One Health approach to fight AMR
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AFRICA-ASIA VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

Containing the ‘Silent Pandemic’
The Future Agenda on Antimicrobial Resistance
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Current and the *silent* pandemic

• We are living in unprecedented times
• An RNA – not even DNA – has brought world economies to halt
• In all this disruption, we must focus on another pandemic – not so obvious today – but one that threatens our health systems in ways that we cannot even imagine
• This *silent pandemic* is as catastrophic as COVID-19 or climate change
• Just imagine the scale of human tragedy if we lose the ability to get well – if the medicines stop working – if the disease cannot be treated because of antimicrobial resistance
Health: inclusive and preventative

• 1. Health is on the global agenda; equitable and universal access to vaccines is on the global agenda; **we are realizing inter-dependence – and most importantly the cost of inaction in public health.** We know today that the rich cannot be protected from the virus unless the poor have protection – inclusive and equitable health care is essential.

• 2. We understand the **role of prevention** – COVID-19 has brought out the role of clean water as preventive agenda – **Indian government has included access to clean water and sanitation as part of the health sector’s spending.**

• 3. We also know that COVID-19 and AMR is a result of our **dystopian relationship with nature;** It is about the way we are growing our food; managing our environment.
Environment, AMR and our realities

• Why CSE?
• Our work teaches us that we cannot first pollute and then clean up
• We cannot follow the rich country approach to first chemicalize and toxify the environment and then invest in cleaning up
• It is unaffordable for us
• We have competing priorities – from reaching health care to all to education and others
• We have to do things differently; we have to walk the paths that others have not taken yet – leapfrog and reinvent pathways for growth without pollution
Pathways and pathways

• One-health approach is critical
• We know that there is more than one pathway for antibiotic resistance – this is because not only are humans over-using these ‘medicines’ leading to them becoming ineffective, but also we are using them to grow our food; from crops, to livestock to fish farming
• CSE study on antibiotics in honey and then poultry; found high levels – given as growth promoter; But also given for disease management - critical for farmers to safeguard their animals
• Then there is the problem of waste – contaminated with antimicrobials – from pharma industry to poultry industry and sewage plants
CSE is working to fill the gap; pushing for change in policy and practice in food and environmental sectors
CSE is also sharing the learnings with developing countries; supporting NAP implementation in Zambia and Zimbabwe

- Prioritized NAP-AMR for Zambia
- Baseline information for Integrated AMR surveillance
- Framework for Integrated AMR surveillance
- Roadmap to phase out misuse of antibiotics in food-animals
- Strategic guidance for NAP for developing countries, 2016
- Media briefing workshop for journalists in Zimbabwe, 2020
- Workshop on NAP implementation status and prioritization for Zimbabwe, 2020
Pathways for our health security

• What then is the way ahead?
• Our world (emerging countries) have double-triple challenges
  • A. We have to increase health access to our people; need access to life-saving medicines
  • B. We have to increase food productivity and ensure farmers get livelihood security
  • C. We cannot afford the high cost of clean up after contamination;
  • D. We cannot afford the high cost of medical treatment when basic drugs will not work – we cannot afford antibiotic resistance
Re-invent the pathway

• This is what we want to discuss: our ways ahead
• Ensure that critically important for human health antimicrobials are not used for livestock/food. **Conservation** agenda
• Ensure that we can continue to increase food production without the use of antimicrobials. **Development** agenda
• Ensure that the waste from pharma/other sources is tracked and contained. **Environmental** agenda

But all this will require serious re-invention of the way we do business with our food and environment. We have to prevent pollution and overuse of chemicals – **Prevention** agenda