

This study aims to investigate the policy-making process that supports efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in Senegal, since the adoption of the National action plan in 2017. We collected and analyzed both quantitative data about the policy networks and qualitative data characterizing actions and beliefs of institutions regarding AMR. This article provides empirical evidence that the structure of the policy network is center-periphery type, meaning that a coalition of three organizations is at the heart of the political network, and strongly influences the policy-making process. Additionally, this article highlights the core role of international technical and financial partners in the policy-making process to combat AMR in Senegal.

BACKGROUND

- AMR has become a major global health issue impacting the human, animal and environment sectors, that requires collective, concerted and inclusive action as part of the One Health approach.
- Managing this cross-cutting issue calls for new types of cross-sectoral policies that require a common vision in formulation and implementation from all stakeholders, supported or not by an institutional and legal framework, and facilitated by transparent mechanisms, processes and relationships.
- In line with the Global Action Plan, Senegal has adopted its first national action plan to combat AMR in 2017, which has been updated in 2023.

DATA & METHODS

- We defined a list of key organizations involved in the policy-making process to combat AMR with a One Health approach.
- We conducted semi structured interviews with 26 of these organizations.
- We collected sociometric data that describe four networks (collaboration, information sharing, influence, level of agreement) encompassing the 26 organizations surveyed and qualitative data to characterize the actions and beliefs of these organizations in relation to AMR.
- We used two complementary methods to analyze this data: policy network and thematic analysis.

RESULTS

- We identified 28 key organizations involved in the national policy-making process to combat AMR, operating in animal health (n=8); human health (n=10); plant health (n=1); food safety (n=5); environment (n=3); multisectoral (n=1).
- The national interministerial One Health platform and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) are the most central organizations in the four national policy networks to combat AMR in Senegal (Figure 1).
- The animal health sector is the most influential sector in the national policy-making process to combat AMR in Senegal.
- We identified one political coalition, consisting of the national One Health platform, the FAO, and the Directorate of the Veterinary Services, that strongly influence the policy-making process of antimicrobial resistance.
- The coalition members share common beliefs in the policy instruments to be implemented. Je croyais que non. Si oui, il faut les citer brièvement

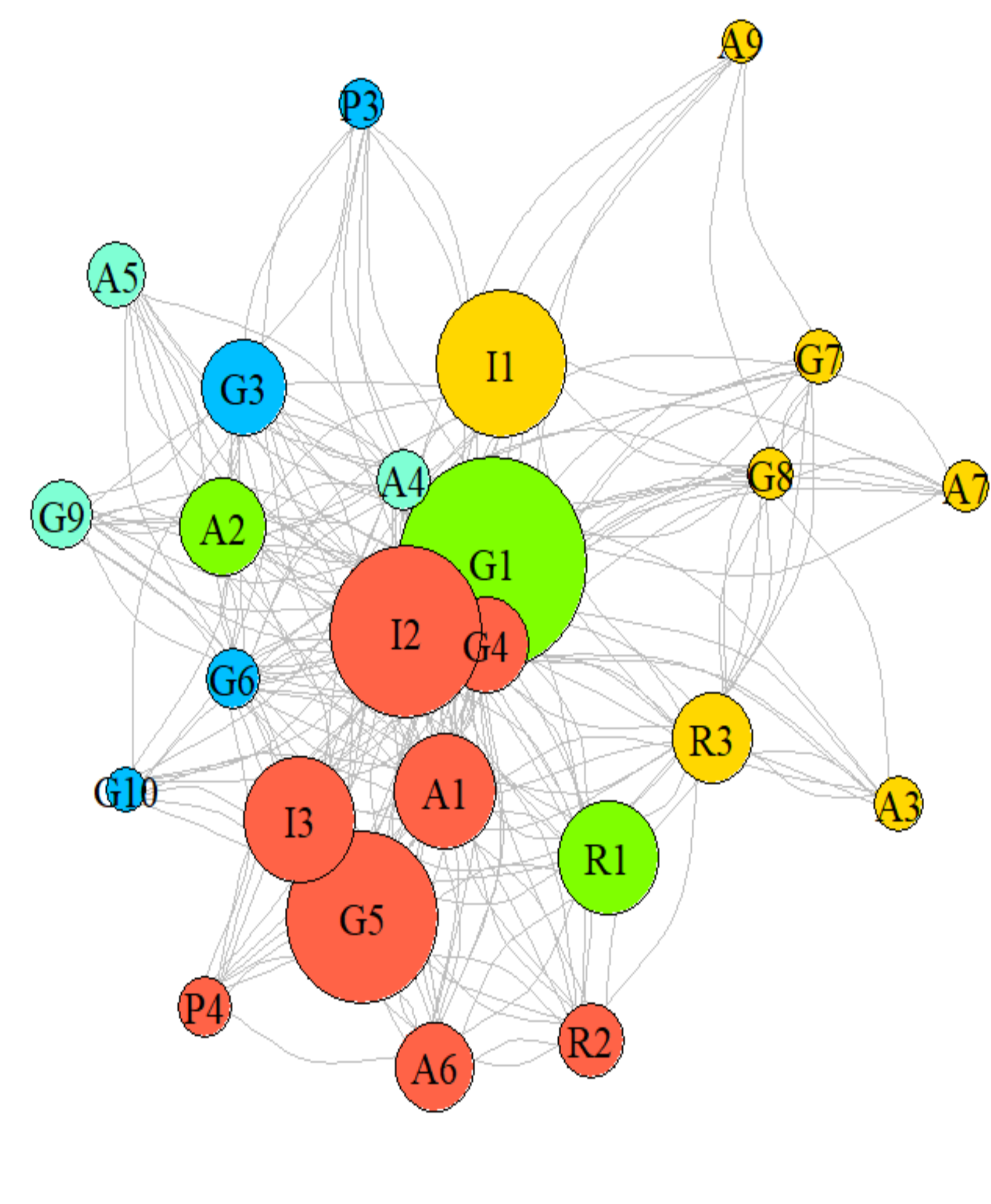


Fig 1. The influence policy network to combat AMR in Senegal. Note: The size of the nodes represents the incoming degree centrality for the different organizations.

CONCLUSIONS

- We characterized the policy network of organizations to combat antimicrobial resistance in Senegal
- The policy network of organizations to combat antimicrobial resistance in Senegal exhibits a center-periphery structure
- Our findings underline the substantial influence of technical and financial partners in the policy-making process

ADDITIONAL KEY INFORMATION

This study is part of the Designing One Health Governance for Antimicrobial Stewardship Interventions (DESIGN) project. It has been funded by the French National Research Agency (ANR) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), through the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPI-AMR).

