

Experts converge in Dili for the fourth One Health Symposium

October 2024

The key focus of the One Health Symposium held in Dili, Timor Leste, was the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health in tackling antimicrobial resistance (AMR) – supported by the UK aid Fleming Fund.

Hosted by the Fleming Fund Country Grantee, Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies), alongside the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry (MALFF), the event brought together over 90 participants from various fields to learn more about zoonotic infections and AMR in Timor-Leste.

Opening the Symposium – Dra. Joanita da Costa Jong, National Director of Veterinary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Associate Professor Joshua Francis, Co-Lead of Menzies Timor-Leste, and Dr. Seungman Cha, World Health Organization representative –, highlighted how the diverse range of participants demonstrated a strong commitment to addressing the complex health challenges in Timor-Leste.

Participants heard presentations on a range of One Health topics, to support a better understanding of the links between environmental issues, veterinary care, and public health.

Representatives from various organisations including Menzies, CDC Ministry of Health, National Institute of Public Health (INSPTL), National Health Laboratory (NHL), National Directorate of Veterinary (NDV), Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) and Pacific Region Infectious Disease Association (PRIDA), presented on the following One Health topics related to AMR:

- Rabies.
- Brucellosis.
- Water testing and culture.
- AMR in cattle.
- Antimicrobial use data.
- Human AMR surveillance and outbreak response.
- Strengthening infectious disease diagnostics in the Pacific and dengue.

Associate Professor Josh Francis, Menzies School of Health Research, said: “Working on One Health is all about working together, and it is a privilege for the Menzies team to get to work together, alongside the Government of Timor-Leste and other partners, to help strengthen capacity for responding to infectious diseases challenges that can affect humans, animals, and the environment.”

National Director of Veterinary – Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry (MALFF) Dr Joanita Bendita Jong, added:

“The National Directorate of Veterinary is a technical directorate in MALFF which leads the veterinary public health service and is always ready to continue to collaborate with all relevant institutions. We jointly advocate for the importance of a One Health approach and this Symposium is an important platform to gather experts across the animal, human, and environmental health sectors.”

[Find out more about Menzies Timor-Leste projects.](#)

ENDS

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Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies)

Menzies is one of Australia’s leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and a leader in global and tropical research into life-threatening illnesses. Menzies continues to translate research into effective partnerships and programs in communities across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

The Flemming Fund

The Fleming Fund invests in strengthening AMR surveillance systems through a portfolio of country grants, regional grants, and fellowships managed by Mott MacDonald, and global projects managed by DHSC.

ESPECIALISTA SIRA HAMUTUK IHA DILI BA SIMPOZIO SAUDE DA-HAAT

Foku prinsipál husi Simposiu One Health nian ne'ebé hala'o iha Dili, Timor-Leste, mak interligasaun saúde umanu, animál no ambientál nian hodi hasoru rezisténsia antimikrobiu (AMR) - suporta husi UK ain Fleming Fund.

Abertura simpoziu nian - Dra. Joanita da Costa Jong, Diretora Nasional Veterinaria iha Ministeriu Agrikultura no Peskas, Profesor Asosiadu Joshua Francis, Ko-Lider Menzies Timor-Leste, no Dr. Seungman Cha, representante Organizasaun Mundial Saude nian -, destaka oinsá partisipante oi-oin hatudu kompromisu maka'as hodi responde ba dezafiu saúde kompleksu sira iha Timor-Leste.

Organiza husi Fleming Fund Country Grant Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies), hamutuk ho Ministeriu Saude, no Ministeriu Agrikultura, Pekuaria, Peskas no Floresta (MAPPF), eventua ida ne'e halibur partisipante besik 90 husi area oi-oin hodi aprende klean konaba infesaun zoonotiku sira no AMR iha Timor-Leste.

Partisipante sira rona apresentasaun sira kona-ba variadade tópiku One Health nian, hodi promove komprensaun di'ak liu kona-ba ligasaun entre asuntu ambientál sira, kuidadu veterinaria, no saúde publika.

Representante sira husi organizasaun oioin inklui Menzies, Ministeriu Saude CDC, Institutu Nasional Saude Publika (INSPTL), Laboratoriu Nasional Saude (LNS), Diresaun Nasional Veterinaria (DNV), Laboratoriu Diagnostiku Veterinariu (LDV) no Asosiasaun Moras Infetivu Rejiaun Pasifiku (PRIDA), apresenta kona-ba tópiku One Health ne'ebé relasiona ho AMR:

- Raiva
- Brucelose
- Teste bee no kultura
- AMR iha karau
- Uzu dadus antimikrobiu
- Vijilansia AMR Umanu no resposta ba surtu
- Haforsa diagnóstiku sira ba moras infesiozu iha Pasifiku no Dengue.

Prof Asistente Josh Francis, Menzies School of Health Research, hatete: "Halo serbisu iha One Health mak kona-ba serbisu hamutuk, no ne'e hanesan priviléjiu ida ba ekipa Menzies atu servisu konjuntu, hamutuk ho Governu Timor-Leste no parseiru sira seluk, atu ajuda hametin kapasidade hodi hatán ba dezafiu moras infesiozu sira ne'ebé bele afeta ema, animál no ambiente."

Diretora Nasional Veterinariu - Ministeriu Agrikultura, Pekuaria, Peskas no Floresta (MAPPF) Dr Joanita Bendita Jong, hatutan:

"Diresaun Nasional Veterinaria hanesan diresaun téknika ida iha MAPPF ne'ebé lidera servisu saúde publika veterinaria nian no sempre prontu atu kolabora ho instituisaun relevante hotu-hotu. Ami hamutuk advokasia ba importánsia husi aprosimasaun One Health nian no simpoziu idane'e hanesan plataforma importante ida atu halibur especialista sira iha setór saúde animál, umanu no ambientál sira."

[Find out more about Menzies Timor-Leste projects.](#)

REMATA

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Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies maka institutu peskiza médiku ida ne'ebé maka importante liu iha Austrália ne'ebé dedika ba hadi'a saúde no moris-di'ak hosi ema Aborijene no Torres Strait, no líder ida iha peskiza saúde globál no tropikál. Menzies kontinua atu tradús peskiza ba parseria no programa sira ne'ebé efetivu iha comunidade sira iha Austrália no rejiaun Ázia-Pasífiku.

Fleming Fund

Fleming Fund ne'ebé investe iha haforsa vijilánsia AMR liuhosi Country grants, subvensaun rejionál no bolsu estudu sira ne'ebé jere hosi Mott MacDonald, no projetu globál sira ne'ebé jere hosi DHSC.