



ReAct Africa and South Centre Annual AMR Regional Conference 2025

Summary Report

Background

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) remains a critical global health threat, with far reaching implications for medical progress, food security, and economic stability. In response, the international community has made notable commitments, including at the 2024 UNGA High-Level Meeting on AMR and through the Jeddah Commitments, which call for stronger governance, infection prevention, and antimicrobial stewardship. Africa's Public Health Agenda further stresses the need to build resilient health systems to address AMR and other health threats by 2063. These global and regional efforts underscore the urgent need for collaborative, cross-sectoral, and context-specific actions to move from commitments to implementation and ensure health security worldwide.

■ **33**
African countries
represented



Purpose of the Conference

The 2025 ReAct Africa and South Centre Annual Conference aimed to translate global and regional AMR commitments into practical strategies tailored to local and national contexts, especially in low- and middle-income countries, with a strong focus on Africa. The conference brought together over 200 delegates from 43 countries and convened a diverse group of stakeholders including government representatives, international and regional bodies, health professionals, civil society, researchers, youth, faith groups, private sector innovators, and media, to align efforts and advance Africa's AMR priorities.

Objectives

- Evaluate the progress made since the 2024 UNGA HLM AMR and Jeddah commitments to address AMR.
- Identify the nexus at which these commitments intersect with the objectives of the Africa Public Health Agenda, with the aim of harmonizing the continent's interventions towards health systems strengthening.
- Share experiences and successful models for operationalizing AMR commitments in LMICs, particularly in the African context.
- Raise awareness and understanding about AMR as a critical public health and security issue to policy makers and political class.
- Formulate concrete recommendations for scaling up AMR interventions that are responsive to local realities and needs.
- Identify opportunities for collaboration, innovation, and investment in AMR control measures.
- Strengthen coordination between sectors (human and animal health, agriculture, environment) for a comprehensive, One Health approach to AMR.



10
International
countries represented



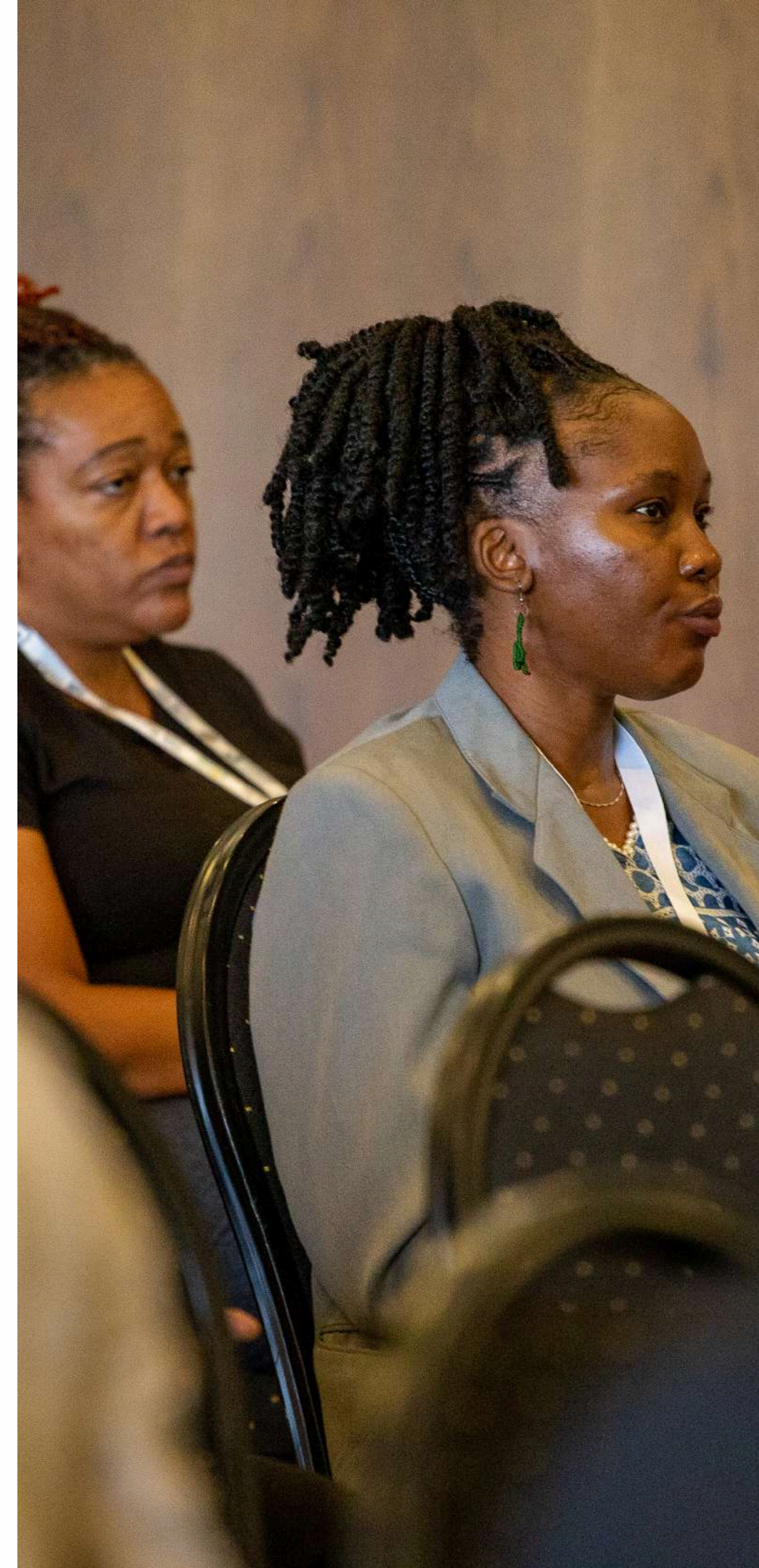


Conference Agenda Overview

The 2025 Annual AMR Regional Conference, held under the theme **“From Global to Local Action: Operationalizing AMR Commitments in Africa & Beyond,”** featured a comprehensive agenda designed to translate global and regional commitments into concrete, country-led implementation strategies. Structured over two days, the conference brought together stakeholders from across sectors to examine progress, share technical experiences, and build consensus on priority actions aligned with the 2024 UNGA High-Level Meeting and the Jeddah Ministerial Commitments.

The conference opened with high-level remarks and a contextual framing of recent AMR political commitments and shifts in the global health financing landscape. This was followed by technical sessions focused on antibiotic resistance and the social determinants of health, with panellists from WHO, FAO, Africa CDC, and other regional bodies discussing how global targets could be operationalized across sectors.

Subsequent sessions and breakout discussions examined innovative stewardship interventions in human and veterinary sectors, antimicrobial consumption monitoring, and the use of digital decision-support tools. Environmental drivers of AMR were addressed through case studies on nature-based solutions and discussions on the links between climate change and AMR risk. Sessions on improving access to antimicrobials and diagnostics included insights on regulatory processes and market-shaping strategies.



Conference Agenda Overview

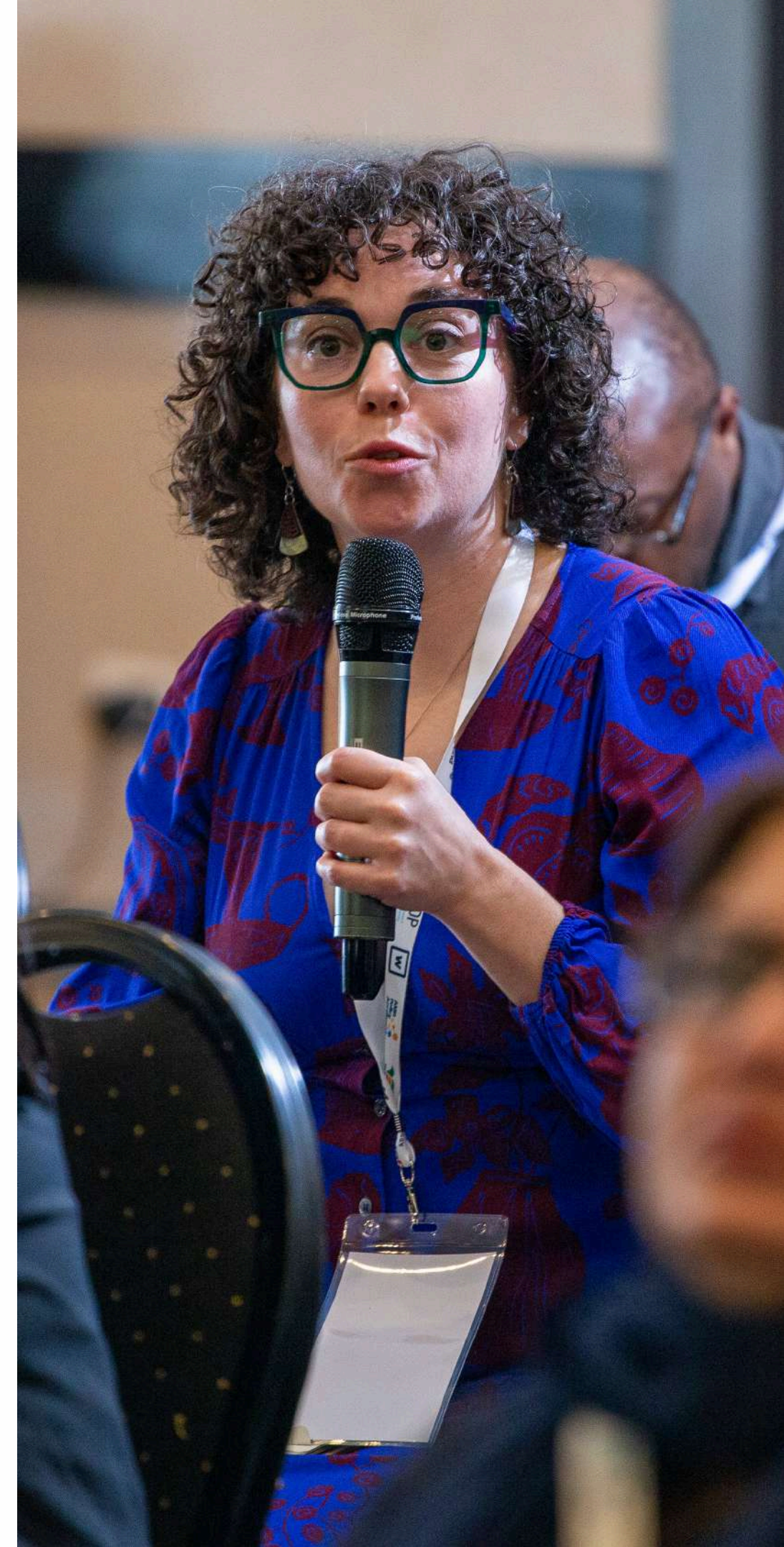
Stakeholder engagement was integrated throughout the programme. Sessions highlighted the role of youth, the strengthening of AMR communities of practice, and national experiences in addressing AMR among vulnerable populations, including children, women, and communities affected by conflict. The agenda also featured a technical introduction to the Smart Choice Process, presented as a strategic tool to support countries in setting priorities and aligning resources for effective NAP implementation. Reducing AMR-related mortality was another key thematic focus, with countries sharing implementation experiences and lessons learned.

Cross-cutting themes such as knowledge translation, AMR governance, and sustainable financing were embedded throughout the agenda to reinforce long-term implementation capacity. The conference concluded with a strategic dialogue on sustaining momentum, institutionalizing multisectoral coordination, and reinforcing Africa's leadership in translating global AMR commitments into locally driven action.



Key Takeaways

- Country leadership and contextual implementation are foundational: AMR NAPs must be operationalized through nationally led, locally tailored approaches grounded in existing health systems and multisectoral coordination structures.
- Sustainable and domestic financing mechanisms are urgently needed: Countries need to establish dedicated AMR budget lines and integrate AMR into broader national development and health security frameworks to ensure long-term financial viability.
- Adopt Measurable Targets and Strengthen Accountability: Countries need to define measurable AMR targets aligned with global goals and establish transparent, multisectoral platforms to monitor progress and ensure accountability.
- Strengthen core AMR systems across the One Health spectrum: Investments in antimicrobial stewardship, integrated surveillance of priority pathogens, and infection prevention and control must be scaled across human, animal, and environmental sectors.
- Embed equity across the AMR response: AMR policies and interventions must be equity-driven, prioritizing access and inclusion for women, children, and populations affected by conflict or displacement, and guided by gender-responsive strategies.



Key Takeaways

- Invest in human resources and community engagement: Building workforce capacity and empowering youth, civil society, and local actors enhances implementation, accountability, and public trust in AMR responses.
- Harness innovation to improve stewardship: Digital health platforms and AI-powered decision-support tools can optimize antimicrobial use and enhance stewardship, particularly in resource-constrained settings.
- Address environmental and climate-linked drivers of AMR: AMR mitigation strategies must address environmental pathways such as pharmaceutical waste and agricultural runoff, and integrate climate resilience and nature-based solutions.
- Translate policy into practice through evidence and regulatory reform: Bridging the policy-practice gap requires effective knowledge translation, strengthened regulatory systems, and market-shaping interventions to improve access to quality antimicrobials and diagnostics.
- Promote regional and south-south collaboration for shared learning: Cross-country and inter-regional collaboration can accelerate learning, support adaptation of global strategies, and strengthen regional harmonization of AMR responses.





Thank you to our partners





“ Your dedication and collaboration have been the cornerstone of this conference's success. As we move forward, let us continue to work together with the same passion and commitment to create a healthier future free from the threat of antimicrobial resistance.

The time to act is now, and it begins with us!”

Prof. Mirfin Mpundu

**Executive Director and Co-founder, ReAct
Africa,**