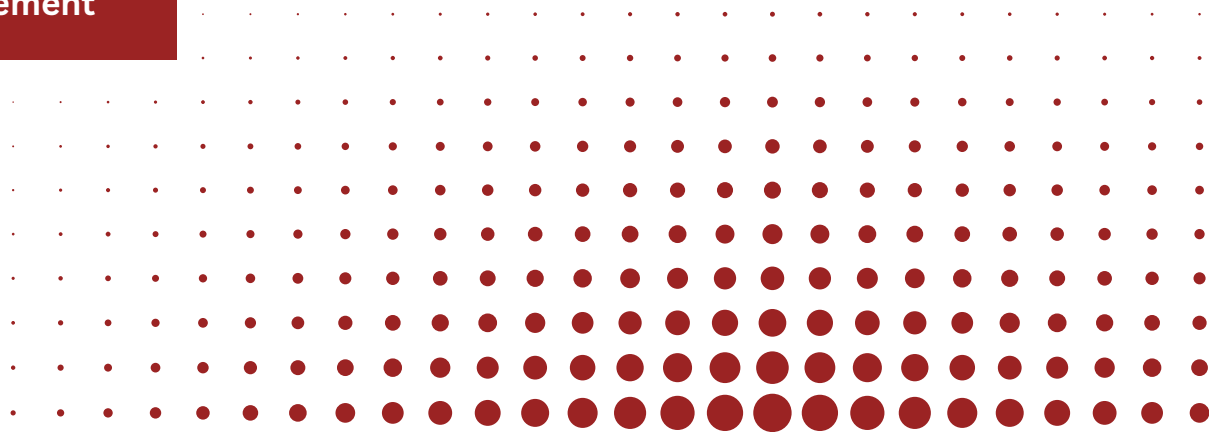


NEWSLETTER



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FOREWORD FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on the last 10 years of dedicated work in addressing Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) on the African continent since ReAct Africa's formation in 2014, it is with immense gratitude that we extend our sincere thanks to the entire network of ReAct Africa. Your unwavering support and commitment have been instrumental in the important strides we have made together in addressing this pressing global health issue.

ReAct was initiated with the goal of being a global catalyst, advocating and stimulating for global engagement on antibiotic resistance by collaborating with a broad range of organizations, individuals and stakeholders. There are so many achievements that come to mind as we reflect on the past years and tease out our learnings. We have been privileged to contribute to so many AMR National Plans and national strategy development, costing, prioritization and implementation - a journey that started in 2015. Examples of the countries include Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, and Malawi, to mention just a few.

Our contribution to integrated surveillance, infection prevention, biosecurity and control and antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs) in Africa, have included piloting these programs and providing training in Ethiopia, Tanzania, DRC, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Lesotho, among others. We believe that we can achieve a world free from the fear of drug-resistant infections. Our work in AMS has led to strengthened collaborations with other organizations interested in this space, such as WHO Afro, FAO, WOHAI, UNEP, Radboud University, Africa CDC and national governments, as we work together to promote responsible and appropriate use of antimicrobials.

Our advocacy efforts towards infection prevention include promoting infection prevention and control in health care systems, biosecurity in food systems, promoting vaccines for preventable diseases, equitable access for all, investments in new technologies, therapeutics and diagnostics, and Universal Health Coverage, which have brought these issues to the forefront of the African and global agenda.

We have focused on raising awareness and knowledge around AMR by targeting politicians and other policy makers, health care workers, and those working in food chain systems. Other targets include religious and church leaders, who play a critical role in public health beyond their religious duties.

One of our flagship programs is the AMR Leadership Program (AMRLEP) launched in 2021, that targets students in tertiary institutions. The program has been very successful in training young people. Young people are important and valuable stakeholders in addressing the global health threat of AMR since they are the next generation of public health professionals, potential future antimicrobial prescribers, users, stewards, and policymakers in their professional practice.

The upcoming annual conference, like others, will bring together AMR experts, National Focal Points, researchers, NGOs and CSO's, community members, and intergovernmental organizations. The annual conferences, which started in 2015, provide a great platform for countries and partners to exchange ideas, discuss challenges, and learn about the nuances of AMR. This is a testament to the passion, expertise, and collaborative spirit that each member of this network has brought to the table. To commemorate this momentous occasion, we are excited to announce special plans for the conference that will honor the achievements and impact of ReAct Africa over the past decade.

We look forward to coming together to not only reflect on the progress we have made, but also to chart a course for the future as we continue our vital work in the fight against AMR.

Here's to the next 10 years of ReAct Africa and the collective impact we will continue to make in transforming the landscape of AMR!

Warm regards,
Professor Mirfin Mpundu
Executive Director
ReAct Africa





REACT AFRICA AND SOUTH CENTRE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ReAct Africa and South Centre are thrilled to announce the dates for the 2024 regional AMR annual conference! Theme for this year is Global Accountability for AMR response: Investing in priorities for Africa. Save the dates 9th -11th July.

[MORE INFO](#)

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

This year ReAct Africa has broadened its efforts in youth engagement, capacitating many more young people on AMR, supporting them in establishing sustainable structures and implementing AMR interventions and advocating for their inclusion in decision-making platforms to strengthen the youth movement in Africa.



[MORE INFO](#)



[MORE INFO](#)

ASPIRE

The Antibiotic Stewardship Programme through Innovation, Research, and Education (ASPIRE) is a 3-year project funded by LifeArc that aims to optimise antibiotic use in Zambia and Kenya by integrating innovative digital solutions with targeted stewardship interventions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Since 2023, ReAct Africa has been collaborating with the Women’s Christian Fellowship (WCF) of Matero United Church of Zambia (UCZ). The church has been identified as an influential gatekeeper in the community and women as caregivers in the home. To date, ReAct has been empowering a total of 30 women with accurate knowledge and information on AMR, which they will translate into their local language and become AMR community champions.

ReAct focuses on educating communities about AMR issues to empower them to develop local solutions and influence policy-making through public support



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From People to Leaders: Act on AMR NOW!

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Global Movement Urges UN to put Communities and Civil Society at the heart of AMR response