



PROGRESS REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP ON WATER MONITORING IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ODIN PROJECT

On 14 December 2023, a brainstorming workshop was held by the Department of Tropical Medicine as part of the ODIN project on environmental monitoring focusing on specific human pathogens and determinants of resistance to antimicrobials in sub-Saharan communities.

The objective of this workshop was to take stock of clinical and environmental surveillance systems for infectious diseases in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and to identify opportunities for improvement. This workshop brought together the scientific community, policy makers, national experts and specialists working on these issues in our country.

This workshop was attended by 25 people, with 2 speakers who could not be there physically but who participated online via the Zoom link; They are Professor Biey Makaly Emmanuel, Head of the Department of the Faculty of Science and Environment of the University of Kinshasa and Professor Joel Nkiama Konde of the School of Public Health.

The workshop took place this Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 7:50 am to 4:45 pm in the VIP room Fatima in the Commune of Gombe.

Program

It was generally followed, and we did the following:

- Hospitality and facilities for guests by protocol service
- Welcome by Professor Dr. Vivi Maketa
- Professor Dr Hypolite Muhindo, the Head of Department of the Tropical Medicine Department opened the workshop by reminding us of the term references and also of the general and specific objectives of the workshop.
- The presentation of the Odin project and the introduction to surveillance of infectious diseases and wastewater AMR (Video sent by Dr Tarja from Finland) which was interpreted and explained in French by Professor Dr Vivi Maketa.

**UNIVERSITE DE KINSHASA
FACULTE DE MEDECINE**



**CLINIQUES UNIVERSITAIRES DE KINSHASA
DEPARTEMENT DE MEDECINE TROPICALE, MALADIES INFECTIEUSES ET PARASITAIRES**

- Brief overview of the situation of infection prevention and control and water hygiene (WASH) in health care facilities and in the community in DRC. Presented by the team of Dr Nsambi Bokombo Gertrude (Dr Chris Beya)
- Inventory of environmental and clinical surveillance systems for infectious diseases by the team of Dr. Isabelle Lumbwe Head of Office Hygiene and Public Health. (Dr. Germain Ntumba).
- Impacts of waterborne patients on the use of water resources. By Ingénieur Bienvenu Mulwa. Expert in the Water Resources Directorate of the Ministry of the Environment.
- Offering safer water through a Reliable production process. By Fyfy Muderhwa, Regideso Water Treatment Director.
- Contribution of genomic surveillance in the management of epidemics in the DRC. From 2018 to the present day. Presented by the team of Professor Placide Mbala (Dr Aziza Amuri Adrienne)
- Microbes and Environmental Monitoring. Data Sharing Frameworks. Presented by Prof. Biey Makaly Emmanuel via the Zoom link. In the absence of a power cut and a bad connection, We invited Dr Lutumbu Welcome from the environment department of the School of Public Health to continue with the presentation
- Environmental Monitoring. By Professor Joel Konde Nkiama via the Zoom link
- Liquid and solid waste disposal system in the environment. By Mr Trésor Lutetu, Vice President of the liquid and solid waste emptying network in the DRC.

In relation to the expected objectives of the workshop;

Overall, the stakeholder workshop brought together the scientific community, policy makers, national experts and specialists on these issues in our country. Participants exchanged and shared their experiences during the workshop and responded to the online questionnaire.



In relation to the different targets of the workshop;

All workshop targets were met.

Stakeholders, regardless of teachers, doctors, and experts, all responded.

The workshop was attended by 25 people from all categories, as shown in the attendance list.

In relation to expected results,

At the end of the workshop, participants took stock of the clinical and environmental surveillance systems for infectious diseases in the DRC and proposed ways to improve them (see results of online group work)

In relation to the difficulties encountered,

Power cut at times in the room, especially during online presentations and this created an inconvenience during presentations of teachers online via Zoom

The room that had been rented for lack of good electricity was not sufficiently air-conditioned.

Participants were not able to access the online questionnaires, so we were forced to print them.

Conclusion

The workshop was well-organized, thanks to the involvement of the organizers and funding from the Odin Project. The presence of our stakeholders made it possible to understand the functioning of clinical and environmental surveillance systems for infectious diseases in the DRC.