

Pacific WASH WEBINARS

Wastewater Surveillance – helpful in the Pacific for COVID-19 response and beyond?

1 October 2021 | 8am (Manila) / 10am (Sydney) | Via Zoom ([link here](#))

Wastewater surveillance has been successfully used to monitor pathogen presence, persistence, and occurrence patterns within populations. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, wastewater surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 has helped inform many countries' public health responses. Across the Pacific, this technology has yet to be rolled out. With countries like PNG and Fiji experiencing outbreaks, it is essential to understand what wastewater surveillance entails, who needs to be involved, and the other considerations to assess the suitability of wastewater surveillance for the Pacific context.

Globally, the successful use of wastewater surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 has involved solid partnerships between multiple sectors and disciplines, including a core group of water utilities, health departments, and environmental microbiology laboratories, supported by research organizations, universities, private consultants, and global collaborators. This webinar will cover the following topics from different perspectives to show how each work together to provide a whole-of-government response.

- Health perspective – how health agencies design and use wastewater surveillance to inform public health responses.
- Utility perspective – how utilities understand the sewerage system and identify where and how to sample from treatment plants, networks, buildings and sites.
- Lab perspective – running a credible routine program to test the samples - expertise, experience, reagents, and equipment required.
- Pacific perspective - the needs and the challenges of the Pacific, particularly in areas with limited laboratory capacity or sewerage coverage.

ADB



SPEAKERS



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Q&A FACILITATOR

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