WHO Regional Perspectives

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Regional Overview

Demographic information

• 46 countries comprising of anglophone, francophone, lusophone countries.

• Distributed into 3 inter-country support teams:
  – Eastern and Southern Africa
  – Central
  – West

• Three ISTs in AFRO
Regional Overview

- 9 of the 22 global HBC
- 32 of the 58 global MDR-TB burden
- Tuberculosis is fuelled by HIV/AIDS
- Weak laboratory structure;
  - mainly ZN microscopy.
  - HR
  - Financial resource
  - Infrastructure.
Regional Overview

- Microscopy network
- Distribution

Microscopy

- Available microscopy units
- Mic units/100000 population
- Quality assured microscopy
- DST to second line drugs done in 10 facilities
  - Algeria, Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda.
### Regional Overview

#### Swot Analysis

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Strength</th>
<th>weakness</th>
<th>opportunities</th>
<th>threat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>•Availability of microscopy services in all countries</td>
<td>•Limited coverage of quality assured microscopy service</td>
<td>•Establishment of TBL at STOP TB in Geneva</td>
<td>•High cost investments of laboratory strengthening in the economic downturn.</td>
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<td>•Ability to detect 1(^{st}) line antiTB resistance in some countries</td>
<td>•Limited capacity to diagnose 2(^{nd}) line antiTB resistance</td>
<td>•SRLN</td>
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<td>•Lack of regional EQA scheme for TB bacteriology</td>
<td>•Focal points for TB laboratory services</td>
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<td>•Weak integration of lab and NTP in some countries.</td>
<td>•Laboratory strengthening projects – EXPAND-TB</td>
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What SRL support is needed in the region?

- Supranational Reference laboratories (SRLs): WHO collaborating centers elected for purposes of giving technical assistance to national reference laboratories of countries linked to them
  - strengthen the laboratory and its network
  - assure quality of product delivered
  - other aspects of capacity building role of NRL.
What SRL support is needed in the region?

– bio-safety,
– annual proficiency testing of National Reference Laboratories,
– quality assure results from country surveys
– MDR-TB treatment programmes in the form of rechecking samples of isolates,
– TB Drug Resistance Survey
– MDR-TB treatment programme project.
Sources of funding available for SRL support at regional level?

• None at regional level
• Global fund at country level
Proposed next steps

- Existing SRLs
- New candidates