

**Economics
Seminar
Series
2019**



**SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ECONOMICS**

Seminar

Public Health Surveillance

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Date: August 22, 2019
(Thursday)
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Venue: Multipurpose Hall, Mezzanine Floor
Akbar Bhawan, Satya Marg,
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

All are Welcome

ABSTRACT

'Public health surveillance is the continuous, systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of health-related data needed for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice' (WHO). When we think of surveillance or surveys, we usually think of statisticians as the foremost experts. However, in order to have conceptual clarity, the primary stakeholders are researchers who can – a) develop or adapt existing surveillance frameworks according to local needs, b) map various stakeholders, financing sources, etc. at various levels from the perspective of whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches, c) conduct 'analysis and interpretation' of data for theoretical (for e.g. epidemiology) as well as applied (priority-setting, public health policy and practice, impact assessments, impending public health emergencies, etc.) purposes, and d) conduct periodic review of surveillance activities, data use, framework vis-à-vis evolving requirements. The need for high quality conceptual and applied research as part of surveillance (both before and after collection of data) is not widely appreciated. I wish to highlight the centrality of research for public health surveillance and discuss the role that ICT can play in this regard.