

# Laboratory Capacity Building

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CD4 and Viral Load Monitoring Technologies

for the Resource- Limited setting Satellite Symposium,

Toronto, 13 August 2006



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# Laboratory Capacity – What are the issues ?

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- Universal access to prevention, treatment and care for individuals affected by HIV and other major diseases such as TB and malaria requires safe, appropriate and reliable laboratory and diagnostic services
- This support is needed to ensure :
  - » Prevention measures
  - » Surveillance
  - » Diagnosis and treatment
  - » Monitoring (treatment and resistance)
- Scaling up access to essential health services
  - health services need to be close to the clients
  - scaling up implies that health services need to be able to deliver the essential laboratory and diagnostic support in an equitable manner

# Major challenges at country level

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## National level

- Failure to implement National Policies and guidelines
- Weak national systems (regulatory/ laboratory networks)
- Disparity between urban and rural areas
- Weak procurement and supply systems
- Poor remuneration of health care staff

## Institutional level

- Lack of infrastructure , organization and management
- Insufficient and high turn over of skilled staff
- Variable quality of laboratory performance
- Lack of maintenance of equipment, inappropriate donations



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# Our Response

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- Advocacy and sensitising of policy-makers and key stakeholders
- Sharing of information on technologies
- Evaluation of new diagnostics, laboratory technologies and procedures
- Norms and standards, guidelines on appropriate use
- Facilitate access to technologies
- Strengthen laboratory and diagnostic services
  - Training of trainers – training materials
  - Follow up EQA programmes
- Country projects
- Foster collaborative partnerships
  - (UN agencies, WCC, GFATM, CDC, industry)



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# Laboratory Capacity Building – What has been achieved ?

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- WHO- AFRO Satellite meeting :

## **HIV/AIDS Laboratory Capacity: How far we have come and where are we going**

Monday 14 August 06 4-5:30 pm, Royal York Hotel, British Columbia Room

- **CD4 technologies**
  - ✓ Advocacy to countries
  - ✓ Sharing of information
  - ✓ Training and training materials (English, French, Spanish)
  - ✓ Centres of excellence to support EQA programmes
    - Africa - Central America - South East Asia



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# Laboratory Capacity Building

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- **Viral Load technologies**
  - ✓ Advocacy to countries : availability at central level
  - ✓ Sharing of information
  - ✓ Guidance and training materials, in progress
- **Early detection of HIV infection**, including Infant diagnosis
  - Statement on early diagnosis of HIV infection of infants exposed to HIV
  - Guidance on Diagnosis of HIV in infants and clinical staging in adults and children
  - Filter paper approach
  - EQA programmes, in progress

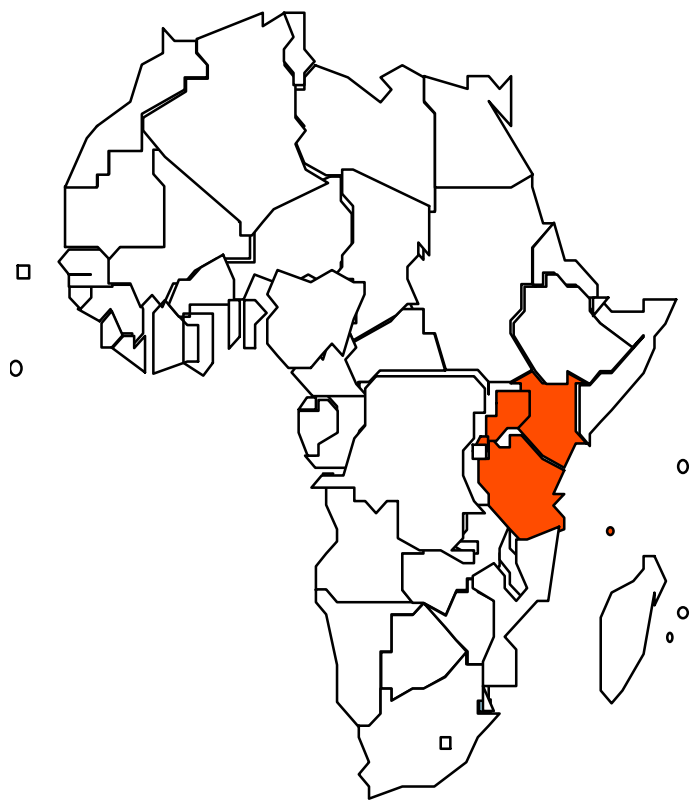


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# Success stories: Improving Laboratory services



- at the **district level** in East Africa
  - Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zanzibar
  - AMREF
- National Laboratory **Policy** guidelines
  - Administrative structure
  - Essential tests, techniques, equipment
  - Facilities and staffing
  - Training needs
- Introduced **quality assurance** programs
  - Standardized tests
  - Quality manual for clinical and lab diagnostic services
  - Technical information sheets
  - training
  - EQA
- **Reach out to services users** ( Physicians)



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# To conclude : impact at country level

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- **Policies that build sustainable integrated laboratory and diagnostic services**
- **Appropriate technologies**
  - validate procedures, technologies and products
  - safety and quality standards and norms
- **Increased availability of appropriate reagents and equipment at reasonable cost, and maintenance**
- **Improved performance of laboratory and diagnostic services**
  - Share information and expertise via networks,
- **Stronger partnerships**



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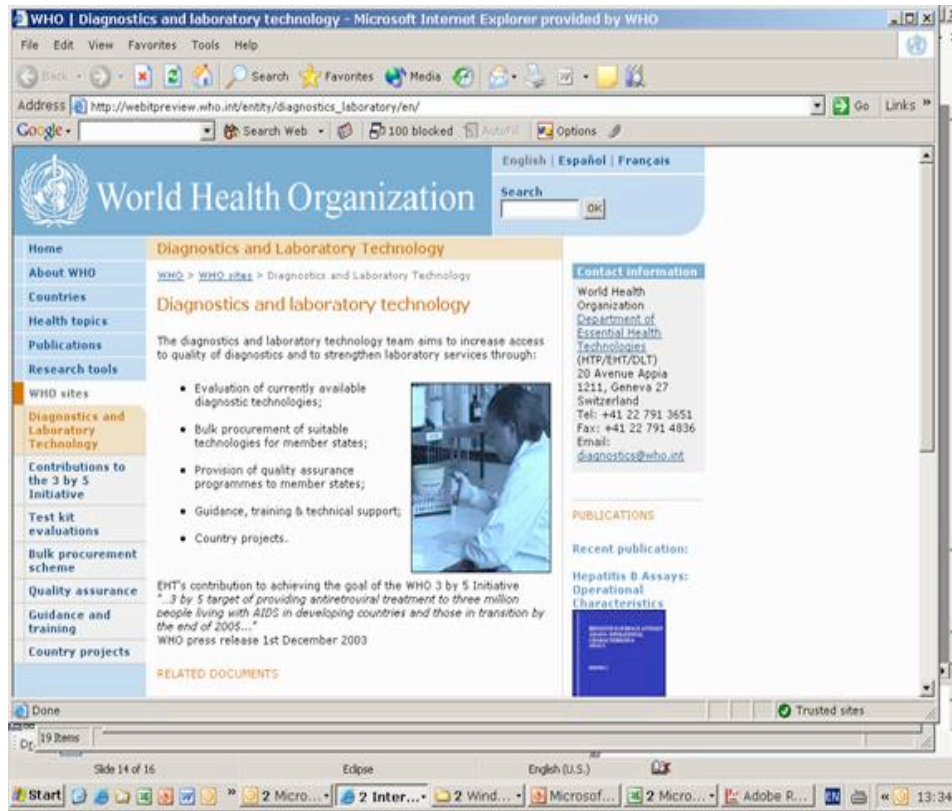
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# Diagnostics and Laboratory Technology

- Regularly updated Website
  - [www.who.int/diagnostics\\_laboratory](http://www.who.int/diagnostics_laboratory)



Thank you



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