



WBEready - Wastewater-based epidemiology and preparedness

Research needs for a roadmap to build adaptive monitoring capacity in the public health service

*PD Dr. Marek Widera (Goethe-University Frankfurt, University Hospital)
On behalf of the WBEready consortium*

Gefördert durch:



Virologie
Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt



Bundesministerium
für Gesundheit

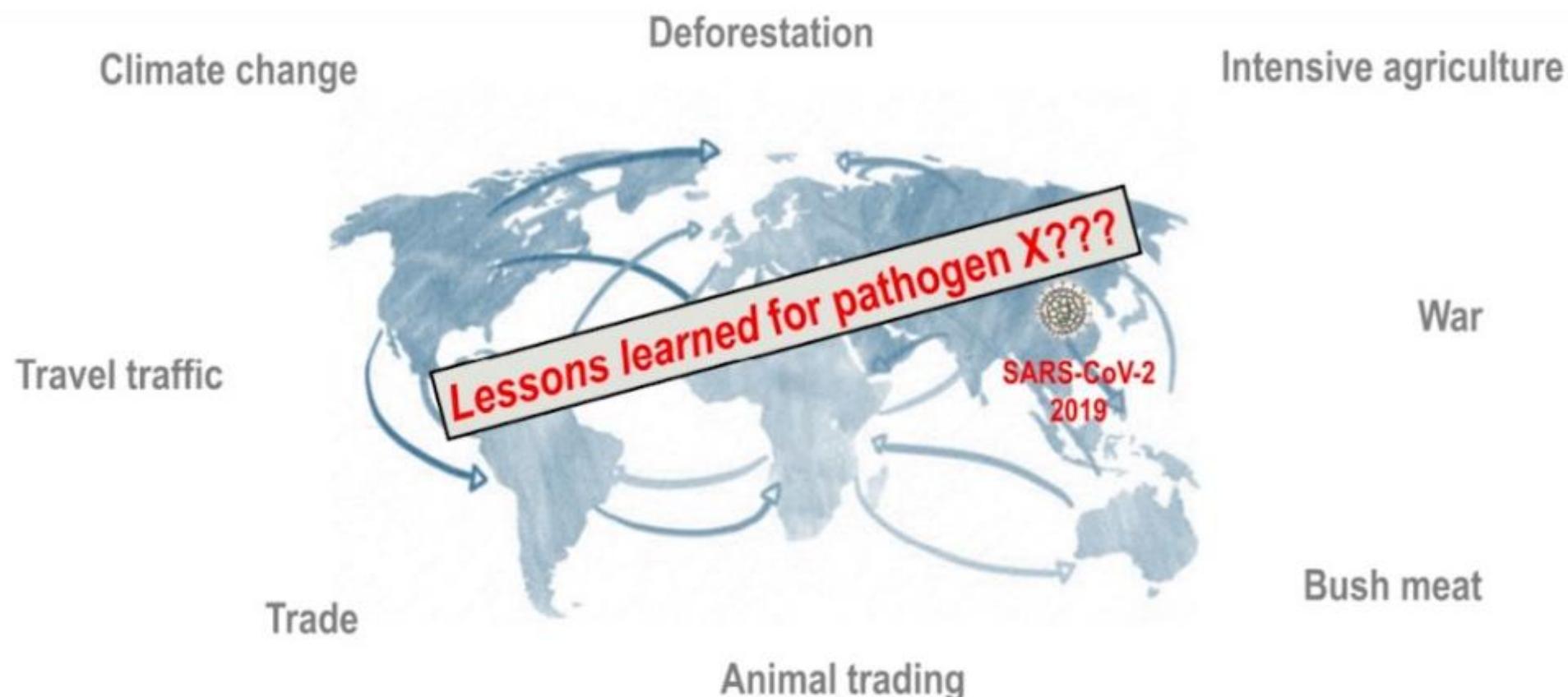
Federal Ministry
of Health

Our world is getting closer...



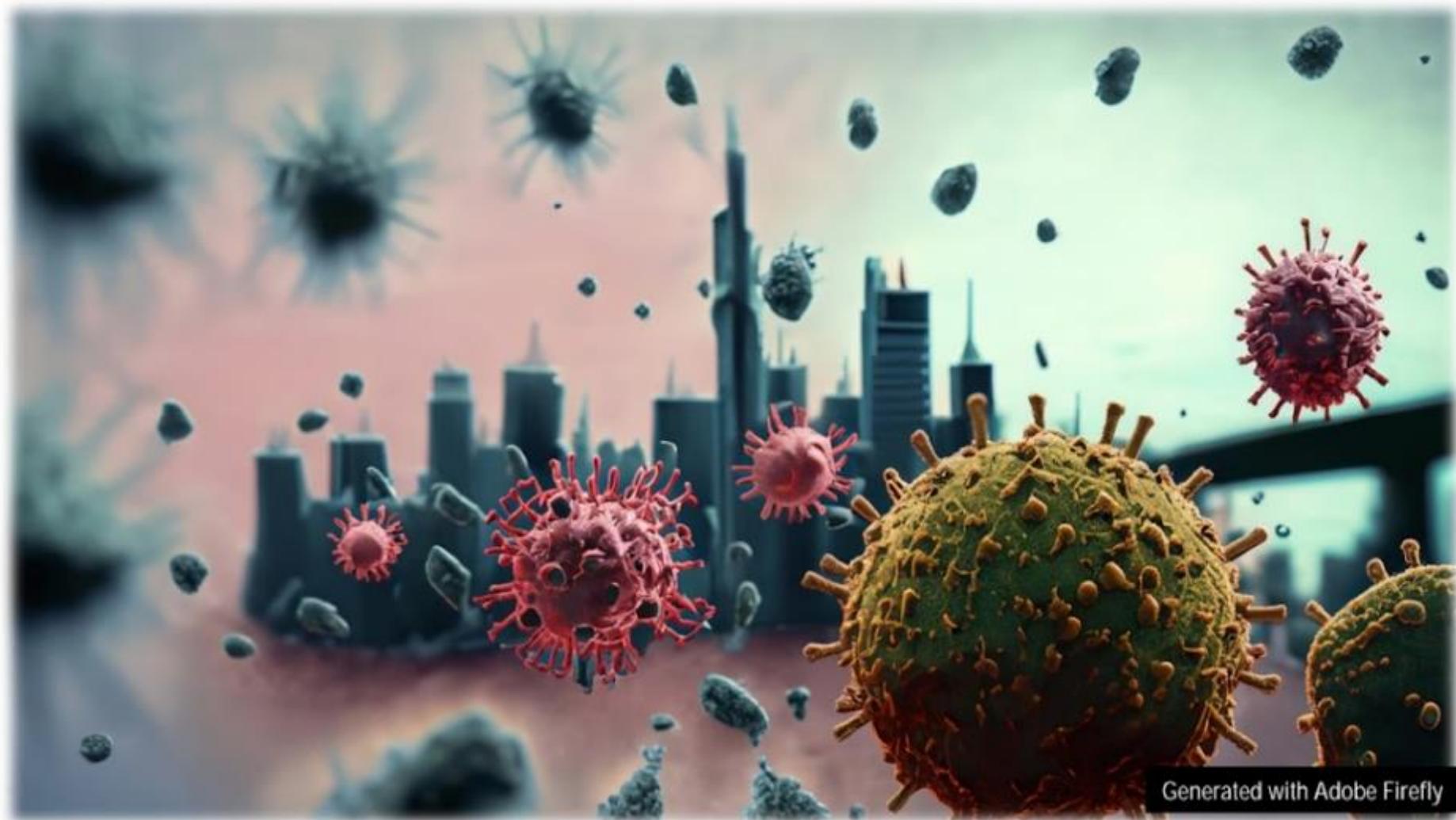
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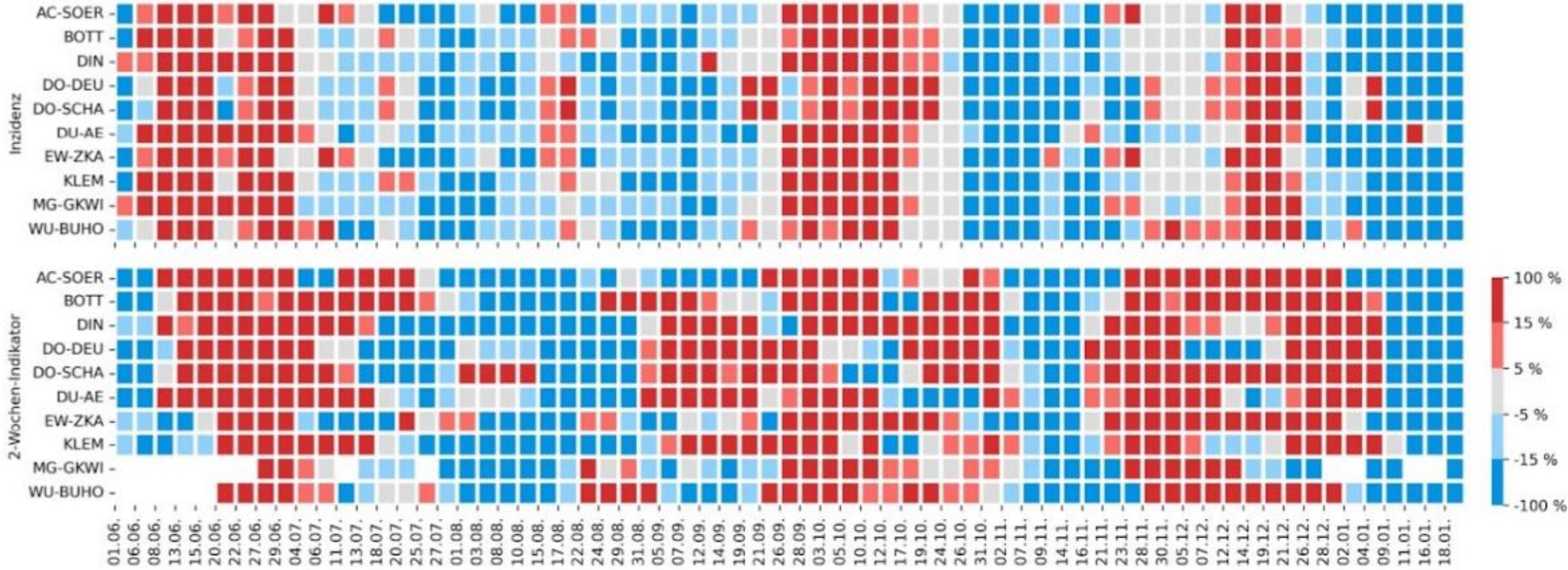
WBReady: From routine to pandemic preparedness...



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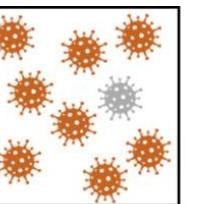
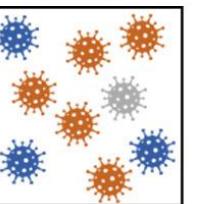
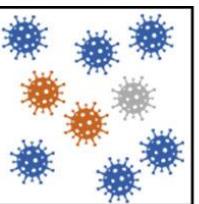
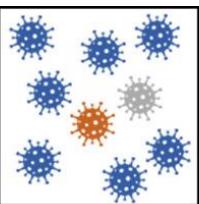
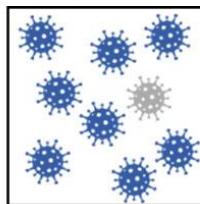
Trend analysis of SARS-CoV-2 RNA measured in wastewater

COVIDready



Decentral, successive workflow for wastewater laboratories

Prevalence
SARS-CoV-2
variants
in population



COVIDready

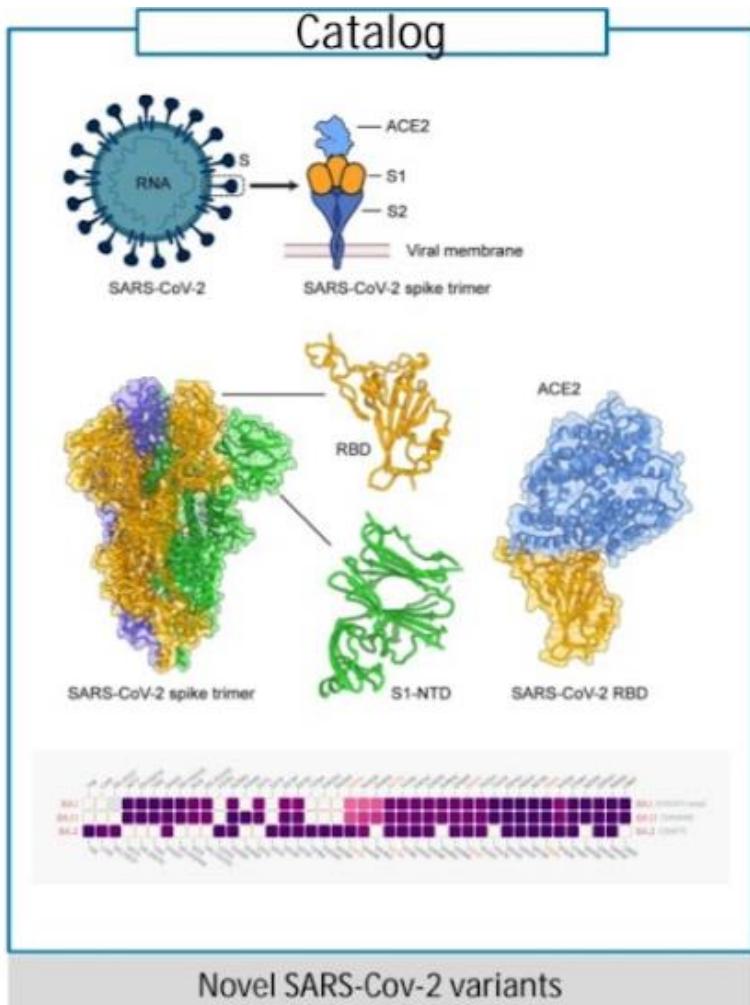
WWTP

sampling (twice a week)



Wilhelm et al. 2022, Sci Total Environ

Clinical relevance of SARS-CoV-2 VoC screening



Wilhelm, A., 2022. STOTEN, Vol 846, 10 Nov 2022, 157375; Wilhelm, Widera et al. 2022. eBioMed 2022 Aug;82:104158.; Du et al. 2021, Cellular & Molecular Immunology, Grohmann et al. 2021, JRC technical report - European Network of GMO Laboratories

WBReady: From routine to pandemic preparedness...

COVIDready → **WBReady**

Gefördert durch:



Bundesministerium
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COVIDready → WBReady

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Universitätsklinikum Frankfurt



Analytical methods



University Medicine Essen
Institute for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine

Health-related and clinically relevant questions



Environmental and Wastewater-Related Assessment

Data management and analysis



Universitätsmedizin Essen
Universitätsklinikum
Institut für Urban Public Health (InUPH)



Emschergenossenschaft
Lippeverband



Stepwise target expansion

Level 1 - Parameter

Level 2 - Parameter

Level 3 - Parameter



Stepwise target expansion

Level 1 - Parameter

Circulating:
SARS-CoV-2
Influenza A/B
RSV A/B
HCoV
...

Level 2 - Parameter

Level 3 - Parameter

Level 1: Provides regular, consistent, fast and cost-effective monitoring of endemic or frequent diseases



Stepwise target expansion

Level 1 - Parameter

Circulating:
SARS-CoV-2
Influenza A/B
RSV A/B
HCoV
...

Level 2 - Parameter

Emergency:
MPox
Polio
HepA
HepE
...

Level 3 - Parameter

Level 2: Enables a rapid response to local outbreaks and emergencies



Stepwise target expansion

Level 1 - Parameter

- Circulating:
SARS-CoV-2
Influenza A/B
RSV A/B
HCoV
...

Level 2 - Parameter

- Emergency:
MPox
Polio
HepA
HepE
...

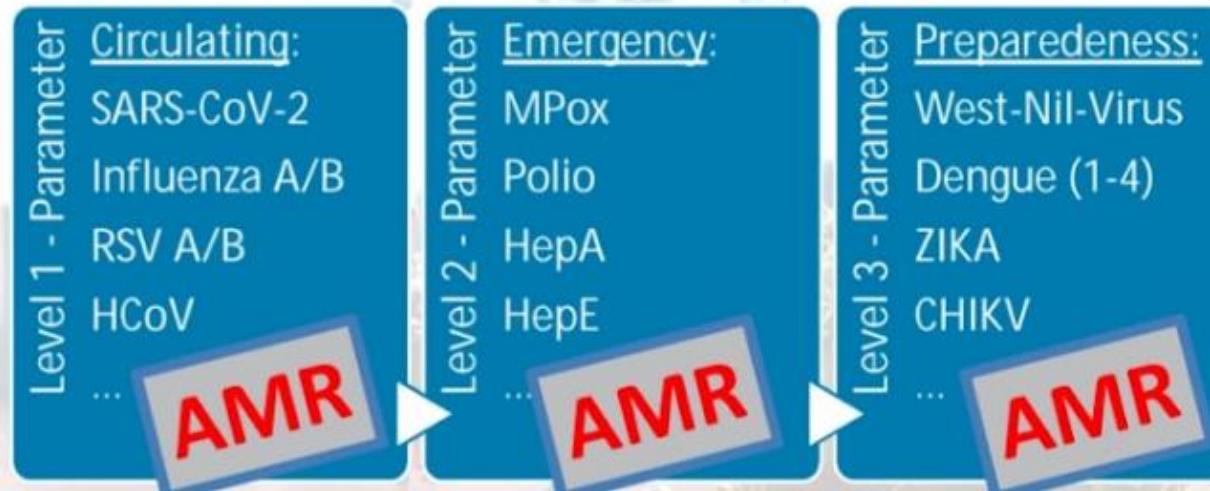
Level 3 - Parameter

- Preparedness:
West-Nil-Virus
Dengue (1-4)
ZIKA
CHIKV
...

Level 3: Scanning for potential threats enables the assessment of possible rare or unexpected diseases at the population level...



Stepwise target expansion



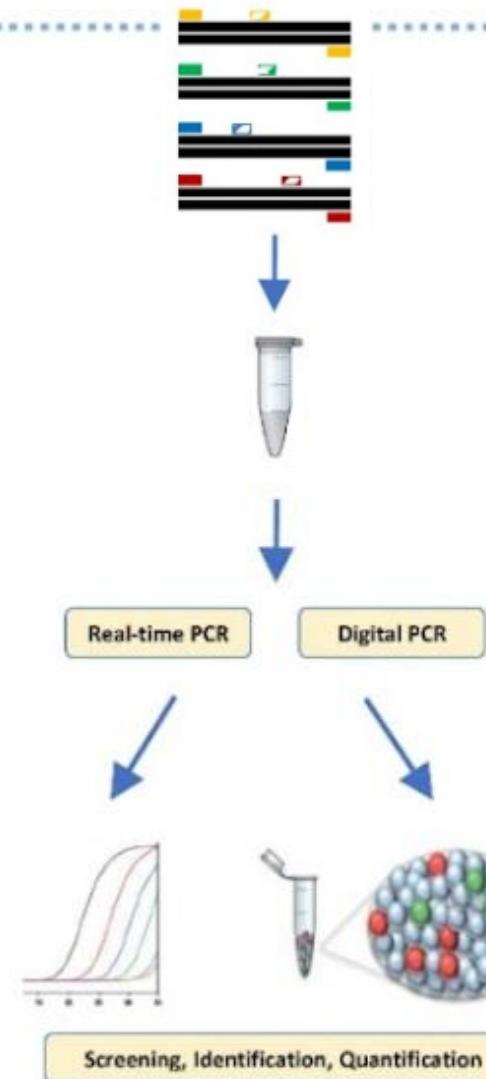
AMR: Scanning for antibiotic resistant bacteria enables the detection of possible and unexpected resistance issues at the population level...

WBReady: Core objectives of virus monitoring in wastewater

- Level 1: Circulating & common resp. humanpathogenic viruses
SARS-CoV-2, Influenza (A/B), RSV (A/B),
HCoV (NL63, 229E, OC43, HKu1)...
- Level 2: Emergency
HepA, HepE, Mpox, (non-Variola Orthopox)...
- Level 3: Preparedeness
Arboviruses: West-Nil-Virus, Dengue (1-4), ZIKA, CHIKV...
- Parameters for normalization
PMMoV, CrAssphage, BCoV...



Grohmann et al. 2021, JRC technical report - Guidance document on multiplex real-time PCR methods, European Network of GMO Laboratories



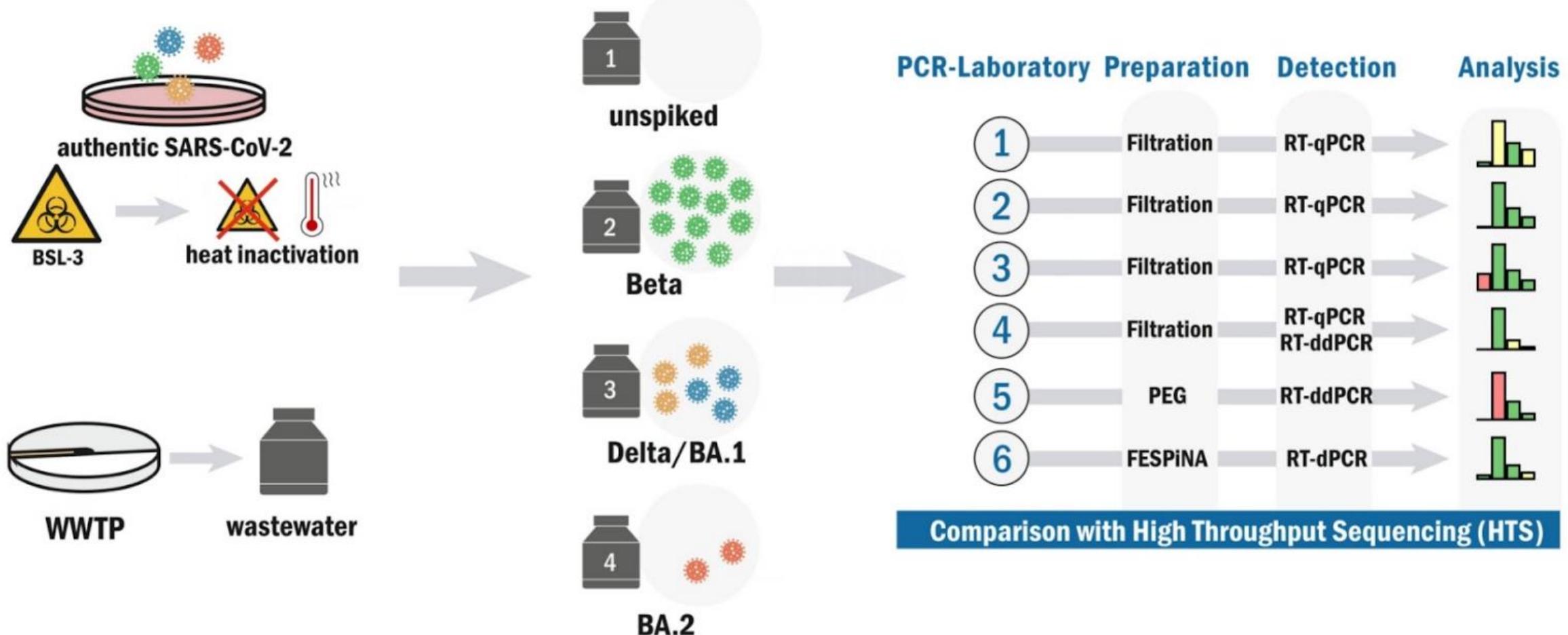
WBReady: Core objectives of AMR monitoring in wastewater

- Quantitative PCR
 - cost-efficient, sensitive, semi-quantitative (PCR)
- ampliSeq
 - more expensive, sensitive, genotyping, 16s rDNA might be included, mix of approx. 100-300 primer pairs
- Shotgun sequencing
 - expensive, probably less sensitive, no PCR bias, contigs / MAGs, identification of new targets > development of new PCR assays

<i>blaOXA-48</i>
<i>blaOXA-23</i>
<i>blaOXA-24</i>
<i>blaOXA-58</i>
<i>blaOXA-51</i>
<i>blaOXA-72</i>
<i>blaKPC-2</i>
<i>blaKPC-3</i>
<i>blaIMP</i>
<i>mcr-1</i>
<i>mcr-2</i>
<i>ermB</i>
<i>blaVim1</i>
<i>blaVim2</i>
<i>blaNDM-1</i>
<i>blaNDM-5</i>
<i>mecA</i>
<i>mecC</i>
<i>blaTEM</i>
<i>blaCTXM-15</i>
<i>blaCTXM-32</i>
<i>blaCTXM</i>
<i>blaCMY2</i>
<i>blaSHV</i>
<i>sul1</i>
<i>tetM (tetO?, tetA?, tetB?)</i>
<i>vanA</i>
<i>vanB</i>

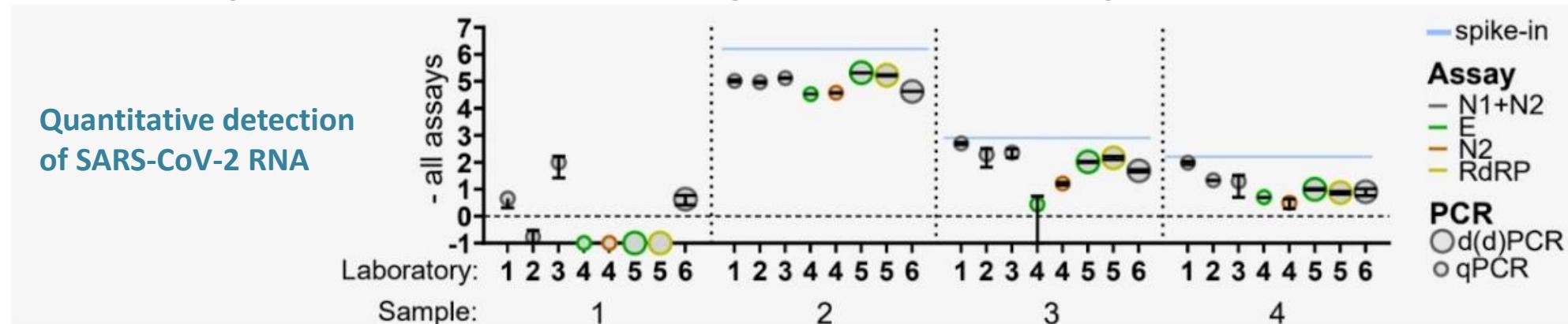
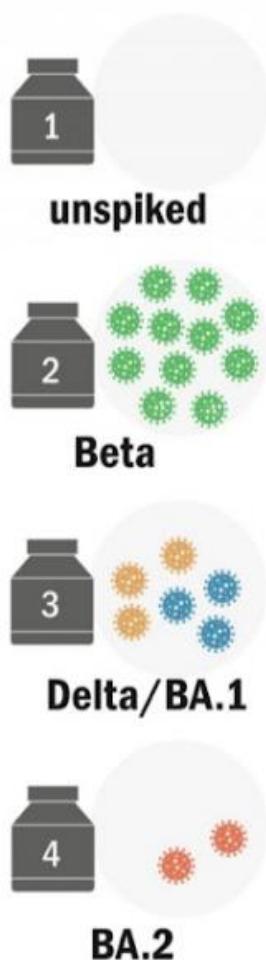
PD Dr. Annette Jurke (LZG NRW)

Quality control in wastewater monitoring for PCR and Sequencing (HTS/NGS)



Wilhelm et al. 2023, Sci Total Environ

Quality control in wastewater monitoring for PCR and Sequencing (HTS/NGS)

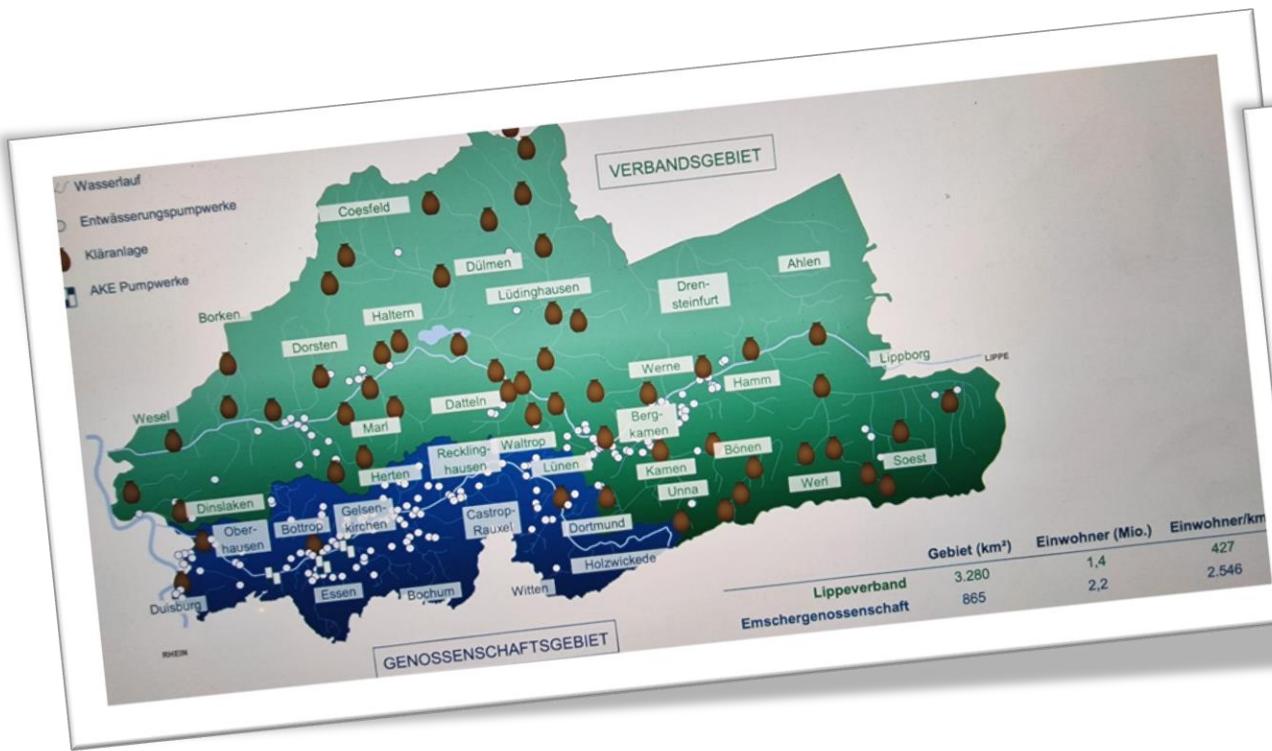


Wilhelm et al. 2023, Sci Total Environ

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Emschergenossenschaft
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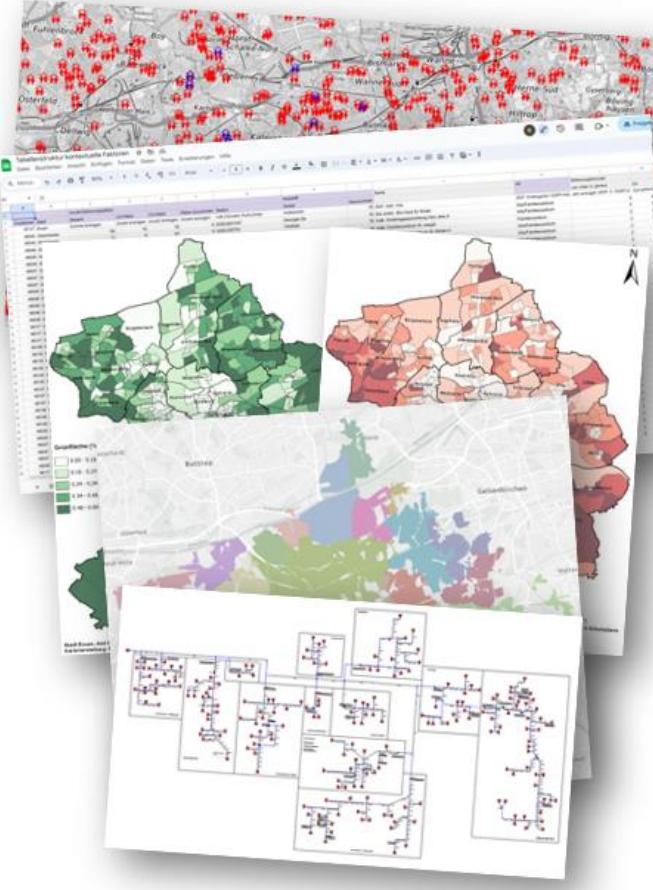
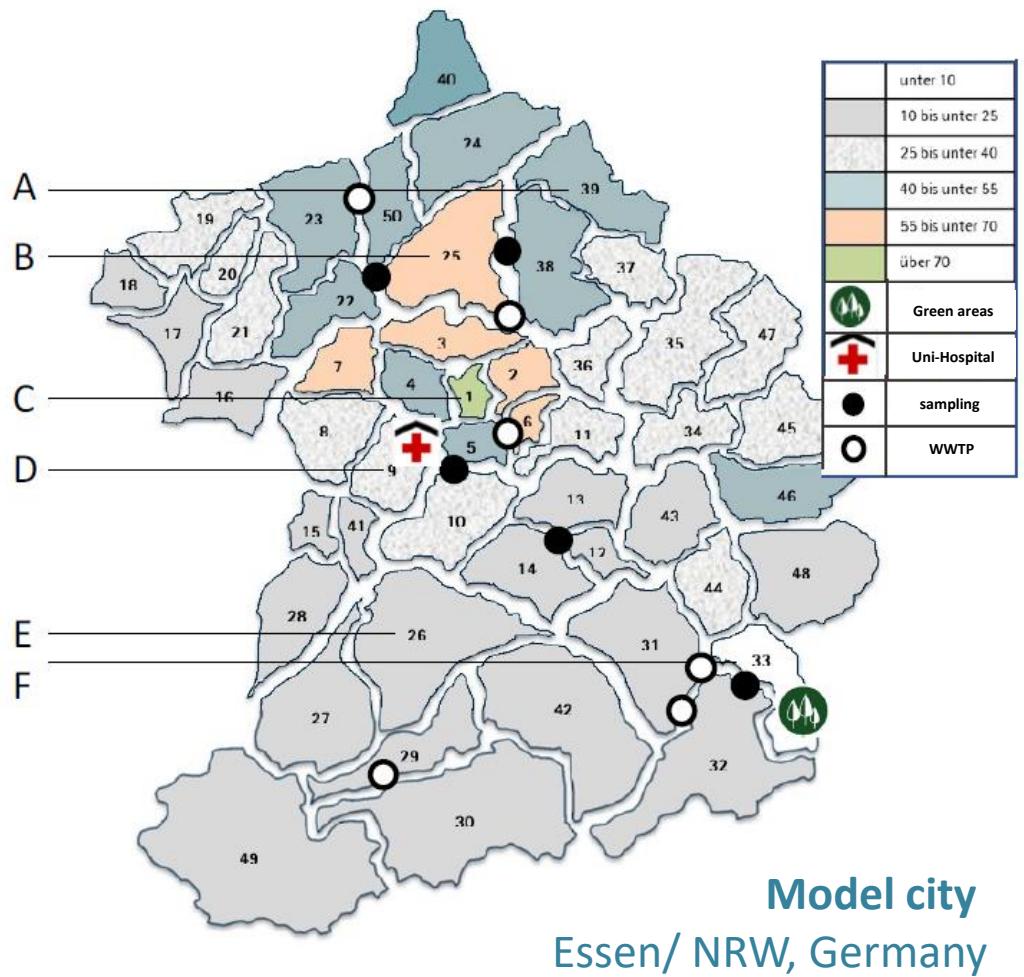
Model region EGLV
the largest water association in Germany (NRW)



Model sewer system for the investigation of wastewater network processes
(μ3 – Forschungszentrum Soers, ISA-RWTH Aachen)

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Selected sampling locations according to public health aspects



Communication and exchange with
public health authorities



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www.WBEready.de