



Ecoantibio Plan 2012-2016 Summary and Key Achievements

Summary

The Ecoantibio Plan is a public policy set up by the Ministry of Agriculture, Agro-Food and Forestry. It relates to all animal sectors (including pets) and covers all French territories.

The aim of the Plan is to reduce the risks of antibiotic resistance used in veterinary medicine and to safeguard the efficacy of the antibiotics recommended by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and various European institutions. The Ecoantibio Plan, promoted by the French Ministry of Agriculture, is part of a wider project known as the Agro-Ecology Project. The aim of the Agro-Ecology Project in France is to enable stakeholders to tackle the many challenges facing the French agricultural sector: competitiveness, climate change, health and safety worldwide, preservation of natural resources, the quality and safety of food and minimum use of chemical additives.

The first Ecoantibio Plan, launched on 18 November 2011, was spread over five years, from 2012 to 2016 inclusive. 2016 was set aside for taking stock of the first Plan and preparing a new Plan.

THE FIRST ECOANTIBIO PLAN HAD 2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- ◆ To reduce the exposure of animals to antibiotics by 25% in 5 years, paying particular attention to the use of critically important antibiotics in veterinary medicines and medicine aimed at humans. The 25% reduction target is measured using the Animal Level of Exposure to Antimicrobials (ALEA) indicator. Figures relating to the level of animal exposure to antibiotics are issued with a lag of one year, hence the reference to 2017 in the name of the Ecoantibio Plan. Achievement of the Plan's target figure for 2012-2016 will only be disclosed in 2017;
- ◆ To preserve therapeutic arsenal of antibiotics in a durable way, especially as the prospects of developing new antibiotics for veterinary use are currently minimal.

TO REACH THESE OBJECTIVES, THE ECOANTIBIO PLAN COMPRISES 40 MEASURES BASED AROUND 5 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:


PRIORITY N° 1: promote good practices and raise awareness among stakeholders of the risks relating to antibiotic resistance and of the need to preserve the efficacy of antibiotics; **PRIORITY N° 2:** develop alternatives to antibiotic use; **PRIORITY N° 3:** reinforce the regulation of and reduce risky practices; **PRIORITY N° 4:** improve the system for monitoring antibiotic use and antibiotic resistance; **PRIORITY N° 5:** promote Europe-wide approaches and international initiatives.

(1) Reducing antibiotic use in veterinary medicine.

(2) Produce differently.

To implement the Plan, the Ministry of Agriculture has appointed a facilitator (public or private body) for each of the Plans 40 measures. Financial agreements (budget of 2 million Euros/year since 2013) are signed between the Ministry of Agriculture and the facilitators for conducting advertising campaigns, training, studies and for applied research projects.

The target figure for the Ecoantibio Plan has nearly been reached with a drop of 20.1% in the exposure of animals to antibiotics (all families) over the past 4 years (2012-2015 inclusive). Furthermore, exposure of animals to the latest generations of fluoroquinolones and cephalosporins has gone down by 22.3 % and 21.3 % respectively over the last 2 years (2014 and 2015). Regarding exposure to colistin, this has diminished by 25.3 % over the last 4 years (2012-2015 inclusive). Although these figures have to be broken down into families of antibiotics and animal sectors, the good initial results are testimony to the effort and commitment of stakeholders in the Ecoantibio Plan and, in particular, of veterinarians and farmers.


Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Agroalimentaire et de la Forêt 

THE ECOANTIBIO PLAN 2012-2016


REDUCING THE USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

A Global Challenge for Human and Animal Health

TWO OBJECTIVES




-25%
Reduce the use of antibiotics by 25% within 5 years



And safeguard the efficacy of antibiotics

LIVESTOCK AND PETS



40 MEASURES BASED ON 5 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- 1

Mobilise and promote good practices
- 2

Develop alternatives to antibiotics
- 3

Reduce risky practices
- 4

Follow the trend in antibiotic use
- 5


Act at European and international level

RESISTANCE TO ANTIBIOTICS

Bacterial resistance to antibiotics: antibiotics can no longer destroy bacteria and help the healing process.

Careful, responsible use of antibiotics by veterinarians and breeders cuts the risk of resistance to antibiotics.

NUMBER OF HUMAN DEATHS PER YEAR LINKED TO RESISTANCE TO ANTIBIOTICS



12,500

in France

700,000

worldwide

BUDGET FOR THE PLAN


2

million € per year
Set aside for research, training and advertising campaigns

RESULTS IN 2015


-20%

cut in the use of antibiotics in animals (all families) over 4 years



RÉDUIRE L'UTILISATION DES ANTIBIOTIQUES VÉTÉRINAIRES

A plan, part of Agro-Ecology



SOURCE : DGAL OCTOBER 2016