



Monitoring Community Health Through Drainage in Kampala

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Topics: Wastewater | Drinking Water | Society

An interdisciplinary study explores whether pathogen monitoring in drainage water could provide early warnings of disease outbreaks in densely populated urban areas with non-sewered sanitation, potentially reaching populations currently invisible to conventional wastewater surveillance.

The EMOCH project ("Environmental Monitoring of Community Health in Urban Non-Sewered Catchments") brings together Eawag's Department of Microbiology and Department of Sanitation, Water and Solid Waste for Development, in partnership with Makerere University, the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), and Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA).

Using Kampala, Uganda, as a case study, the project leverages the city's mix of sewerred and non-sewerred sanitation systems to develop and test a new environmental surveillance approach. The goal is to establish scalable, population-representative monitoring methods that could form the basis for early-warning public health systems in complex urban settings.

Watch the video to learn more about the research and what early results reveal

Cover picture: Linda Strande, Eawag

Collaborations

Prof. Charles Niwagaba (Makerere University) National Water and Sewerage Corporation

(NWSK) Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA)

Financing

Eawag discretionary fund

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