Creation of Formal Links
SRL-NRL: What is Needed?

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Current Situation

- SRLs linked to several NRLs
- SRLs supporting regional, provincial laboratories in endemic countries but nor NRLs
- NRLs linked to more than one SRLs or Institutions
- Written formal agreements
- No agreements
Formal process of Linking NRL to SRL

- Informal agreement by SRL to accept a new Countries
- Requested by NTP manager/head of NRL to representative of the Minister
- Transmitted to WHO local Representative
- Transmitted to Regional office
- Transmitted to HQ for approval and formalization of the link
Contract between Institutions

• Formal contract for limited time and with a budget regulating all the activities, with specific timeframe
• Included activities the activities should be agreed with some degree of flexibility:
  – Supervision and technical assistance, local training, courses, support for drafting DRS protocol and global fund lab component
  – Assistance during EQAs
  – Regular EQAs
To be avoided

- Confusing situations not based on clear links and whenever possible with a plan of activities
- More than one SRL dealing at the same time with a NRL
- Supervision or technical assistance without a follow up
- Seeking Technical assistance from many different partners for the same activity
- Making promises with no money
What is working in our hands

- Preparing a plan of activities based on previous assessment and agreed with the Country
- Looking for the necessary budget
- Keeping control of the budget concerning the activities performed by us
- Sign an agreement with the Country
- Monitor regularly the advancement of the plan
Contracts on Diagnostic or Research Activities

- Plan of activities well established and agreed among partners
- Financial plan established and agreed, Money transfer if necessary
- Clear Role and Responsibilities between Institutions (Ownership of results, data, ethical issues)