



Partnership for AMR Surveillance Excellence (PARSE)

Project Information

- ◆ Department: Public Health Programs
- ◆ Unit: Disease Control and Prevention

OBJECTIVES

The PARSE project aimed to develop common protocols and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) surveillance through mapping and assessing capacities of 16 countries in four Fleming Fund (FF) priority regions. One Health approach was considered during the implementation of the project and the establishing of cross-sectoral collaboration between relevant ministries for future integration and understanding of the relative contribution of each sector and enforcing the need for a One Health approach.

REGIONS OF WORK

The PARSE project was implemented in four FF regions: West Africa, East & Southern Africa, Southeast Asia, South Asia. GHD|EMPHNET will be conducting project activities in Afghanistan as a member of the South Asia Region that includes in addition to Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, and Pakistan.

BENEFICIARIES

The overall main beneficiaries are countries in the 4 FF main regions. The mapping of AMR surveillance in Afghanistan will feed into regional mapping of the South Asia Region and protocol development and piloting will overall contribute to the project Network.

PROJECT PHASES

This project involves two phases as follows:

Phase 1:

- Conduct mapping and gap analysis of needs, current practices, and opportunities for common surveillance protocols across the 4 FF sub-regions
- Share best practices in AMR surveillance identified by mapping exercises
- Develop common protocols and SOPs

Phase 2:

- Pilot test these common protocols and SOPs in 8 FF priority countries
- Share results of piloting and make recommendations to regional and national authorities in each region for adoption of the revised common protocols across all 4 FF sub-regions
- Support the expansion and roll-out of the Tricycle program

Project Start and End Date	10/15/2019 – 10/15/2020
Partner Organizations	Ending Pandemics, Pakistan One Health Alliance (POHA) and South Asia One Health Disease Surveillance Network
Funded by	Tides Center (Ending Pandemics Project) with support of MacDonald Limited



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

During the project implementation, an inception meeting with all partners took place to agree on workplan and coordinate activities per region. A key component of the project was conducting literature review and mapping and gaps analysis of needs and current AMR surveillance practices to develop a regional report that informed opportunities to create and use common surveillance protocols. Further through this project, targeted countries were enrolled in or adopt the Tricycle Program. GHD|EMPHNET provide technical assistance as member of the South Asia Technical Working Group (TWG).

Currently . . .

Although there isn't any national AMR surveillance system nor any national published report regarding Anti-Microbial Use (AMU) and AMR in Afghanistan, many research results indicate wide irrational and overuse of antibiotics and the presence of AMR in different pathogenic bacteria including WHO prioritized pathogens. There is no capacity on antimicrobial resistance detection, surveillance of infections caused by resistant pathogens, healthcare associated infection prevention and control programs and antimicrobial stewardship activities in Afghanistan. Substantial improvements have been made in the recent years, nevertheless, Afghanistan still have one the poor health indicators in the world. The lack of investments in public health continues to be the largest obstacle for further progress.

What is next . . .

AMR surveillance is crucial for detecting the emergence of new resistance patterns and for monitoring the impact of interventions towards minimizing the spread and burden of AMR. An efficient surveillance system for AMR is an essential component of health systems strengthening to reduce mortality and morbidity due to infectious diseases. Protocols are important tools which can provide a standardized approach and provide guidance towards the implementation of AMR surveillance in Afghanistan. It will outline the required procedures, testing, specimens, and analysis. It will facilitate the development of systems that are capable of monitoring AMR trends and producing reliable and comparable data on a regular basis and contribute to national and global monitoring data.

By the Numbers

56%

Prescriptions were for antibiotic

50%

of isolates were resistant to many antibiotics

573

surveillance sentinel sites in Afghanistan

770

Outbreaks occurred in Afghanistan in 2018 only

GHD|EMPHNET Information: Global Health Development (GHD) Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) works at achieving its mission by responding to public health needs with deliberate efforts that allow for health promotion and disease prevention.

- ◆ Abdallah Ben Abbas St, Building No. 42, Amman, Jordan
- ◆ Email: comm@emphnet.net

- ◆ Tel: +962-6-5519962
- ◆ Fax: +962-6-5519963
- ◆ www.emphnet.net