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Knowledge, Attitude, And Practice (KAP) on Hygiene and Sanitation Among Households in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) June and July 2019

Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) experience some of the lowest levels of improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) on Earth (WHO 2016). Low level of WASH is often directly related to experiences of poverty and/or conflict. In PICTs, only one-third of people have access to basic sanitation facilities and half to basic water sources (WHO & UNICEF 2017).

Negative health outcomes resulting from poor WASH systems include helminth infections, diarrhea, and respiratory and other communicable diseases (Duijster *et al.* 2017).

Water quality has been a major issue in FSM. In April 2000, an outbreak of cholera on Pohnpei, affected approximately 3,500 persons and caused 20 deaths, was the result of poor waste water control.

Sanitation is another major issue in FSM, even communities with good access to clean water have less than adequate sources of sanitation services. Those communities with poor water supply have large proportion of households that commonly use unsanitary pit latrines or other unimproved sanitary disposal methods (SPREP, 2010).

This study will determine a baseline KAP related to sanitation by doing a household survey across communities adopting the UNICEF WASH questionnaire.

This study will provide data to measure sanitation knowledge, attitude, and practice at household level and improve sanitation practices, through targeted behavioral change communication and will demand creation and access to safe drinking water, sanitation marketing, solid waste, waste water and drainage management. The study is ongoing and the results will be discussed and presented at a further date.

Key words: Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH), health outcomes, pit latrine

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