Supporting Laboratory Systems Strengthening
Countries **regularly** undertake various readiness and system maturity assessments...

- LABNET Assessment
- GHSA Survey
- Joint External Evaluation (WHO)
- WHO AFRO Survey
- Health Facility Assessments (HFAs)
- Program Reviews

**Identifying limitations** of national laboratory infrastructure...

?- **Output**: What needs to be implemented to achieve the next level of functionality of each core capability?

With resulting outputs **under-leveraged** due to **insufficient downstream utility** of the tools

Milestones and core functionalities do not detail the **steps required** to drive system readiness forward.
Building blocks to guide the stepwise implementation of laboratory capability to prevent, detect and act upon existing and emerging diseases.
Readiness-based approach

**Capabilities Assessment**

**Political, Legal & Regulatory**
- Legal Structures
- National Planning

**Structure & Organization**
- National Reference Laboratory

**Coverage & Availability**
- Sample Transport & Referral
- Disease Program Integration
- Disease Program Integration

**Lab Information Systems**
- Availability & Utility

**Infrastructure & Equipment**
- Standardization & Logistics

**Capability Questions**

- Are all disease program laboratory services fully integrated at sub-national level?
- Are national sample referral and transportation systems in place?
- Are staff trained in sample collection, referral, transportation and reception?
- Is there a current map or list of laboratories that fall under the national laboratory network?

*Questions are intended to generate a broad range of information, characterizing Coverage & Availability...*
Readiness-based approach

Capabilities Assessment

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Capability Questions

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- Are staff trained in sample collection, referral, transportation and reception?
- Is there a current map or list of laboratories that fall under the national laboratory network?
- Are national sample referral and transportation systems in place?

Responses provide a more detailed understanding of system readiness.
Readiness-based approach

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**Capability Questions**

1. Are all disease program laboratory services fully integrated at sub-national level?
2. Are national sample referral and transportation systems in place?
3. Are staff trained in sample collection, referral, transportation and reception?
4. Is there a current map or list of laboratories that fall under the national laboratory network?
5. Integrated sample transportation throughout the network
6. Integrated sample transportation through partial network
7. Transportation limited to only some samples
8. Transportation on an ad-hoc basis
9. No sample transportation network

**Interventions**

- Develop a plan for a sample transportation network by analyzing the mapping of laboratories
- Cost analysis of outsourcing of a specimen referral system
- Assessment of alternative testing models (POC, reduced referral)
- Country and partner suggestion
- Develop TORs

**Legal Structures**

- Political, Legal & Regulatory
- National Planning

**Structure & Organization**

- National Reference Laboratory

**Coverage & Availability**

- Sample Transport & Referral
- Disease Program Integration

**Lab Information Systems**

- Availability & Utility

**Infrastructure & Equipment**

- Standardization & Logistics
Prioritize Investments

Coverage & Availability

1. No sample transportation network
2. Transportation on an ad-hoc basis
3. Transportation limited to only some samples

Interventions

- Develop and implement a plan for a sample transportation network by analyzing the mapping of laboratories
- Cost analysis of outsourcing of a specimen referral system
- Assessment of alternative testing models (POC, reduced referral)

National Planning and Implementation

- TA funded via Global Fund’s SDI SI and implementation in NFM3 Grant
- Fund in 2022 with partner organization
- Fund in 2023 with national financing

Completion of implementation

Permits advancement to
Results will be integrated into the RSSH dashboard, generating more advanced and granular visibility over country investments.