

ADVANCING THE LABORATORY PROFESSION AND NETWORKS IN AFRICA

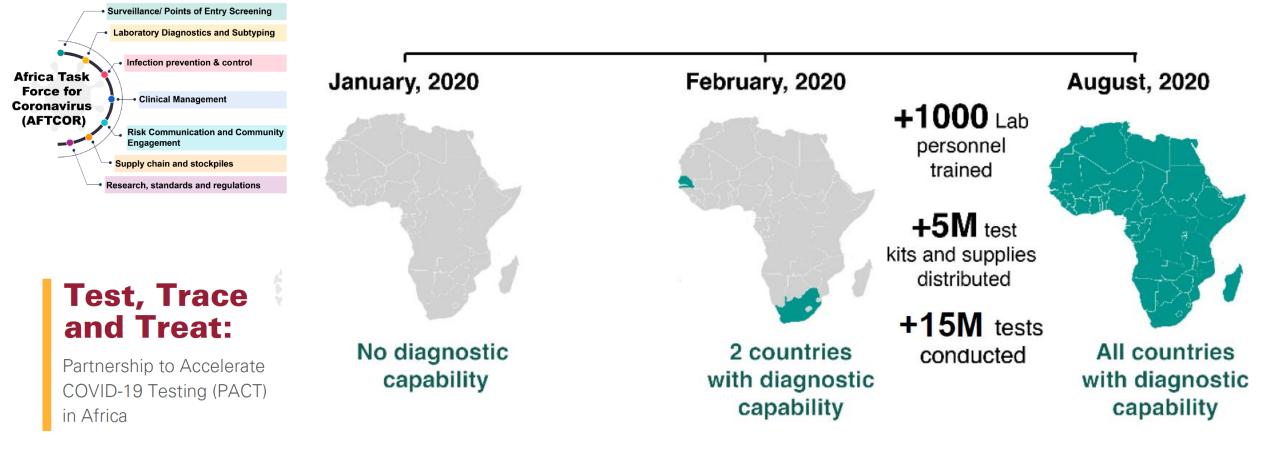
Supporting scale up of quality assured COVID-19 tests in Africa

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ASLM special COVID-19 ECHO session #39

17 March 2021

Overview: COVID-19 testing scale up in Africa



External quality assessment

Why?

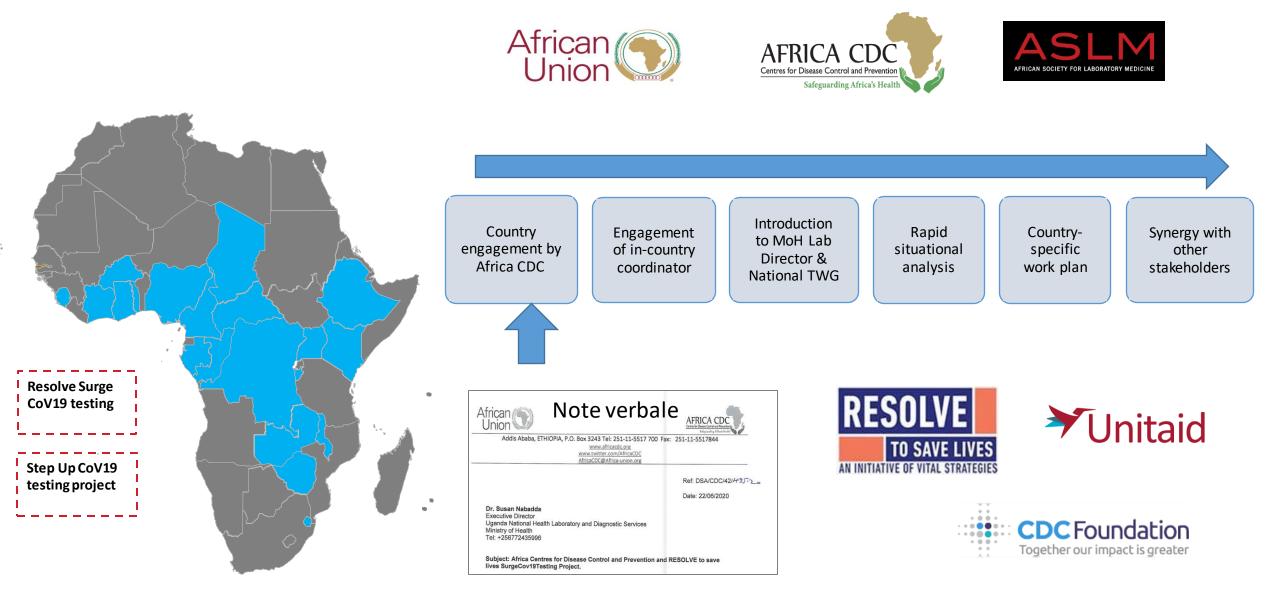
To evaluates testing competency, COVID-19 laboratories performance, reliability of testing methods, and accuracy of the results reports

How?

Proficiency testing / retesting / onsite evaluation

Reliable testing data to monitor virus transmission And guide evidence based interventions for pandemic response

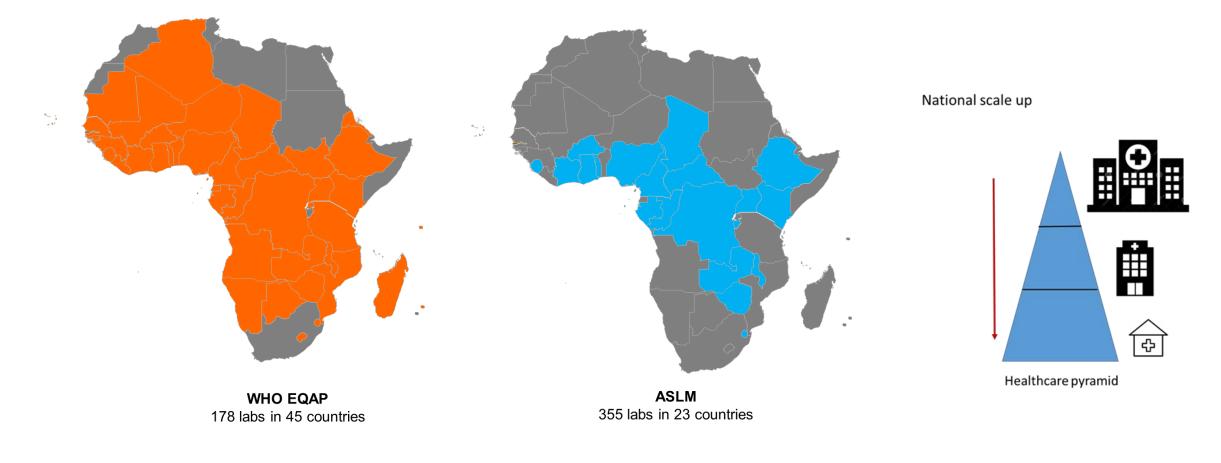
Surge and Step up COVID-19 testing projects



Guidance development and dissemination



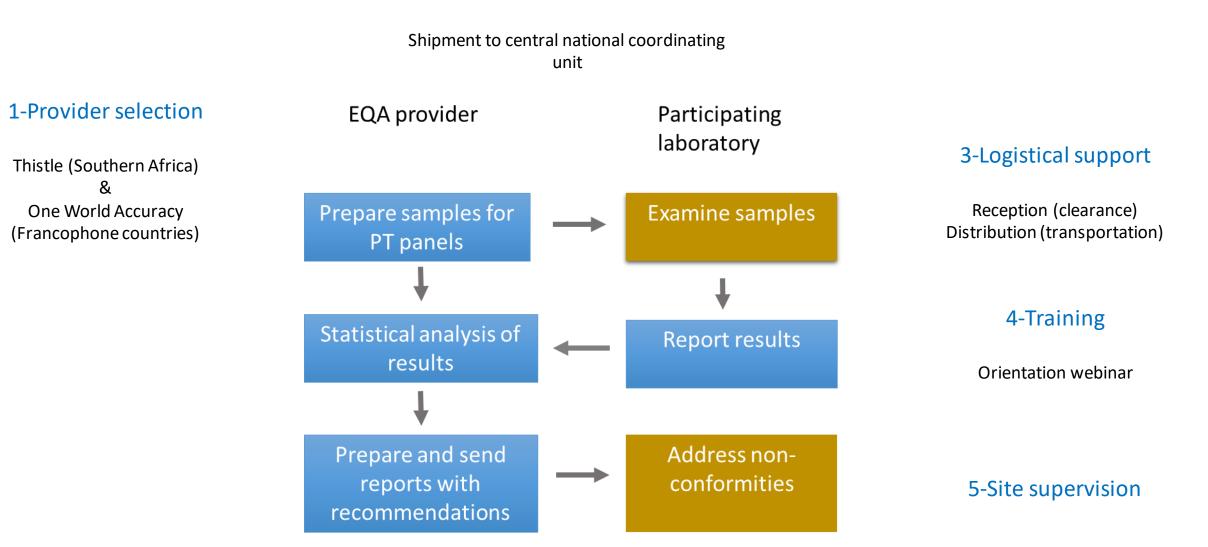
Support for External Quality Assessment: synergies



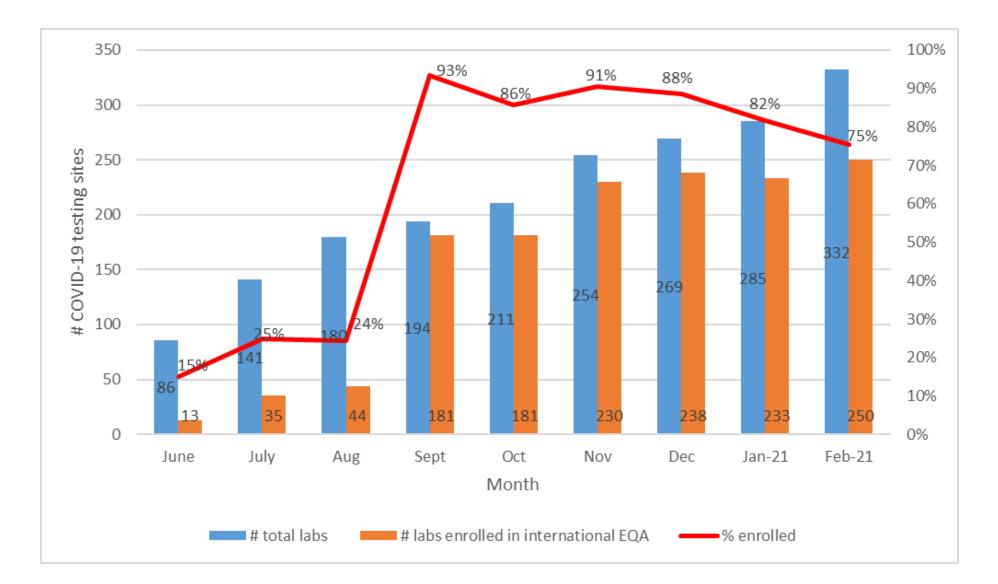
- In synergy with WHO:
 - WHO EQAP: reference level laboratories
 - ASLM EQAP: extension (lower lab tiers, private sector etc..)

Support for international EQA: specific areas of support

2-Coordination



Support for international EQA: scale up



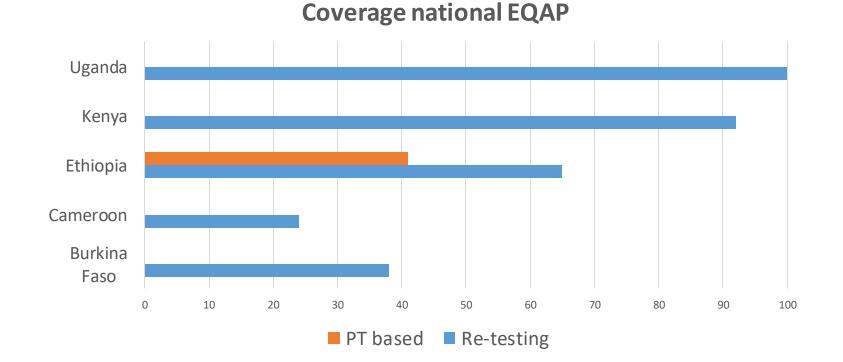
2 rounds

- September 2020
- February 2021

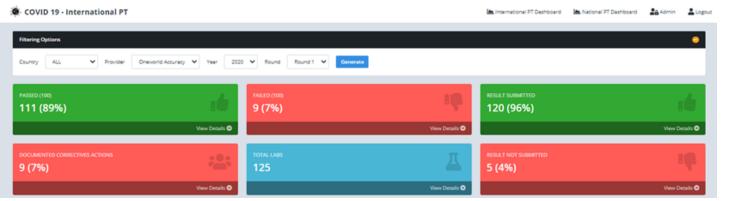
Support for National External Quality Assessment

National EQA programs for COVID-19 testing labs based on:

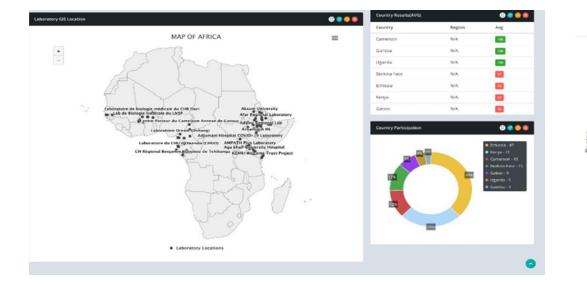
- sample re-testing
- sample exchange
- national PT schemes

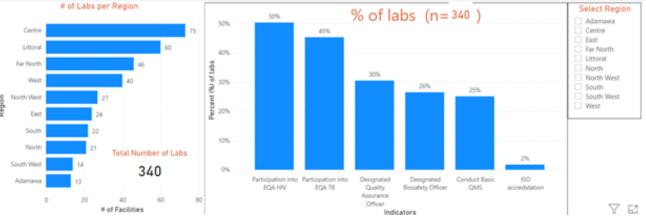


Monitoring and Evaluation : project and country level



Performance





Integration (country level)

Coverage

Thank You!



www.aslm.org



Nb of labs enrolled in EQA

