Antibiotics kill the microbes most of the time, but over time, some microbes become resistant to these medicines – this is antimicrobial resistance.

Many microbes are good, but some cause disease in humans and animals. To fight disease caused by microbes, we use medicines called antibiotics.

There is still a lot that scientists and doctors don’t understand about antimicrobial resistance.

The DRUM (Drivers of Resistance in Uganda and Malawi) Consortium is a group of researchers in Uganda and Malawi that want to understand more about the spread of antimicrobial resistance between humans, animals, and the wider environment in rural and urban parts of Uganda and Malawi. Ultimately, this information will help identify the best ways to control antimicrobial resistance in Uganda and Malawi.

This can result in untreatable illness in humans and animals, as common antibiotics and other antimicrobials become ineffective against resistant microbes. Although scientists do not know how it affects the environment, resistant microbes that spread in the environment could affect water sources and soil.

Microbes exist everywhere in the world, including in humans, animals, and the environment. Humans, animals, and the environment interact with each other, and microbes spread between them.