
UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health

**‘Stemming the Tide: Combating
Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in the
Asia Pacific Region’**

**Integrating AMR mitigation
strategies into health system
strengthening/UHC**

30 April 2024



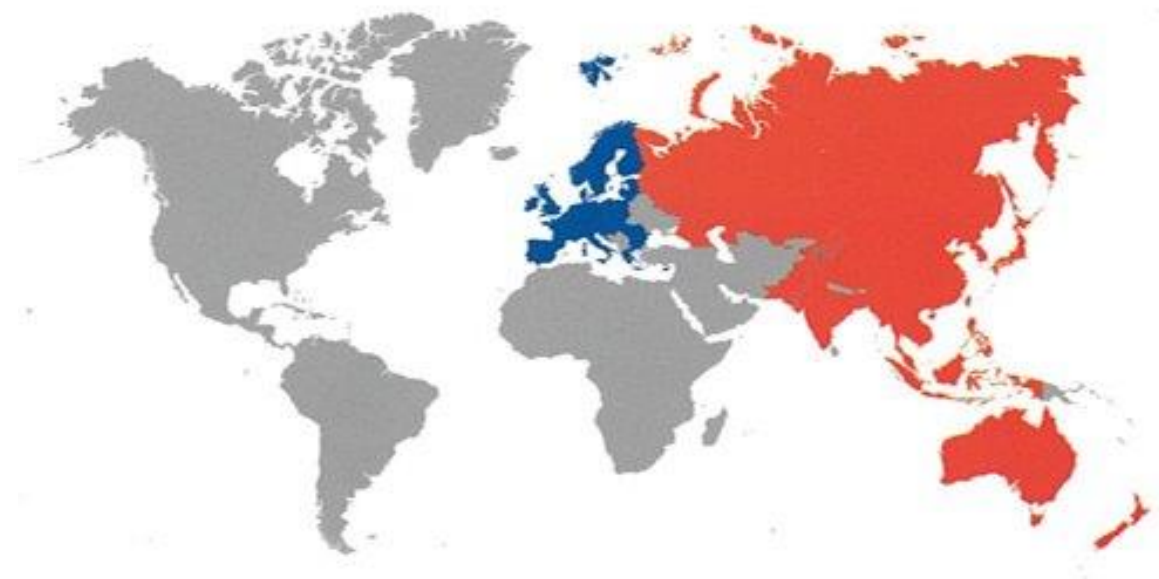
By Riko KIMOTO
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Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

At a Glance

- Founded in **1997**
- **Inter-governmental** not-for-profit organisation
- Only established institution of the **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** process
- Based in **Singapore**
- Funded by annual voluntary contributions from the **53 ASEM partners**

ASEM & ASEF bring together **31 European & 22 Asian members**



ASEM partners represent:

- 55 % of global trade,
- 60 % of the global population, and
- 65 % of the global economy.

ASEF Public Health Network

At a Glance

A platform to encourage public health dialogue among Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Partners to facilitate multi-sector knowledge sharing between health and non-health sectors including governments, international and non-profit organisations, businesses, academia, and the media.

Memberships



Global Health Security Agenda [since June 2021]



UHC2030 [since July 2022]



WHO Global Strategic Preparedness Network (GSPN) [since its inauguration]



Our Focus Areas

ASEF PHN focuses on strengthening ASEM Partners' capacity in fighting against **Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs)**, including **Pandemic Influenza** and **COVID-19**, as well as in **Pandemic Preparedness and Response**. Within these priority areas, ASEF PHN addresses the following **topics** on an ongoing basis: **Risk Communication for Public Health Emergencies (PHEs)**, **Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)**, and **Pandemic and the Economy**.

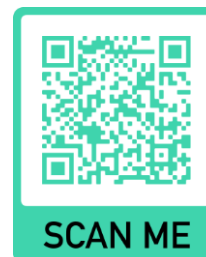
Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) & Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

UHC as a tool to combat AMR

2018 | Connecting UHC and AMR

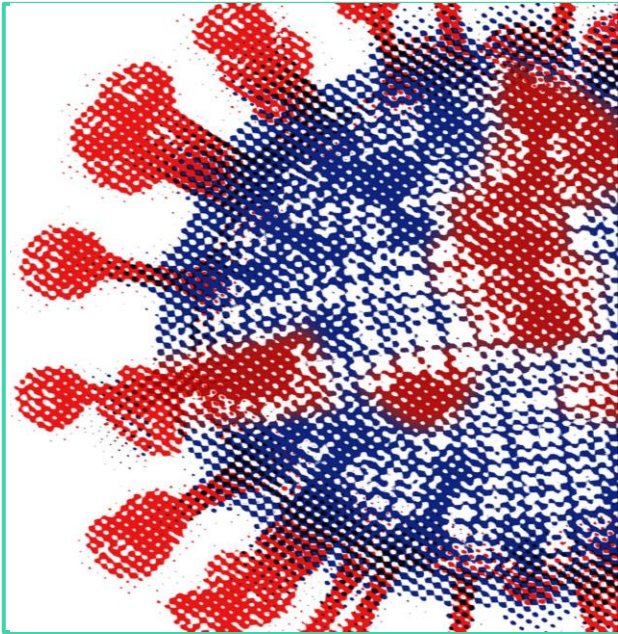


- ASEF PHN hosted a conference connecting UHC and AMR in 2018. The conference highlighted:
 - (1) the link between AMR and health systems,
 - (2) the importance of integrating AMR into UHC, and
 - (3) the rise in resistant infections an AMR-blind UHC could cause.
- Most health systems have been developed without taking AMR into consideration:
 - Mitigating AMR contributes to building a resilient health system/UHC.
 - Without effective antimicrobials, we will go back to pre-antibiotic era



Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), Universal Health Coverage (UHC) & Pandemics

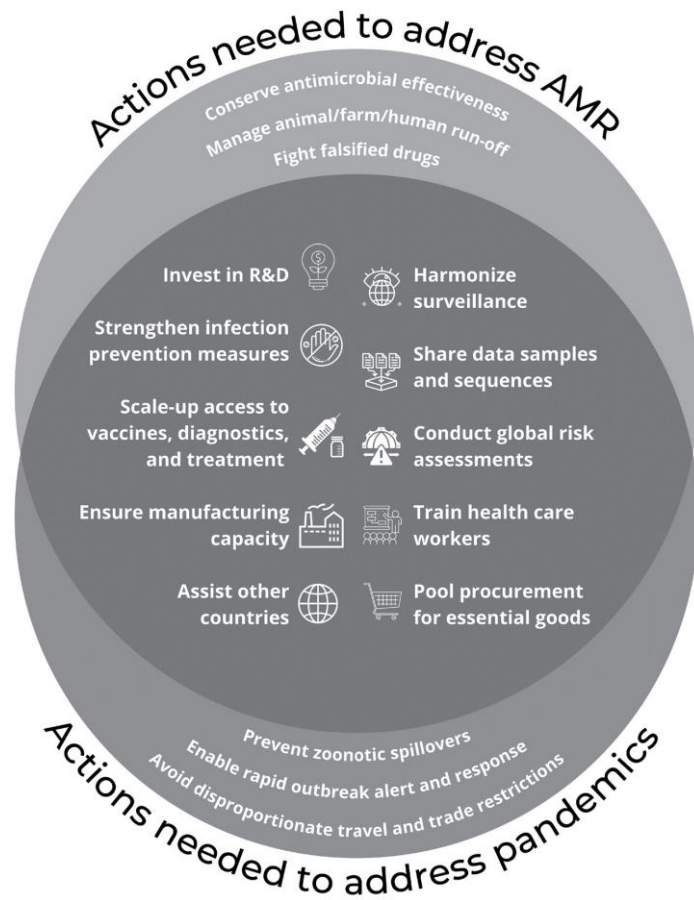
2019-2022 | COVID-19 and its impact on UHC



- The **COVID-19** pandemic has further highlighted the importance of resilient health systems and of UHC for health security and equity.
- COVID-19 is a stark reminder of what infectious diseases can do to the existing health systems in the absence of an effective treatment.
- The ‘silent pandemic’ of AMR could be as global and devastating in its impact as **COVID-19**. It would cripple the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and result in stellar worldwide economic losses.

UHC, AMR & Pandemics

2023 | UHC in an era of AMR and pandemics



Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Global Health Security (GHS)

Discussion on overlap between AMR mitigation and pandemic preparedness and response – the ongoing negotiations on a pandemic instrument should include AMR.

Mitigating AMR helps to build sustainable UHC, and sustainable UHC helps prepare for future pandemics. Investing in mitigating AMR through health systems is investing in the country's security and global health security.



Scan the QR code to access the 2023 Conference report.

WHO – ASEF Joint Project

**Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) by
Strengthening Primary Healthcare (PHC):
Piloting the AMR People-Centred Framework
in Priority Countries**



ASIA-EUROPE
FOUNDATION

Public
Health
Network

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