Target Audience:
Water utility managers, water sector professionals, representatives from municipalities, interested stakeholders

Description:
The unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the associated necessary public health measures required to combat it, are presenting water service providers and governments globally with several challenges, including threats to the continuity of service provision. Given the importance of handwashing and adequate water supply provision in disease prevention generally, and in slowing the spread of COVID-19 in particular, it is imperative that service providers can rapidly identify any bottlenecks in continuing, and expanding, uninterrupted service delivery.

Given this context, the World Bank Water Global Practice has developed inter alia the following tools to equip Bank task teams and government counterparts/service providers with guidance to respond to the COVID-19 crisis situation with regards the impact on financial standing of water service providers: (i) COVID-19 Financial Impact Assessment Tool, which is a financial planning tool that can be utilized to quantify the financial impact of the pandemic on the monthly cash flows of the water and sanitation service providers; and (ii) Considerations for Financial Facilities to Support Water Utilities in Crisis, which is a guidance note that lays out the principles to consider in designing the financial/liquidity facilities to support water service providers in responding to the COVID-19 crisis.

Learning Objectives:
The learning objective is to present the COVID-19 Financial Impact Assessment Tool including a brief hands-on training on its key features and how-to use the tool to facilitate its application by interested water service providers. The tool can be used by water utilities to quantify the financial impact on their operations and make evidence-based justifications for additional funding needed as a response to the pandemic to maintain and expand water resources during this critical period, regardless of the source of that additional funding.

Panelists:
- Midori Makino, Lead Water Supply and Sanitation Specialist
- Aldo Baietti, Sr. Financial Expert

Moderator:
Patricia Lopez, World Bank

Agenda:
15:00 – 15:10: Short introduction by the moderator on the webinar and of the panelists
15:20 – 15:50: Brief ‘hands-on’ training on how to use the model
15:50 – 16:10: Discussion
16:10 – 16:15: Wrap and closing of the webinar

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