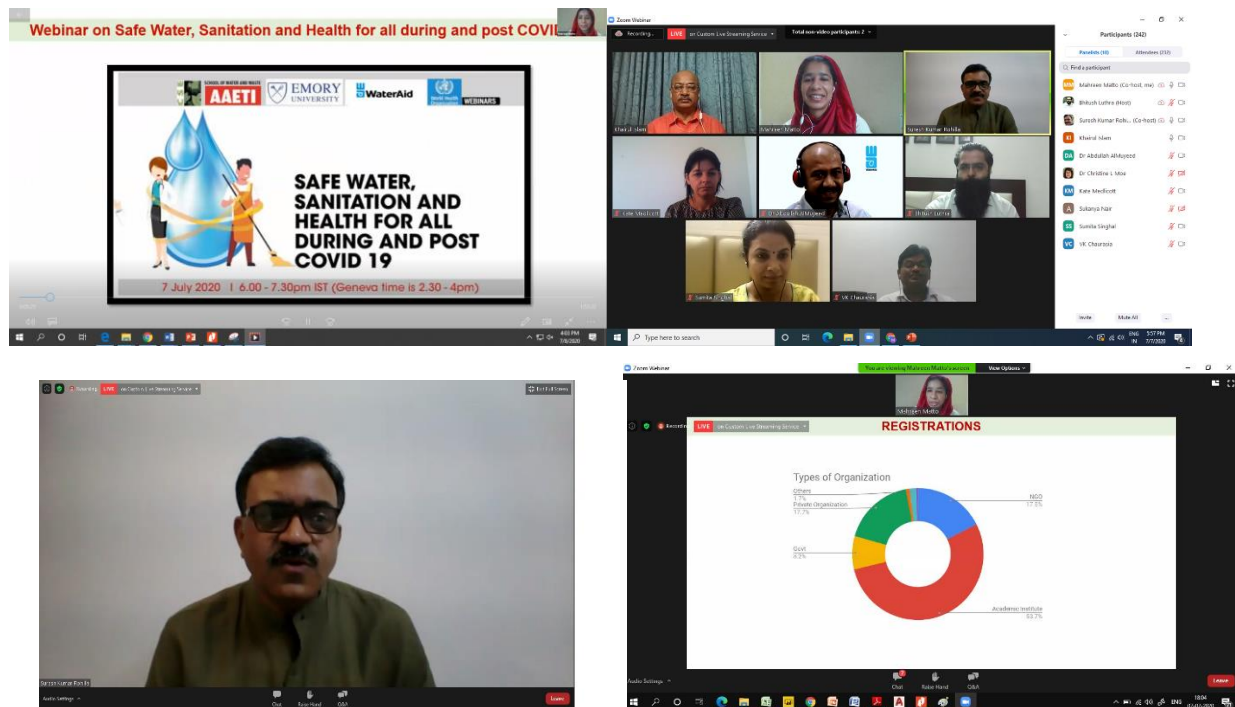


Proceedings of the Webinar

In the wake of the Coronavirus disease, COVID-19, key to keeping healthy is having access to basic sanitation and hygiene. This is the time to revisit and implement sanitation safety plan approach, to ensure safe management of sanitation services and as a critical element to protect human health. Sharing the challenges and lessons from developing countries on linkage between water, sanitation, health and COVID-19 is important as it highlight the shortcomings of current sanitation solutions. The School of Water and Waste, AAETI, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) in collaboration with WaterAid South Asia and in partnership with WHO and Emory University organized a webinar on 7th July 2020 on **Safe Water, Sanitation and Health for all during and post COVID 19**. The aim of the webinar was to share knowledge and explore effective solutions and mechanisms for post COVID-19 and similar events, as well as increase the awareness among masses.

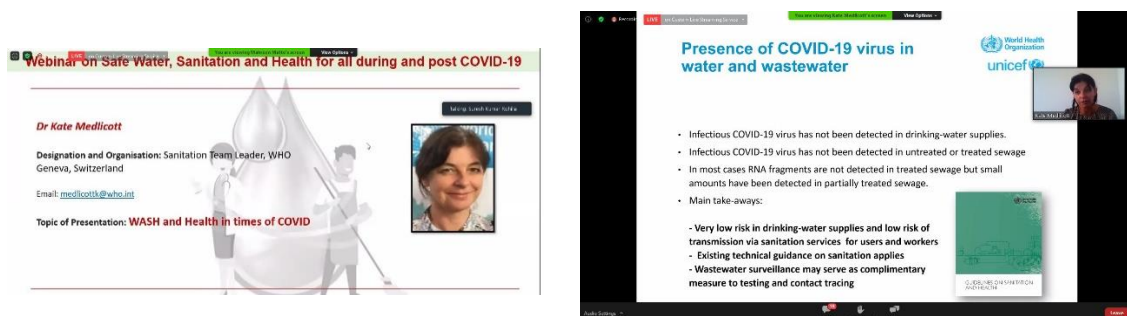
The webinar received an overwhelming response over 1400 registrations from approximately 65 countries. This webinar was livestreamed at youtube, LinkedIn and Facebook to accommodate the maximum number of audiences. The event was coordinated by Dr Mahreen Matto, Programme Manager, CSE and moderated by Dr Suresh Rohilla, Senior Director, CSE. The event had speakers from WHO, CSE India, WaterAid Bangladesh and Emory University while two eminent discussants on-board were from WaterAid South Asia and CPHEEO, MoHUA, Govt. of India.

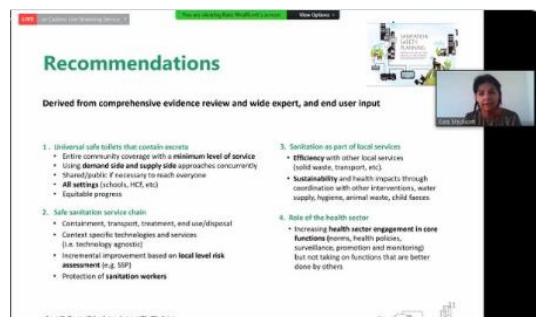
The webinar was commenced with an introduction by Dr Mahreen Matto, Programme Manager, CSE. She presented about the kind of response received for the webinar.



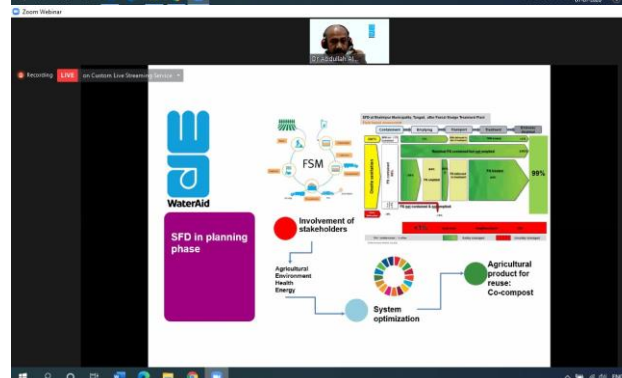
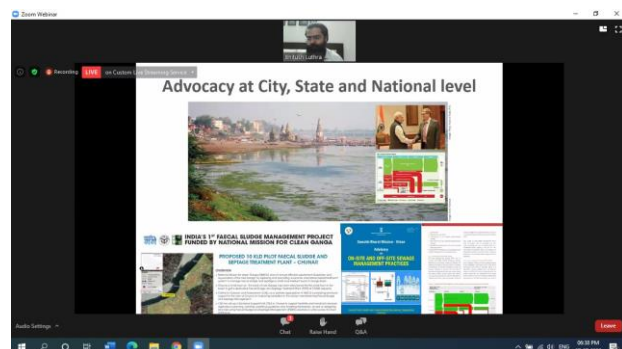
Further Dr Rohilla described about the agenda of the webinar and introduced the eminent speakers to present the sessions.

The first session was delivered by Dr Kate Medicott - Sanitation Team Leader, WHO. Her topic of presentation was 'WASH and Health in times of COVID'. She started the discussion by underlining the importance of WASH to COVID19 response and recovery. She also described the relation of COVID19 with water & wastewater and hygiene-related issues in the time of COVID19. She emphasized the prevalence of low risk of COVID19 virus transmission via drinking water and sanitation and concluded the session by highlighting few recommendations to address the WASH related challenges during this pandemic.





Dr Muyeed described the journey of Bangladesh towards safe sanitation by using SFD and the array of challenges faced by citing example from Sakhipur co-compost plant. He narrated the components, challenges and stakeholder coordination during preparation of SFD in the planning phase, implementation phase and the sustainability phase.



Dr. Christine L. Moe, Emory University USA talked about “Exposure to Faecal contamination in Urban residential spaces” and how one can estimate the trends in a region using SaniPath tool. She added that inadequate sanitation leads to multiple fecal exposure pathways which can be monitored by another advocacy tool called SaniPath, which is also helpful in understanding and categorizing the sanitation situations.

Webinar on Safe Water, Sanitation and Health for all during and post COVID-19

Dr Christine L Moe
 Designation and Organisation: Eugene L. Genghini Professor of Safe Water and Sanitation in the Rollins School of Public Health and the Director of the Center for Global Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene at Emory University.
 Email: cmoe@emory.edu

Topic of Presentation: SaniPath exposure Assessment of Faecal Contamination in Urban Residential Environments

SaniPath Exposure Assessment Goals
 Provide evidence for urban sanitation advocacy and investment decisions
 • Identify and assess public health risks related to poor sanitation and FSM
 • Raise awareness about these risks among stakeholders
 • Help prioritize sanitation investments and policies based on the exposures that have the greatest public health impact.

Estimating Exposure to Faecal Contamination
 Behavior Frequency: Pie chart showing categories like Open defecation, etc.
 Environmental Context: Grid showing population distribution and exposure pathways.
 The mean dose and proportion of the population exposed are summarized from detailed distributions and dependent on risk profile.

After the speakers the discussants - Dr Khairul Islam Regional Director, WaterAid South Asia took over the floor for discussion about this topic and put his views about risks, relevance and opportunities of WASH in the times of COVID—19 highlighting the need of running water. He shared his experiences of water, sanitation and hygiene situation in South Asia. He stated that fighting COVID19 is important but also thrust upon saving drinking water.

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Dr Khairul Islam
 Designation and Organisation: Regional Director, WaterAid South Asia
 Email: KhairulIslam@wateraid.org

Next discussant Dr VK Chaurasia, Joint advisor CPHEEO, MoHUA, India talked about the current practices of sewage treatment, various technologies, the importance of onsite sanitation and role of faecal sludge management. He explained the current practices and emphasized the importance of onsite sanitation systems to attain safe sanitation in developing countries.

Webinar on Safe Water, Sanitation and Health for all during and post COVID-19

Vijay Chaurasia

Designation and Organisation: Joint Advisor, CPHEEO, MoHUA, Govt. of India
Email: vkchaurasia1999@gmail.com




Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO)

Sewage Treatment Options

Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO)
www.swachhbharaturban.gov.in
7 July 2020



The webinar was concluded with a great discussion and Q&A session. The topics related with COVID19 presence in sewage and faecal sludge, tools, governance etc. were discussed which was followed by a vote of thanks by Dr Suresh Rohilla sharing how rigorously CSE is advocating the matter of water, sanitation and hygiene in collaboration with national and international partners.