

Enhancing Awareness and Responsible Use of Antimicrobials in Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in the Livestock Sector of Cambodia

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1. Introduction

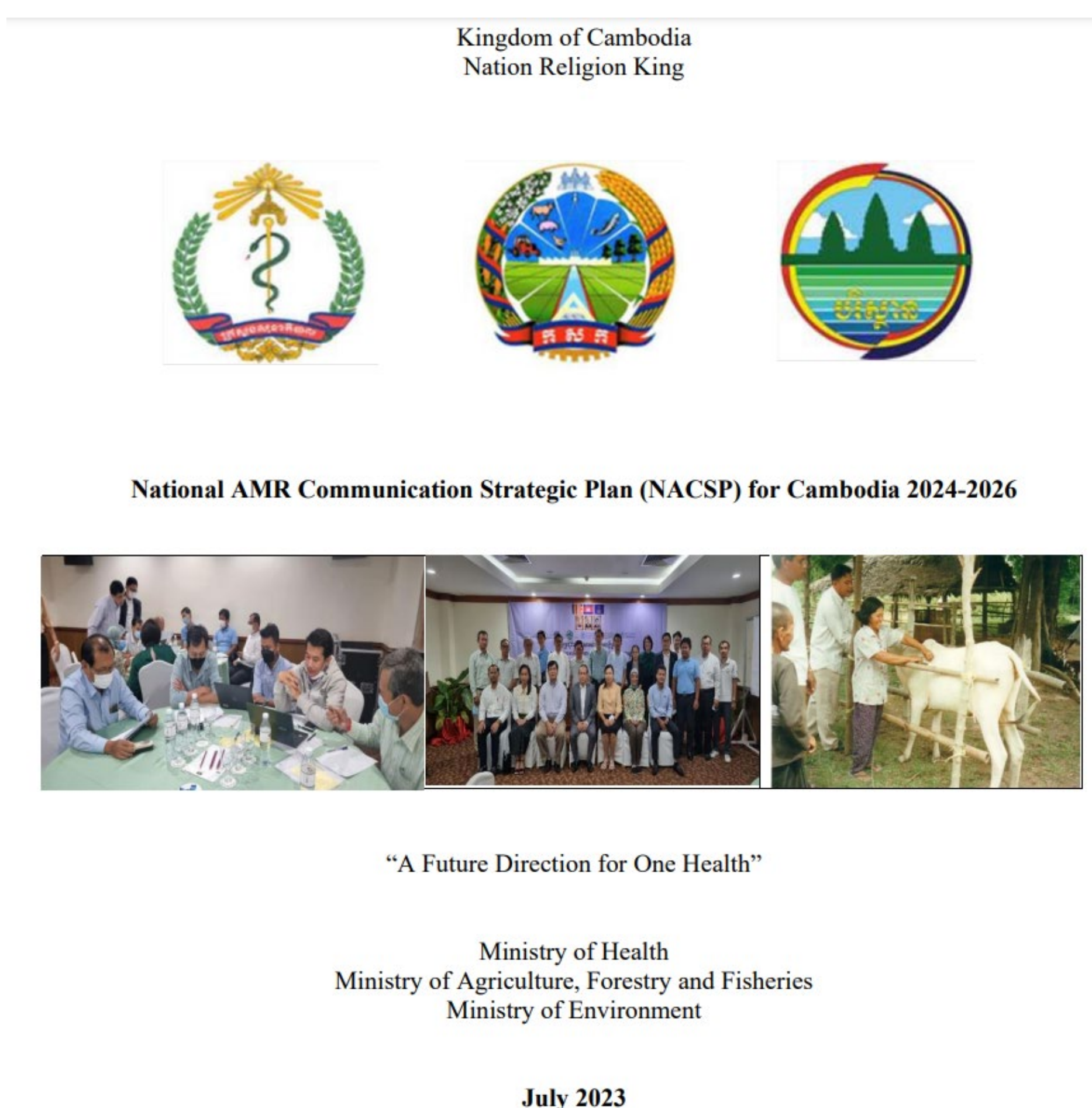
- Misuse and overuse use of antimicrobials can accelerate emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).
- In 2019, 1.27 million people died of AMR-related bacterial infection worldwide.
- Currently, there is a lack of AMR data and general awareness on AMR in Cambodia.
- Under the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), the General Directorate of Animal Health and Production (GDAHP), with technical and financial support of World Organisation for Animal Health, Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific (WOAH RRAP) implemented activities on AMR and antimicrobial usage (AMU) from 2021 to 2023.
- Key objectives were to enhance understanding of AMR risks, enhance awareness amongst key stakeholders and strengthen responsible use of antimicrobials in livestock sector.
- The GDAHP implemented the activities following signing of a letter of agreement with WOAH RRAP.

2. Key Achievements

2.1 National AMR Communication Strategic Plan (NACSP) of Cambodia 2024-2026

- The NACSP outlines the key strategies and activities for effective communication on AMR and AMU in human, animal, and environment sectors.

Figure 1. The NACSP (2024-2026) of Cambodia



2.2 Development of awareness materials on AMR

- A total of 2 animated videos, 6 posters, 4 leaflets, and 3 social media infographics were developed to provide strategic messages on responsible use of antimicrobials in animals and to create public awareness on AMR.
- Messages highlighted the roles, each stakeholder, from policy makers to end users of antibiotics, can play in addressing AMR.

Figure 2. Examples of posters advocating responsible use of antibiotics targeting livestock producers and private sector in Cambodia

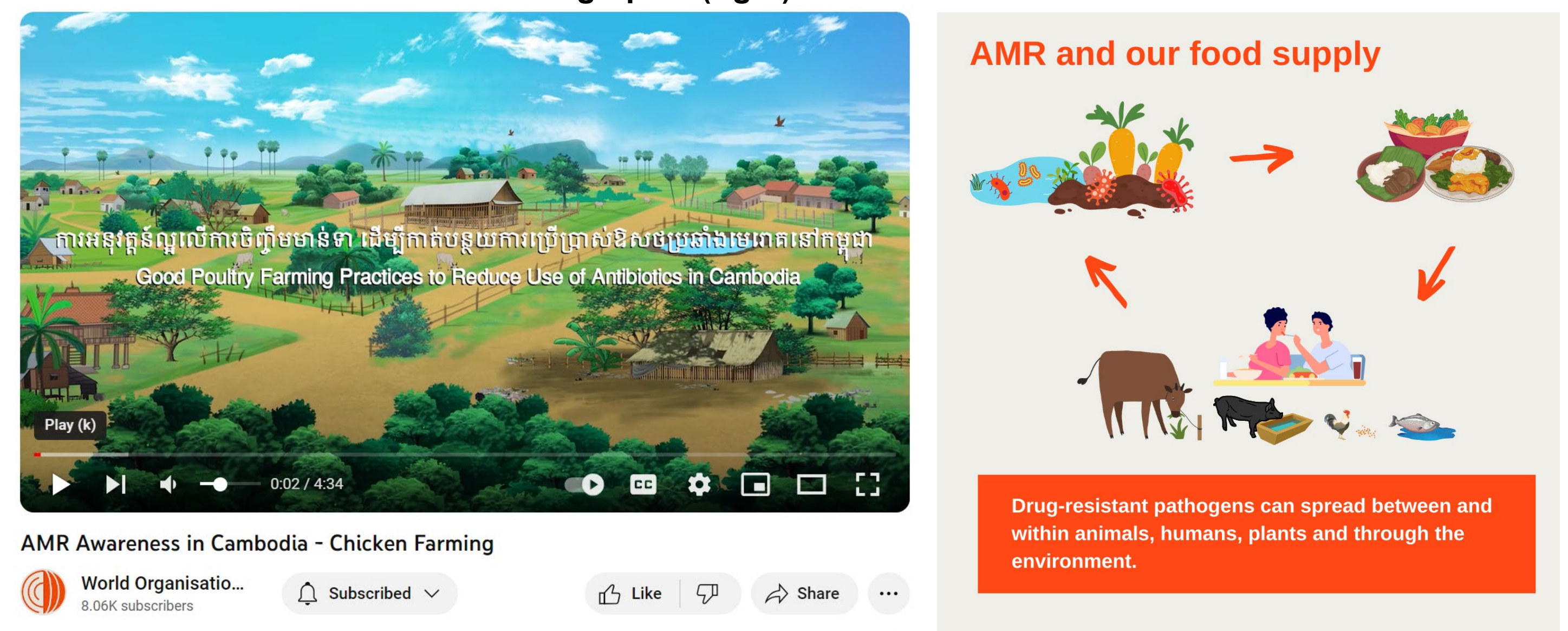


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References

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Figure 3. A video clip (left) on "Good Poultry Farming Practices to Reduce Use of Antibiotics in Cambodia" and a social media infographic (right) on AMR as a One Health issue



2.3 Enhancing awareness on AMR at all levels of AMU supply chain

- Several awareness events on the responsible use of antibiotics at the national, sub-national and community levels undertaken across Cambodia in 2021, 2022, and 2023 during World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW).

2.4 Effectively engaging the private sectors – the game changer in addressing AMR

- Seminars on good animal husbandry practices and advocating national legislations and WOAH Standards on AMR/AMU to animal producers, importers and distributors of veterinary medicines.

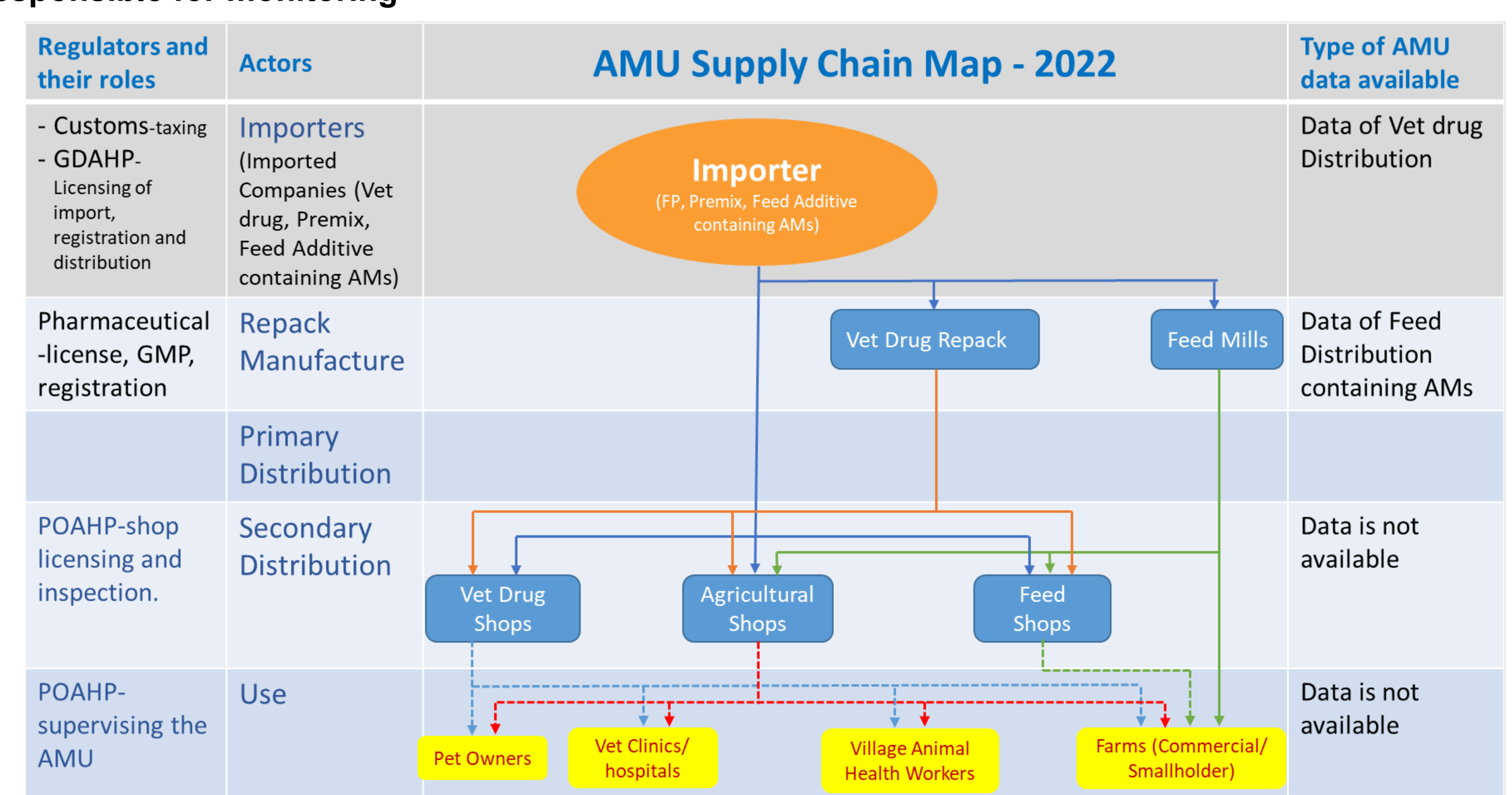
Figure 4. Private sector seminars in 2022 and 2023 in Cambodia



2.5 Strengthening monitoring of antimicrobials used in animals

- In line with WOAH's Standards on monitoring of antimicrobials, GDAHP revised their AMU Supply Chain of 2018 through consultation with the private sector in 2022.

Figure 5. The AMU Supply Chain of Cambodia showing flow of antimicrobials and stakeholders responsible for monitoring



3. Lessons learned

- The AMR MPTF Project led by WOAH, WHO and FAO (the "Tripartite") was a truly One Health initiative that enhanced coordination and collaboration between the human health, animal health and environment sectors in Cambodia.
- The MPTF Project raised awareness on the importance of AMR and use of a One Health approach at the highest level. It has catalysed government and donor interests on One Health activities in Cambodia.
- Capacity on AMR communication and AMU monitoring enhanced within GDAHP.
- A successful project implementation mechanism between GDAHP and WOAH RRAP.
- Three years is a short time frame to measure the actual impact of interventions. GDAHP, MAFF is interested in continuing activities if a second phase MPTF is available.
- There is a need for awareness activities to reach sub-national levels and communities to bring positive behavioural changes in the use of antimicrobials in animals.

