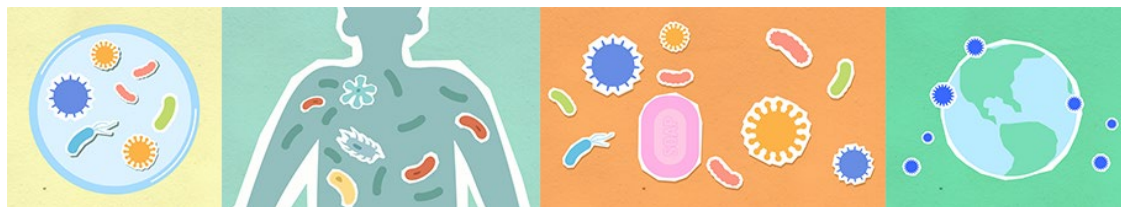


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South Centre Supports Civil Society and Research Institutions of the Global South to Raise Awareness on Antimicrobial Resistance

By Francesca Chiara

The South Centre is pleased to announce its funding support for numerous civil society and research institutions in the Global South to mark World Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Week (WAAW) 2024. This initiative has continued for six years, contributing to the global response on AMR by empowering grassroots movements and local institutions.

About WAAW 2024

World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week (WAAW), observed annually in November, is a global campaign coordinated by the World Health Organization (WHO) to raise awareness and encourage best practices to prevent and control AMR. This year's theme, "Educate. Advocate. Act now." underscores the collective responsibility of governments, healthcare professionals, policy makers, veterinarians, farmers, and communities worldwide in taking concrete actions to reduce the burden of AMR through better advocacy, awareness raising and education. AMR poses a severe threat to public health, food security, and economic stability, jeopardizing the effectiveness of life-saving treatments such as antibiotics, antivirals, antiparasitics and antifungals.

WAAW 2024 focuses on three main goals:

1. **Educate:** Highlighting the risks posed by AMR and promoting awareness and responsible use of antimicrobials among healthcare professionals, policymakers, and the general public.
2. **Advocate:** Supporting efforts to optimize the use of antibiotics in human, animal, and environmental health, with a One Health approach that recognizes the interconnectedness of these sectors.
3. **Act Now:** Fostering partnerships between nations, organizations, and communities to build a concrete, coordinated, sustainable response to AMR.

Empowering Civil Society for Local Impact

In alignment with these goals, the South Centre is funding pointed campaigns by a diverse set of civil society organizations actively working to address AMR within their communities and research institutions. After a careful selection process, the funded organizations are:

1. Aga Khan Health Service, Tanzania (AKHST)

2. Actions des Jeunes contre la Résistance aux Antimicrobiens (AJRAM) – Youth Actions Against Antimicrobial Resistance
3. Alliance Against Antimicrobial Resistance (Triple-A) in collaboration with Health Intel Trust
4. Alliance for Sustainable Livestock
5. Africa Public Health Student Network Initiative (AfricaPHSN)
6. Antimicrobial Resistance Club, Kwara State University, Nigeria
7. Antimicrobial Resistance Identity and Act (AMRIA) Initiative
8. Ask Me About AMR Zambia, in collaboration with Alliance Against Antimicrobial Antipathy
9. Association for Social Development (Pakistan)
10. Centre for Women and Youth Empowerment (CEWAYE)
11. Consummate Health and Sanitation (CHS)
12. Clinical Pharmacy Association of Uganda (CPAU)
13. Debre Berhan University, Asrat Woldeyes Health Science Campus
14. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
15. Jóvenes y Ecosistemas Latinoamérica (JE-Latinoamérica)
16. Kasyo Health Institute
17. Makerere University Antimicrobial Resistance Club
18. Mamamwiki Links Society
19. Mouvement Universel pour la Survie de l'Humanité (MUSUHUM)
20. One Health Bacteriology Group, Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR)
21. One Health and Development Initiative
22. One Health Society, Tanzania
23. Roll Back Antimicrobial Resistance Initiative (RBA Initiative)
24. Unité de Génome des Pathogènes - One Health (UGENOPATH-OH), Université Joseph KI-ZERBO, Burkina Faso

25. Working Against Virulent Epidemics (WAVE) in partnership with ReAct Africa
26. Washington State University - Global Health Kenya
27. Zihi Institute (formerly Students Against Superbugs Africa)

These organizations are advancing AMR awareness through a range of impactful initiatives across human and animal health and the environment. By focusing on community-level engagement, they bring AMR education to rural areas via AMR awareness walks while also equipping community healthcare workers with AMR training. Youth-focused efforts empower students to become informed AMR advocates through clubs, workshops, arts and games inspiring students to raise AMR awareness and advance good practices on infection prevention. Meanwhile, other initiatives provide critical training on responsible antimicrobial use to farmers and animal health workers. Digital and multimedia campaigns engage local influencers through social media to amplify AMR messaging online and reach broader audiences.

Through these grants, the South Centre confirms its commitment to empowering civil society and research institutions to lead change at the grassroots level. This support mobilizes community-driven action and reinforces the message that addressing AMR demands coordinated efforts across all sectors and regions.

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SOUTH CENTRE NEWS ON AMR is an e-newsletter service of the South Centre providing news and information on issues relating to Antimicrobial Resistance.

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