

SECURE Webinar #12
Strengthening Health Surveillance and Diagnostic Capacity in Indonesia

2 April 2024, 1:00-2:30 PM Manila time

CONCEPT NOTE

The SECURE Webinar Series is a platform to promote innovative approaches and best practices for strengthening health security post COVID-19 pandemic among Southeast Asia (SEA) developing member countries (DMCs) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The webinar series is supported by the ongoing ADB technical assistance (TA 6767) on Supporting Enhanced COVID-19 Vaccination and Post COVID-19 Health Security Response in SEA, and serves as a venue for knowledge and information exchange among governments, the private sector, development partners, CSO networks and other key stakeholders.

On a global scale, the COVID-19 pandemic underscored the disparity in diagnostic capabilities among nations and highlighted the direct correlation between these capacities and response effectiveness. Investing in post-pandemic initiatives to enhance diagnostic testing capabilities, alongside robust information systems, is crucial for establishing enduring diagnostic and surveillance systems. These systems will serve as the backbone of a health system. Diagnostic tests serve as the eyes and ears of the health-care system, by sounding alarms about unusual disease patterns or sending early outbreak alerts, and provide the capacity to respond directly

Indonesia was hit severely by the COVID-19 pandemic, with over 6.8 million confirmed cases and 161,867 confirmed deaths reported by 26 June 2023. It experienced three waves of strong outbreaks in January and July 2021, as well as in February 2022, with more than 10,000 daily confirmed new cases. It puts a strain on the already constrained healthcare system and shows the impact of the limited workforce's capacity, uneven distribution of diagnostic laboratories and the oversight alignment and standardization challenge in the implementation guidelines across central and local government. Indonesia's early response to the COVID-19 pandemic exposed vulnerabilities in its health security system.

In the face of numerous challenges, the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted unparalleled levels of systems integration within the Indonesian government. As per the World Health Organization (WHO), achieving a high-level operational readiness is crucial for ensuring a prompt, effective, and efficient preparedness and response to pandemics. The post-pandemic Health System Transformation Agenda (HSTA) outlined by the Government of Indonesia emphasizes the intention to standardize an integrated model of primary care and bolster surveillance, diagnostic capabilities, and public health laboratories.

Further enhancing these capacities would enhance existing control measures and help prevent future disease outbreaks

The specific objectives of this webinar are to:

1. Explore the importance of strengthening diagnostic capacity and surveillance for pandemic preparedness;
2. Understand the Indonesia's current diagnostic and surveillance capacity and its public health laboratory transformation; and

- Discuss the potential recommendation and way forward for enhancing Indonesia's existing control measures and help prevent future disease outbreaks.

FINAL AGENDA

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Moderator: Dr. Rabiah Al Adawiyah, Consultant and Health Security Expert (Indonesia), TA 6767

Time	Session
1:00 – 1:05 PM	<p>Welcome Remarks and overview of the webinar</p> <p>Ms. Karin Schelzig Director, Human and Social Development, SG</p>
1:05 – 1:25 PM	<p>Indonesia's current diagnostic and surveillance capacity and the public health laboratory transformation</p> <p>Prof. Tjandra Yoga Aditama Post Graduate Director of YARSI University in Jakarta and Professor of University of Indonesia</p>
1:25 – 1:45 PM	<p>The importance of strengthening diagnostic capacity and surveillance for pandemic preparedness and national health security</p> <p>Prof. David Heymann Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Distinguished Fellow at the Centre on Universal Health at Chatham House, London</p>
1:45 – 2:05 PM	<p>Potential recommendation and way forward for enhancing Indonesia's existing control measures and help prevent future disease outbreaks</p> <p>Prof. Rosanna Peeling Professor and Chair of Diagnostics Research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Director of the International Diagnostics Centre</p>
2:05 – 2.20 PM	<p>Q&A</p> <p>Dr. Rabiah Al Adawiyah Consultant and Health Security Expert (Indonesia), TA 6767</p>
2:20 – 2.25 PM	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Dr. Eduardo Banzon Principal Health Specialist, Human and Social Development Sector Office Sectors Group, ADB</p>