

### 8<sup>th</sup> PT/EQA Workshop - Berlin 2014

Report from WG 5



## **PT/EQA** in developing countries

- Convenors:
  - Ulf Örnemark (Emendo Dokumentgranskning, Sweden)
  - Lorens P. Sibbesen (LAB Quality Int., Denmark)



## **'Developing country'**

- Complex and sensitive concept
  - Different criteria used
- 144 countries listed (April 2014)
  - 33 registered for this workshop



## Who participated?

| Number of participants:                 | 47 |
|---|----|
| Participants from developing countries: | 21 |
| Testing/calibration laboratory:         | 20 |
| PT/EQA provider:                        | 24 |
| National metrology institute:           | 8  |
| Authority/regulatory body:              | 1  |
| Accreditation body:                     | 2  |
| Other (consultants):                    | 5  |



#### Summary from Istanbul 2011 (1)\*

- Many developing countries have some PT/EQA activities. Well known problems include...
  - Not enough participants, logistics, finance
- PT/EQA activities increasing...
  - Laboratory accreditation, trade, quality awareness, legislative requirements
- PT/EQA schemes from developed countries often appropriate and available but not affordable
- National/international organisations have provided financial support to establish PT/EQA schemes → not a long-term solution

\*Accred Qual Assur 2012, 17, 445



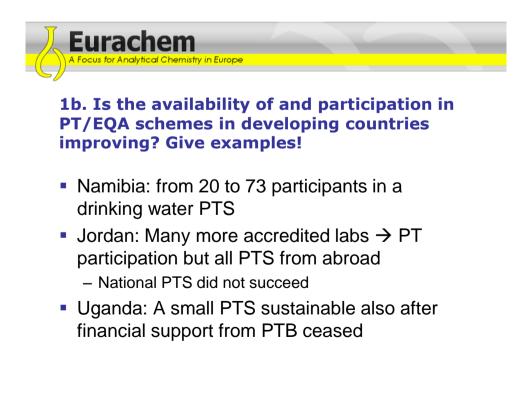
#### Summary from Istanbul 2011 (2)

- Creating awareness of the importance of PT/EQA for trade facilitation, as well as health and environment protection are major issues!
- Laboratories not always aware of the importance of PT/EQA!
  - Laboratory managers need to consider costs for PT/EQA → may lead to sustainable PT/EQA activities but sponsoring will still be needed for some time
- PT/EQA schemes in developing countries should fulfil requirements in international standards even though accreditation of schemes cannot be afforded at present



**1a. Is the availability of and participation in PT/EQA schemes in developing countries improving?** 

- "Yes": 26
  - Driven by national accreditation bodies (8)
- "No change": 1
- "Deteriorating": 0





#### 2. The cost for participation in PT/EQA schemes run from developed countries is often a limiting factor for laboratories in developing countries. How can this affordability problem be solved?

- Ethiopia: More local involvement, make participation mandatory
- Customs problem: Introduce a unified customs tariff number for PT items similar to what has been done fro RMs
- Transportation costs: Distribute from one local representative
- Shared resources: Don't reinvent the wheel
- Indonesia: Income from CRM sales sponsors some PT activities



**3a. Is the understanding of the importance of PT/EQA by authorities, regulatory bodies and laboratory managers in developing countries improving?** 

- "Yes": **27**
- "No change": 1
- "Deteriorating": 0



# **3b. What can/should be done to further improve the situation?**

- Jordan: More information about importance (including in television)
- User meetings organized by PT providers (12)
- Make laboratory customers more aware of what accreditation means
- Awareness is there but it's not a priority and real commitment (authority/regulatory level) is lacking!



## Thank you



4. Are there good examples ('success stories') of PT/EQA activities in developing countries that we can learn from?