



# ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE



**Antibiotic resistance** happens when bacteria change and become resistant to the antibiotics used to treat the infections they cause.

The over-use and misuse of antibiotics in livestock, aquaculture and crops is one key factor contributing to antibiotic resistance and its spread into the environment, food chain and humans. This is compromising our ability to treat infectious diseases and undermining many advances in medicine.

We must handle antibiotics with care so they remain effective for as long as possible.

## WHAT THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR CAN DO



- 1 Ensure that antibiotics given to animals—including food-producing and companion animals—are **only used to control or treat** infectious diseases and under veterinary supervision
- 2 **Vaccinate** animals to reduce the need for antibiotics and **develop alternatives** to the use of antibiotics in plants
- 3 Promote and apply **good practices** at all steps of production and processing of foods from animal and plant sources
- 4 Adopt **sustainable systems** with improved hygiene, biosecurity and stress-free handling of animals
- 5 Implement **international standards** for the responsible use of antibiotics and guidelines, set out by OIE, FAO and WHO