



# Out with old; In with New in Tanzania

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# Outline

- Background
- Journey towards Accreditation
- Approach
- Achievements
- Lesson Learnt
- Challenges



# A Map of Tanzania

Figure 1. Map of Tanzania



**East of Africa**  
**Total population**  
**of 48 Million**

# Health Laboratory Services in Tanzania

National Health Labs

Zonal Hosp Labs

Regional Hosp Labs

District Hosp Labs

Health Centre Labs

Dispensary Labs

# In the Beginning...

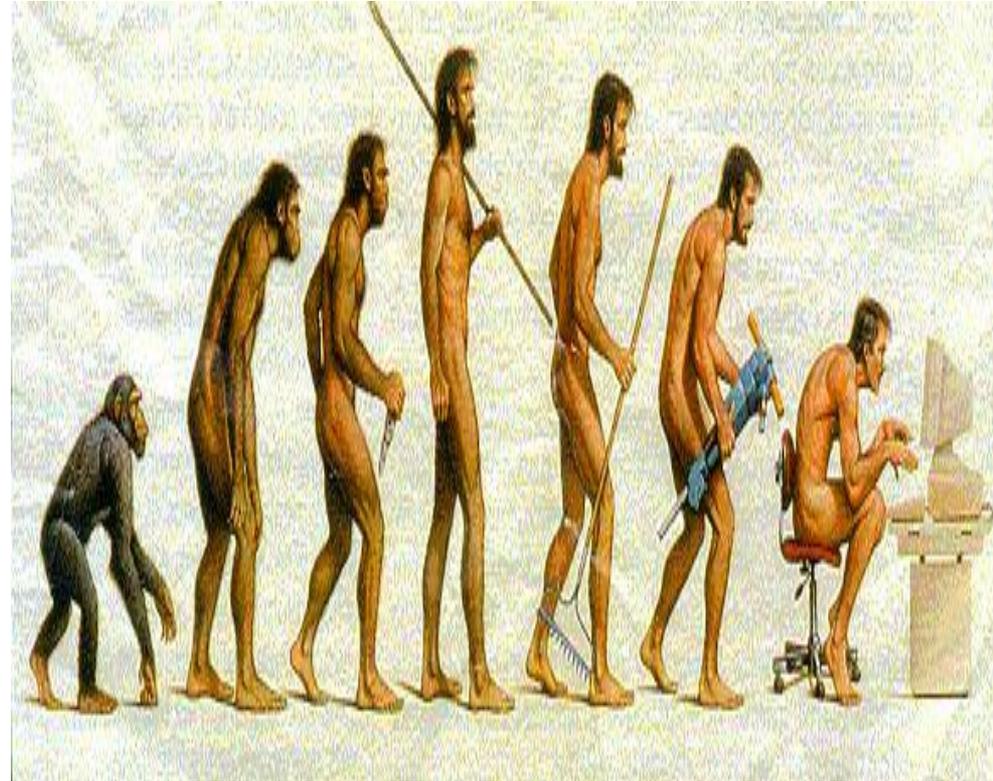
Practical Quality  
Policy (1939-1942)



Bombs should explode when you want them to, and not when you don't

# Journey towards Accreditation

- Accreditation concept was introduced in March, 2007
- The road map towards accreditation was initiated in 2007 (CLSI)
- Series of Gap analysis, training and mentorship
- SLMTA and SLIPTA introduced in 2009



- Start where the World is

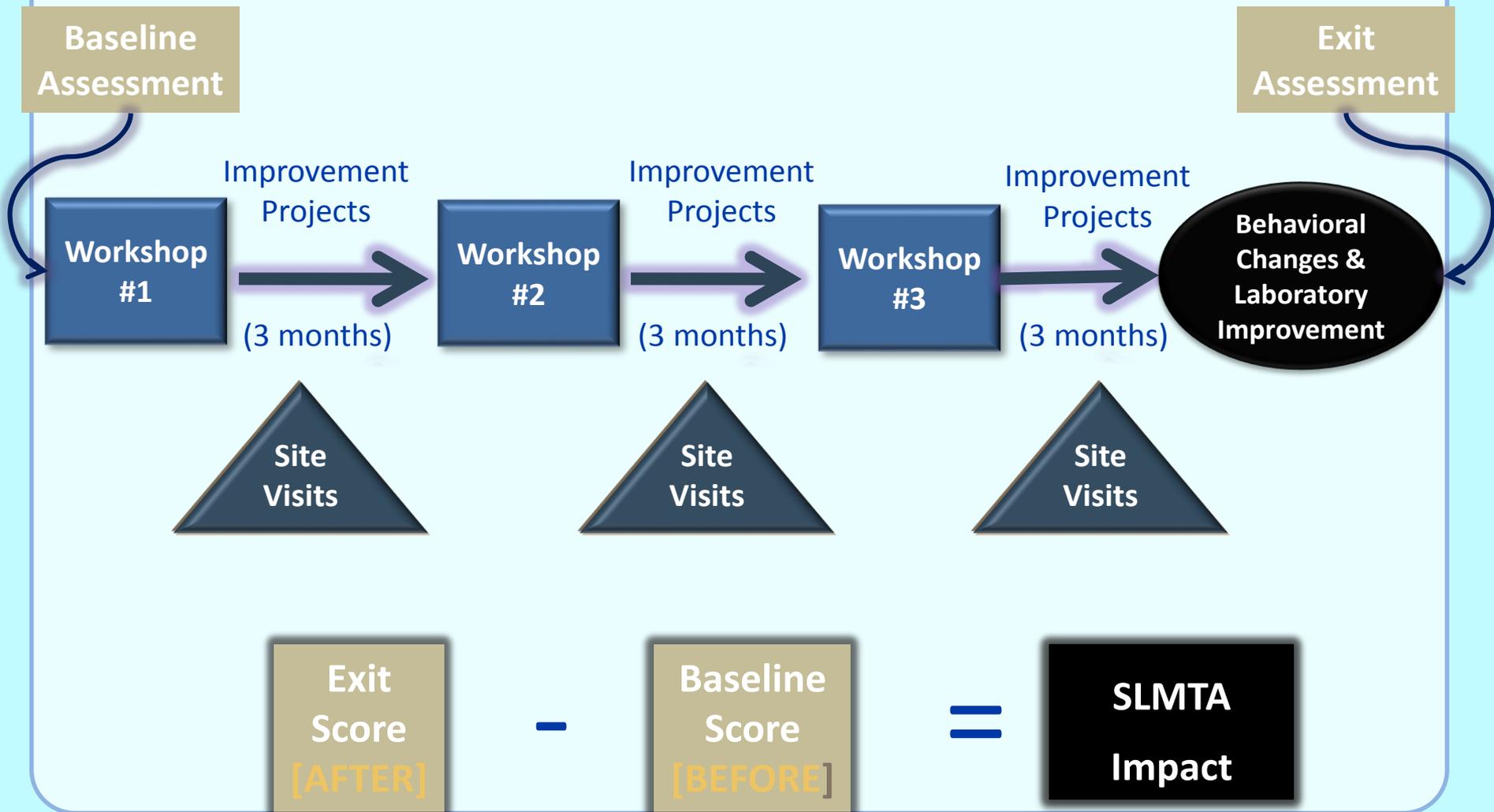
# Approach – 1/2

- High Level sensitization
  - MOHSW Level
  - Facility level
- Development of Laboratory Quality Improvement Framework
- Training of Assessors
- Training of Mentors
- Define the standards and goals in the Laboratory Strategic plan

# Approach – 2/2

- Gap Analysis and Training
  - Total Quality Management systems Essentials
  - SLMTA
- Identify the workable improvement processes
- Conduct supportive supervision and mentorship
- Aim:
  - International accreditation ISO 15189 for National and Zonal Laboratories by SADCAS
  - 3 stars – Regional laboratories (SLIPTA)
  - 2 stars – District laboratories (SLIPTA)
- Target
  - 44 labs accredited by 2013

# Basic SLMTA Facts – Implementation



# Before



# After



# Achievements

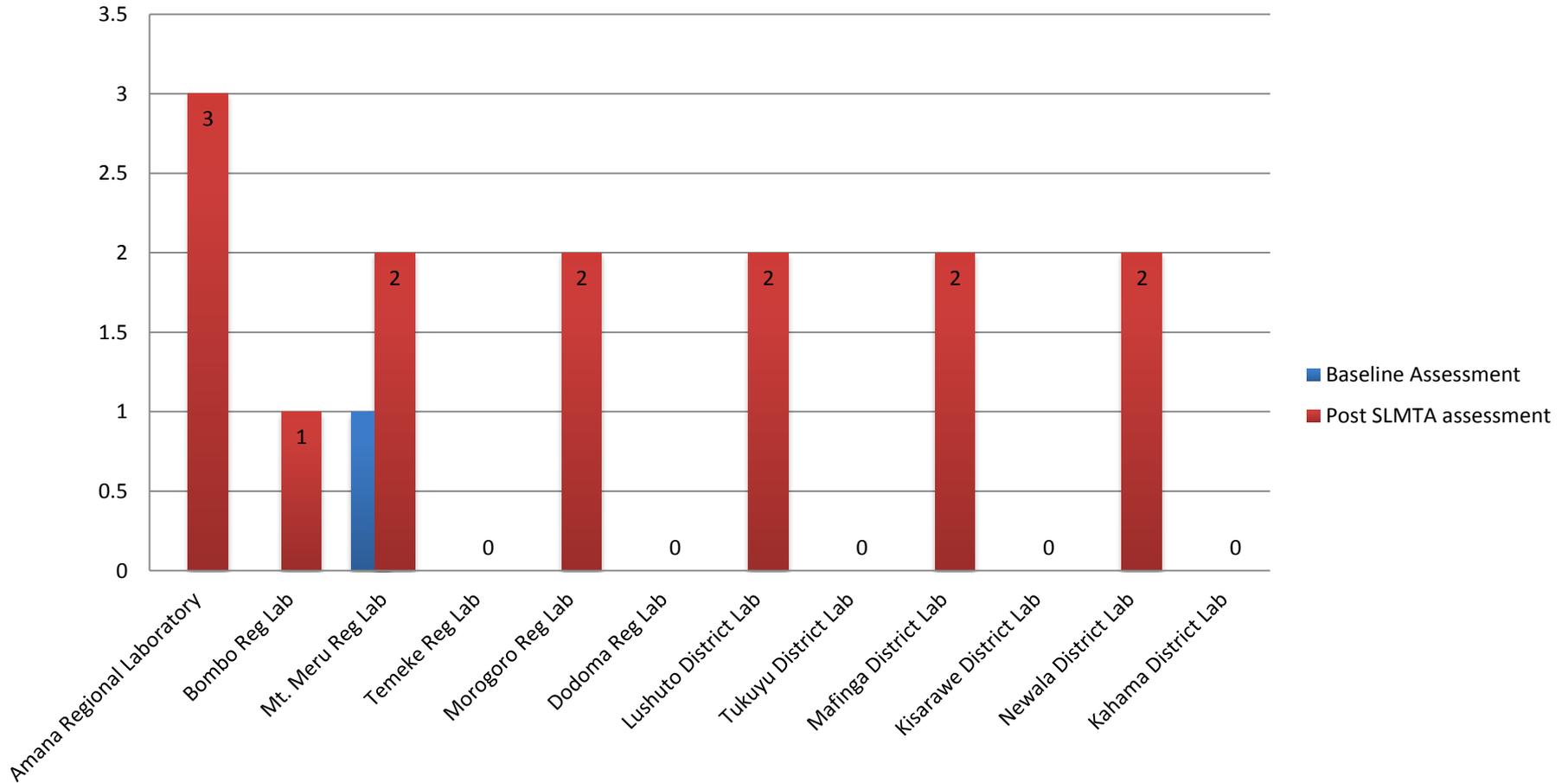
- All two National Laboratories are internationally accredited by SADCAS ISO: 15189
- Two of the four Zonal Laboratories are internationally accredited by SADCAS ISO 15189
- The remaining 2 laboratories are expected to be accredited soon



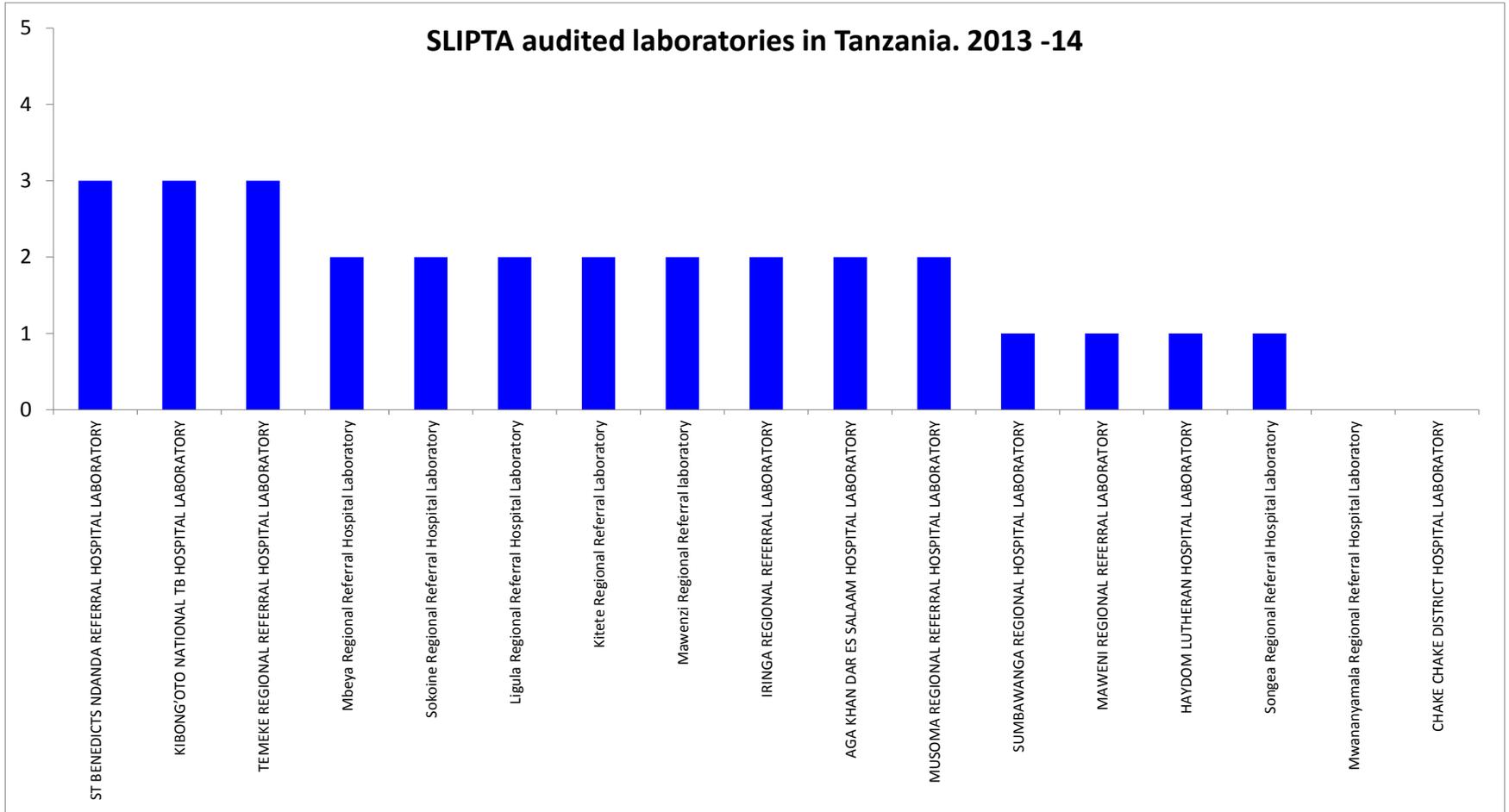
The past is over, the future is in our hands

# SLMTA Cohort 1

SLMTA Cohort 1

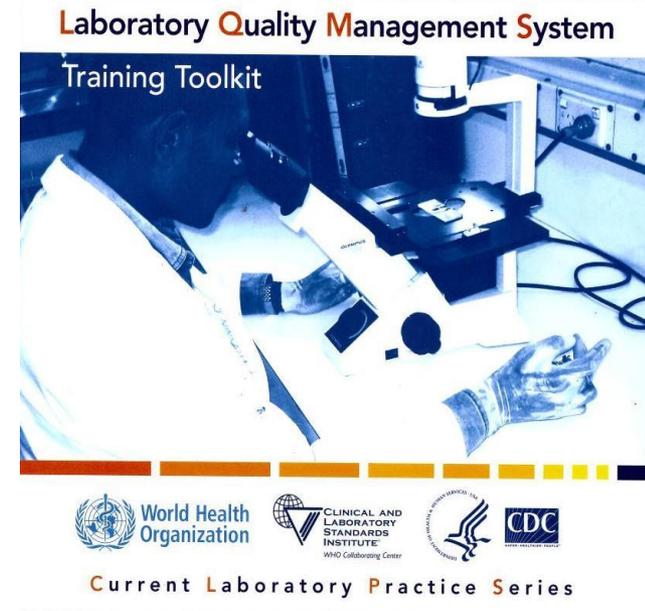
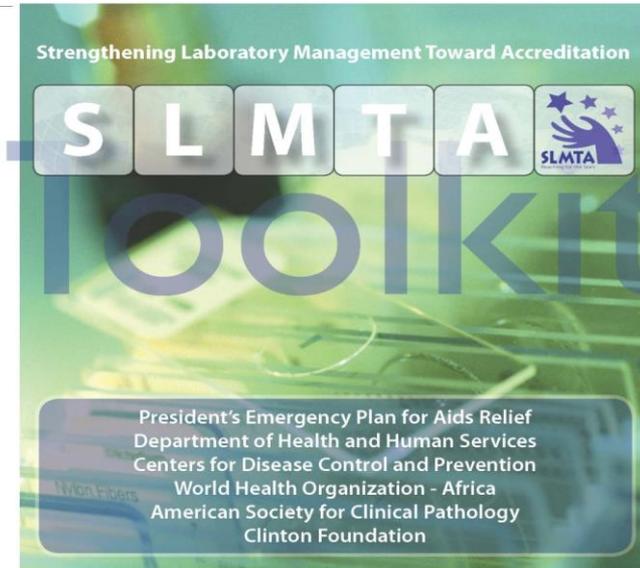


# SLIPTA Assessment 2013/2014



# Lesson Learnt

- Top management support is critical for success
- Structured mentorship program is helpful in building the culture of laboratory quality (change of attitude)
- Training of local mentors and assessors ensured maintenance of Quality achieved
- Competitive selection of laboratories
- Developed training packages and plans (SLMTA, QMS)
- Committed lab staff and partners



# Challenges

- Unfunded mandates and areas of laboratory services
- Inadequate Human resources in-terms of numbers and skills
- Poor laboratory infrastructure
- Inadequate and irregular availability of supplies and reagents
- No capacity for maintenance of equipment
- Competing priorities

# Acknowledgements

- MOHSW
- CDC
- WHO
- CLSI
- ASLM
- Laboratory Development Partners