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Three pillars for water utility sustainability

The sustainability of water utilities in the future is dependent upon the balance between three pillars: environment, economic and social.

Protecting the environment is essential to the sustainability of clean, potable water sources for the benefit of future generations. The economic pillar is if utilities like WAF can generate sufficient income to cover their operational expenses and the social pillar is water utilities' need to be aware of the current and future needs of their customers in their development plans.

Ms Fane Vave, General Manager Customer Services,



WAF GMCS, Ms Fane Vave (seated second from right), with participants and facilitators at the Observational Workshop in Tokyo.

said that this one of the main lessons she brought back from the Observational Study Mission on Technology and Management of Water/Wastewater and Sewage Systems, held in Tokyo, Japan 1st – 5th September

this year, where she joined 20 other participants - engineers, policy makers, researchers and executives - from 14 countries throughout the Asia-Pacific.

The main objective of the mission was to share Japan's

latest technology for managing water/wastewater and sewage systems in order to enhance the expertise of delegates responsible for managing such systems. The delegates were able to observe best practices of water and wastewater treatment and sewage systems and were encouraged to identify possible options for adopting these practices.

The mission was comprised of two days of lectures and three days of fieldwork and consultations, including visits to Tokyo Water, Ochanomizu Water Treatment Plant, Kobe Water Treatment Plant and the 2014 International Industrial Fair in Kobe.