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AdobeStock

**H**alting  
**E**nvironmental  
**A**ntimicrobial  
**R**esistance  
**D**issemination  
**(HEARD)**



A microscopic view of numerous brown, rod-shaped bacteria, likely E. coli, scattered across a light-colored, textured mesh surface. The bacteria are elongated and have a slightly irregular, bumpy texture. The mesh surface is composed of small, interconnected loops, creating a grid-like pattern. The lighting is bright, casting soft shadows and highlighting the individual bacteria and the texture of the mesh.

“Antibiotic resistance is a global health problem that requires international attention and collaboration, because bacteria do not recognize borders”

2015 US National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria





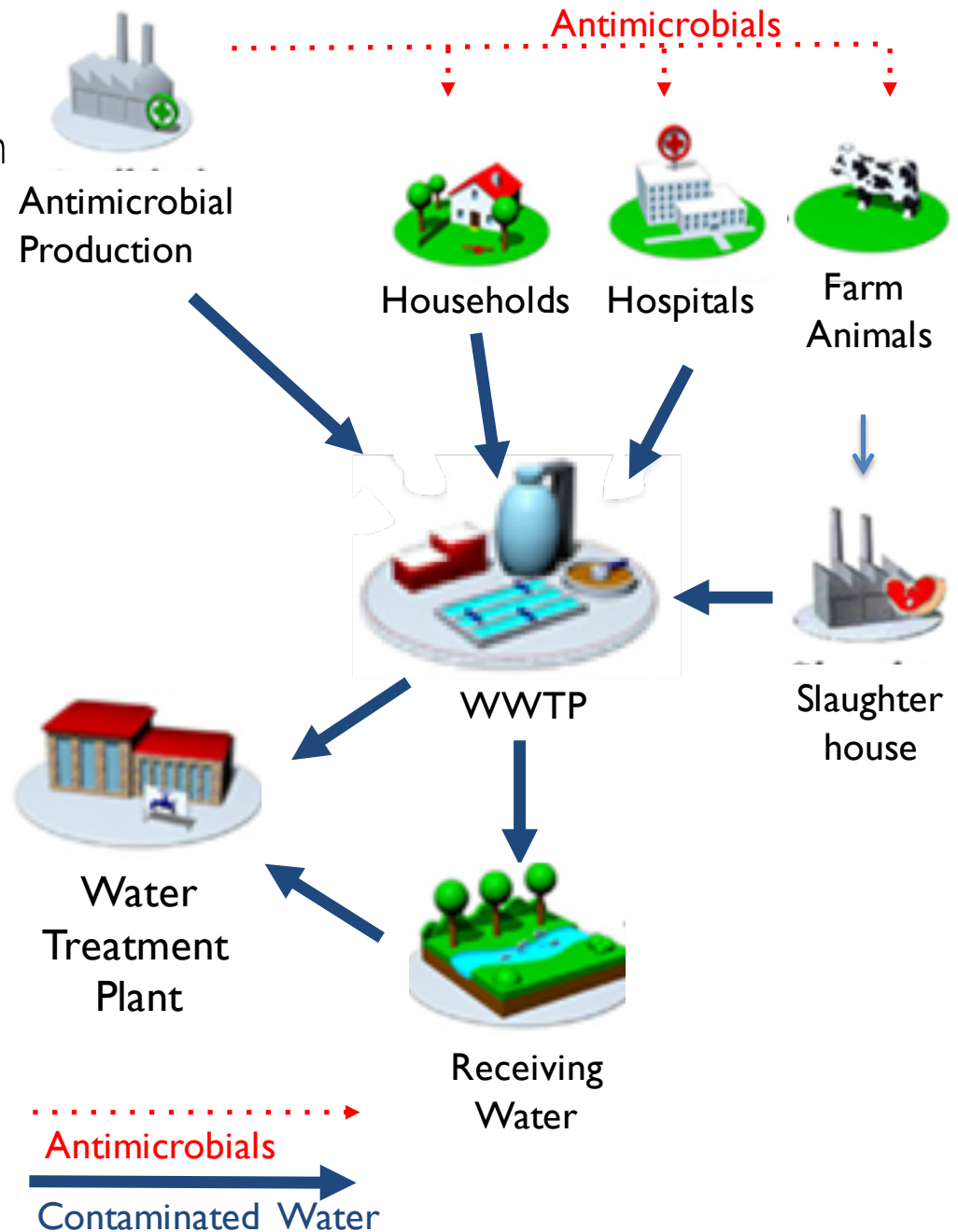
# Halting Environmental Antimicrobial Resistance Dissemination



The HEARD PIRE is a US National Science Foundation initiated international collaborative focused on quantifying the role that wastewater treatment plays in global dissemination and potentially the control of antimicrobial resistance.



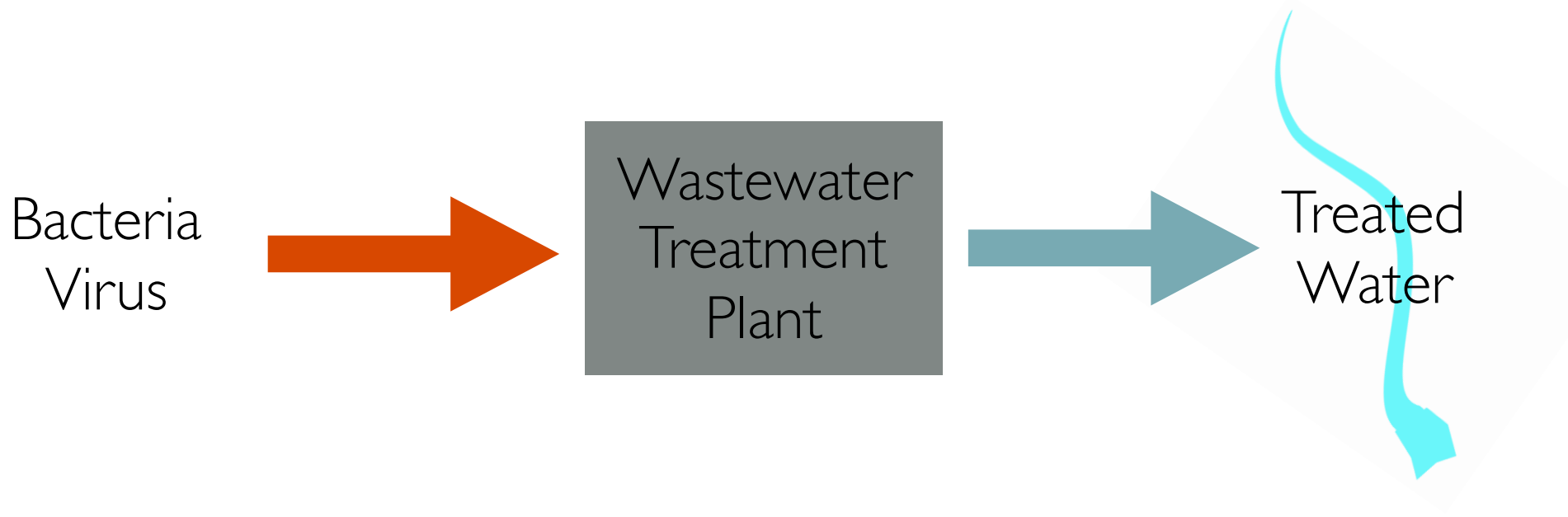
HEARD quantifies how wastewater treatment processes affect antimicrobial resistance and how wastewater treatment plants and the receiving environment interact to affect this spread.



After : Stadler et al. 2012

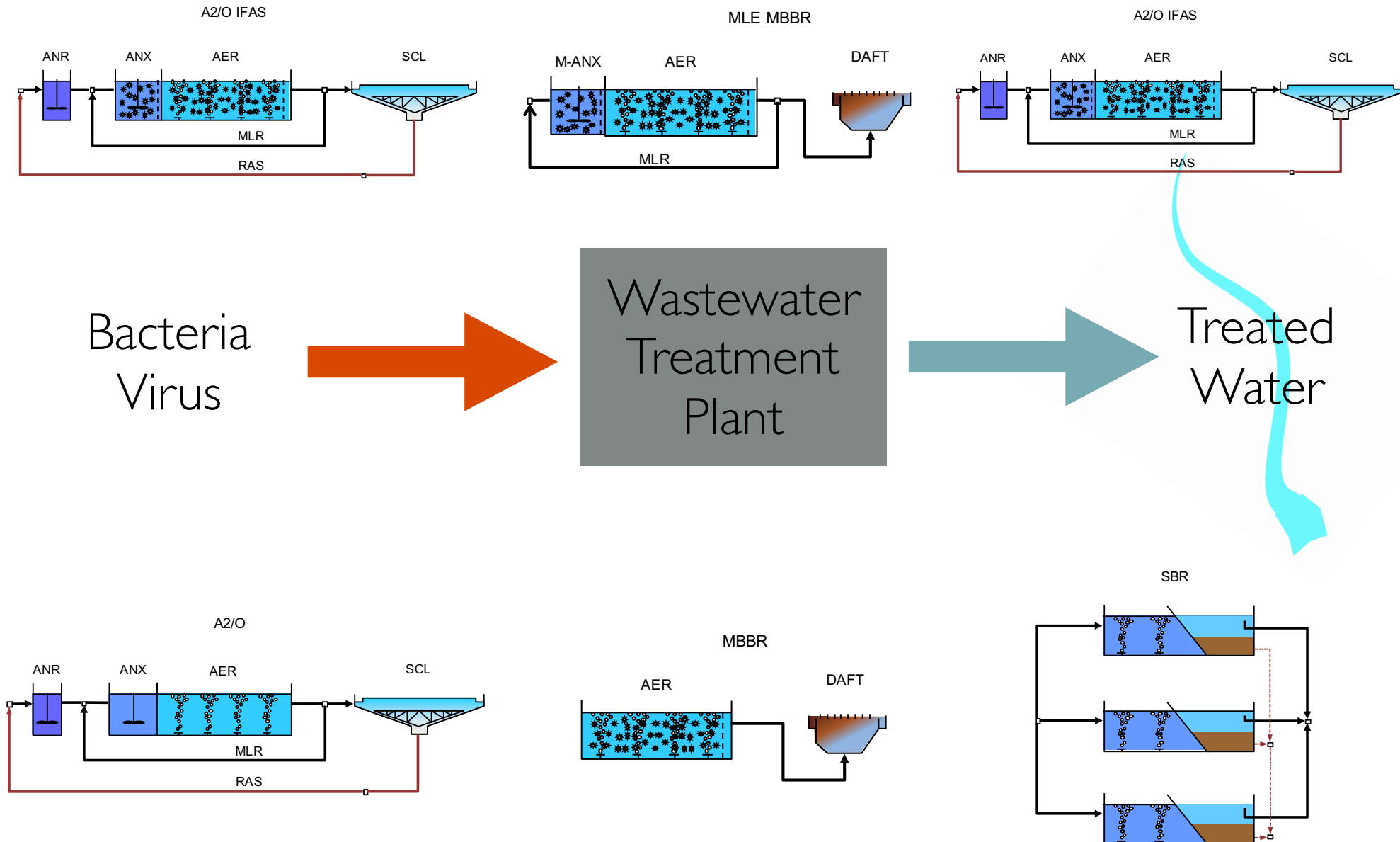


Wastewater treatment is a critical link between antimicrobial use and the potential dissemination of antibiotic resistant bacteria (ARBs) and antibiotic resistance genes (ARGs).



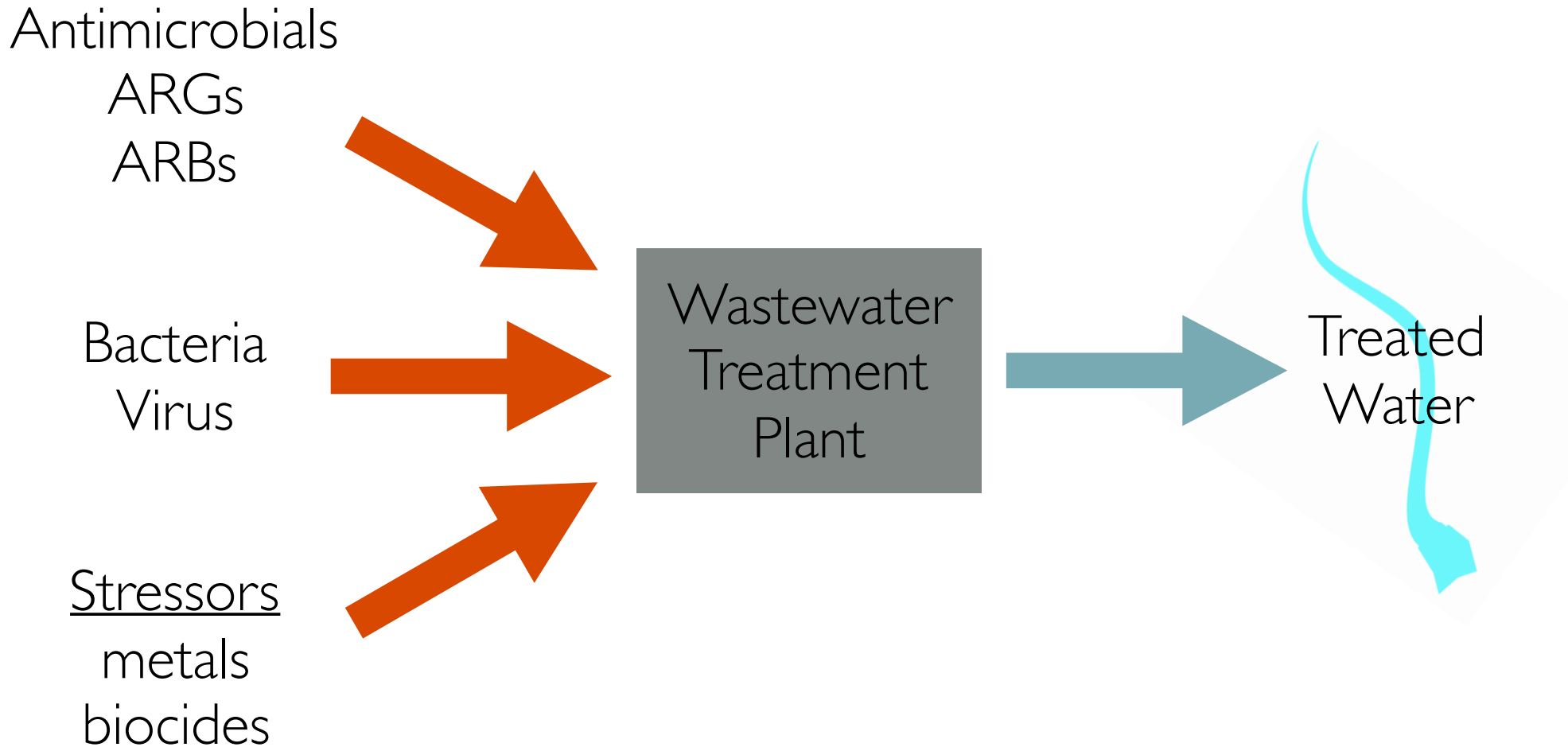


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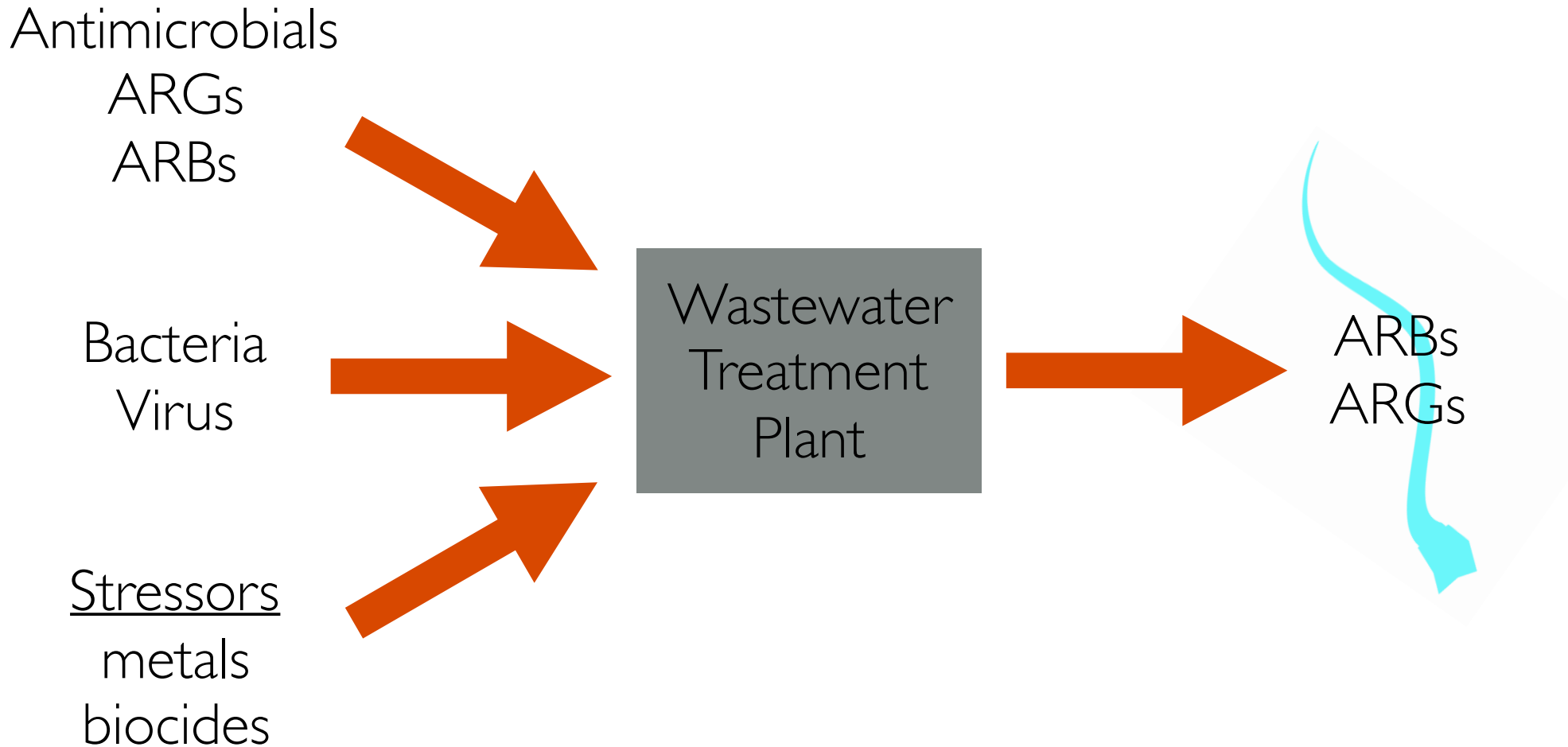


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HEARD connects researchers from across the world to collectively address the threat of antimicrobial resistance

# Who are we?



**Krista Wigginton (co-PI)**



**University at Buffalo**  
*The State University of New York*

Diana Aga (co-PI)



**VirginiaTech**  
*Invent the Future®*

Glenda Kelly



**RICE®**

**Pedro Alvarez (co-PI)**

**Qilin Li**

**Lauren Stadler**

**Peter Vikesland (PI)**

**Amy Pruden (co-PI)**

Marc Edwards

**Venkataramana Sridhar**

Lenwood Heath

Liqing Zhang

**Kathy Laskowski**



# Who are we?



The University of Hong Kong

**Tong Zhang**



THE HONG KONG  
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
香港理工大學

**Xiangdong Li**



**Indumathi Nambi**



中国科学院  
CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

**Yong-Guan Zhu**



南开大学  
Nankai University

**Yi Luo**



**Giselle Conception**

# Who are we?



GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET  
Joakim Larsson



CATÓLICA PORTO  
BIOTECNOLOGIA

**Célia Manaia**



ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

Tamar Kohn

**eawag**  
aquatic research ooo

Juliane Hollender

**Helmut Bürgmann**

# Why do we need an international approach?

## **Antimicrobial Use and Disposal**

Indiscriminate

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Restricted

---

Controlled



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## Treatment Techniques

Untreated

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Conventional  
Activated  
Sludge (AS)

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Alternative  
Strategies

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Alternative  
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## Receiving Environment

Fresh  
Waters

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Saline  
Waters

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Oceans

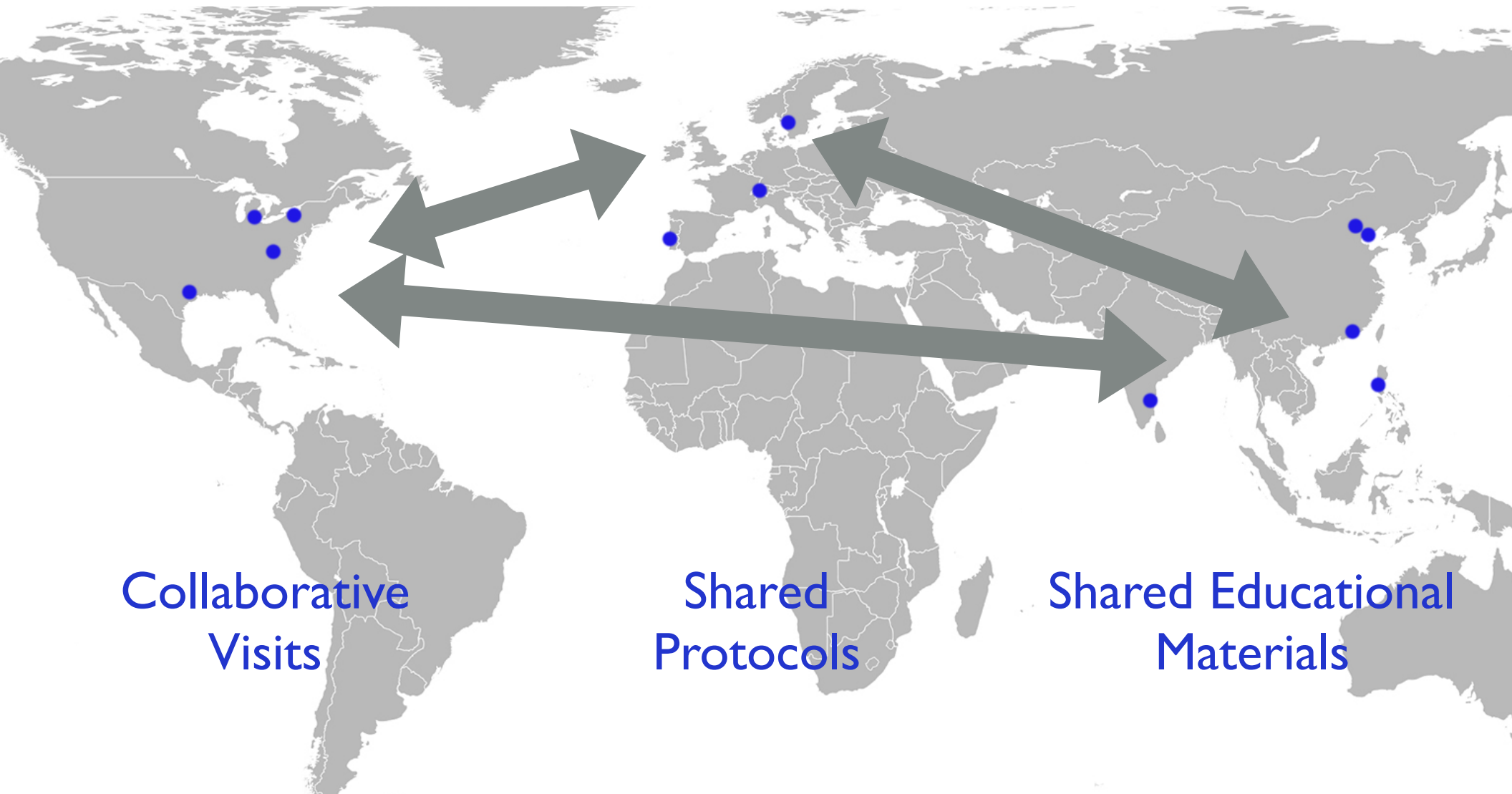
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Reused  
Waters

The knowledge gained with any one particular system has the potential to inform other systems, but only if consistent methodologies and approaches are used.

# Why do we need an international approach?

To provide opportunities for students and faculty to develop appreciation for other peoples cultures.







**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**





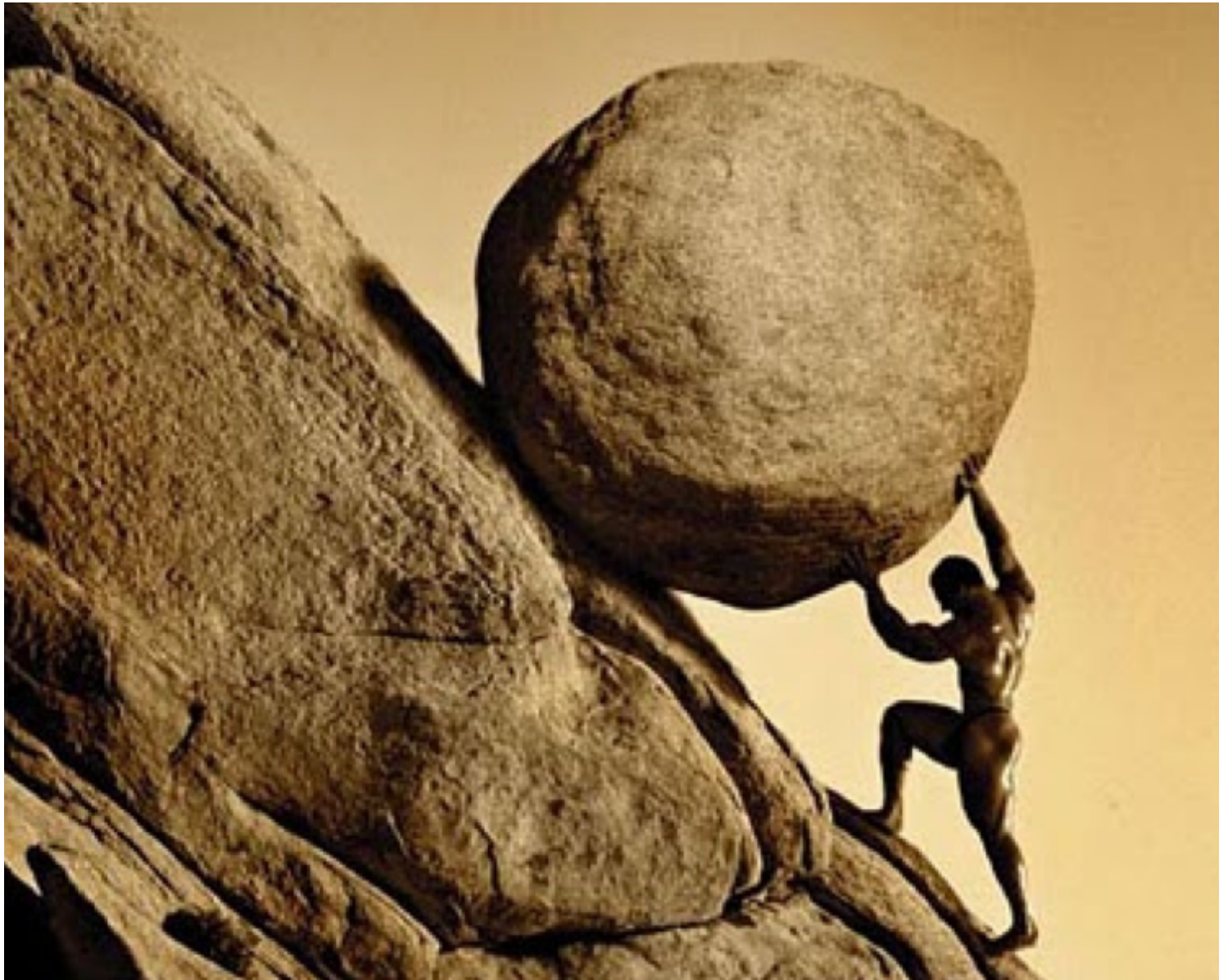
- 6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies
- 6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

*“Diversity in opinions, ideas, and experiences fuels creativity and innovation”*

*G. Richmond, President AAAS*







Wastewater mediated dissemination of antimicrobial resistance is a major global challenge that must be addressed. Through its activities, HEARD will help set the global research agenda.