

Weighing the costs: Implementing the SLMTA program in Zimbabwe



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Outline

- Background
- Methodology and design
- Results
- Conclusion
- Motivation

Background

- SLMTA was launched in 2010 in Zimbabwe.
- MOH and ZINQAP
- SLMTA was implemented in Zimbabwe using 3 models.
- Financial costs for SLMTA implementation NOT known in Zimbabwe & beyond.
- 1st attempt to look at financial costs of SLMTA implementation to our knowledge



Questions

- ? How much does it cost to implement SLMTA?
- ? How much would it cost to scale it up nationally?
- ? Is it less expensive to hire trainers and auditors from other countries, or to invest in training in-country experts?

Objectives

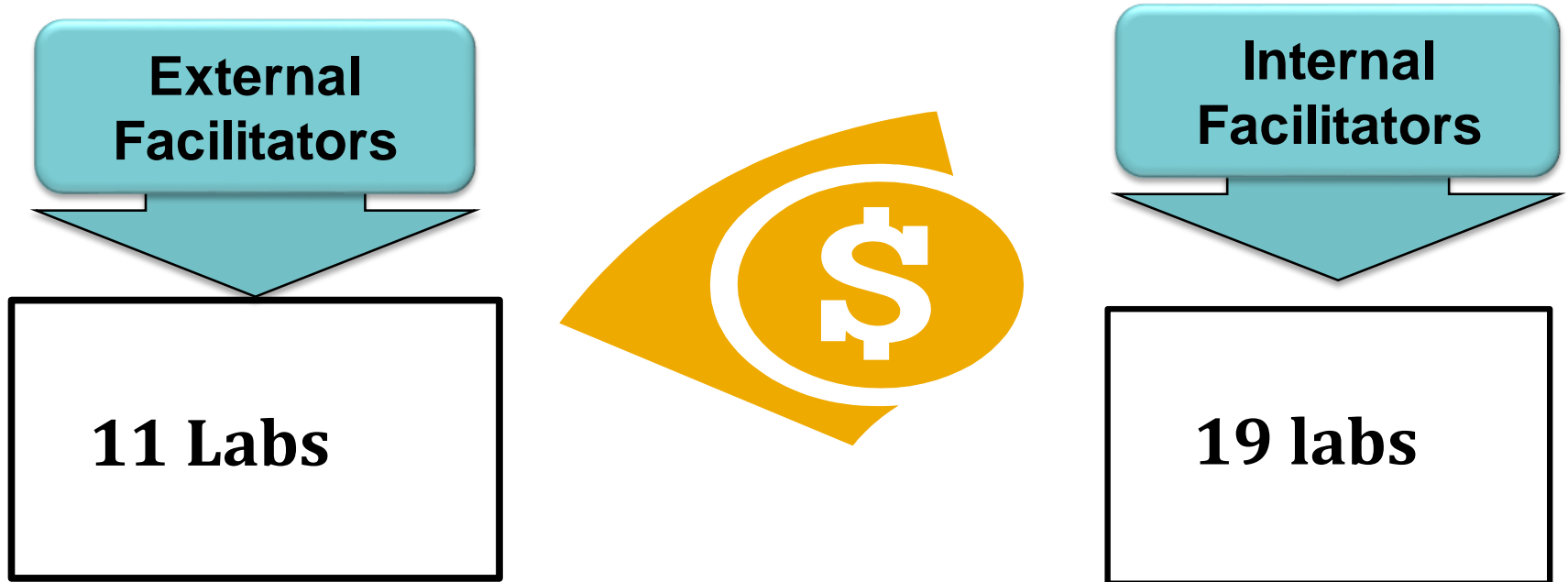
Current

- Compare financial costs of implementing SLMTA using 2 models.

Future

- Project the costs of national expansion
- To inform policy makers which model is cost effective

Methodology & Design-1



- Costs as captured in ZINQAP books of accounts
- All costs in USD

Methodology & Design- 2

Projected national Expansion



- ✓ 2 phase approach (5 provinces per phase)
- ✓ Projections based on actual cost
- ✓ All costs in USD

Methodology & Design

- 2 models – External facilitators (11 Labs) and Internal facilitators(13 labs)
- Actual financial costs incurred and captured in ZINQAP books
- Compared using internal vs external facilitators
- Theoretical financial costs based on actual costs on the market for 120 labs.
- 2 phase approach (5 provinces per phase)
- All costs in USD

Results

Internal Facilitators

External Facilitators

Actual financial cost

Total US\$113,000
(\$5900/laboratory).

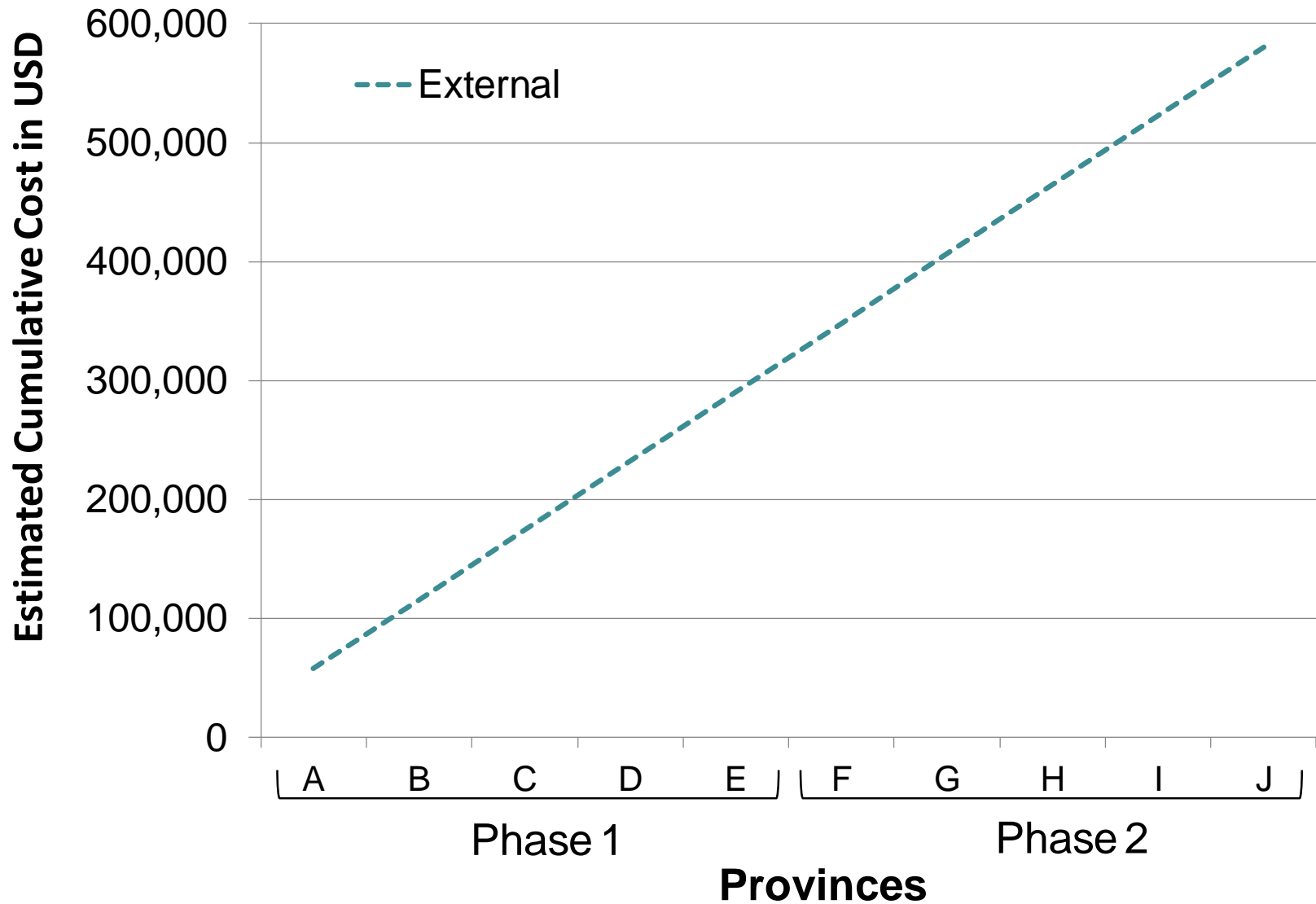
Total US\$64,000
(\$5800/laboratory)

Projected financial Costs

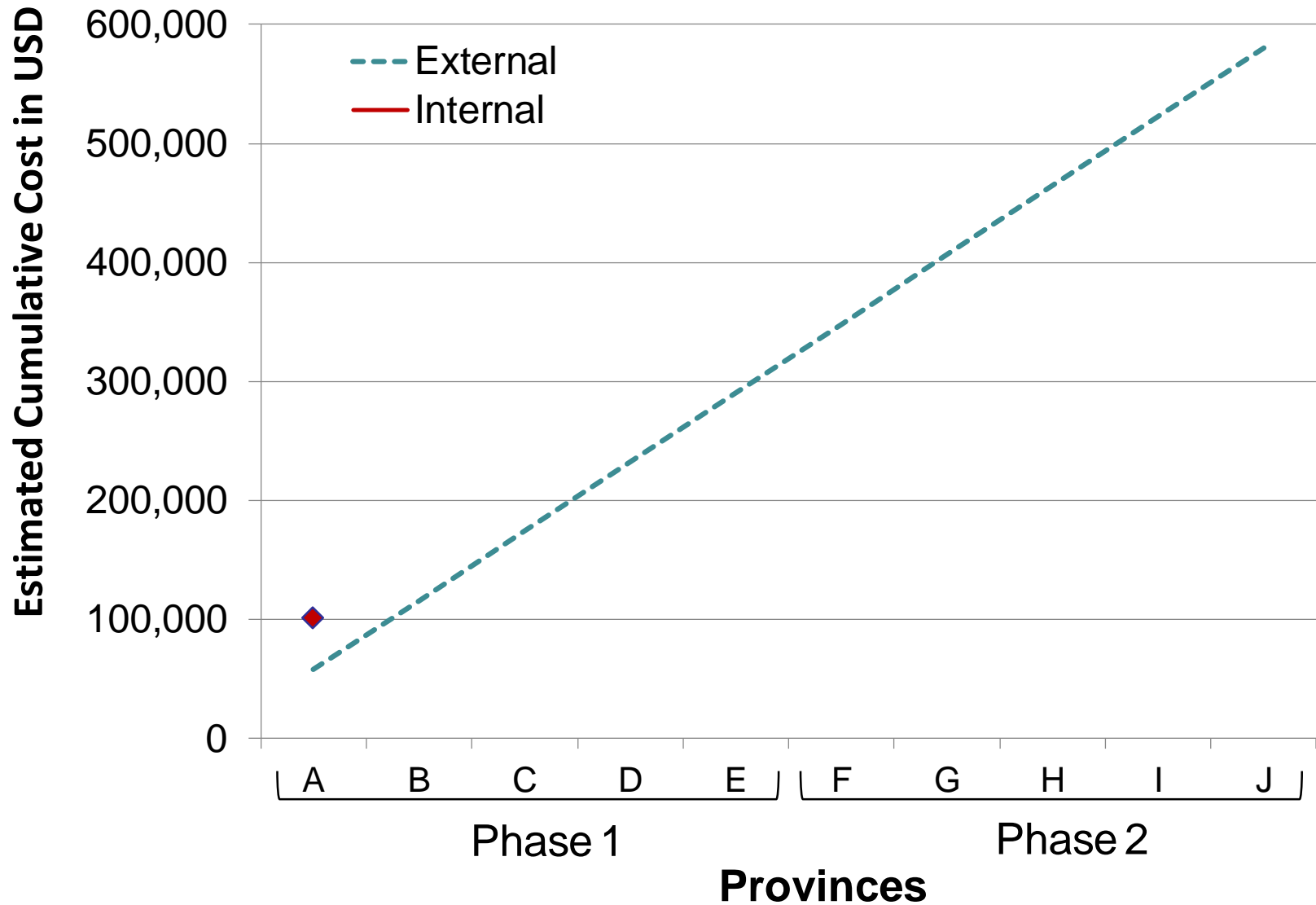
Total \$322,000
\$32,000 per province
\$2700 per laboratory

Total US\$580,000
(\$58,000 per province)
(\$4,800 per laboratory)

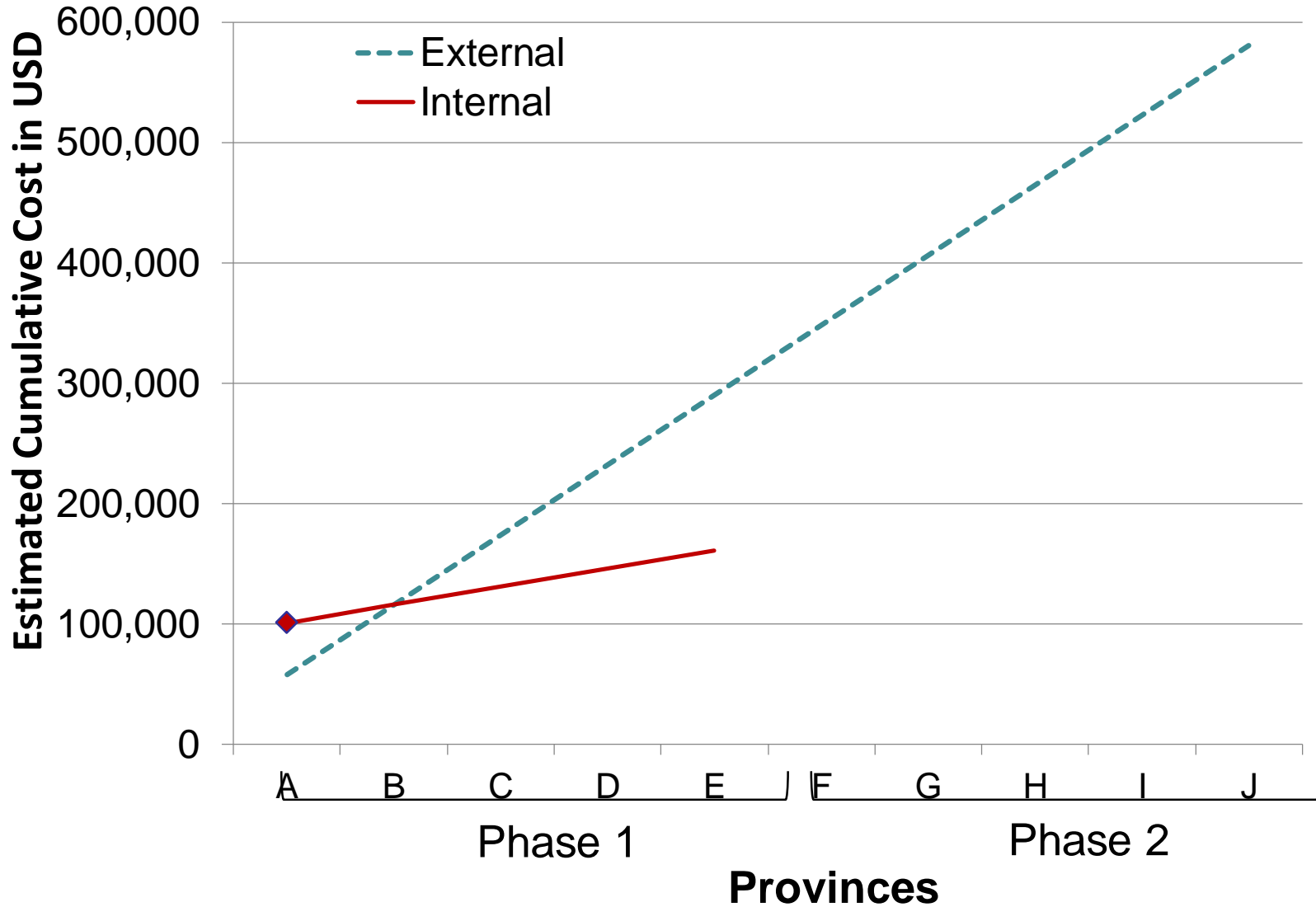
Projected cost of scaling up SLMTA in Zimbabwe



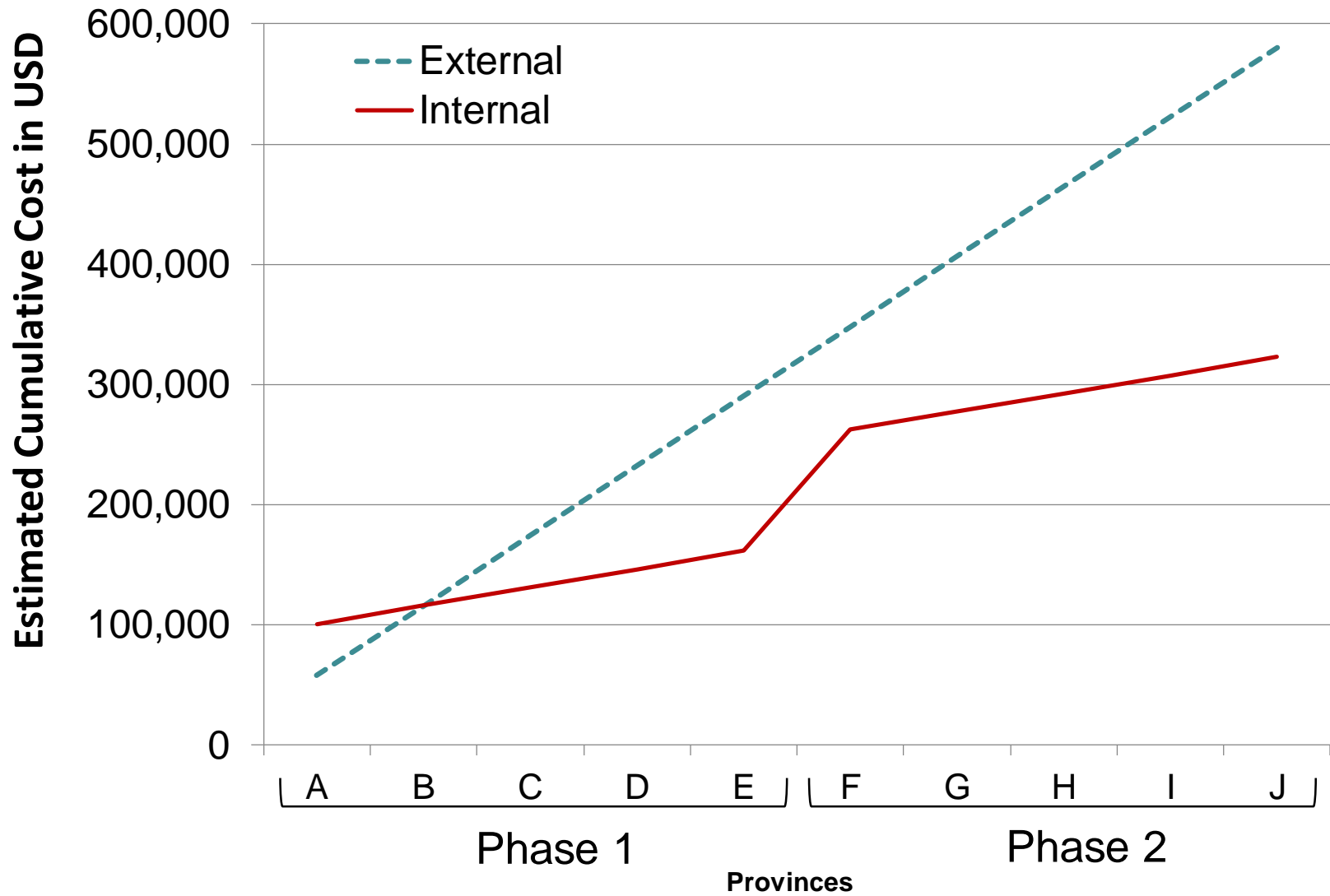
Projected cost of scaling up SLMTA in Zimbabwe



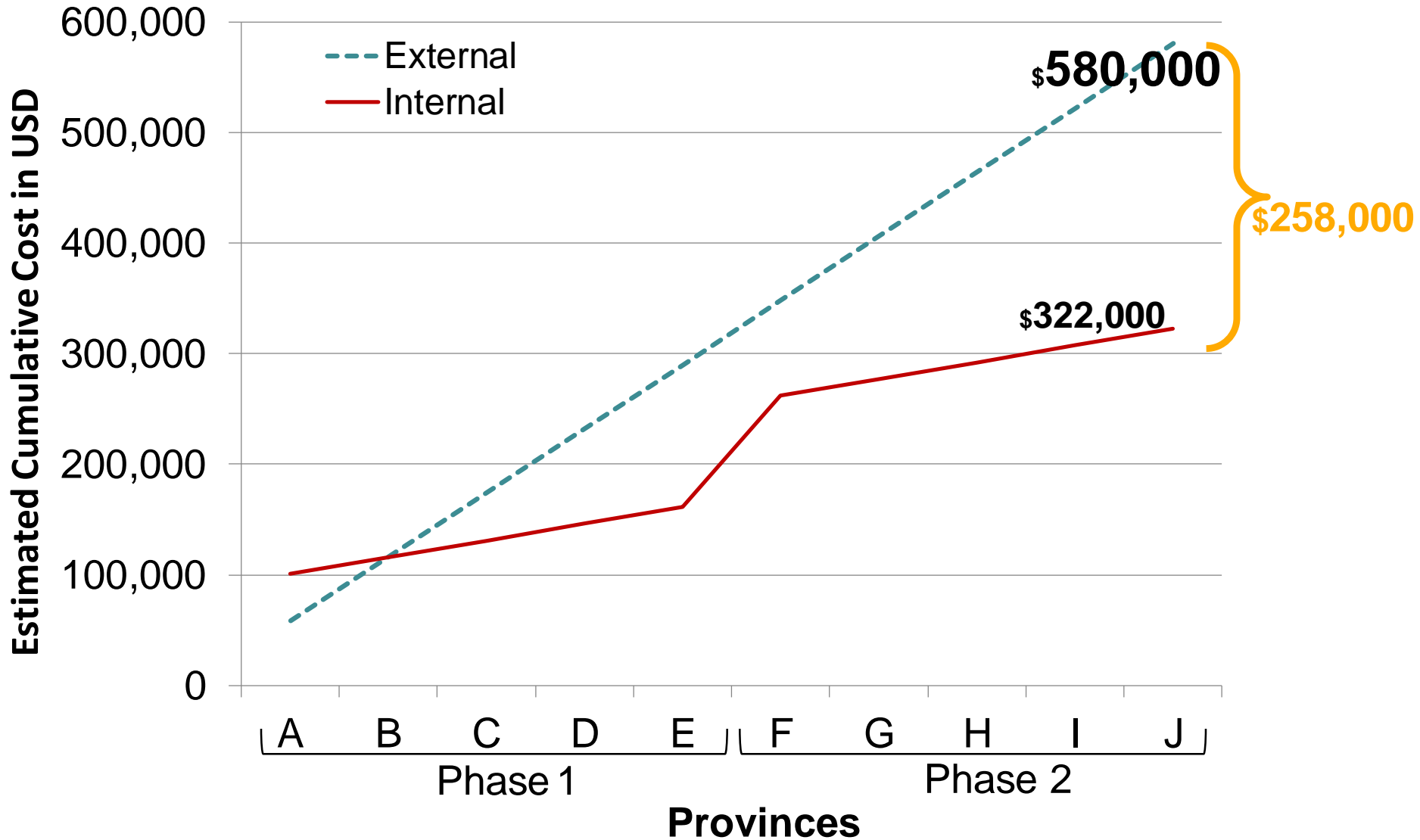
Projected cost of scaling up SLMTA in Zimbabwe



Projected cost of scaling up SLMTA in Zimbabwe



Projected cost of scaling up SLMTA in Zimbabwe



Limitations

- Expenditures were not inflation adjusted/annuatiized-costs were as incurred at the time of implementation.
- Uncertainty is inherent in assumptions of our theoretical analysis.
- This is NOT an exhaustive assessment of all potential models.

Conclusions

- Implementing SLMTA in 120 Labs in Zimbabwe would cost approximately US\$322 000.
- Investing in training of local facilitators will result in a nearly 50% decrease in the costs of national expansion.
- Develop in-country capacity of laboratory managers and mentors, supporting programme sustainability.
- Our study provides useful information to policy makers on options for investing in lab strengthening

By using internal facilitators model, Zimbabwe will save about \$260 000 in national scale up of SLMTA program

Acknowledgements

- ✓ MOH
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