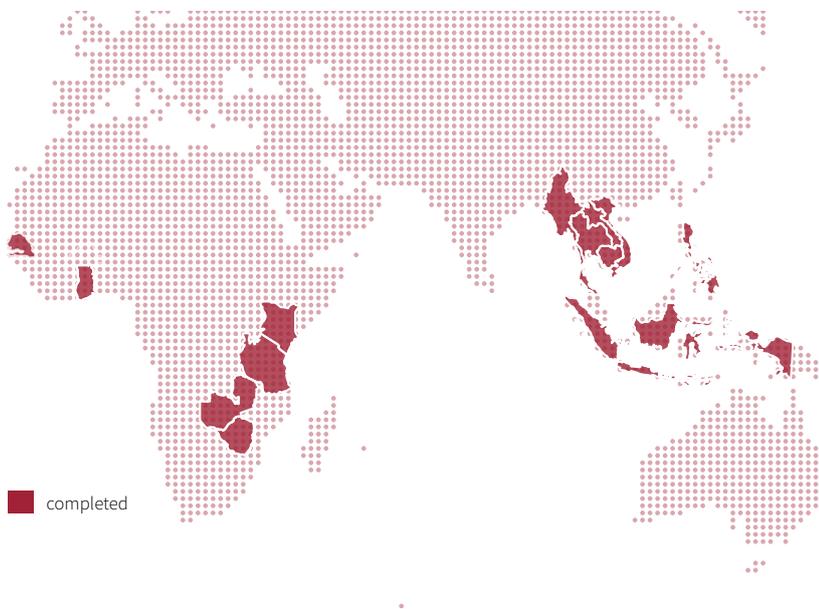


Assessment for prevention

FAO Assessment Tool for Laboratories and Antimicrobial Surveillance Systems (ATLASS)

National ATLASS Assessment

March 2018



Progressive improvement: five stages for each pillar



What ATLASS does

- Assesses pillars of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) surveillance: laboratories, epidemiological unit, authorities, communication and sustainability
- Allows external or self-assessment to generate a baseline and monitor progress
- Collects and compiles data on AMR national surveillance on dynamic platform
- Considers links between animal and human health surveillance frameworks

What ATLASS provides

- Mapping of national AMR surveillance systems, including laboratory networks (using FAO Laboratory Mapping Tool) and analytical capabilities
- Evidence base for action and advocacy
- Data analysis for risk assessment and early warning system
- Progress measurement relative to FAO Global AMR Action Plan
- Recommendations for improvement

What ATLASS has found

For example, in a sample of three countries in Africa:

- All laboratories are at level 1 or 2 of the ATLASS Progressive Improvement Pathway system
- Key resources exist in some laboratories but in the majority there is a lack of: essential equipment and reagents for detection of AMR, quality assurance schemes and AMR reference laboratories
- Epidemiology units exist combining passive and active disease surveillance but they do not currently include AMR data
- ATLASS overall country stage is level 1 for all three countries due to the absence of a national AMR surveillance system for animals, agriculture and environment. However, given the existing organization and relationships between stakeholders a sound surveillance system seems achievable in the short term

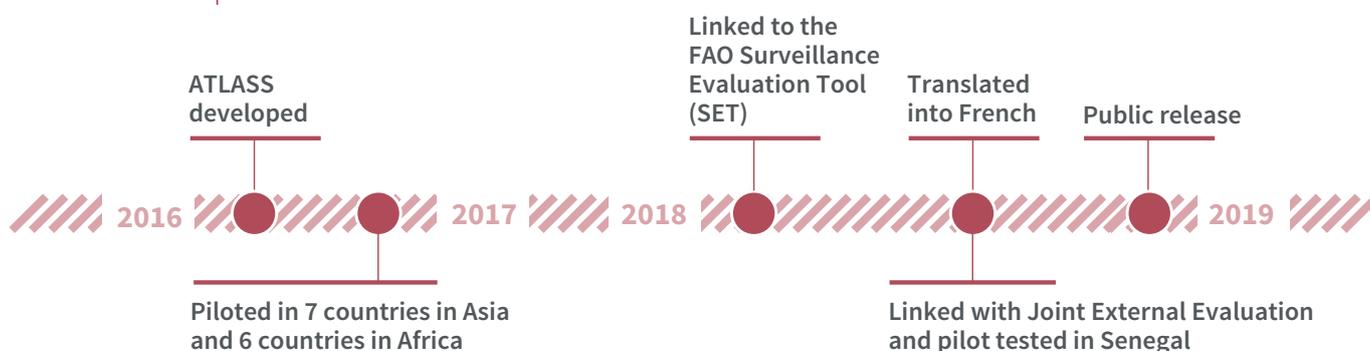


ATLASS assesses AMR surveillance and makes recommendations to strengthen capacity relative to national standards and the FAO Global Action Plan



Improving surveillance of the emergence of AMR will help to prevent the spread of drug-resistant pathogens and ensure access to effective antimicrobials

ATLASS roadmap



Next steps: development

1. Strengthen ATLASS with expanded epidemiology questions to link with SET
2. Develop technology for automatic compilation
3. Introduce certification for ATLASS assessors and build an active community
4. Create national portals
5. Continue national assessments to other countries and conduct follow-up assessments in those already assessed
6. Link ATLASS with other tools such as Joint External Evaluation
7. Use ATLASS platform to validate global collection of AMR data from the agricultural sector

Next steps: sustainability

1. Ensure recommendations of assessments are followed - to address gaps in laboratories, epidemiology units, authorities and communication on AMR
2. Strengthen One Health approach to AMR surveillance nationally and regionally
3. Develop regional coordination for AMR surveillance

Contact

Juan Lubroth

Chief Veterinary Officer, Animal Health Service
Rome, Italy | Juan.Lubroth@fao.org

Dominique Burgeon

Director, Emergency and Rehabilitation Division and Strategic Programme Leader – Resilience
Rome, Italy | TCE-Director@fao.org

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
www.fao.org/emergencies



Some rights reserved. This work is available under a CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence