

SESSION CHAT QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

INTRODUCING THE LABORATORY SYSTEM MATURITY MONITORING (LMM) TOOL AND SHARING PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR COUNTRIES PLANNING AN LMM EVALUATION

21-Apr-26

#	Question	Asker Name	Answer
1	Has the LMM tool has been used at any time in any country?	Rodrigues Ngailo	Yes, the tool has been used in 3 countries and more are planning an assessment in the next coming weeks
2	The LMM: does it assess a single facility, Lather than the whole country Laboratory Systems?	Donatus Phedson Mwambete	LMM assesses a whole system.
3	Quelle est la nuance entre maturité du système de laboratoire et l'accréditation du laboratoire? Un laboratoire accrédité est mûr? La maturité du système de laboratoire est un acquis irréversible ou bien c'est un fait temporaire? Quelle est la nuance entre la grille SLIPTA et les outils de la maturité du système de laboratoire?	Emmanuel Kayagwa	La maturité d'un système (au niveau d'un pays) est sa compétence à livrer des fonctions cliniques et de santé publique. C'est ce que les responsables nationaux (dont le ministre de la santé) ont besoin pour avoir une idée de comment les laboratoires marchent. L'accréditation ISO15189 se fait au niveau d'un seul laboratoire et parfois d'un seul test. C'est la preuve que ce laboratoire réalise le test de façon fiable.
4	Please does the LLM assessment tool has a provision for assessing single facility in country?	GIFT UDUJE	LMM assesses the system, not a single facility — but facilities contribute to the system evidence.
5	I know we have the ASLM country self assessment tool which has been in use for a long. Can it be replaced by the LMM tool?	Rodrigues Ngailo	Which self assessment is this. The HIV VL testing cascade? If so, the answer is no.
6	Thank you Ali. Very indepth presentation... Indeed it will be a great tool for NATIONAL understanding of what needs to be done...	Kilian Songwe	Thanks Killian, Indeed that is the objective of LMM
7	critères de choix des évaluateurs?	Mandiou Diakite	Ils doivent être certifiés, ne pas être du pays qu'ils évaluent, et les trois doivent avoir un mix d'expertise. Les évaluateurs sont proposés au Minsante et validés par lui/elle

8	Thank you Dr Ali for the excellent overview on the LMM tool and the asset that it brings for national laboratory systems looking for improvement. Is the tool available in other languages : Arabic ?	HICHAM OUMZIL	At present, the Laboratory Maturity Monitoring (LMM) tool is available in English, French, Portuguese, and Armenian, but not yet in Arabic. It is expected that the tool will be translated into Arabic and other languages as funding permits.	
9	is it possible to assess a country laboratory system remotely with the tool?	Andre Coulibaly	Interesting question. The assessment is not done remotely. The tool is digitized but it is not web based. The discussion face to face in plenary is key to the process	
10	At the FAO, we have tools for evaluating veterinary laboratories, food safety laboratories, and the environment. My focus will be on organizing joint evaluation missions. With the One Health approach, we want a comprehensive response in countries that addresses all sectors. To be effective, we need to synchronize evaluation missions to produce a report that serves as an advocacy document to support laboratories in each country. I believe this is a matter for discussion between the FAO and the WHO.	Alpha Amadou DIALLO	Dear Dr. Diallo, Thanks for your contribution.	
11	Qui doit être le déclencheur de l'utilisation de l'outil? Le ministère de la santé sur incitation de Africa CDC? Ou bien un programme préétabli au niveau pays? Merci	Henry Rokiatou	tous ces cas de figures sont possibles.	
12	Good evening and thank you very much for the presentation. My question is the following: do our laboratories involve the CDC in joint research and ...	OUSMAN MAHAMAT ABDELRAHIM	The question is not clear to me	
13	Une formation pratique est elle prévue pour les pays qui veulent utiliser cet outil?	Mandiou Diakite	Lorsque les pays décident d'utiliser l'outil, l'équipe d'évaluateurs fournit une présentation de l'outil ainsi que des orientations sur son utilisation à l'équipe nationale d'évaluation. <i>(When countries decide to use the tool, the assessor team provides an overview of the tool and guidance on how to use it to the national assessment team)</i>	

14	Does the pool of LMM assessers cover the three main languages used in Africa, this is good info for countries to plan accordingly.	Teferi Mekonen Abera	Thanks Teferi, Yes the LMM covers English, French, and Portuguese	
15	Has this tool been translated to other official languages in the continent say French, Portuguese, etc...?	JEAN NJAB	Yes the LMM covers English, French, and Portuguese	
16	Great presentation! I'm happy to see Africa waking up from "diagnostics deep sleep"! We have learnt from Covid-19, and this is indeed the way to go. However, lab system has been one of the "neglected or underfunded" components of many national health systems across Africa. We have also observed that the implementation of previous tools, such as the WHO-SLIPTA checklist, ISO 15189, etc, had not been fully followed due to underfunding or lack of funding. 1)What is your say about LMM result sustainability? 2)What is the difference between the LMM and WHO-SLIPTA checklist?	Michael Maackara	the slipta IS A FACILITY BASED AUDIT TO IMPLEMENT qms. The LMM is a tool assessing a whole country fo rthe maturity of their health syste. We are confident that the ownership from Africa CDC and WHO-AFRO that will drive sustainability	
17	Is the LMM tool going to be shared to member countries or each country needs to request. Like the there countries which have used it, what was the criteria for them to use it?	Rodriges Ngailo	The Laboratory Maturity Monitoring (LMM) tool is not automatically deployed to all countries; it is typically shared upon request or through coordinated engagement with partners such as Africa CDC and WHO AFRO.	
18	who is the right person to lead in a country	Nancy Bowen	the directorate of lab	

19	<p>Thank you for the presentation and the whole team for developing the LMM framework. My question is what is the 'end game?' For example, there are multiple tools to support ISO accreditation. Do you anticipate a higher level of recognition for countries?</p> <p>Question 2: for countries where there are multiple types of labs: private, NGO-based, public, etc , with different levels of QMS maturity. How will such countries get scored?</p>	Louise Bensouda	<p>The goal of LMM is not to replace ISO accreditation or create a higher certification layer, but to complement existing tools by assessing the maturity of the entire national laboratory system.</p> <p>The "end game" is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A fully functional, coordinated national laboratory system 2) Able to support Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and International Health Regulations (IHR) 3) Contributing effectively to global health security <p>- Answer to the 2nd questions: LMM is designed to capture the full diversity of a country's laboratory landscape (public, private,</p>	
20	Is there any criteria to enrol countries into this LMM assessment?	Teferi Mekonen Abera	There is no fixed or rigid eligibility criteria to enroll countries into the Laboratory Maturity Monitoring (LMM) assessment - Mainly Requesting	
21	willingness may be the criteria	DJIBRIL Wade	Yes	