

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Morobe One Health team attending to an outbreak in Wau, Bulolo District

Field Epidemiology Training Program Papua New Guinea

10 years of building PNGs capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to health threats

*Recipient of the 2022 National Department of Health, Public Health
Division, Executive Manager's Award for Program Excellence*



Acknowledgements

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Most importantly we would like to thank the field epidemiology fellows and rapid response team members named in the Appendices of this report. Without your dedication, persistence, and willingness to develop none of the work presented in this report would have been possible. You are ambassadors for PNG, and the country's disease detectives. We encourage you to continue applying your knowledge and skills post-graduation strengthening health systems and PNGs capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to issues of public health importance.



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Overview of FETPNG

The Field Epidemiology Training Program of Papua New Guinea (FETPNG) was implemented to address a critical shortage in field epidemiology capacity to help address national public health challenges. Performance against the health-related Sustainable Development Goals highlights the immense public health challenges faced by Papua New Guinea and underscores the importance of developing a cadre of field epidemiologists to respond to health threats and generate evidence to strengthen health systems. The FETPNG is housed within the National Department of Health (NDoH) under the Surveillance and Emergency Response (SER) Unit of the Division of Public Health.

The FETPNG program provides a tiered approach to strengthening the capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to health threats at the national, provincial, district and local government area level. The intermediate (9-month) program was established in 2013 by the National Department of Health (NDoH), in collaboration with the United States Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). An extended program was piloted between 2019 and 2022 (aFETPNG) in partnership with Field Epidemiology in Action (FEiA) at the University of Newcastle. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of increasing the number of individuals with field epidemiology competencies, strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration and communication, and the importance of a common language across sectors in times of emergencies. In response to this, FETPNG developed and implemented the first One Health frontline FETP program in the Pacific in partnership with FEiA and World Vision. In addition to field epidemiology training the FETPNG program commenced a 5-phased provincial rapid response team training (RRT) program in 2020 with the aim of supporting provincial health authorities to establish multidisciplinary rapid response teams in all 22 provinces. Figure 1 highlights these and other activities that make up the FETPNG program.

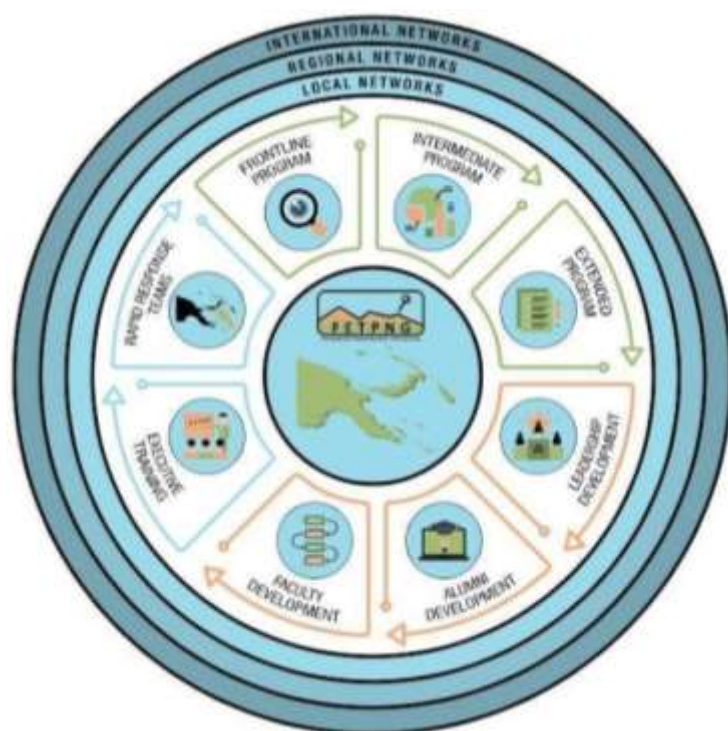


Fig 1: Papua New Guinea's Field Epidemiology Training Program

In 2023 FETPNG celebrated its 10 year anniversary with 17 graduates of the aFETPNG, 97 national and 2 international graduates of the iFETPNG and 61 graduates of the fFETP. Graduates have been trained in all 22 provinces and in 49 (55%) districts (see Figure 2). Almost half (40%) of the graduates are women.

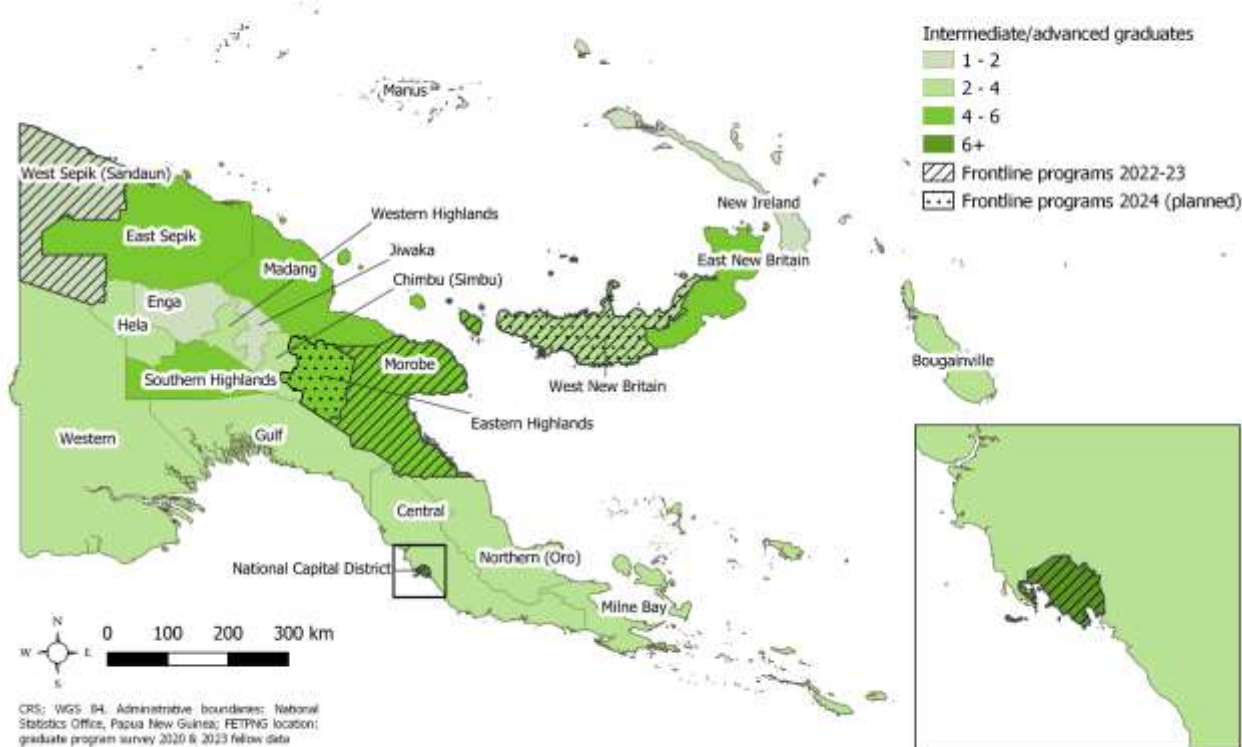


Figure 2: Location of graduates of the field epidemiology training program in Papua New Guinea*

Data Source: FETPNG Graduate Database November 2023

Interpretation: The Key illustrates the number of graduates in each province. Graduates working at the provincial level are shown on the map in parenthesis alongside the name of the provincial capital.

In 2023 the FETPNG program developed their strategic plan for 2023-2028. The program's vision and mission were redefined and five priority areas identified. Figure 3 provides a visual representation of the strategy.

This report provides a summary of activities carried out during 2023 and an overview of planned activities for 2024. At the heart of all activities during the past 12 months and during the next 12 months will be a focus on sustainability. While we appreciate the incredible support from our partners, we recognise the importance of putting in place mechanisms for ensuring we can independently build capacity within PNG to prevent, detect, and respond to health threats in the future.



Our Workforce Our Future

Papua New Guinea Field Epidemiology Training Program

2024 - 2028



Vision

To contribute to a healthy, productive, and prosperous Papua New Guinea



Mission

To train a cadre of cross-sectoral skilled health professionals who provide in-service assistance to advance and protect health and contribute to evidence-based decision making.

BUILD A CADRE OF HIGHLY SKILLED FIELD EPIDEMIOLOGISTS AT ALL LEVELS OF THE PNG HEALTH SYSTEM

- At least one field epidemiologist in all 86 Districts of PNG.
- Continual quality assurance to ensure programs produce competent graduates and remain relevant to evolving country needs.
- Strong alumni network of FETP graduates with demonstrable impact on health systems in PNG.
- Access to lifelong learning and professional development opportunities for FETPNG graduates.

LEAD AND ADVANCE CROSS-SECTORAL APPLIED FIELD EPIDEMIOLOGY SKILLS AND COLLABORATION

- Strong sustainable partnerships across sectors at national and provincial levels.
- Expand the One Health frontline FETP with a focus on provincial sustainability.
- Increase access to trained surge capacity during health emergencies.

STRENGTHEN DISEASE SURVEILLANCE, EARLY DETECTION, AND RESPONSE ACROSS SECTORS AT ALL LEVELS

- Lead initiatives to strengthen surveillance at the national and sub-national level.
- Promote collaboration and information sharing across sectors.
- Ensure functional Emergency Operating Centres and effective Rapid Response Teams.
- Active national network of Rapid Response Team members.

STRENGTHEN HEALTH SYSTEMS THROUGH EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING.

- FETP trainees projects are focussed on national and provincial priorities.
- Increase access to evidence for decision making through FETP trainees projects.
- Strong partnerships with policy makers and program managers.

LEAD THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF A SUSTAINABLE FETPNG PROGRAM.

- Leverage the FETP alumni network to secure a pool of trainers and mentors.
- Increased visibility of FETPNG activities.
- National and provincial financial commitment for FETPNG activities.
- Institutionalization of the FETPNG into the National Public Health Institute (when established)

What does SUCCESS look like?



Strengthened early detection and response



22 effective provincial rapid response teams



Cadre of 40 trained trainers across 22 provinces



Collaboration across sectors



410 trained field epidemiologists



Figure 3: Field Epidemiology Training Program in Papua New Guinea strategic plan 2023-2028

Intermediate FETPNG (iFETPNG)



The flagship iFETPNG has been running since 2013. In 2021 the program received Cifal accreditation as a certified training program with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. This is a 9-month competency-based in-service training program where fellows remain in their workplace and participate in three face to face workshops, separated by time back in the workplace where they undertake field projects to meet core competencies (Figure 4). The traditional FETP topics are covered; surveillance, outbreak investigation, data analysis and interpretation, however iFETP includes an additional competency; an intervention project. This project involves the identification and analysis of a public health problem; development and implementation of a targeted intervention to address the problem; evaluation of the intervention's effectiveness followed by public health recommendations. Fellows are encouraged to communicate findings from their intervention project to their line managers, colleagues, and affected communities.

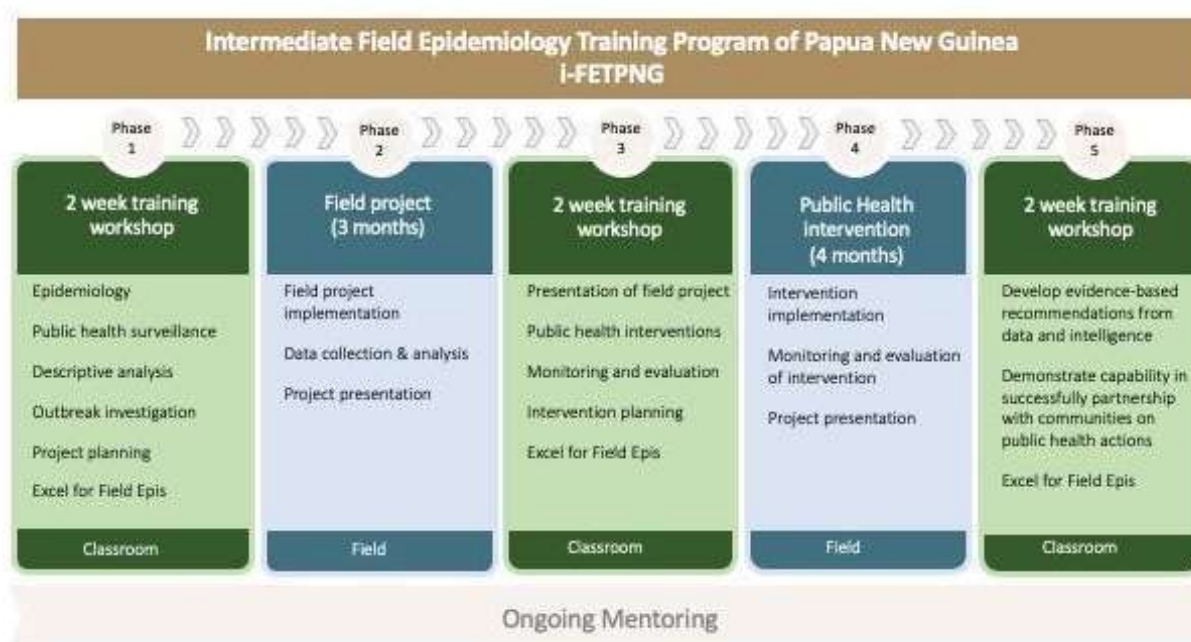


Figure 4: Overview of the intermediate FETPNG (iFETPNG) training model

The 8th cohort graduated in July 2023 and was the first cohort to graduate since the COVID-19 response began (see graduates and projects in Appendix 1). Graduation was the culmination of a challenging 15 months with political unrest creating additional hurdles for fellows in completing their interventions and requiring the cohort, which commenced in 2022, to continue into 2023. Cohort 8 marked quite a change in the institutionalisation and sustainability of the program with 90% of teaching now facilitated by PNG faculty. A team mentorship model was implemented to provide opportunity for cross learning and further development of both technical and mentorship capability. This approach is planned to continue and expand further in 2024. Administrative challenges resulted in cancellation of cohort 9 in 2023. Cohort 9 will commence in February 2024 with funding support from USAID through the WHO PNG country office.

The iFETP will continue to actively pursue global accreditation as an intermediate FETP through TEPHINET (Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network). This will ensure the program is meeting international standards and provide national and international recognition of the program. Accreditation requires strong and documented governance structures, transparent processes for fellow recruitment, demonstrable mentorship development, and a clear process of continuous quality improvement. The accreditation process is guiding us to review many aspects of the program and ensuring we have a strong evidence base for what we do. The aim is to formally apply for accreditation in 2025.

One Health frontline program (f-FETPNG)

The One Health frontline Field Epidemiology training program of Papua New Guinea (f-FETPNG) commenced in September 2022, following a grant from The Global Fund COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM). The program aims to enhance connection with the community and health authorities across sectors at a local level. The program takes a One Health approach recognizing the importance of building stronger collaborations across human, animal, and environmental health (Figure 5). The f-FETPNG is a 3-month program focused on surveillance, outbreak response, and community engagement (Figure 6).

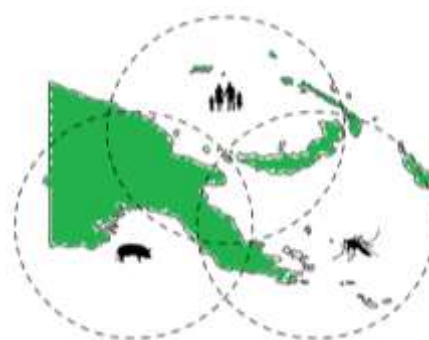


Figure 5. One Health Concept connecting Human, Environmental and Animal Health.

Key partners in the f-FETPNG include the National Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Authority (NAQIA) and provincial Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL). In 2024 we aim to establish working relationships with the department of Environment and Conservation and groups working on wildlife in PNG.

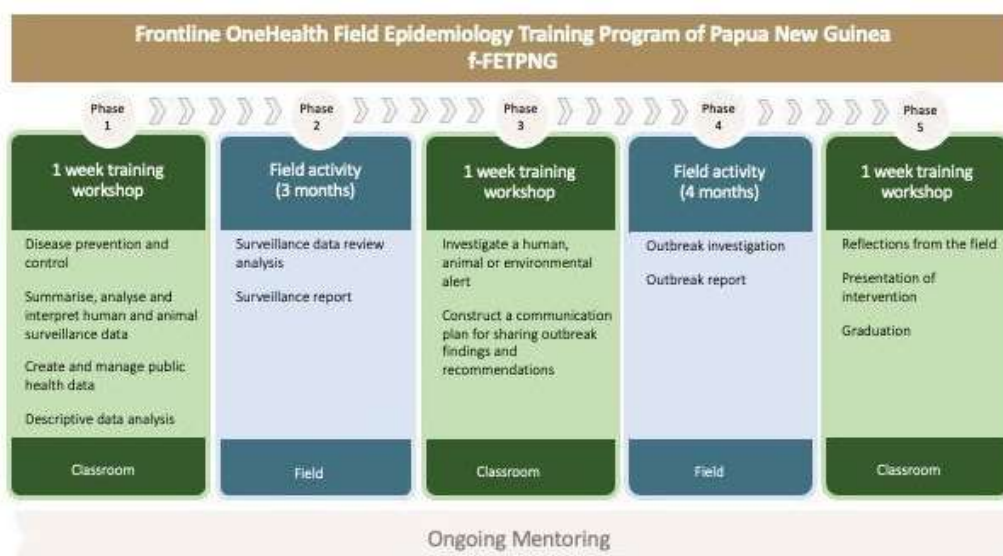


Figure 6: Overview of the f-FETPNG training model

The f-FETPNG has been designed to be embedded within provincial government authorities. Sustainability is a core pillar of the program, with provincial faculty from across sectors identified and supported through training in adult learning techniques and facilitator preparation sessions prior to each workshop. An impact evaluation was conducted in 2023, with plans to finalize and disseminate the evaluation report and a peer review manuscript in the first quarter of 2024. Evaluation findings will inform the further development and roll out in additional provinces.

In 2023 the program was rolled out into two additional provinces, Morobe and National Capital district (NCD) (see Appendix 2 for a list of graduates and their projects). With the completion of a total of four provinces throughout 2022 and 2023, the program has created an additional 61 disease detectives working across sectors in the four pilot provinces. As a direct result of the fFETPNG program an informal One Health network has been created in each pilot province. Graduates utilise various communication channels including WhatsApp, email, and phone calls, for ongoing communication and collaboration. Several cross-sectoral investigations have been conducted as a direct result of the program.

The full report on the first four cohorts is located [here](#).

Rapid Response Teams (RRT)

Papua New Guinea's provincial rapid response team (RRT) training programme was initiated in 2019 with the aim of improving rapid mobilisation of multidisciplinary RRTs at the provincial level to investigate public health alerts. The programme model was contextualised and adapted for implementation during the COVID-19 pandemic to a phased approach (Figure 7). While pandemic disruption to the programme throughout 2020 and 2021 limited progress, the RRT programme has been steadily rolled out through 2022 and 2023.

In 2023, the programme team conducted 4 combined initiation trainings (phase 1) and 6 combined and 1 single after- training reviews (phase 2).; Phase 1 roll out is now complete in all 22 Provinces, while only 2 provinces are yet to undertake phase 2 (an overview of provinces and trainees can be found in Appendix 3). This year has focused on the development of the curriculum for phase 3. Phase 3 is a five-day technical training delivered through a scenario lens. Subject matter experts working within NDoH and the Port Moresby General Hospital were called in to co-deliver the five-day phase 3 pilot to the National Capital District RRT in May, 2019. Also in 2023, the RRT trainers joined the FETPNG faculty during the training of trainers on adult teaching and learning principles, the monitoring and evaluation framework for the program progressed with the development of a theory of change infographic. In addition, operational research planned for 2025 exploring the barriers and enablers to RRT function received approval from the Medical Research Advisory Council of PNG. The [RRT e-learning](#) training package developed in 2021 remains available as a complement to the face-to-face training and serves as a refresher course or an introduction for new RRT members to undertake.



Figure 7: The Rapid Response Team training Model, Papua New Guinea, May, 2022.

Supplementary training materials

The FEiA eLearning project aims to support teaching in Field Epidemiology Training Programs with the development of online training. These materials provide teachers, fellows, and graduates with resources to complement face-to-face training and update the content taught in class and continue engaging in field epidemiology content and learning materials (Figure 8).

FETP online courses include the [Excel Fundamentals for Field Epis](#) course, which was launched during 2021. This course addresses competencies in data management and analysis and has been utilised during the frontline pilot training throughout 2022 and 2023. In 2022, the Rapid Response Team Training course was piloted and used as a refresher for RRT trainees, as previously mentioned, as well as the Basics of Public Health Surveillance course.

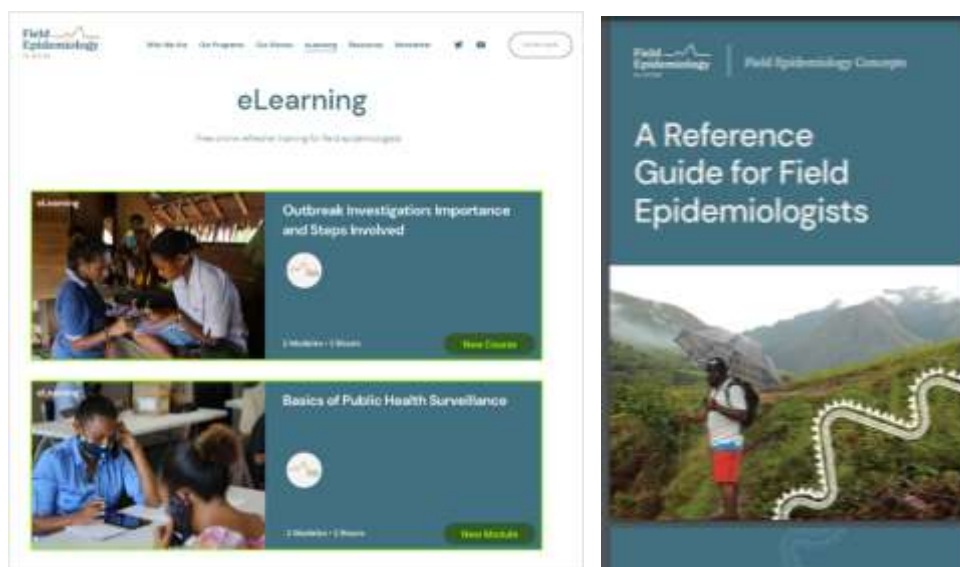


Figure 8: Outbreak Investigation and Basis of Public Health Surveillance module 2 courses and the field guide for field epidemiologists

The [Basics of Public Health Surveillance](#) is a three-module e-learning course that in 2022 was launched with the first module: "[What is Public Health Surveillance?](#)" that covers the importance of public health surveillance and how surveillance systems can be improved. In 2023, the second module: "[Components of Public Health Surveillance](#)" was introduced. This module describes each component, including data collection, data management and analysis, dissemination of data, and public health actions. The third module is under development and is scheduled to be released early in 2024..

In 2023, the [Outbreak Investigations course](#) was introduced. This online training is structured into two modules, covering the importance of outbreak investigations and the steps involved in investigating outbreaks.

Faculty development

Training of trainers

The frontline FETP identified junior faculty from the iFETP and Frontline graduates from cohorts 1 and 2 to support the teaching and mentoring of fellows for cohorts 3 and 4 of the frontline FETP in Morobe Province and the National Capital District.

In addition to pre-workshop facilitator sessions, a training session on adult teaching and learning was organized to prepare the trainers for their new roles. The workshop took place on the 17th – 21st of April, 2023 in Port Moresby and brought together eighteen faculty members from PNG, representing the human health, animal health, and environmental health sectors from the National Department of Health (NDoH), NAQIA, Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL), and international partners, as well as other local stakeholders.



Participant Simon Mendep, Environmental Health Officer and f-FETP graduated joined as junior faculty.

The aim of this workshop was to build knowledge, skills, and confidence in adapting and delivering field epidemiology training curricula. During the training of trainers' workshop, faculty were introduced to a variety of interactive experiential learning techniques, including facilitation techniques, training activities, and approaches, improving their ability to adapt training and increasing confidence and skills in delivering effective training. The workshop employed Adult Learning principles and Experiential Learning Theory to actively engage participants and achieve the desired outcomes.

With this knowledge, skills, and confidence, FETPNG faculty are more likely to take ownership of training, thereby advancing the sustainability of FETPNG and working towards building capacity across the provinces to meet the country's demand.

Following the successful completion of the workshop, the facilitators collaborated with the senior faculty to conduct Cohort 3 in Morobe and later Cohort 4 in the National Capital District. The facilitators utilized their newly acquired skills to tailor and adjust materials according to the specific context of their province and work areas. The participants reflected on how, in addition to enhancing their teaching skills and adapting materials, they gained confidence in delivery. They also acknowledged the relevance of these skills in their workplace, making them more assured in conducting training and presenting to their managers and colleagues.



Participants applying adult learning skills preparing and teaching back a lesson from the frontline curricula.

Towards institutionalization and sustainability

The FETPNG strategic plan 2023-2028: Our workforce, Our future was released in 2023 (see Figure 3 for overview). This document will be included as an annex to the Surveillance Emergency Response departments strategy and will guide the work of FETPNG over the next 5 years. The FETPNG strategic plan serves as a framework for construction of the annual work plan and the programs monitoring and evaluation plan.



Participant Simon Mendep, Environmental Health Officer and f-FETP graduated joined as junior faculty.

An important component of ensuring FETPNGs ongoing relevance to national priorities is the development of a technical advisory committee (TAC). A term of reference (TOR) was developed for the TAC in 2023 and a letter of invitation from the FETPNG Program Director was circulated to identify potential candidates from across key sectors related to the work of FETPNG. The aim is to have the first TAC meeting in quarter 1 of 2024. The TAC will provide strategic guidance on the direction of the FETPNG program activities and is a requirement of international accreditation through TEPHINET.

The NDoH restructure was agreed to and signed off by the Secretary of Health. The restructure includes a Technical Advisor for the Field Epidemiology Program (currently with the title of program convenor and funded through WHO), Technical Officer for Rapid Response and

Emergency Operations (currently with title of RRT coordinator and funded through UoN), the restructure also includes an admin officer to support program logistics.

Eastern Highlands Province (EHP) has created a position for a 'field epidemiologist' at the Provincial Health level and this position is filled by Bob Bomai, a graduate of the 4th cohort of iFETPNG, 2016. In November 2023 The East Sepik PHA advertised for an provincial Epidemiologist, at the time of compiling this report the application process was ongoing.

West New Britain province has secured funding to run a second cohort of f-FETPNG in 2024 through a provincial funding mechanism, demonstrating the institutionalization of the frontline program at the provincial level and a sustainable pathway for continuation of the program.

Progress will continue in 2024 to ensure activities under FETPNG are moving towards institutionalization and sustainability. The focus of 2024 will be on further strengthening the technical epidemiology skills of faculty and training additional faculty to support the mentorship and training needs of the rapid response team program and frontline and intermediate programs. Pathways for sustainable funding of the iFETPNG program will be explored with provinces and relationships strengthened with other institutions and organizations that align with FETPNGs strategic plan.

Engagement

Engagement with Ministry of Health counterparts in Timor-Leste and Vanuatu

FETPNG invited the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Timor-Leste and Vanuatu to undertake the iFETPNG program as both countries are considering commencing their own national program. In a similar model to the approach with Solomon Islands in 2019, FETPNG offered our Pacific neighbours support through training their future trainers by participating in the iFETPNG. Although cohort 9 did not go ahead in 2023, FEiA, with funding from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Centre for Health Security, assisted the FETPNG program to honour their commitment to support other countries establish national programs through the transfer of knowledge and skills and lessons learnt. Two MoH colleagues from Timor-Leste and two from Vanuatu completed the first 2 workshops of the FETPNG program and will complete their final workshop and graduate in the first quarter of 2024.



iFETPNG fellows from MoH in Timor-Leste and Vanuatu

Engagement with the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN)

The rapid response team program continues to engage with GOARN. GOARN are partners on the planned research on enablers and barriers to provincial RRT operationalization and are committed to supporting the RRT program team on development of Phase 5 of the RRT training model.



Engagement with other external stakeholders

FETPNG has actively engaged with the international FETP community throughout 2023. Below are a list of some of the presentations and publications.

Manuscripts submitted to peer reviewed journals

Malio, K., Peni, B., Hevoho, E., Yamba, A., Pukienei, A., Macfarlane-Berry, L., Velasco Ortuzar, T., Ropa, B., Puana, I., Kearns, T., Housen, T. Incorporating One Health into a Frontline Field Epidemiological Training Program in Papua New Guinea, Lessons Learned. *Western Pac Surveill Response J.* Submitted 15th October 2023, under review.

Housen, T., Ropa, B., Flint, B., Merritt, T., Hammersley-Mather, R., Pukienei, A., Dagina, R., Peni, B., Pogo, M., Durrheim, D. Focussing field epidemiology training on national health priorities in Papua New Guinea: Consultative prioritisation from health workers to policy makers. *Western Pac Surveill Response J.* Submitted 15th October 2023, under review.

Kipongi, W., Taylor, J., Housen, T., Marsh, C., Gibbs, P. Forsyth. M. Sorcery accusation related violence on the frontline of public health response work in Papua New Guinea. Submitted to WHO Bulletin 30th June 2023, under review.

Published manuscripts

Flint JA, Taylor J, Housen T, Ropa B, Smaghi B, Macfarlane-Berry L, Marsh C, Pukienei A, Bauri M, Durrheim DN. Involvement and readiness of fellows from Papua New Guinea's Field Epidemiology Training Programme in the COVID-19 response, 2020-2021. *Western Pac Surveill Response J.* 2023 Jun 24;14(2):1-6. doi: 10.5365/wpsar.2023.14.2.989. PMID: 37492236; PMCID: PMC10363416.

Abstracts submitted to the Global Health Security Conference in 2024

Malio, K., Kearns, T., Peni, B., Hevoho, E., Macfarlane-Berry, L., Velasco Ortuzar, T., Nicole, M., Yamba, A., Pukienei, A., Ropa, B., Puana, I., Housen, T. 2023. Developing a One Health Field Epidemiology Training Program in Papua New Guinea: Enhancing Capacity for Disease Detection and Response. Submitted 19 November 2023.

Peni, B., Thirkell, C., Malio, K., Nicole, K., Hevoho, E., Kagen, E., Pukienei, A., Macfarlane-Berry, L., Velasco Ortuzar, T., Ropa, B., Puana, I., Flint, J., Housen, T. 2023. An evaluation of the One Health Frontline Field Epidemiology Training Program of Papua New Guinea. Submitted 19 November 2023.

Hapolo, E., Marsh, C., Taylor, J., Flint, J., Smaghi, B., Thirkell, C., Ropa, B., Housen, T. Building provincial capacity for first responders to public health threats; the evolution of and lessons from the rapid response team training programme of Papua New Guinea. Submitted 19 November 2023.

Hapolo, E., Marsh, C., Thirkell, C., Hammersly-Matther, R., Ropa, B., Salmon, S., Housen, T. Barriers and enablers to the timely activation and effectiveness of provincial rapid response teams in responding to public health alerts across Papua New Guinea. Submitted 19 November 2023.

Presentations

Peni, B., Lakamo, J., Macfarlane-Berry, L., Malio, K., Hevoho, E., Yamba, A., Pukienei, A., Macfarlane-Berry, L., Velasco Ortuzar, T., Ropa, B., Housen, T., Kearns, T. One Health Field Epidemiology Training Program of Papua New Guinea. APCOVE Workshop - Networking and Future Directions. JW Marriot. Bangkok, Thailand. 26-28 April 2023.

Malio, K., Peni, B., Hevoho, E., Yamba, A., Pukienei, A., Macfarlane-Berry, L., Velasco Ortuzar, T., Ropa, B., Housen, T., Kearns, T. Keynote presentation. One Health starts and ends with relationships: Case study from Papua New Guinea. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Regional One Health Workshop. Tanoa Tusitala Hotel. Apia, Samoa. 15-18 August 2023.

Malio, K., Peni, B., Hevoho, E., Yamba, A., Pukienei, A., Macfarlane-Berry, L., Velasco Ortuzar, T., Ropa, B., Housen, T., Kearns, T. Case Study: Incorporating One Health into a Frontline Field Epidemiological Training Program in Papua New Guinea, Lessons Learnt. One Health Symposium. Pearl Resort, Fiji. 23-25 August 2023.

First South Asia Field Epidemiology and Technology Network (SAFETYNET) regional conference: Connecting the dots: Advancing human, animal, and ecosystem health. Canberra, September 15-19th 2023.

The first SAFETYNET Scientific Conference was held in Canberra at the Australia National University, hosted by the Australian FETP. FETPNG had two long oral presentations, two short oral presentations and a pre-conference interactive learning session accepted to the conference. Unfortunately due to funding and logistical limitations only one representative from all accepted could attend the conference.



Stanley Masi presenting on a dysentery outbreak

The Conference provides opportunities for trainees and graduates of field epidemiology training programs (FETPs) in the Asia Pacific region to present their work before an international audience of public health practitioners through oral and poster presentations. Themed "Connecting the dots: Advancing Human, Animal and Ecosystem Health", the Conference aims to provide participants with the latest information on human, animal and environmental health as well as field epidemiology methods through plenary sessions, brown bag lunch sessions and pre-conference workshops or interactive learning sessions.

The networking opportunities offered by this conference were invaluable in efforts to increase regional One Health collaboration and build the capacity of health systems in all countries and territories in the Asia Pacific region.

Long presentations

Masi, Stanley. 2023. An investigation of a dysentery outbreak in Tum Hamlet, Telefomin District, West Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea, January 2019.

William, M. 2023. A cross-sectional study of the barriers and enablers to COVID-19 isolation, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea, July - August 2021.

Short oral presentation

Titang, B. 2023. Dysentery outbreak among logging workers, Toki logging camp, Nakanai district, West New Britain Province, 17-20th March 2022.

William, M. 2023. Improving HIV reporting practices in East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea, June - August 2022.

Stanley Masi is a iFETPNG graduate, cohort 4 (2017) and aFETPNG graduate (2022), Maggie William is an iFETPNG graduate, cohort 3 (2016) and aFETPNG graduate (2022). Bernard Titang is a fFETPNG graduate from WNB, cohort 1 (2022).

Pre-conference interactive learning session

Peni, B., Malio, K., Havaho, E. Macfarlane-Berry, L. 2023. Integrating a One Health approach in FETPs (FETPNG, FEiA and Indian Ocean Commission). (Cancelled)

In 2024 FETPNG will focus on raising the profile of the FETPNG program at the PNG Medical Symposium.

Impact Evaluations

Work towards identifying the impact of FETPNG programs picked up in late 2023 with significant progress being made towards evaluating the fFETPNG, iFETPNG and aFETPNG. The research protocol was approved by the PNG Medical Research Advisory Council (MRAC #22.70) and the University of Newcastle (H-2023-0259)

fFETPNG

The frontline FETPNG evaluation team was led by Bethseba Peni (WNB, PHA) and Callum Thirkell (FEiA). Other members of the team included Kelitha Malio (fFETPNG coordinator), Miriel Boas (fFETPNG project officer), Elaine Havoho (NAQIA), Elaine Kagena (NAQIA), Laura Macfarlane Berry (UoN/FEiA), Trini Velasco Ortuzar (UoN/FEiA), Tambri Housen (UoN/FEiA).

Utilizing the impact evaluation framework and methodology developed by James Flint (who completed his PhD on impact evaluation of FETPs), seven key evaluation questions were identified. In the initial phase an indicator prioritisation tool was utilized to identify indicators relevant to the Frontline program. Each indicator was reviewed, prioritised and the method of measurement determined. Sources of measurement included routinely collected administrative data on fellows, outputs from the training program, an online survey and structured interviews. Data tools were then developed, piloted and data was collected in August 2023. Two teams travelled to West New Britain, Morobe, West Sepik and NCD to interview Frontline fellows, line managers and key stakeholders. During this time 28 interviews were carried out.

In November, the evaluation team gathered in Port Moresby to undertake the huge task of analysing approximately 350 pages of interview transcripts! This involved learning about and implementing the qualitative analysis process. The team also developed a quantitative analysis approach for the anticipated online survey data and began the initial process of writing up the research report for dissemination. This process is ongoing with a finalised report expected in quarter one of 2024.

iFETPNG/aFETPNG

The impact evaluation of the intermediate and advanced FETPs in PNG made good progress in 2023, the team consisted of James Flint (UoN/FEiA), Alois Pukeinie (AROB, PHA), Dia Oala (NDoH, FETPNG), and Bernnedine Smaghi (NDoH, FETPNG). The process for conducting an impact evaluation followed the process outlined above for the fFETPNG. The Theory of Change conducted for aFETPNG in 2019 formed a basis for the evaluation of the iFETPNG and aFETPNG.

In August 2023, the FETPNG evaluation team met in Port Moresby for a one day training on qualitative interviewing. This excellent workshop was facilitated by Nalisa Nuendorf from PNG's Institute for Medical Research (IMR) Social research department. Following this training, the evaluators split into three teams to cover different provinces and programs. Over a two week period, a total of 36 interviews were conducted with graduates from the intermediate and advanced programs, along with a selection of line-managers and program stakeholders. The survey was disseminated in November 2023 and data will be analyzed in quarter one of 2024. The results of these impact evaluations will be used to guide the continuous quality improvement of the FETPNG programs. The results will be shared with all key program stakeholders and funders.

There is a growing interest in FETP impact evaluation within the global FETP community. The impact evaluation framework developed for use in PNG has been shared with other FETPs and is currently being used to evaluate the Canadian Field Epidemiology Training Program. The impact evaluation framework and implementation guide was developed in collaboration with the Impact Institute and with input from representatives from numerous FETPs globally.

Alumni spotlight

Graduates of the FETPNG programs remain actively involved in strengthening health systems and prevention, detection and response to health threats. Below is a list of some of the ways FETPNG graduates are being utilized.

Policy / guidelines

Five FETPNG alumni/faculty were part of a workshop to develop the **provincial expanded program on immunization EPI guidelines** held on 14-15th November 2023. FETPNG graduates / faculty involved: Barry Ropa (FETP Program Director, chair), Edwin Benny (India FETP program 2013), Martha Pogo (iFETPNG cohort 3, 2015), Matthias Buri (faculty), and Bethseba Peni (iFETPNG cohort 1, 2013 and faculty).

Transfer of skills and knowledge

Three alumni were selected as **Vital Strategies trainers** to support data for decision making training in Solomon Islands: Bethseba Peni (iFETPNG cohort 1, 2013; faculty), Mary Kaevekore (iFETPNG cohort 4, 2017; aFETPNG 2022), Israel Naraman (iFETPNG cohort 3, 2016; aFETPNG 2022).

Alois Pukienei (iFETPNG 2013, faculty) conducted a **one-week surveillance training** for Church Health facilities in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville in November 2023.

Grants

Stanley Masi (iFETPNG cohort 4, 2017; aFETPNG, 2022) received a [Pacmossi grant](#) in 2023 to undertake an operational research project: Reducing Malaria Burden in Wosera Gawi District: Using Community Engagement to Co Design, Pilot and Evaluate Interventions at the Local Level.

What are graduates up to?

Randy Joe iFETPNG graduate (2019), Southern Highlands Provincial Health Authority (SHPHA) Provincial Disease Control Officer (PDCO).

I worked as a clinical HEO at Imbonggu Health Centre, SHP. I worked as the team lead for the RRT in Imbonggu and worked with the Provincial team to do contact tracing and sample collections during the Covid 19 pandemic. I conducted training for Health workers of SHPHA on how to collect samples and on IPC methods.

I was promoted this year (2023) as the SHPHA PDCO. While working as the PDCO, I led a team to do leprosy contact tracing and identified and diagnosed 4 new leprosy patients in Kantabo area, Nipa/Kutubu District, SHP. The patients are currently on treatment.

Elsie Stanley iFETPNG graduate (2017), aFETPNG graduate (2022), East New Britain (ENB) PHA

I was formerly the Family Health Program Manager (G.14). I was recently promoted to Provincial HIV/AIDS Response Coordinator (Gr.15). I am in my 2nd week in my new post and have requested for Provincial training after attending a national training for 5 provinces who had no WHO partnership support to conduct HIV training on PPTCT/ IMAI / 3 Step Test Algorithm for HIV/ Syphilis.

Our ENB provincial administration has approved K85,000.00 funding for a 2-week provincial training for our clinicians to increase testing, increase ART uptake and increase PPTCT, which I have proposed will be conducted in quarter one of 2024.

Plans for 2024

In 2024 FETPNG will build on the work conducted during 2023 while ensuring activities align with the five strategic priorities;

1. Build a cadre of highly skilled field epidemiologists at all levels of the PNG health system.
2. Lead and advance cross-sectoral applied field epidemiology skills and collaboration
3. Strengthen disease surveillance, early detection, and response across sectors at all levels.
4. Strengthen health systems through evidence-based decision making.
5. Lead the institutionalization of a sustainable FETPNG program.

FETPNG will continue to build workforce capability through the graduation of the 9th cohort of the iFETPNG program, rolling out the One Health frontline program in Eastern Highlands province and supporting the 2nd cohort of f-FETPNG in West New Britain province. The 2nd Phase of RRT training will be completed in quarter one with the final two provinces receiving their after-training review. The one-week competency based RRT training will be rolled out in 6 provinces throughout 2024 and a research study on the enablers and barriers to provincial RRT operationalization will be conducted in April 2024. The final iFETPNG workshop for our Timor-Leste and Vanuatu Ministry of Health colleagues will be conducted in quarter one, adding to our international graduates of FETPNG.







During 2024 FETPNG will continue focussing on institutionalization and sustainability of the program. Initiatives to increase visibility of the program will be aimed at encouraging provinces to fund the participation of nominated candidates for the iFETPNG. Provinces seeking a second cohort of fFETPNG will be required to provide funding support towards implementation. Development of a national rapid response training team with expertise in key specialty areas will be a priority in 2024, to ensure sustainability of the phased RRT training model.

With FETPNG celebrating 10 years since the commencement of the program in 2023, we plan to have a dedicated table at the 2024 Medical Symposium, showcasing the work of FETPNG over the past 10 years.

We will be mapping professional development opportunities for our faculty, and alumni, and looking for support to further build the technical knowledge and skills of field epidemiologists in PNG. Field epidemiology is an evolving field, and it is important a lifelong learning approach is adopted by graduates and supported by the Department of Health and Provincial Health Authorities to ensure PNG can meet the International Health Regulations and keep its population safe and healthy. We look forward to continuing working with our partners, receiving ongoing support from our funders, and developing new partnerships in 2024.

Appendix 1: Cohort 8 iFETPNG fellow overview

Table A1.1: Cohort 8 intermediate field epidemiology fellows, Papua New Guinea, 2022-2023

	<p>Julianne Gumbat- Surveillance Officer, East Sepik PHA</p> <p><u>FIELD PROJECT:</u> Evaluating the Syndromic Surveillance System for East Sepik Provincial Health Authority from Jan 2021 – June 2022 <u>INTERVENTION PROJECT:</u> To improve timeliness of Syndromic reporting for thirteen reporting Health Facilities in East Sepik Provincial Health Authority from January 2023 – March 2023.</p>
	<p>Melisha Andrew Dickson- PDCO Hela PHA</p> <p><u>FIELD PROJECT:</u> An investigation of Malaria outbreak in Wanikipa village, Koroba-Kopiago district in Hela Province, April-June 2022 <u>INTERVENTION PROJECT:</u> Assessment of malaria interventions to reduce the rates in Wanikipa Village, Koroba-Kopiago District, Hela Province, May2022 – June 2023.</p>
	<p>Joachim Kais- PDCO East New Britain PHA</p> <p><u>FIELD PROJECT:</u> Descriptive Epidemiology of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus amongst 30-50 years old in Kokopo district, East New Britain province from June-July, 2022 <u>INTERVENTION PROJECT:</u> Lymphatic Filariasis Reporting Pathway pilot for Mungou and Vatnabara Health Centres in East New Britain Province from February to May, 2023</p>
	<p>George Tunao- HIV Program Technical Officer, Gulf PHA</p> <p><u>FIELD PROJECT:</u> Contributing factors to high lost-to-follow-up among HIV patients attending Kerema ART clinic, Gulf Province, 2020-May 2022 <u>INTERVENTION PROJECT:</u> Factors to enable a reduction in high lost to follow-up among registered HIV clients at Kerema ART clinic, Dec 2022 to May 2023.</p>
	<p>Heather Huaupe- Research Officer- Infectious Diseases, NDoH, NCD</p> <p><u>FIELD PROJECT:</u> Descriptive cross-sectional study of diarrhoeal disease trends at the Maprik Health Centre before and after the introduction of Healthy Islands Concept, 2010-2020 <u>INTERVENTION PROJECT:</u> Improving routine monitoring of the Health Island Villages in Maprik District, East Sepik, May-2023.</p>
	<p>Isaac Nare- HIV Training Officer, NDoH, NCD</p> <p><u>FIELD PROJECT:</u> Descriptive Epidemiology of HIV Testing in Southern Highlands Province, 2017-2021 <u>INTERVENTION PROJECT:</u> Improving HIV Testing and Reporting at Pangia Health Centre and Ialibu Rural Hospital in Southern Highlands Province</p>









Melisha Andrew – awarded best overall iFETPNG Cohort 8 graduate, Port Moresby, August 2023








iFETPNG cohort 8 fellows, FETP faculty and NDoH Executives at iFEPT graduation, August 2023

Appendix 2: Cohorts 3 & 4 One Health frontline FETPNG (f-FETPNG) fellow overview

Table A2.1: Cohort 3 frontline field epidemiology graduates, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea, 2023.

Fellows Name	Surveillance Project
	<p>Adrian Kakayan- Nursing Officer Surveillance Project: Reporting on TB Treatment Outcomes for Malahang Health Centre from January to March (QTR 1), 2021. Field Investigation Project: Outbreak investigation report of mysterious deaths of villagers at Nemnem village in Wau Rural LLG of Wau/Waria District, from March 2023 and up.</p>
	<p>Kevin Bimbim- Environmental Health Officer Surveillance Project: Food Complaint Investigation, Lae Urban Local Level Government, Lae City from June 2022 to May 2023. Field Investigation Project: Food Premises Investigation at Lae Urban LLG, Morobe Province, July 2023.</p>
	<p>Jeffery Mumbiangke- Livestock Officer Surveillance Project: Cocoa Black Pod disease in four council ward areas of Kotte LLG, Finschafen district, Morobe Province from January to December 2022. Field Investigation Project: Field Investigation of Migratory Locusts on six sites of Nawaeb and Huon Gulf Districts, Morobe Province, July 2023.</p>
	<p>Davike Masange- Livestock Officer Surveillance Project: Impacts on Cocoa Production in Ward 9, Labuta LLG, Nawaeb District from 2020 to 2022. Field Investigation Project: Investigating the effect of taro beetle on taro in Musom Tale, Gobari and Situm in Labuta LLG, Nawaeb district from 12 to 18th July 2023.</p>
	<p>Janeth Margreth Lama - PNGDF Medical Doctor Surveillance Project: The Outcome of Malaria Survey Conducted from April – May 2023 at PNGDF Igam Military Barracks, Lae, Morobe Province, PNG. Field Investigation Project: Review of Diarrhea Outbreak in Momolili village, Bukawa in the Nawaeb District, Morobe Province, PNG in November 2021.</p>
	<p>Eunice Pusahai- Laboratory Scientist Surveillance Project: Positive cases for Covid-19 in Angau, Morobe Province, 2022. Field Investigation Project: Field Investigation on Positive Malaria Cases in Angau, 1st -25th July 2023.</p>







	<p>Brendon Benjamin- Data Surveillance Officer Surveillance Project: Assessing Weekly Syndromic Surveillance Report of five Health Facilities in Lae District for Week 1-12 of 2023. Field Investigation Project: Pertussis Outbreak at Kira LLG, Border of Morobe and Oro Province in December 2022.</p>
	<p>Sapon Suman- Animal Health Officer Surveillance Project: Containment of ASF through controlling movement of live pigs and pork meat in the month of March, April and May at Kenangi Checkpoint at Daulo District of Eastern Highlands Province. Field Investigation Project: Disease Investigation on Pig Deaths at Idam, Vanimi-Green District, West Sepik Province on 26/05/2023 to 2/06/2022.</p>
	<p>Manape Kum- Animal Health Inspector Surveillance Project: Slaughtering Pregnant Cattle at Gusap Abattoir, Ramu Beef, January to December, 2017. Field Investigation Project: Investigation of Suspect African Swine Fever (ASF) in Pigs at Walium and the surrounding villages, Madang, Papua New Guinea, March, 2023.</p>
	<p>Lama Gorgom- Customs Officer Surveillance Project: Assessing Inspection Activity for the month of May 2023, Lae, PNG Customs. Field Investigation Project: Influenza Like Illness (ILI) outbreak in Besibong village, Pindiu LLG, Fincaffen District in the month of June 2023.</p>
	<p>Emma Kitang- Environment & Conservation Officer Surveillance Project: Decline of Leatherback Turtle Nesting in Lababia Village (Kamiali Wildlife Management Area) along the Huon Gulf Coast, Morobe Province in December, 2022. Field Investigation Project: Waterborne Disease cause by Untreated Drinking Water amongst the Residents of Main Market Area, Lae, Morobe Province, January-April 2023.</p>
	<p>Cecelia Amol- Nursing Officer Surveillance Project: Positive Malaria Attendance at Centre of Mercy Health Centre Clinic, Kamkumung, Lae, Morobe Province in the first Quarter which is from January-March 2023. Field Investigation Project: Pertussis (Whooping cough) Outbreak Investigation infecting Children of less than 12 years of age from Onga village inclusive of the (3) three hamlets in Onga/Waffa LLG, Markham district 2 on 25th August – 3rd September 2021.</p>


	<p>Domben Gandeng- AIHSS Officer Surveillance Project: Surveillance Summary Report on Immunization Data Review for Hem aid post, Kabwum District of Morobe Province, January 2019 to December 2022. Field Investigation Project: Pertussis Outbreak Investigation Report from Garaina valley, Wau/Waria District Morobe Province – February to June 2021.</p>
	<p>Abraham Simbuna- PNG Ports Officer Surveillance Project: Environmental Oil Spill Surveillance and Containment at PNG Ports, Lae from 2018 to 2023. Field Investigation Project: Maritime Oil Spill, Surveillance and Containment.</p>
	<p>Ulaiah Tongon- Plant Health Officer Surveillance Project: Coffee Berry Borer (<i>Hypothenemus hamei</i>) cases in Eastern Highlands Province, April 2020. Field Investigation Project: Field Investigation report on suspected Fall armyworm (<i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i>) species in Sandaun, West Sepik Province- Papua New Guinea, 17th-23rd November, 2020</p>
	<p>Geraldine Yanopa Marong- Environmental Health Officer Surveillance Project: Household Municipal Waste Management in Wards 1, 2, 3 and 8 of Bulolo Urban LLG, Bulolo District in Morobe Province in 2022. Field Investigation Project: Household Waste Management and Malaria cases in Ward 2, Bulolo Urban LLG, Bulolo District from 1st – 30th June 2023.</p>








fFETPNG cohort 3 graduation, Morobe Province, July 2023.

Table A2.2: Cohort 4 frontline field epidemiology graduates, National Capital District, Papua New Guinea, 2023.

Fellows Name	Surveillance Project
	<p>Blacklock Sine- Health, Safety and Security (HSS) Officer</p> <p>Surveillance Project: Surveillance report of Water PNG Occupational Health Cases from January- June 2023 across Ten Business Centers (Pom, Kokopo, Kimbe, Alotau, Mt. Hagen, Lae, Popondetta, Madang, Wewak and Wabag).</p> <p>Field Investigation Project: Field investigation of Tuberculosis Cases at Water PNG; Port Moresby and Lae Branches During the Month of May to August 2023.</p>
	<p>Fena Stanley- Microbiologist</p> <p>Surveillance Project: Review of Drinking Water Quality, as Supplied by Mt. Eriama Treatment Plant and throughout its reticulated Networks in Port Moresby from June 2022- June 2023.</p> <p>Field Investigation Project: Investigation of Midge Fly Infestation of Drinking Water at Hanuabada-Elevala villages, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea from 2nd to 31st August 2021.</p>
	<p>Rachel Toniu- Nursing Officer</p> <p>Surveillance Project: Presumptive PTB situation in Gerehu Hospital from the 1st to 30th April, 2023.</p> <p>Field Investigation Project: Investigating Laboratory Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases in Gerehu catchment from 1st January -31st March, 2022 in Gerehu Hospital.</p>
	<p>Serah Gaiyowa- Nursing Officer</p> <p>Surveillance Project: Identification and Review of Fever Cases among the age group of zero (0) to six (6) weeks of age (neonates) from Children’s outpatient Triage at Gerehu Hospital from January-March 2023.</p> <p>Field Investigation Project: Investigating Laboratory Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases in Gerehu catchment from 1st January -31st March, 2022 in Gerehu Hospital.</p>
	<p>Elizabeth Agapi- Nursing Officer</p> <p>Surveillance Project: Category 1 cases presenting at Emergency Department, Gerehu Hospital from January-March 2023.</p> <p>Field Investigation Project: Investigating Laboratory Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases in Gerehu catchment from 1st January -31st March, 2022 in Gerehu Hospital.</p>
	<p>Clifford Wilford- Nursing Officer</p> <p>Surveillance Project: Yaws cases in the age group of 0-15 years old children from the month of March to May 2023 at Badili Urban Clinic.</p> <p>Field Investigation Project: Field investigation of Yaws cases in the age group of 0-15 year’s old children within the Badili Urban clinic’s catchment zone from 9th- 13th July, 2023.</p>

	<p>Mary Sungu- Nursing Officer Surveillance Project: Indicator based Surveillance report on malnutrition in children aged 0-59 months in Hanuabada village, National Capital District from January to March, 2022. Field Investigation Project: Field Investigation On Low Results on Exclusive Breast Feeding during the first six months from Hanuabada Village, August 2023.</p>
	<p>Veronica Niltainde- Medical Officer Surveillance Project: Review of Diabetes Cases at 6 Mile Clinic from April to September 2022. Field Investigation Project: Field Investigation of Contacts of a Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (DRTB) Sputum Positive Case, Gereka, 15th August 2023.</p>
	<p>Louisa Kidu- Medical Officer Surveillance Project: Review of Diabetic Cases at Lawes Road Clinic in January to June 2022. Field Investigation Project: Field Investigation of Leprosy cases in Vabukori village, April to June 2023.</p>
	<p>Figo Rofore- Medical Lab Scientist Surveillance Project: Biological Oxygen Demand Levels at Joyce Bay Sewage Treatment Plant (JBSTP), Moresby South District from January to December, 2021. Field Investigation Project: Biological Oxygen Demand Levels at Joyce Bay Sewage Treatment Plant (JBSTP), Moresby South District from January to December, 2021.</p>
	<p>Valentina Yamanea- Animal Health Officer Surveillance Project: Monitoring and distribution of the Total Volume of Veterinary Biologicals and Veterinary Pharmaceuticals Imports into Papua New Guinea (PNG) from Jan – Dec 2022. Field Investigation Project: Outbreak Disease Investigation of African Swine Fever (ASF) into Buffer Areas of Simbu and Eastern Highlands Province (EHP), July 2022.</p>
	<p>Steven Tomaki- Plant Health Officer Surveillance Project: Surveillance and monitoring of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) biotype composition in NCD & Central Province, from Jan-May 2021 Field Investigation Project: Fall Armyworm outbreak investigation in the treaty villages, Western Province in February, 2020.</p>

	<p>Eunice Tovili- Environmental Health Officer (Kimbe, WNB) Surveillance Project: An analysis of Food Safety Complains in Kimbe Town from January to October 2022. Field Investigation Project: An investigation of diarrhoea outbreak in Silanga Village, West New Britain Province, August 2023.</p>
	<p>Zita Kawang- Health Promotion Officer Surveillance Project: A surveillance review of IEC materials distributed in the National Capital District (NCD), January to May 2023. Field Investigation Project: Field Investigation report of Informal Vending at Ward strip Demonstration Primary School and Coronation Primary School in National Capital District—August 2023.</p>
	<p>Monica Nakilai- Environmental Health Officer Surveillance Project: A surveillance review of poor food handling practices by food businesses in Moresby northwest electorate, National Capital District, January to April 2023. Field Investigation Project: Investigation on selling of stale freezer meat products in 30 supermarkets in NCD July, 2023.</p>
	<p>Shirelyanne Hyukai- Welfare Officer-Health & Wellness Surveillance Project: Assessment of the number of illnesses of PNG Customs Officers by Insurance claims in PNG from January to March 2023. Field Investigation Project: Outbreak investigation of Malaria cases by PNG Customs officers and dependents through medical insurance claims from January to August 2023 in NCD.</p>
	<p>Nicole Kauri- Medical Lab Manager (Kimbe, WNB) Surveillance Project: Surveillance review on incidence of positive mycobacterium tuberculosis, Kimbe WNB, January to June 2022. Field Investigation Project: An assessment of possible factors associated with TB in Kimbe Hospital, August 2023.</p>



f-FETPNG cohort 4 graduation, National Capital District, October 2023.

Appendix 3: Provincial Rapid Response Team training overview

Table A3.1 – Record of Rapid Response Team (RRT) Trainings conducted in 2023

Training information			Type of Training	Format of training (virtual, F2F)	Participants		
Training location	Training length (days)	Training dates			Total participants	# females	# males
Wewak	2	07-08/06/23	RRT initiation: New format June 2023-Combine ESPHA and WSPHA	F2F	19	9	10
Mt Hagen	2	17-18/07/23	RRT initiation: New format June 2023-Combine Hela and SHP PHA	F2F	22	10	12
Mt Hagen	2	20-21/07/23	RRT initiation: New format June 2023-Combine Enga and Jiwaka PHA	F2F	27	8	19
Goroka	2	17-18/08/23	RRT initiation: New format June 2022	F2F	30	12	18
Total Initiation training					98	39	59

Table A3.2 Summary of Rapid Response Team (RRT) After Training Reviews (ATR) conducted in 2023

Training information			Type of Training	Format of training (virtual, F2F)	Participants		
Training location	Training length (days)	Training dates			Total participants	# females	# males
Kokopo	2	20-21th/06/23	After Training Review 2023-Combine ENB and NIPHA RRTs	F2F	10	3	7
Mt Hagen	2	24-25th/07/23	After Training Review 2023-Western Highlands PHA	F2F	9	6	3
Central Province - Dixies Bungalows	2	18-13th/10/23	After Training Review 2023-Combine-Combine Central and Milne Bay PHA RRTs	F2F	8	3	5
Mt Hagen	2	30-31st/10/23	After Training Review 2023-Combine Hela and SHP PHA RRTs	F2F	15	10	5
Mt Hagen	2	02-03/11/23	After Training Review 2023-Combine Enga and Jiwaka PHA RRT	F2F	14	1	13
Kundiawa	2	06-07/11/23	After Training Review 2023-Combine Simbu and EHP PHA RRT	F2F	17	5	12
Vanimo	2	23-24/11/23	After Training Review	F2F	14	5	9
Total After Training Reviews					87	33	54

Table A3.3 Summary of Rapid Response Team (RRT) competency based training (phase 3) conducted in 2023

Training information			Type of Training	Format of training (virtual, F2F)	Participants		
Training location	Training length (days)	Training dates			Total participants	# females	# males
Central Province	5	1-5 May	Technical competency based training	F2F	9	8	1
Total Phase 5					9	8	1