



# Roadmap to Accreditation – A Step-by-step Prescriptive Approach

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**THE 3<sup>rd</sup> SLIPTA & SLM TA SYMPOSIUM**

**3-4 December, 2016**

**Cape Town, South Africa**

# What factors should you consider when choosing a laboratory?

- We need to be sure that it provides accurate and reliable test results on a timely basis.
- Technically competent to do the required testing.
- Excellent care and handling of customers

# Why is a laboratory's technical competence so critical to customers?

- Minimize risk by providing quality test results
- Avoid cost and time of retesting
- Enhance the customer's confidence

# The technical competence of a laboratory:

- The qualification, training, and experience of staffs
- Use of the right equipment – calibrated & maintained
- Suitable testing facilities
- Proper sampling practices
- Appropriate and valid testing procedures
- Quality Assurance procedures
- Meticulous recording and reporting system

**All can be achieved if and only if  
the laboratory is accredited!**

# Accreditation

National HIV Reference Laboratory, Kenya



Cimas Harare Medical Laboratory, Zimbabwe



Bungoma District Hospital Laboratory, Kenya



is a formal recognition of competency provided by an authoritative body

Nyangabgwe Referral Hospital Laboratory, Botswana



Sekgoma Memorial Hospital Laboratory, Botswana



Princess Marina Hospital Laboratory, Botswana



Bomu Hospital Laboratory, Kenya



# Steps to Achieve Accreditation

## Obtain Decision

- Commitment from Top Management
- Allocate resource and establish accreditation committee

## Gap Analysis

- identify gaps
- develop schedule and action plan

## Establish QMS

- Understand basic QMS, ISO 15189, int./national regulations
- Develop Quality Document

## Implement QMS

- Address the 12 QSEs
- Cover all the technical and management requirements

## Check the System

- Mgt. Review, competency assessment, EQA, Internal Auditing,...
- Continuously improve the Quality System

## Ready for accreditation

- Pre-accreditation assessment
- Identify Accreditation Body and submit application

# Accreditation is Commitment to the Standard



Being accredited the first time is an ACHIEVEMENT for which a laboratory can be **pleased!**



Being accredited the second time is an ACCOMPLISHMENT of which the laboratory can be **proud!**

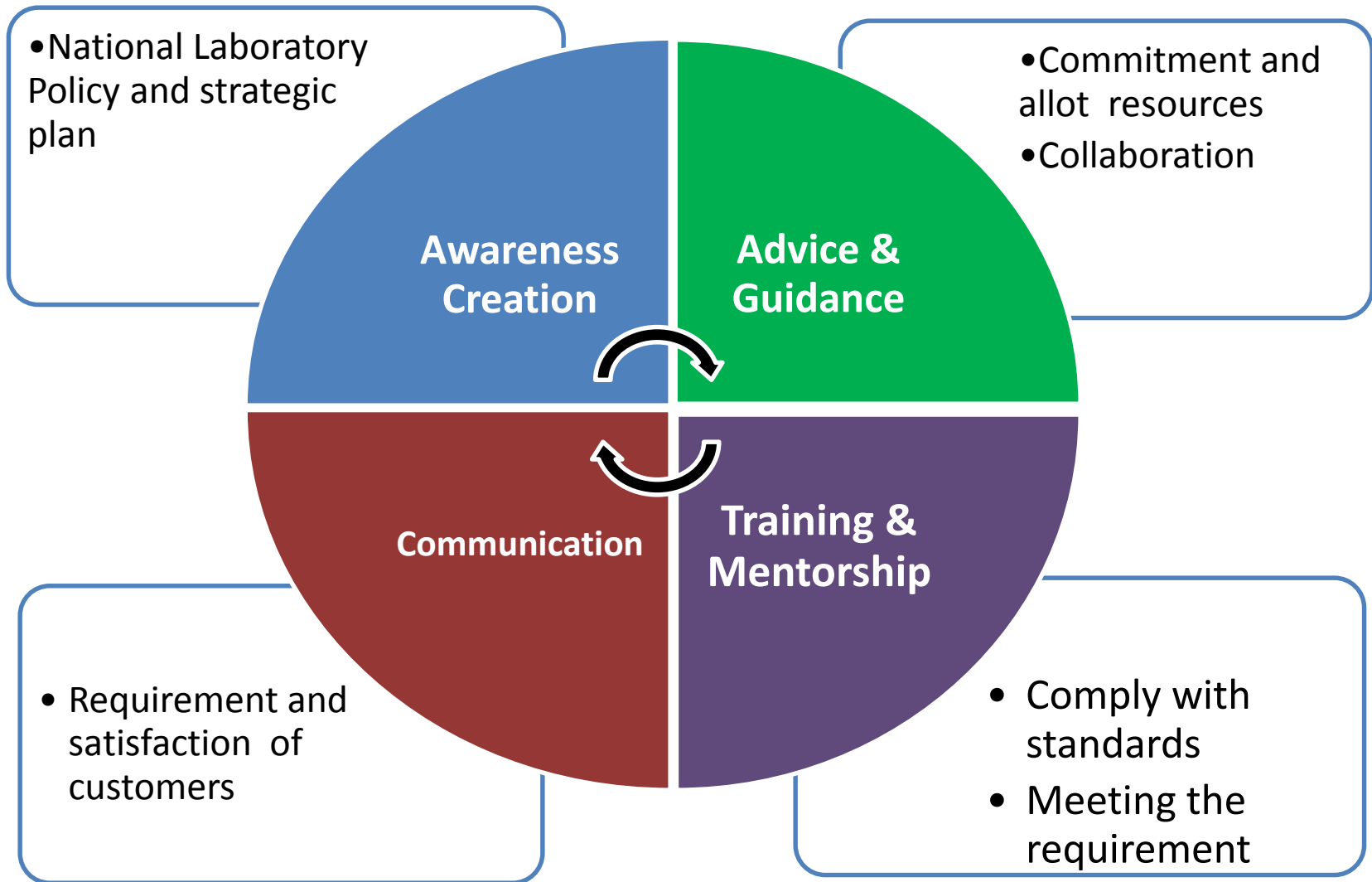
The goal is not the receipt of a certificate; it is the confidence that the laboratory provides **better** and **safer care** with fewer errors and continuously focus on **quality improvement**.

# Motivation to Accreditation

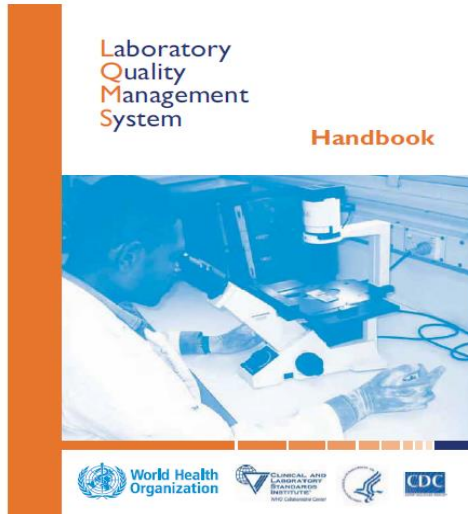
- A structured approach to organize and manage laboratories
- Organizational harmony and culture
- Having more knowledgeable and cohesive staff
- National/international recognition of technical competence
- Fewer errors, reduced cost and increased savings
- Reduced risk and liability
- Greater customer, management and staff satisfaction
- Increased competitiveness and market share



# Approaches to encourage accreditation



# Tools to Support Preparation for Accreditation



# Accreditation Bodies in Africa

## Full members (MRA Signatories)



## Associate members



## Affiliate members



CENTRE REGIONAL D'EVALUATION EN  
EDUCATION, ENVIRONNEMENT, SANTE  
ET D'ACCREDITATION EN AFRIQUE



**Everyone looks for a better service; therefore, it is good for laboratories to implement QMS and Achieve Accreditation!**



**Thank you!**