

# Antimicrobial resistance in food animals in Asia - can it be reversed?

LES SIMS

ASIA PACIFIC VETERINARY INFORMATION SERVICES

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# To what extent can AMR in Asian food animals be reversed?

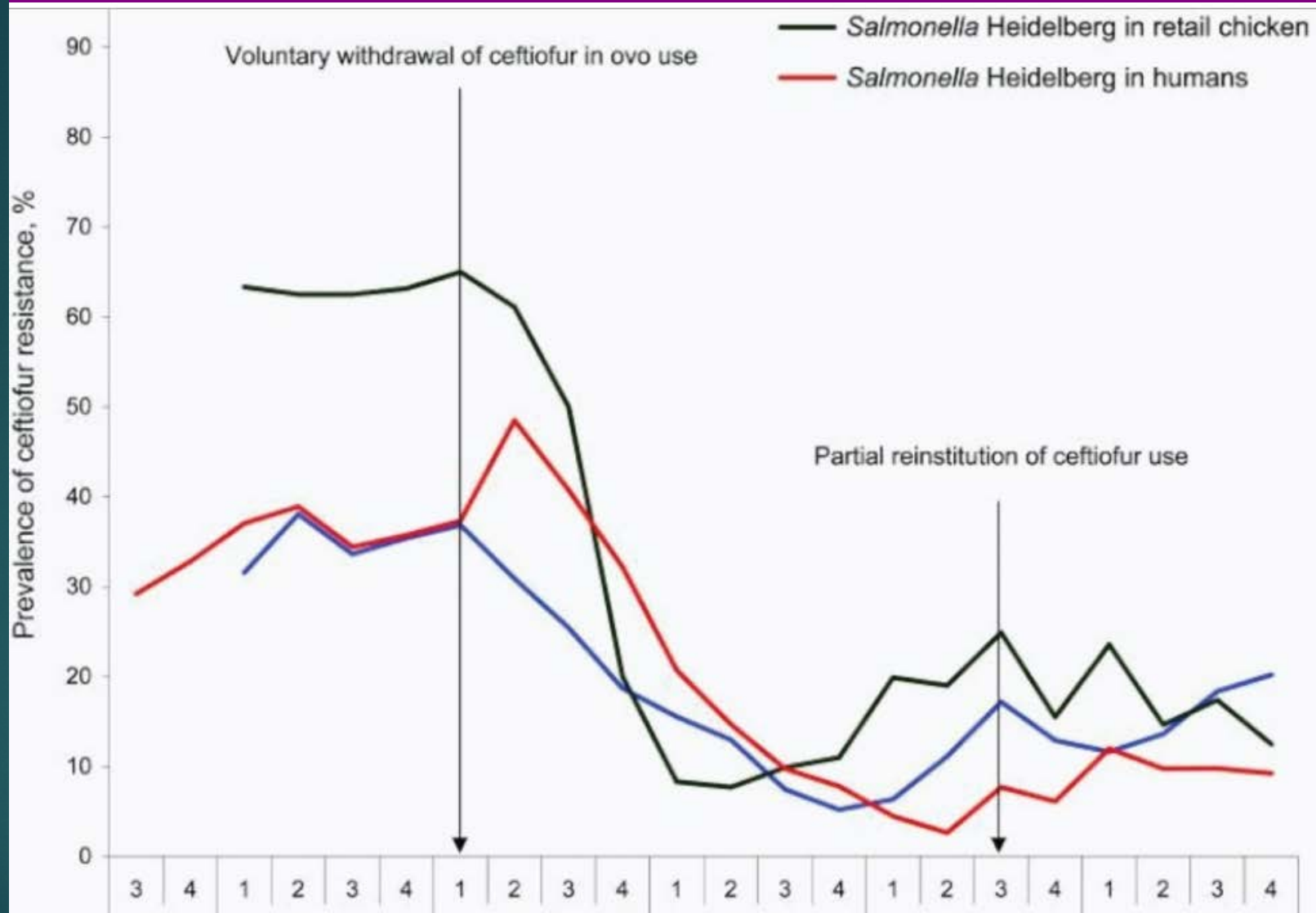
- ▶ Probably not enough ..... even if AMR plans are implemented
- ▶ Will examine some evidence
- ▶ Lessons from a previous global health crisis
- ▶ Finish by considering some alternatives
- ▶ Not addressing relative contribution of farmed animals to AMR in humans



# AM stewardship will reduce resistance ..... or will it?

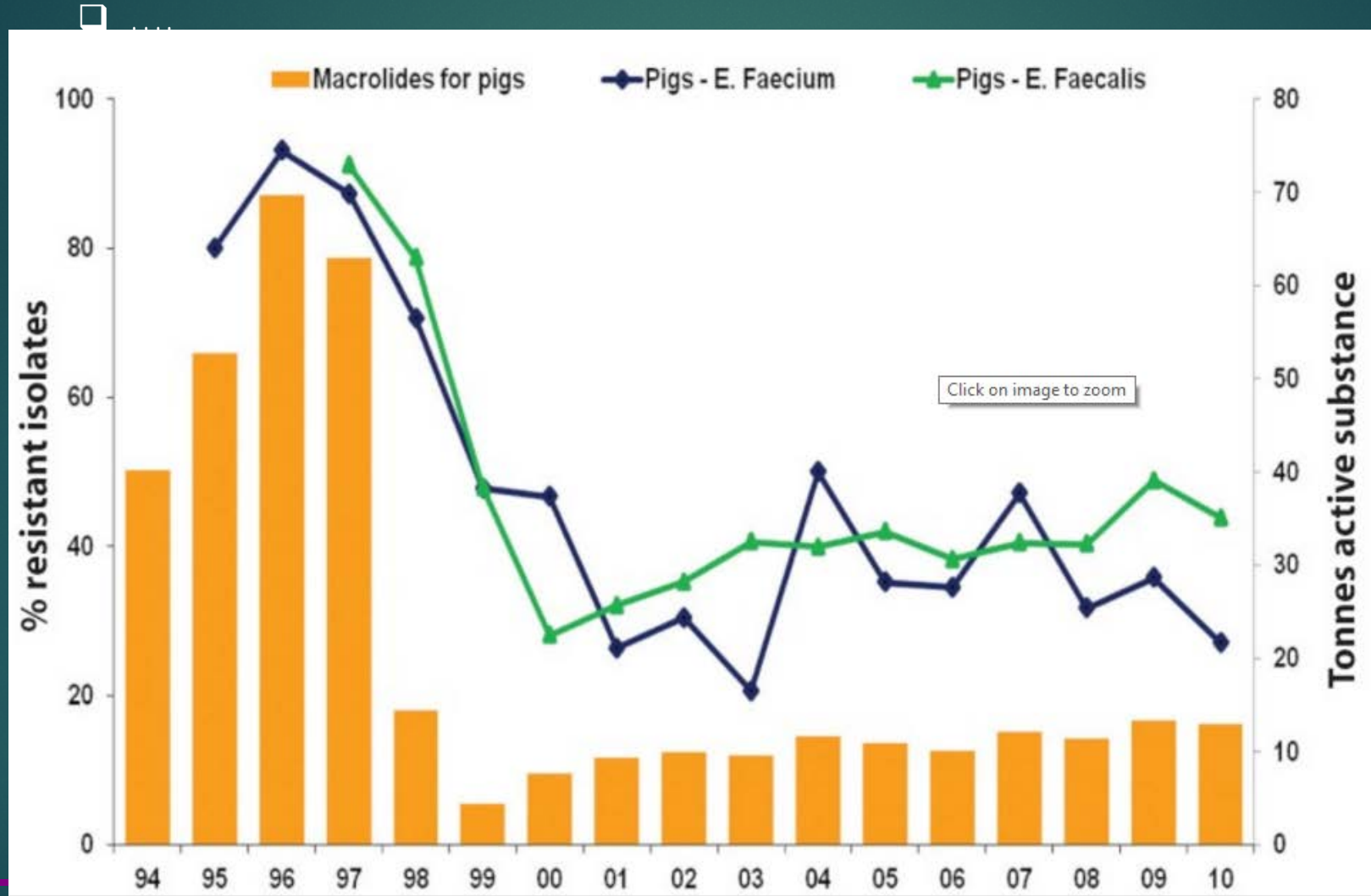
- ▶ Some examples where reduced use improved AMR dramatically
- ▶ Mainly from high income countries

## Example 1 – effect of changes to practices - ceftiofur in chicks





## Example 2. Macrolides in pigs and erythromycin resistance - Denmark



# .... but not in all cases

- ▶ Resistance still present to many AMs even in places with good control
- ▶ More likely to reduce resistance to newer AMs (e.g. quinolones)
- ▶ Selection pressures will persist, including co-selection
- ▶ Resistance does not always produce fitness cost for bacteria
- ▶ Starting from a much higher base in Asia
- ▶ Stewardship will likely stop AMR in animals from



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## Widely Used Benzalkonium Chloride Disinfectants Can Promote Antibiotic Resistance

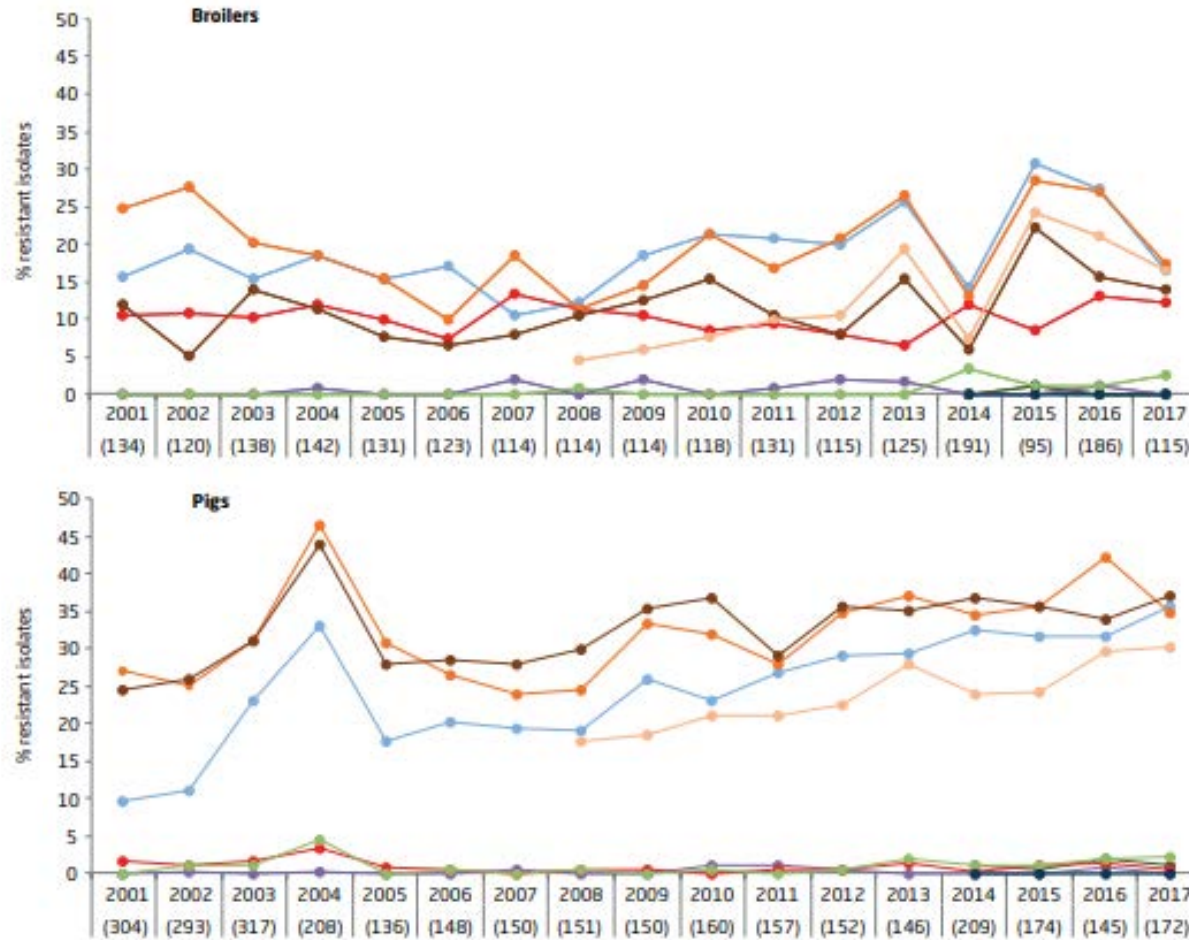
Minjee Kim, Michael R. Weigand, Seungdae Oh, Janet K. Hatt, Raj Krishnan, Ulas Tezel, Spyros G. Pavlostathis, Konstantinos T. Konstantinidis



# Resistance persists even in places with good control on AM use

Figure 7.2 Resistance (%) among *E. coli* from animals, Denmark

DANMAP 2017



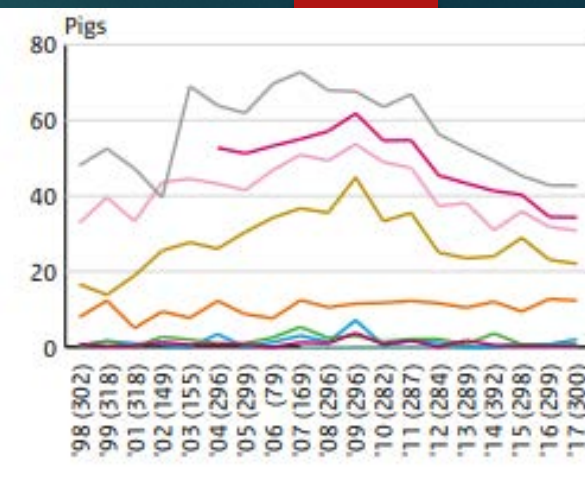
Older AMs

Older AMs

## Quantitative assessment of antimicrobial resistance in livestock during the course of a nationwide antimicrobial use reduction in the Netherlands

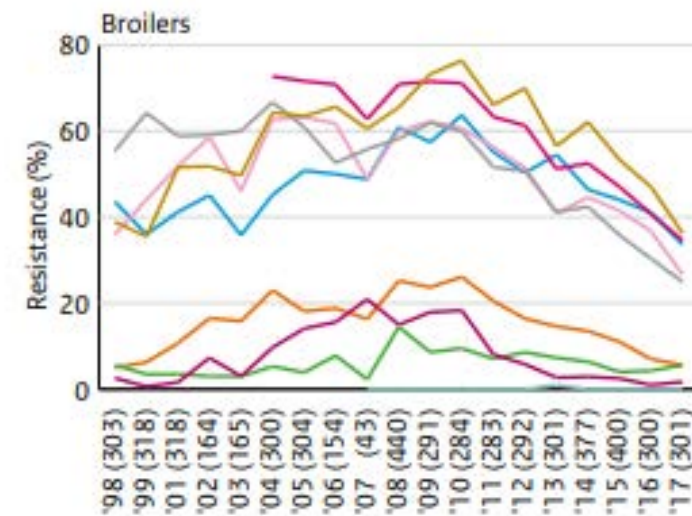
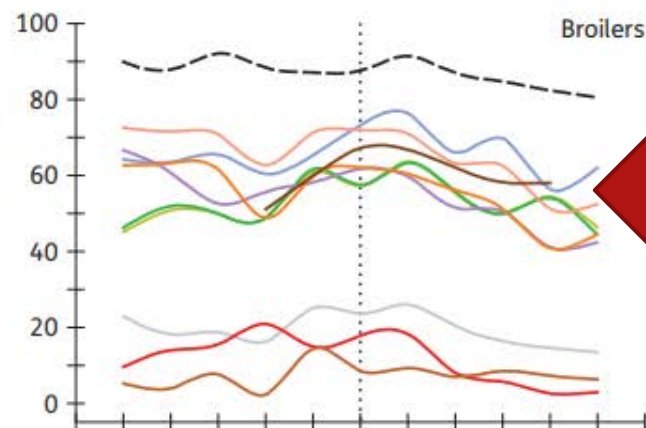
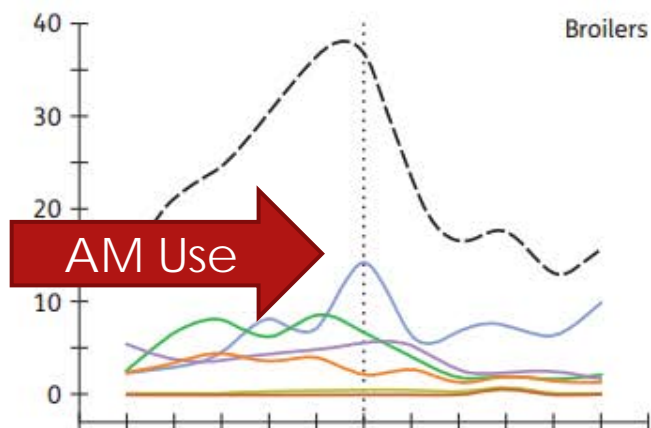
Alejandro Dorado-García<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Dik J. Mevius<sup>2,3</sup>, José J. H. Jacobs<sup>1,4</sup>, Inge M. Van Geijlswijk<sup>4,5</sup>, Johan W. Mouton<sup>4,6</sup>, Jaap A. Wagenaar<sup>2–4</sup> and Dick J. Heederik<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Environmental Epidemiology, Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands



Antimicrobial use and resistant *E. coli* in livestock production

JAC



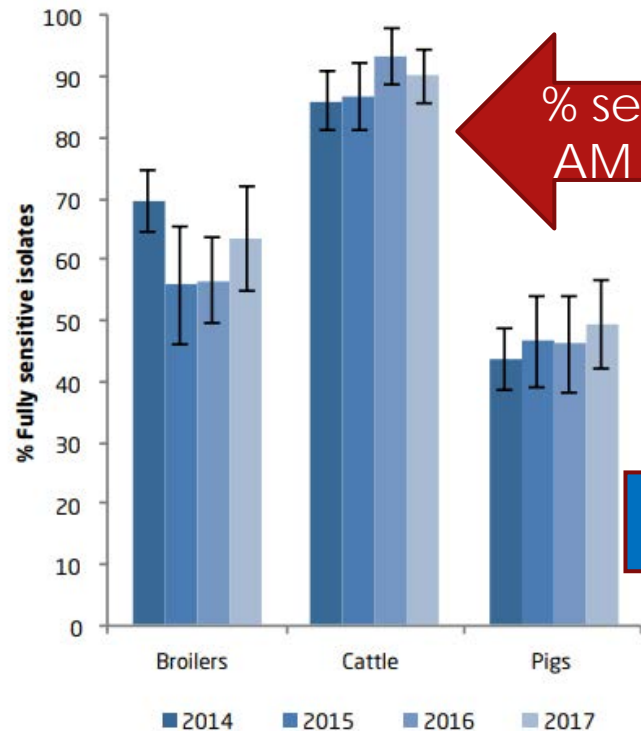
MARAN 2018

AM use in chickens in parts of Asia now low but resistance is persisting



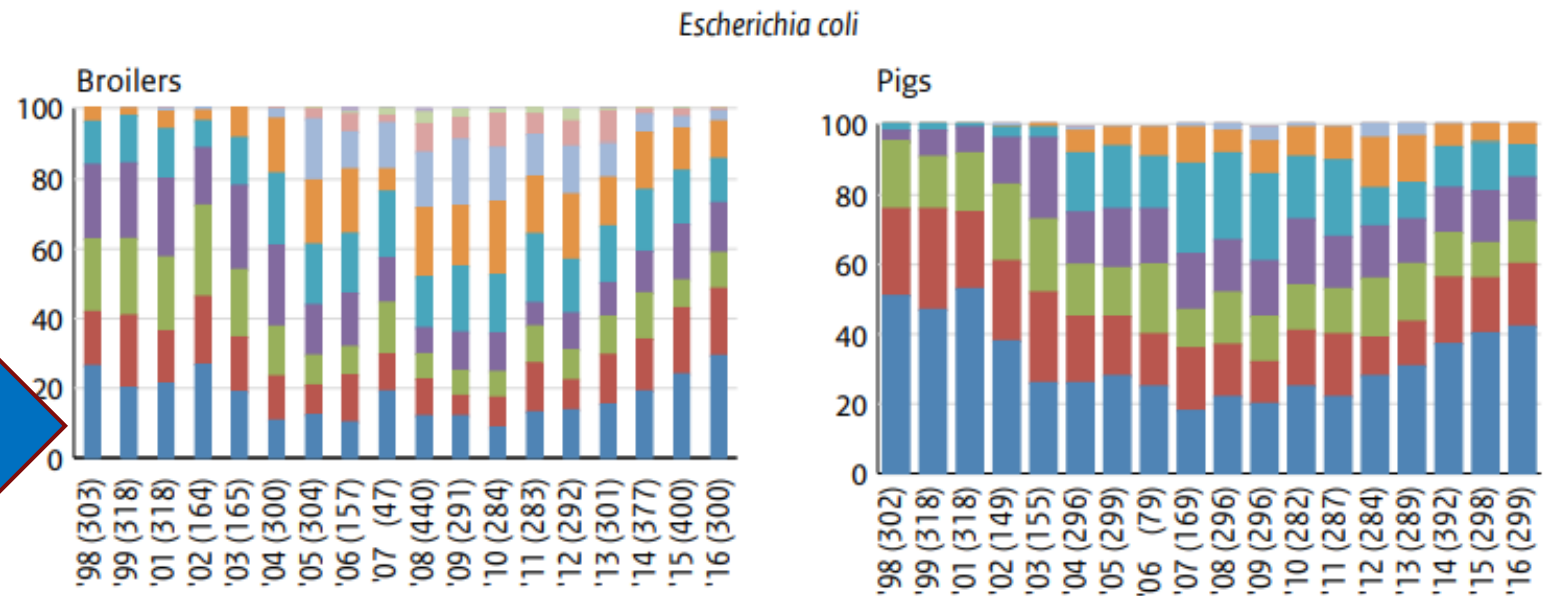
# Proportion fully susceptible *E.coli* - Denmark and Netherlands

Figure 7.3 Proportion of fully susceptible *Escherichia coli* isolates from broilers, cattle and pigs, Denmark DANMAP 2017



DANMAP 2017

Figure Eco02 Resistance (%) to 0-9 antimicrobial classes among *E. coli* strains from broilers, slaughter pigs, veal calves and dairy cattle in the Netherlands from 1998-2016.



MARAN 2018

# Mainland China – higher base level



Veterinary Microbiology

Volume 203, May 2017, Pages 49-55



## Surveillance of antimicrobial resistance among *Escherichia coli* from chicken and swine, China, 2008–2015

Peng Zhang <sup>a, 1</sup>, Zhangqi Shen <sup>a, 1</sup>, Chunping Zhang <sup>b</sup>, Li Song <sup>b</sup>, Bing Wang <sup>c</sup>, Jun Shang <sup>d</sup>, Xiuying Yue <sup>e</sup>, Zhina Qu <sup>f</sup>, Xinnan Li <sup>g</sup>, Liqin Wu <sup>h</sup>, Yongjun Zheng <sup>i</sup>, Anand Aditya <sup>c</sup>, Yang Wang <sup>a</sup>, Shixin Xu <sup>b</sup> ,  
Congming Wu <sup>a</sup>

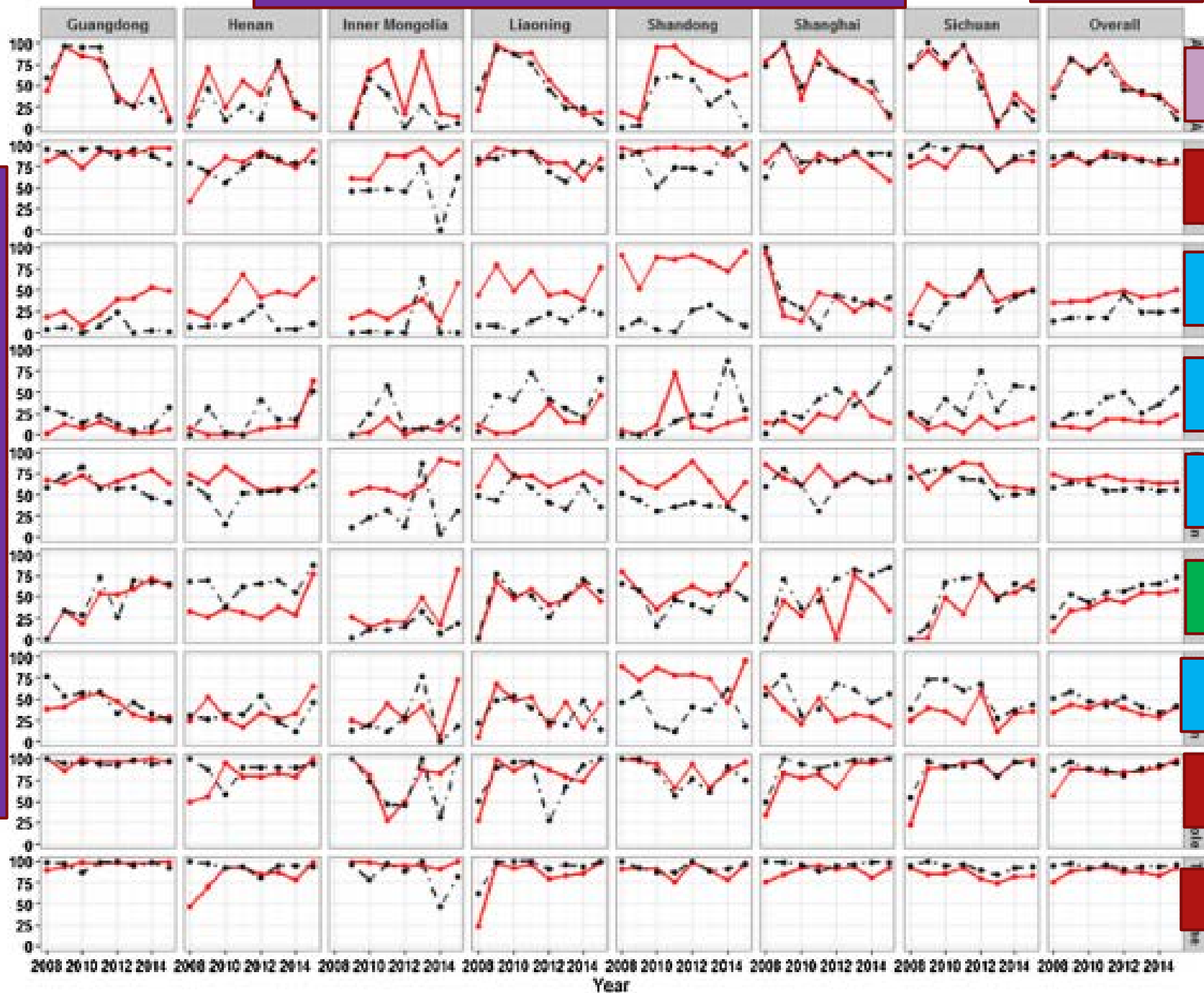
- ▶ High levels of resistance to multiple AM classes
- ▶ Very few isolates pan-sensitive



## Individual Provinces

## Overall

Antimicrobial resistance %



Amox/Clav

Ampicillin

Ceftiofur

Colistin

Enrofloxacin

Florfenicol

Gentamicin

Sulfonamide

Tetracycline

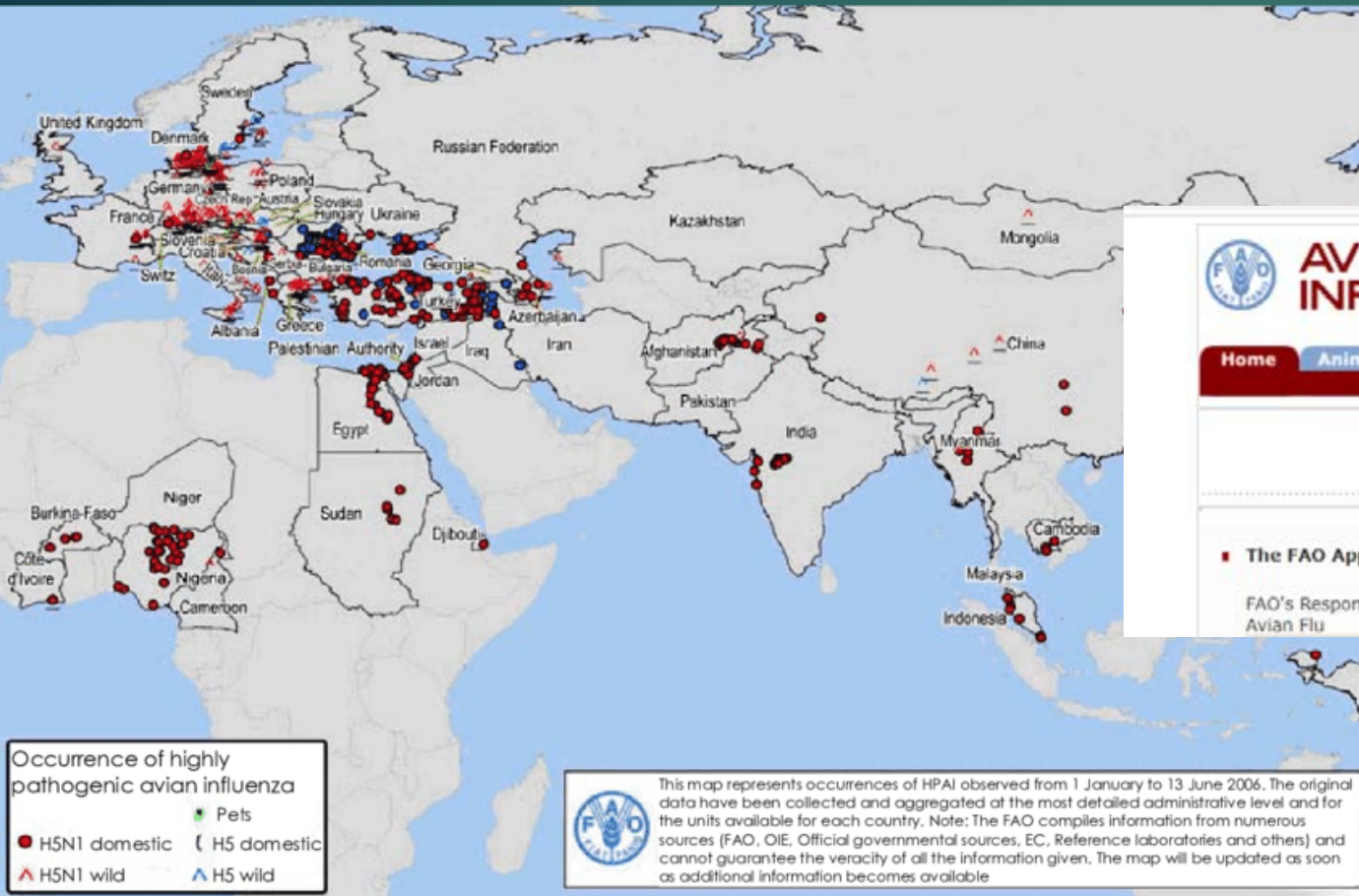
Zhang et al 2017

Commensal  
*E.coli* China

2008-15

% resistant

# Lessons not learned from 2006 avian influenza/pandemic threat



**AVIAN INFLUENZA**

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**AVIAN INFLUENZA: A GLOBAL ANIMAL HEALTH CRISIS WITH PROFOUND CHALLENGES TO SCIENCE AND SOCIETY**

**The FAO Approach**

FAO's Response to Avian Flu

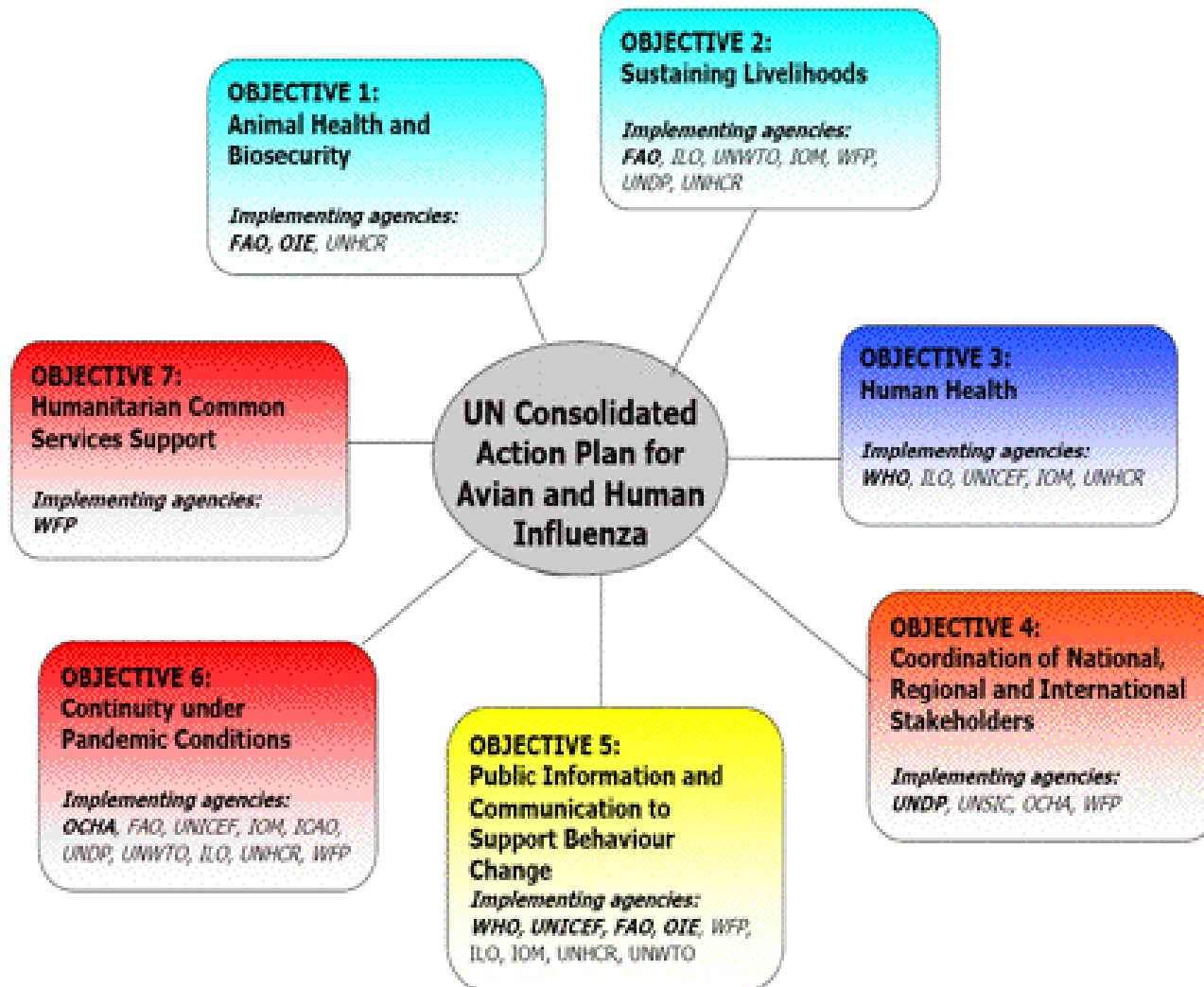
Samuel C. Jutzi, Director, Animal Production and Health Division  
Joseph Domenech, Head, Animal Health Service and Chief Veterinary Officer  
FAO, Rome, Italy  
August 2006



# Less infl

*"Avian influenza threatens the entire world. It knows no borders. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that all countries – rich and poor – are protected and prepared. The United Nations family will do all it can to help ensure that this happens."*

- Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General



strains in poultry

# Lessons not learned from avian influenza/pandemic threat

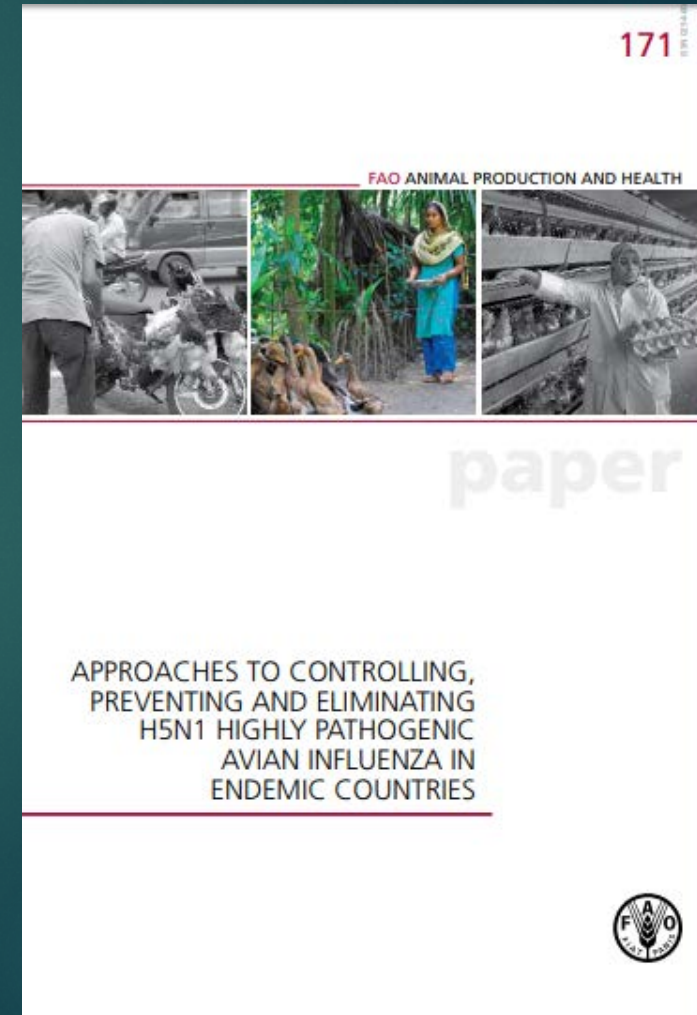
- ▶ Some focus on wrong areas
- ▶ Due to misconception that virus could be eliminated from low and low-middle income countries
- ▶ Communications – raised awareness with limited changes in practices
- ▶ Donor fatigue





# Factors that support avian influenza endemicity also apply to AMR

- ▶ Complex, poorly biosecure production and marketing chains
- ▶ Inadequate veterinary services and weak enforcement capacity - incremental change since 2006
- ▶ Problem not being resolved so need to devote more resources to alternatives (universal influenza vaccines for humans was recommended for avian influenza)





# What about improved biosecurity?

- ▶ Yes, in some instances
- ▶ Limits to what can be done
- ▶ Cost vs benefits
- ▶ Vaccines help to control some diseases
- ▶ Complicated by antigenic variation/new strains





# Farm location and biosecurity





# What are our expectations for levels of AMR in food animals?

- ▶ Livestock farming to make minimal contributions to environmental and human AMR
- ▶ Not assessing whether plans will achieve this, even if adopted
- ▶ Most will only result in incremental improvements
- ▶ Especially in low to middle income countries
- ▶ Focus on the outcomes – not (just) the measurable outputs



## MONITORING GLOBAL PROGRESS ON ADDRESSING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Analysis report of the second round of results  
of AMR country self-assessment survey  
2018



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



WORLD ORGANISATION  
FOR ANIMAL HEALTH



World Health  
Organization



# AMs will still be needed in livestock in Asia

- ▶ AM-free production will only be possible on a small number of farms
- ▶ Ban on critical AMs as growth promoters a good first step but only if enforced
- ▶ Need to understand why critical AMs are being used for treatment and prevention ... and where possible replace/find alternative approaches
- ▶ Explore other ways to stop resistant bacteria from getting out of farms





# What else can we do?

- ▶ Find critical points in production system
- ▶ Take action to minimise spread of resistance - biocontainment
- ▶ Animals leaving farms
- ▶ Livestock waste





# Animals leaving farms

- ▶ Can we somehow out-compete resistant bacteria in the period just prior to slaughter?
- ▶ Method must be safe and not involve antimicrobials
- ▶ Build on developing knowledge of microbiome manipulation





# Livestock waste

- ▶ Biochar for composted solid waste?
- ▶ Filtration of treated liquid waste?
- ▶ Other cost-effective measures?



Science of The Total Environment

Volume 649, 1 February 2019, Pages 902-908



Turning pig manure into biochar can effectively mitigate antibiotic resistance genes as organic fertilizer

Xue Zhou <sup>a, b</sup>, Min Qiao <sup>a, b</sup>, Jian-Qiang Su <sup>c</sup>, Yin Wang <sup>c</sup>, Zhi-Hong Cao <sup>d</sup>, Wang-Da Cheng <sup>e</sup>, Yong-Guan Zhu <sup>a, c</sup>



Journal of Environmental Management

Volume 231, 1 February 2019, Pages 439-445



Short communication

High removal efficiency of antibiotic resistance genes in swine wastewater via nanofiltration and reverse osmosis processes

Lihua Lan <sup>a</sup>, Xianwang Kong <sup>a</sup>, Haoxiang Sun <sup>b</sup>, Changwei Li <sup>a</sup>, Dezhao Liu <sup>a</sup>



# Conclusions

- ▶ AM stewardship important but may not provide the gains expected
- ▶ High probability that, in 10 years, levels of AMR in Asian farm animals will be similar to today
- ▶ Might see some improvement in resistance to high priority critically important AMs in richer countries
- ▶ Progress will require investment in alternative approaches, but so far limited
- ▶ Identify ways to prevent AMR organisms/genes from leaving farms – “biocontainment”
- ▶ Mitigation vs adaptation