

EBRD engagement in global efforts  
to curb antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

# Foreword

At the High-Level Meeting (HLM) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) that took place in the context of the 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September 2024, global leaders issued a declaration, committing to a clear set of targets and actions to curb AMR, including a 10 per cent reduction by 2030 in the estimated 5 million human deaths annually associated with bacterial AMR. The World Health Organization (WHO) considers AMR to be a key global health issue.<sup>1</sup> Since 2016, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has driven AMR engagement by fostering cooperation between different Bank teams and working closely with external stakeholders, from clients and industry to investors, governments, other international organisations and civil society, to generate synergies and produce effective outcomes.

The Bank has undertaken AMR risk management capacity-building technical cooperation programmes for healthcare service, public-private partnership (PPP) hospital, national Covid-19 response, pharmaceutical and agribusiness projects in Egypt, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Türkiye and Ukraine and across the EBRD regions. It has hosted five international

AMR symposiums, with keynote speakers including Professor Dame Sally Davies, the United Kingdom's Special Envoy on AMR. Furthermore, the EBRD has posted 23 AMR articles on its intranet and held 20 internal workshops on AMR. Various outside speakers were invited to participate in the workshops, from academia, research organisations, industry, philanthropic organisations, civil society, the WHO and the World Bank. World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW) is marked every November by a staff campaign to increase AMR awareness in the EBRD community.

The Bank will continue to engage on AMR at this critical global political juncture to address the urgency of the AMR challenge and to implement effective interventions based on a cross-sectoral and cross-discipline One Health approach.<sup>2</sup> It is time to pool our efforts to prevent the proliferation of AMR and to safeguard our families and communities.

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<sup>1</sup> See WHO (2023).

<sup>2</sup> The WHO defines One Health as “an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems. It recognizes that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and interdependent”. See WHO (n.d.).