



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

**CODEX**  
**ALIMENTARIUS**  
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS

# Work of the Codex Alimentarius on Foodborne AMR

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# What is Codex Alimentarius?

- A set of international food standards and a mechanism that allows them to be developed in an open, inclusive international forum
- 189 Members
- 239 Observers (UN, IGO, NGO)
- 100% Member driven (FAO and WHO DGs can give input)





# Mandate of the Codex Alimentarius

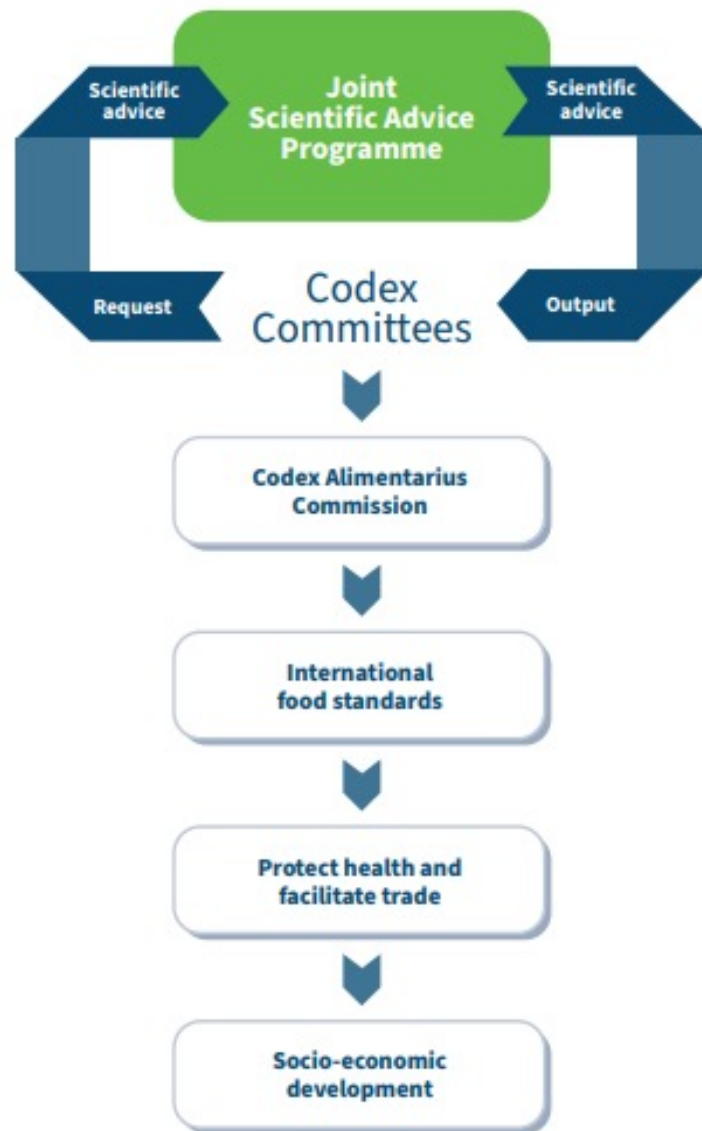
**Protect consumer health** - based on science

Codex standards....shall be based on sound scientific principles and evidence.....

Health and safety aspects  
...should be based on a risk assessment

## Why

- 420,000 Deaths - 143,000 children < 5 years annually
- 600,000,000 Illnesses
- 110,000,000,000 US\$ Lost productivity



**Ensure fair practices in food trade**

**Why:** 1,500,000,000,000 US\$  
Global Food Trade annual value

Voluntary -

BUT

Reference

in WTO-SPS and WTO-TBT

# Codex Alimentarius Commission

## Executive Committee

### Horizontal / General Committees

General Principles (France)	Food Labelling (Canada)
Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (Australia)	Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (United States)
Food Additives (China)	Pesticide Residues (China)
Contaminants in Foods (Netherlands)	Food Hygiene (United States)
Methods of Analysis and Sampling (Hungary)	Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Germany)

### Vertical / Commodity Committees

Active	Adjourned <i>sine die</i>
Fats and Oils (Malaysia)	Cocoa Products and Chocolate (Switzerland)
Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (United States)	Meat Hygiene (New Zealand)
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables (Mexico)	Natural Mineral Waters (Switzerland)
Spices and Culinary Herbs (India)	Vegetable Proteins (Canada)
Fish and Fishery Products (Norway)	Cereals, Pulses and Legumes (United States)
Processed Fruits and Vegetables (United States)	Milk and Milk Products (New Zealand)
	Sugars (Colombia)

### Ad-hoc Intergovernmental Task Forces

#### Active

Antimicrobial  
Resistance  
(Republic of Korea)

#### Dissolved

Processing and Handling  
of Quick Frozen Foods  
(Thailand)

Animal Feeding  
(Switzerland)

Fruit Juices  
(Brazil)

Foods Derived from  
Biotechnology  
(Japan)

## FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees

Africa (Uganda)	Asia (China)	Europe (Kazakhstan)	Latin America and the Caribbean (Ecuador)	North America and South West Pacific (Fiji)	Near East (Saudi Arabia)
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# AMR Texts

2005

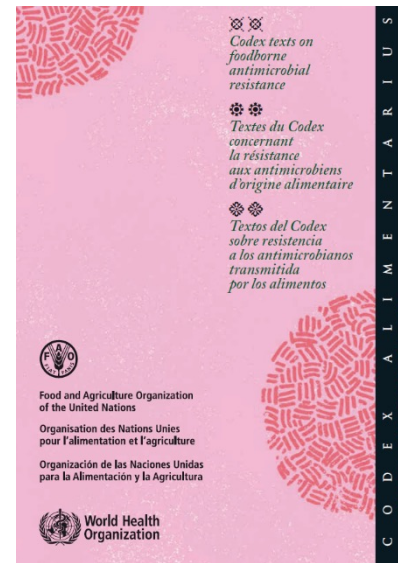
- [Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance \(CXC 61-2005\)](#)
- Developed by the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) – very strong focus on antimicrobial use in animal production



# Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)

2007-2011

- **Objective:** To develop science based guidance to assess the risks to human health associated with the presence in food and feed including aquaculture and the transmission through food and feed of antimicrobial resistant microorganisms and antimicrobial resistance genes and to develop appropriate risk management advice based on that assessment to reduce such risk.
- **Output:** [Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance \(CXG 77-2011\)](#)



# Responding to a Global Priority

- WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance
- FAO Resolution on AMR
  - Made specific reference to Codex texts on antimicrobial resistance, i.e. Code of Practice to Minimize and Contain Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/RCP 61-2005) and Guidelines on Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance (CAC/GL 77- 2011) and called on Members to review these texts and take urgent action to mitigate risks of inappropriate antimicrobial use and antimicrobial resistance.
- Consulted with Codex membership (2016) on application and need for update of existing standards and any gaps that existed
- CAC Recommended
  - Revision of COP
  - Development of guidance on surveillance
  - Capacity development to assist Members in the application Codex texts for AMR
  - Scientific advice from FAO and WHO to support Codex work:  
*FAO/WHO Expert Meeting on Foodborne AMR: Role of Environment, Crops and Biocides* (June 2018)



# Ad hoc Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR)

**2017 - 2021**

- **Objective:** To develop science-based guidance on the management of foodborne antimicrobial resistance, taking full account of the WHO Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, in particular objectives 3 and 4 and the One-Health approach, to ensure that Members have the necessary guidance to enable coherent management of antimicrobial resistance along the food chain.
- **Expected output**
  - Revise Code of Practice to Contain/Minimize Foodborne AMR (CXC 61-2005) to address the entire food chain.
  - Guidance on Integrated Monitoring/Surveillance of Foodborne AMR





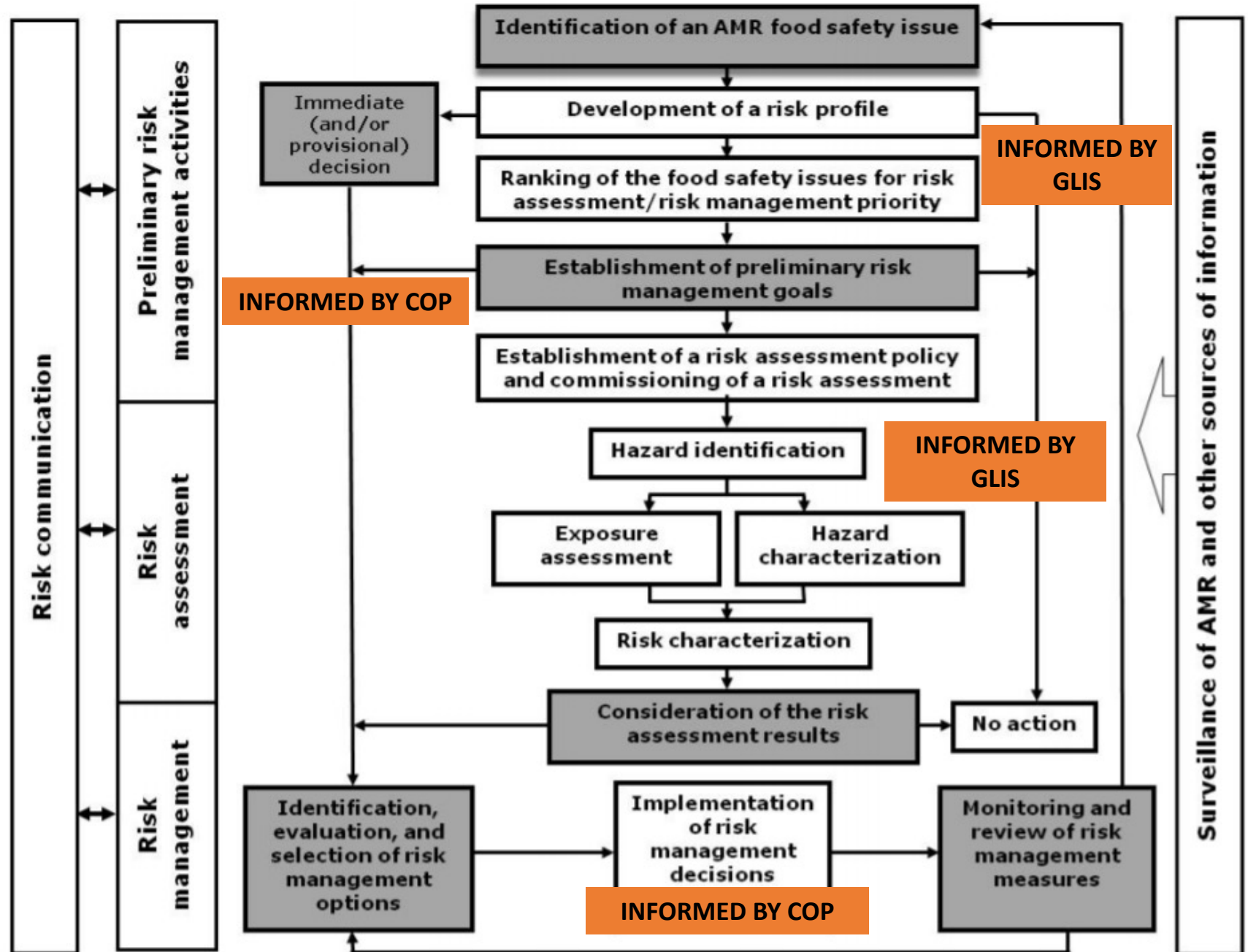
## Importance of this work

Complimentary guidance for Members to enable coherent management of antimicrobial resistance along the food chain.



# Framework for Risk Analysis of Foodborne AMR

- illustrates the link between all Codex guidance related to AMR



Note: The boxes in grey highlight the key decision points in the framework of foodborne AMR-risk analysis.

# TFAMR08 (4-9, 13 October 2021)

- Webinars GLIS (January 2021) and COP (April 2021)
- Virtual meetings of the Working Groups established by TFAMR07 (June 2021)
- TFAMR08 (October 2021)
  - Code of practice to contain/minimize foodborne AMR (revision) (CXC 61-2005) (COP)
  - Guidelines for integrated monitoring/surveillance foodborne AMR (development) (GLIS)
- Visit the TFAMR08 website:  
<http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=TFAMR&session=8>



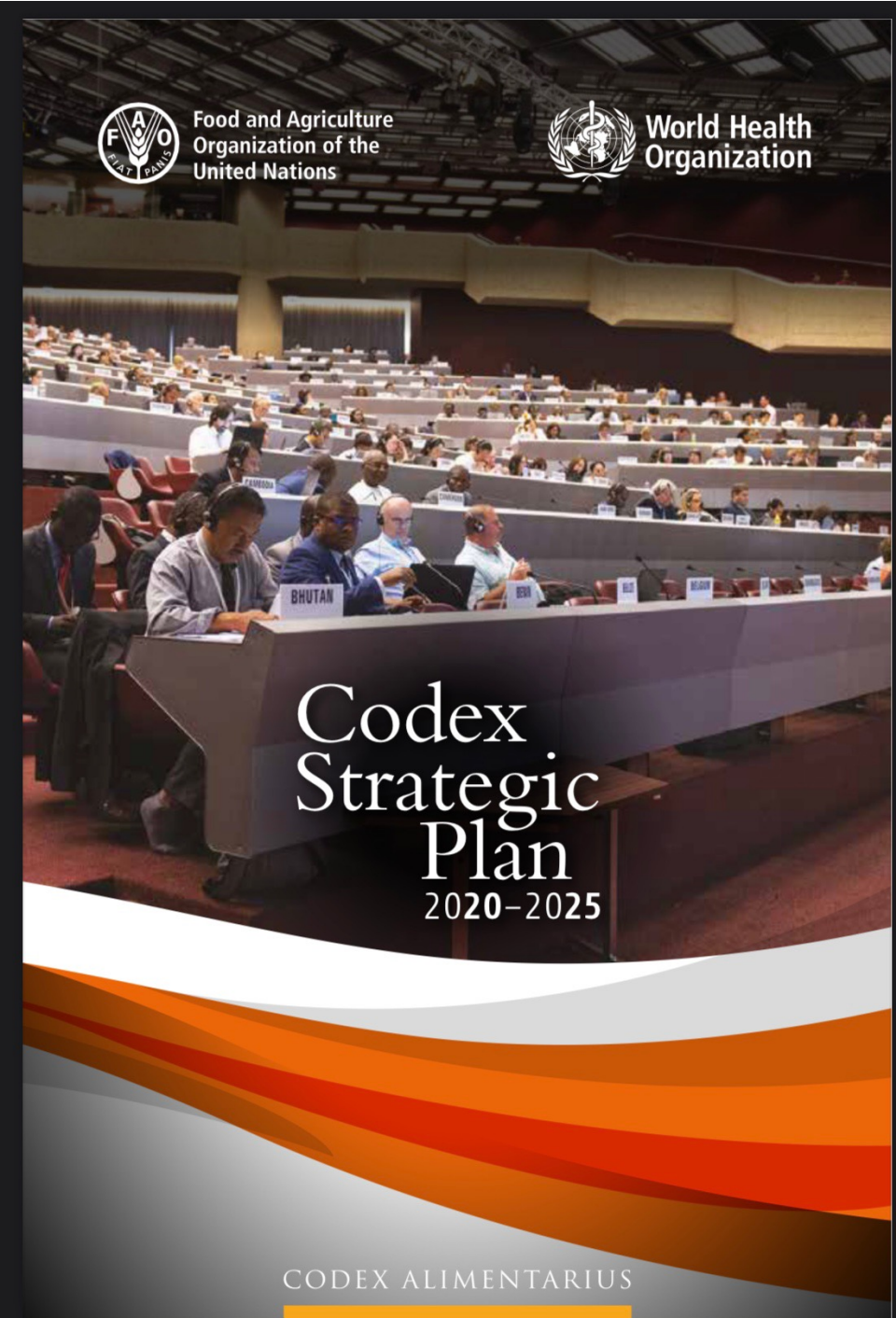
# New Goal

## Goal 3

Increase impact through the recognition and use of Codex standards

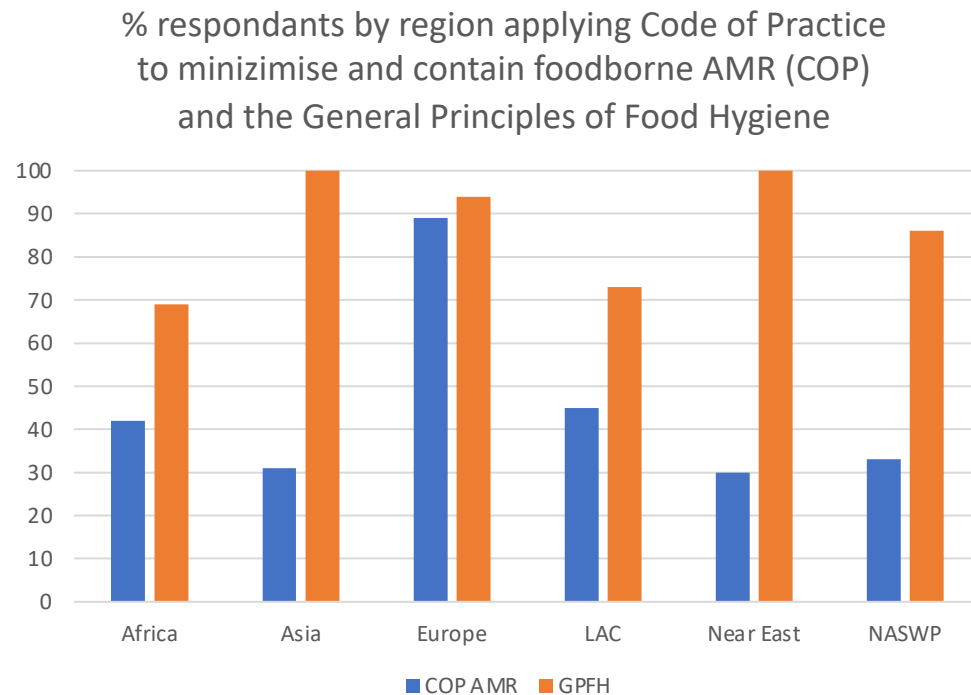
### OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Raise the awareness of Codex standards.
- 3.2 Support initiatives to enable the understanding and implementation/ application of Codex standards.
- 3.3 Recognise and promote the use and impact of Codex standards.



# Use of Codex texts on AMR and related standards

**AMR texts not yet as widely used as more general texts e.g. on Food hygiene and MRLs**

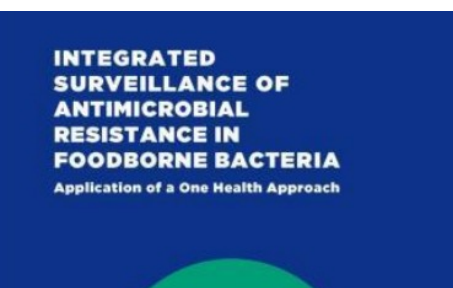


## Challenges

- Lack of local capacity
- Lack of expertise
- Financial resources
- Lack of political support or relevant policies
- Need for relevant training and related resources



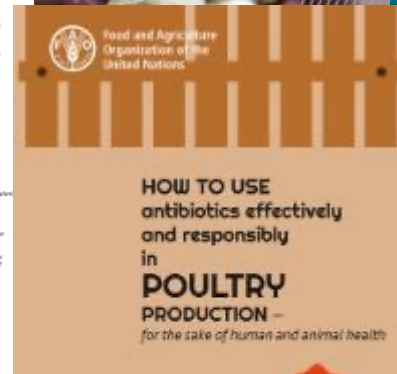
# Many ongoing initiatives in FAO and WHO



Good practices for the feed sector  
Implementing the Codex Alimentarius Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding



Strategies and...  
the use of...  
in animal production



**module**  
**SET - AMR**

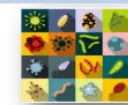


Students

**ATLAS - Laboratory module**  
**Laboratory Activity**  
**LMT - AMR**  
**LMT - Bacteriology**



- Filled for each assessed laboratory
- Collection qualitative information



# Two new projects to support implementation of Codex AMR texts

## Republic of Korea

- Project on awareness raising of standards and implementation of COP and GLIS
- Development and use of a range of tools to support implementation
- Pilot in 6 countries

## Canada

- Focus on risk analysis guidelines
- Development of an implementation handbook
- Pilot at country level

Create linkages to other ongoing FAO and WHO initiatives on AMR for maximum impact



# Thank you



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Webpage: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/en/>



TFAMR08: <http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=TFAMR&session=8/>



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