

## *SBS Seminar Announcement*

### **Integration of Science, Policies and Operations for Public Health**

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Associated Vectors

#### **Abstract**

Biological science is a powerful tool for public health. With the mounting challenge confronting public health practitioners globally, a higher degree of science-operation-policy integration, particularly in Asia, is required to allow practitioners to gain mileage and to stay ahead of public health threats.

The presentation will demonstrate efforts of National Environment Agency in preparing for and controlling vector borne diseases in Singapore. Since 2005, the previously increasing dengue trend has been reversed. In 2008 and 2009, chikungunya and malaria outbreaks were successfully controlled, respectively. These were facilitated by the amalgamation of various disciplines of science such as entomology, virology, molecular epidemiology and informatics; and prompt translation of research findings to field operations. However, the challenge remains vexing. Every aversion of an outbreak heightens the susceptibility of the population to the disease. This underscores the irony of battling endemic diseases in an environment that is very conducive for their transmission. This also highlights the need for more scientific support and novel solutions.

In the horizon are new promising innovative tools for dengue control, such as the sterile insect technique, wolbachia infected Aedes and vaccine. The strengths and limitations of these tools will also be discussed.

**Monday, 19 Nov 2012 2.30pm to 3.30pm SBS Classroom 7 (SBS-B1n-17)**

Host: Professor Mark Featherstone