

ASLM

AFRICAN SOCIETY FOR LABORATORY MEDICINE

ADVANCING THE LABORATORY PROFESSION AND NETWORKS IN AFRICA

SLIPTA Implementation: Achievements, Challenges and Way Forward

Teferi Mekonen, MSc, MPH
African Society for Laboratory Medicine

*SLIPTA/SLMTA Symposium 8 – 9 December 2018
Abuja, Nigeria*

SLIPTA Implementation

- **ASLM Vision**
 - Improve healthcare in Africa by strengthening laboratory services
- **SLIPTA**
 - A framework for improvement of laboratory quality system in a stepwise process to fulfill all the requirements of the ISO 15189 and/or ISO 17025 standards.
 - It can be used to
 - Determine if a laboratory is providing accurate and reliable results on a timely basis
 - Determine if the laboratory is well-managed and adhering to good laboratory practices
 - Identify areas for improvement for QMS implementation (SLMTA, GLI, LQSI tools...)
 - Audit reports are used to generate laboratory specific plans
 - Recognizes laboratories based on a star level (0 - 5 Star Levels) as evidence to quality improvement

AFRO - MEMORANDUM

From: Dr Bokar TOURE
HSS/AFRO

To: Those listed below

Date: 08 October 2012

Our ref.:



Attention:

Your ref.:

Originator: CLT

Subject: REQUEST FOR DESIGNATION OF A NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR THE WHO/AFRO STEPWISE LABORATORY QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROCESS TOWARDS ACCREDITATION (SLIPTA)

Two Key Message:

- MoH to designate a SLIPTA Focal Point
- ASLM as independent implementing organization

SLIPTA Governance Structure



- **WHO/AFRO**
 - Provide guidance, mobilize resource and select/appoint SLIPTA IEG
- **ASLM (SLIPTA IEG)**
 - Establish SLIPTA IAG,
 - Train, evaluate, and deploy auditors
 - Receives, reviews and processes applications to enroll laboratories and coordinate audits
 - Issues certificate of recognition
- **MoH/ SLIPTA Focal Points**
 - Select candidates for auditor training, develop a country plan for SLIPTA, allocate resources, and facilitate audit logistics
 - Oversee and follow up the implementation of corrective actions and monitor the removal of expired certificates from public display

Strategies for SLIPTA Implementation and Expansion



Training of SLIPTA Auditors and certification

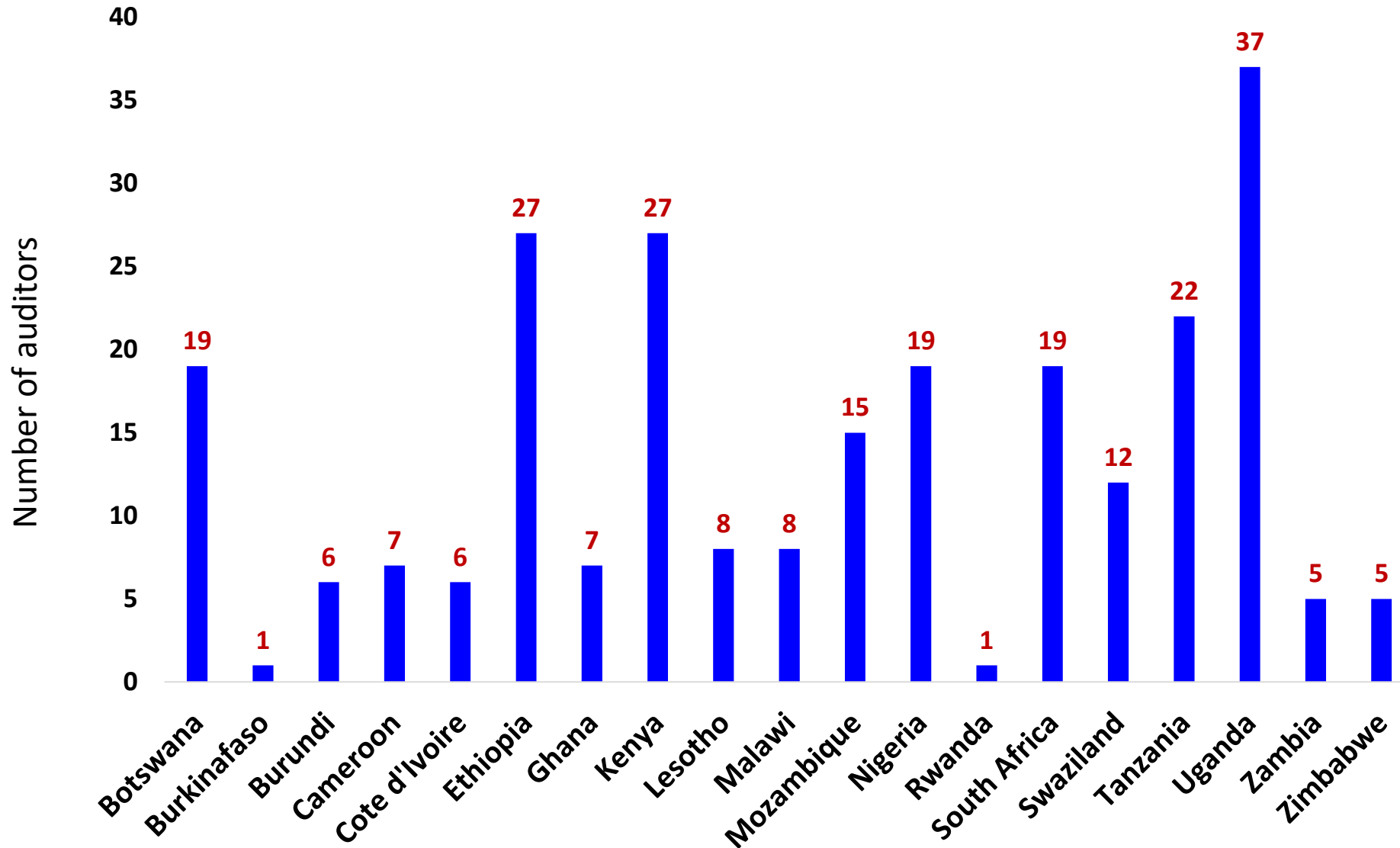
- Standardized SLIPTA auditor training program
 - A 5-day program (3-day for didactic sessions, 2-day for mock audit and feedback provision)

- Identification of **successful trainees**:
 - 100 % attendance
 - Improved post-test score from the pre-test
 - A **minimum of 70% score** in the Final Examination

- Certification of trained auditors
 - Conduct 3-5 post training audit practicum and recommendation for the lead auditors

- **Responsibilities of ASLM Certified SLIPTA auditors**
 - Conduct laboratory audits using the WHO/AFRO SLIPTA Checklist
 - Provide advice and technical clarification to the auditees during the audit process
 - Prepare and submit audit reports with recommendation
 - Declare any conflict of interest and complaints from laboratories/stakeholders

ASLM Trained and Certified SLIPTA Auditors



Anglophone	217
Francophone	19
Lusophone	15
	251

SLIPTA Auditor Training in West Africa

- ASLM and WAHO collaboration
- Strengthening the Quality Management System of Regional Reference Laboratories in West Africa
- Twenty-seven laboratory professionals trained on SLIPTA auditing in November 2018

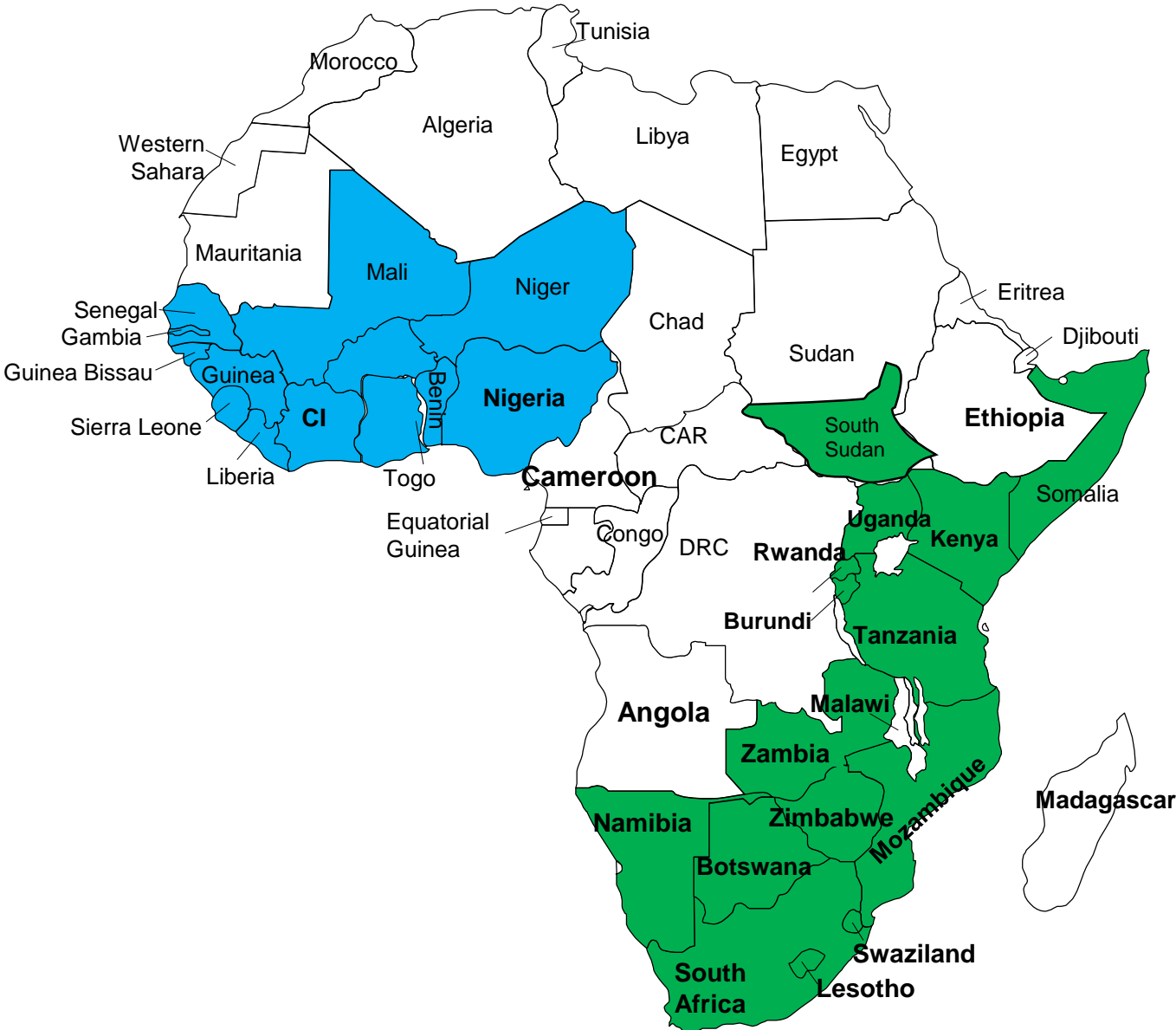


SLIPTA Auditor Training of Trainers in ECSCA Region

- ASLM and ECSCA-HC collaboration in auditing and training
- Training of trainers to support the network in ECSCA region and beyond
- Nineteen laboratory professionals trained in February 2018



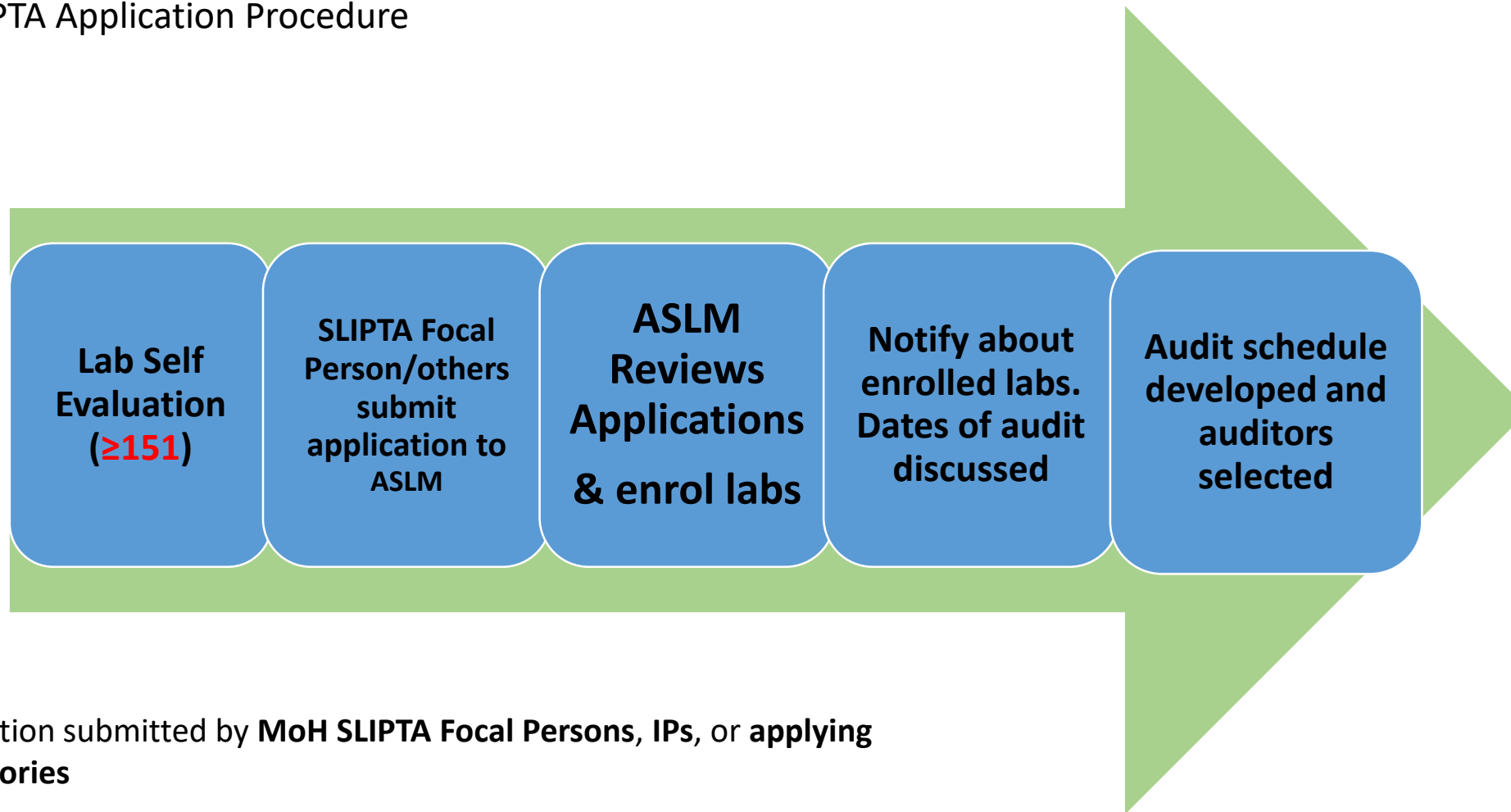
Promising Regional Support for SLIPTA Expansion



- WAHO
- ECSA-HC
- Africa CDC?

Auditing of Laboratories

SLIPTA Application Procedure



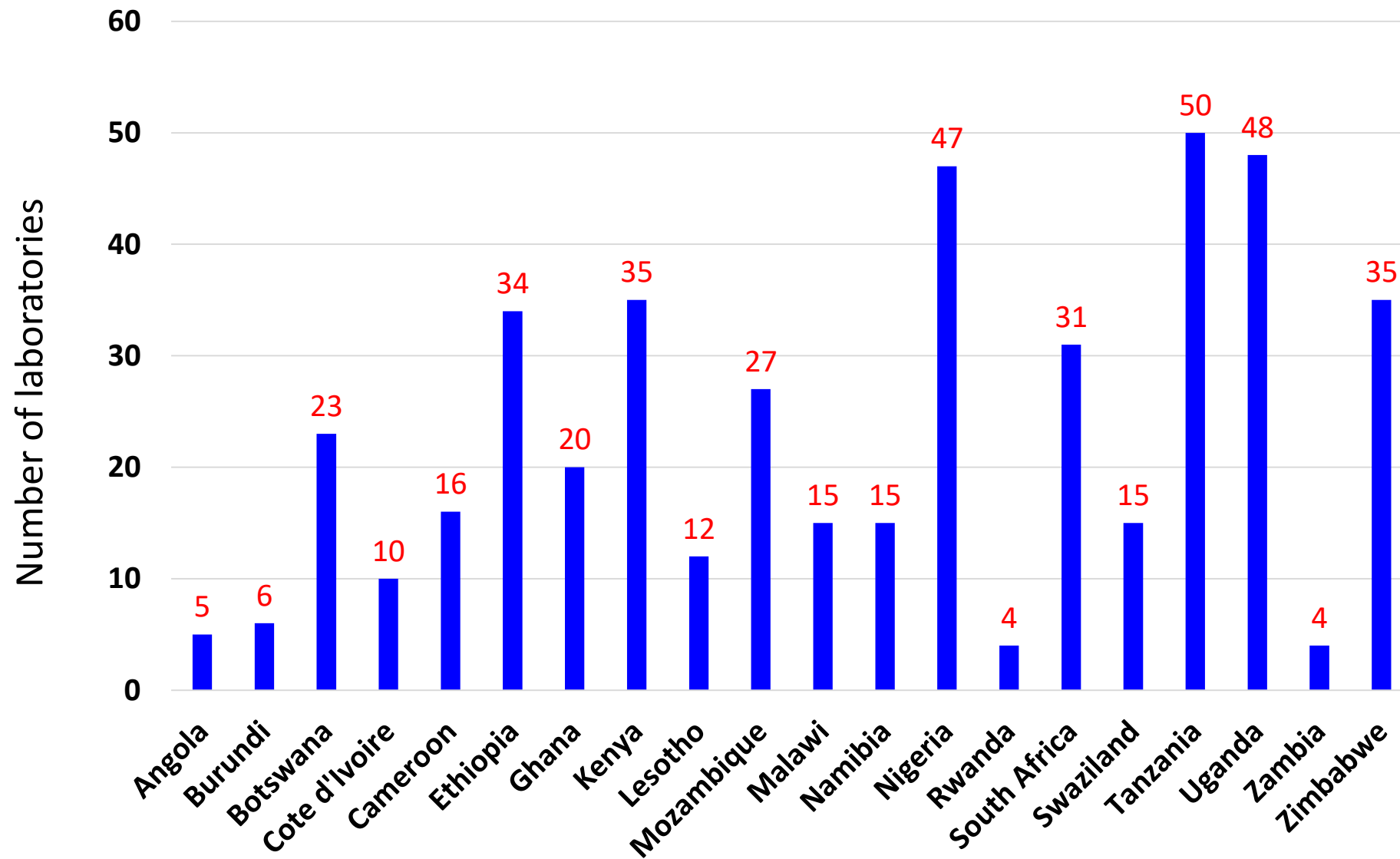
- Application submitted by **MoH SLIPTA Focal Persons, IPs, or applying laboratories**
- Application Form available in **English, French and Portuguese**

ASLM coordinated SLIPTA audited laboratories (May 2013 – November 2018)

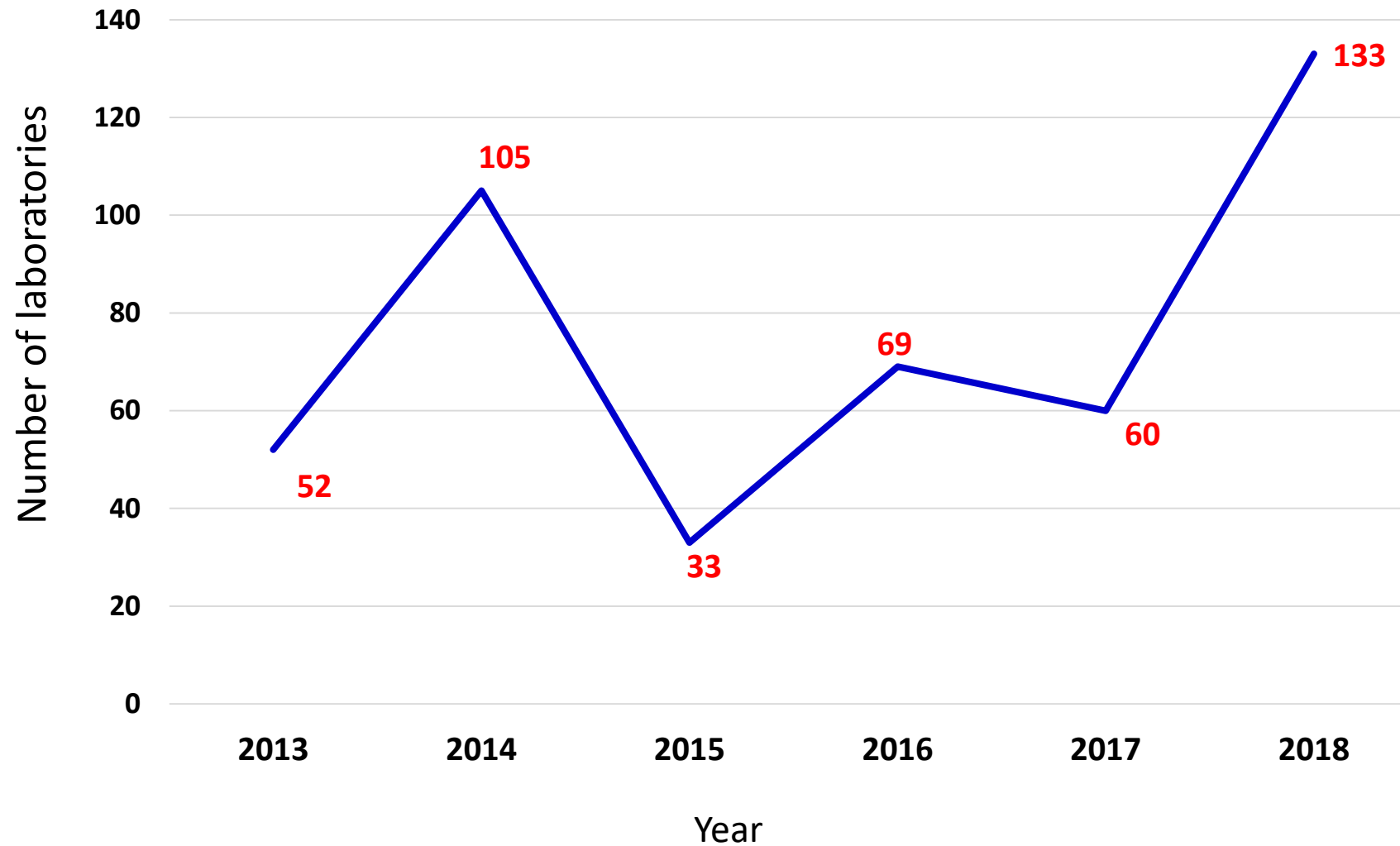


- **20** Countries visited
- **452** laboratories enrolled and audited
- Laboratories are displaying the ASLM certificates as witness for QMS implementation

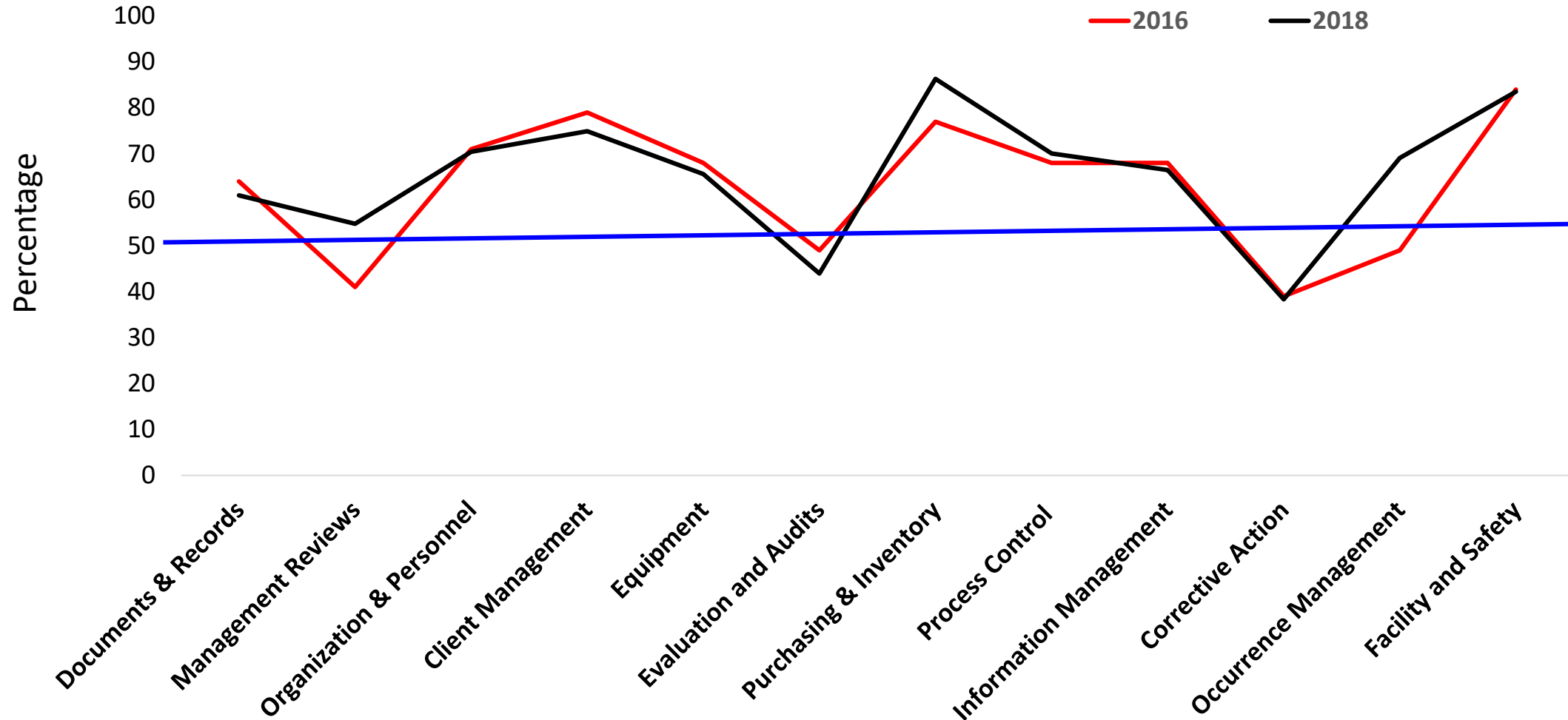
Distribution of SLIPTA audited and certified laboratories (ASLM)



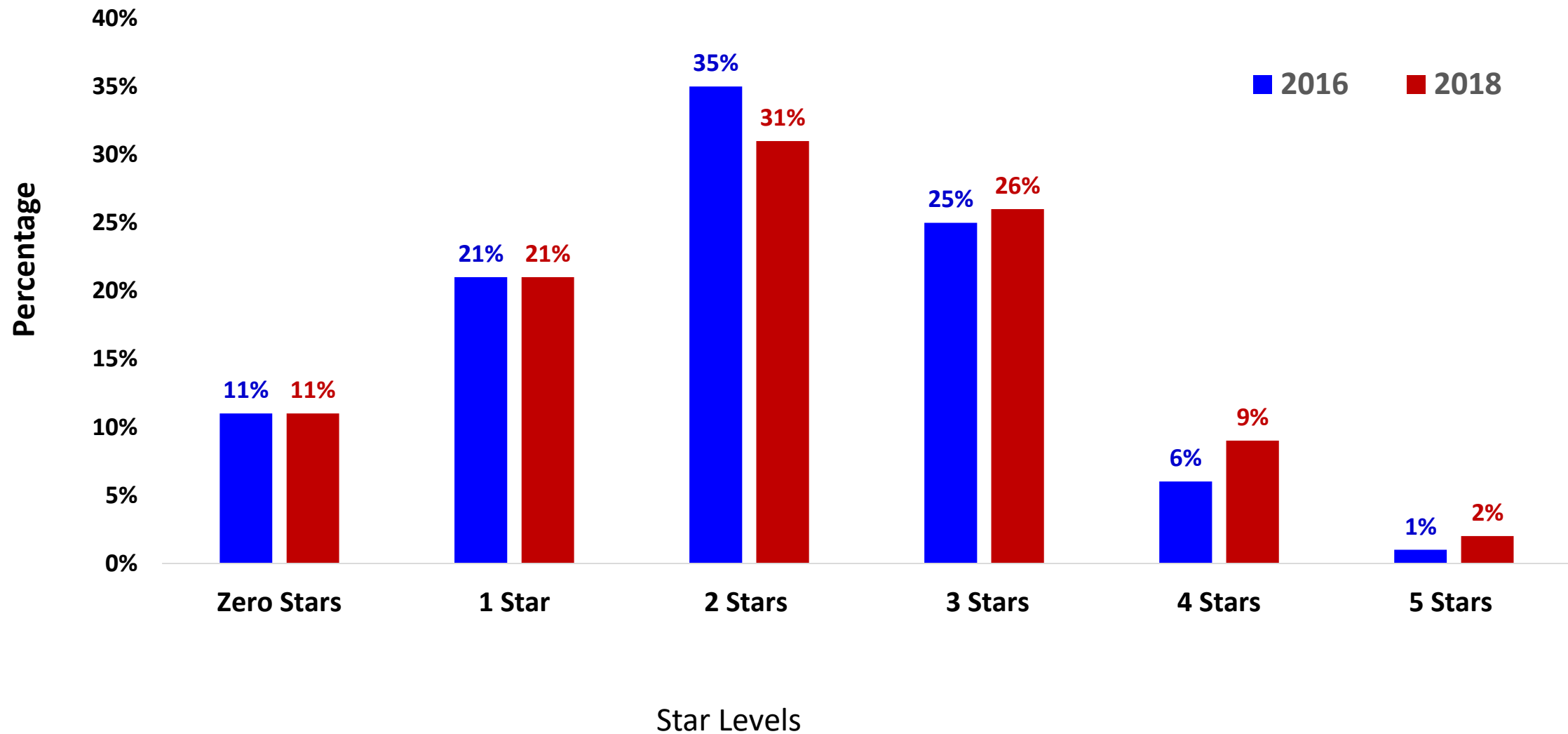
SLIPTA audited laboratories per year (May 2013 – November 2018)



Cumulative performance of SLIPTA audited laboratories



Star level distribution of SLIPTA audited laboratories (2016 vs 2018)





WHO AFRO Stepwise Laboratory Quality Improvement Process Towards Accreditation Certificate of Recognition

Issued to the XXXXXXXXX Hospital Laboratory
Unit/Section: XXXXXXXXXXXXX

has been audited per the WHO AFRO SLIPTA Checklist and has met the requirements for
the following star recognition level:

Valid: 12/18 /2018 - 12/17/2020



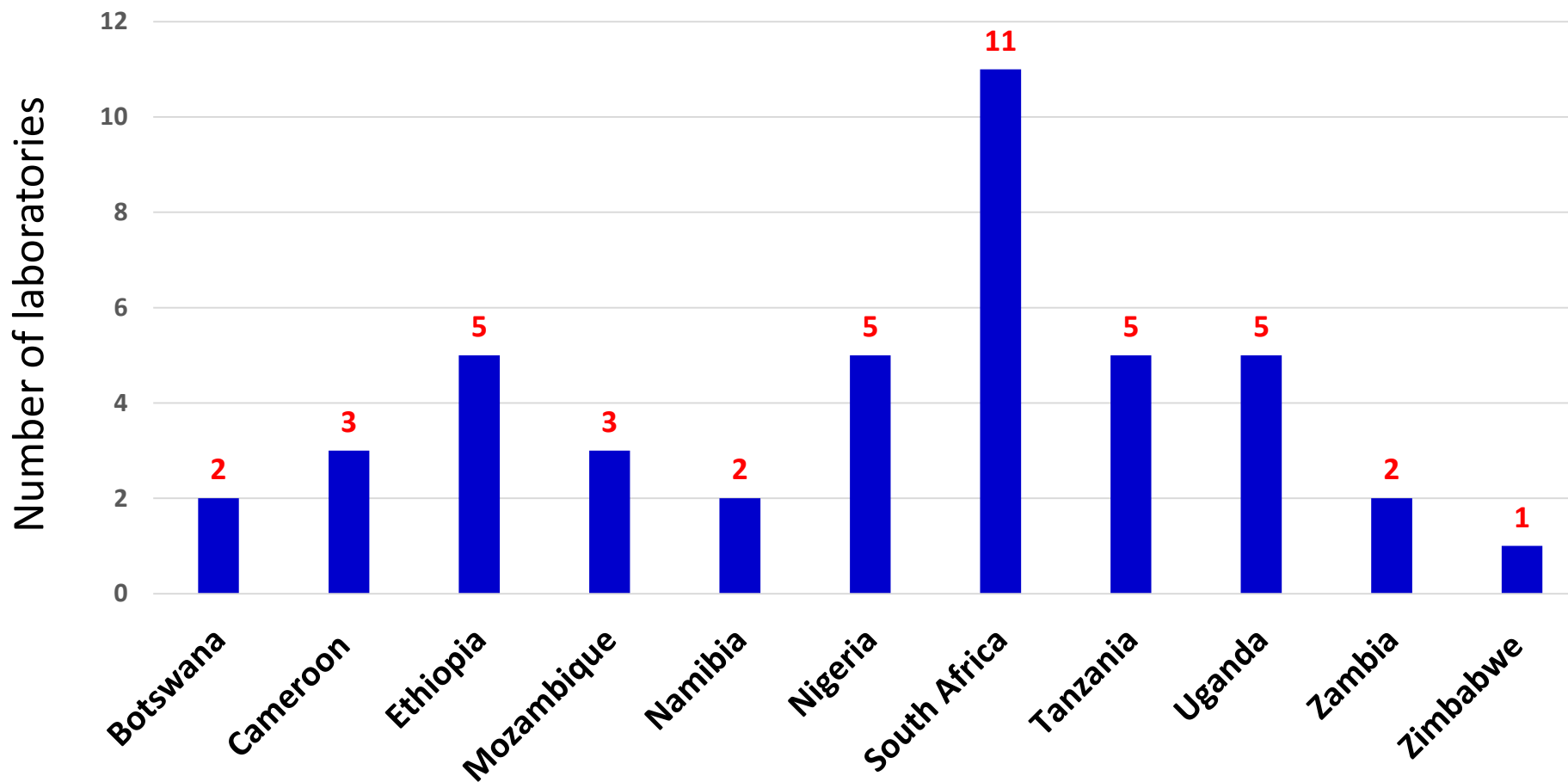
The African Society for Laboratory Medicine accepts no liability for the laboratory testing
conducted in facilities enrolled in SLIPTA.

The laboratory has achieved a star ranking on the SLIPTA Tier of Recognition of Laboratory
Quality Management and is not a certificate of accreditation.

Ndlovu Nqobile
Ag CEO - ASLM

Achieving ISO accreditation after going through ASLM SLIPTA audits

- More than 44 laboratories have achieved ISO accreditation in 11 countries
- More than 10 laboratories are under process for ISO accreditation



Web-based SLIPTA Database



[Read the latest SLIPTA Audited Laboratories Distribution Map](#)

The World Health Organization's Regional Office for Africa (WHO AFRO) has established a framework for improving the quality of public health laboratories in developing countries to achieve **ISO 15189 standards**. This framework, implemented by ASLM in Africa, is the Stepwise Laboratory Quality Improvement Process Towards Accreditation (SLIPTA) programme.

What We Do

Global Health Security

SLIPTA

- Online information about SLIPTA audits and certified auditors per country can be accessed
- Plan to digitize reports for each country – for MoH/focal person
- Online Training and continuing education (CE)
- Send monthly reports to encourage countries to participate
- Share best practices on eblast

Challenges

1. Shortage of budget to cover more laboratories/countries
 - PEPFAR Budget dependence
 - Minimal country ownership
 - Limited participation of private sector
2. Inconsistency in auditing and audit reports
 - Lack of competency assessment and CE for certified auditors.
3. Most audited laboratories are not enrolled for second time audit (the certificate is valid only for 2 years)
4. Insufficient staff-time for SLIPTA coordination at ASLM

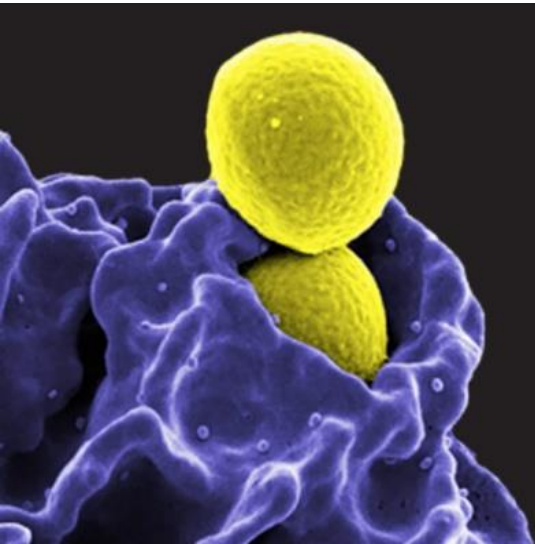
Way Forward

- Collaborate with donors, implementing partners and private sector to expand SLIPTA within and to other countries
 - Concept note developed for fund raising
- Develop new strategies for evaluation of auditors and verification of audit reports
- Encourage and support MoH to consider Laboratory Accreditation in the annual or strategic plans
- WHO/AFRO and Africa CDC to contact countries to designate SLIPTA Focal Person(s) and empower them for full coordination.
- Dedicated SLIPTA coordination team at ASLM

Acknowledgement

- WHO/AFRO
- MoHs
- SLIPTA Focal Points
- Participating laboratories and supporting IPs
- ASLM certified SLIPTA auditors
- ASLM SLIPTA IAG
- CDC, ECSA-HC, WAHO, Africa CDC
- ASLM

Thank you



ASLM

AFRICAN SOCIETY FOR LABORATORY MEDICINE

2018

www.aslm.org
www.aslm2018.org