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**Changes to PTs
in developing
countries over the
last ten years**

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Perceptions from previous workshops

- The issue of PT in developing countries was discussed in the previous three workshops in Rome (2008), Istanbul (2011) and Berlin (2014)
- In all workshops the same topics were discussed
 - Availability
 - Appropriateness
 - Affordability
 - Sustainability of local/regional initiatives
 - Awareness on the importance of PTs
- Has anything changed within the last ten years?

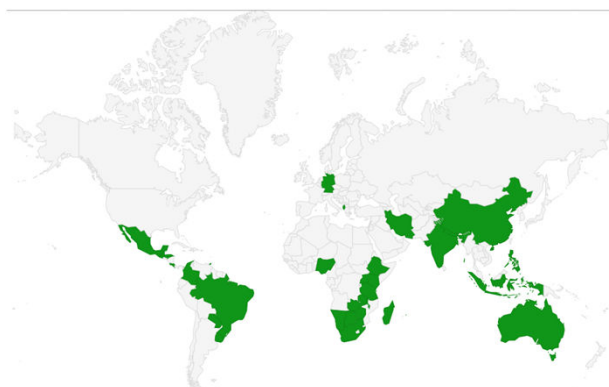
Online survey



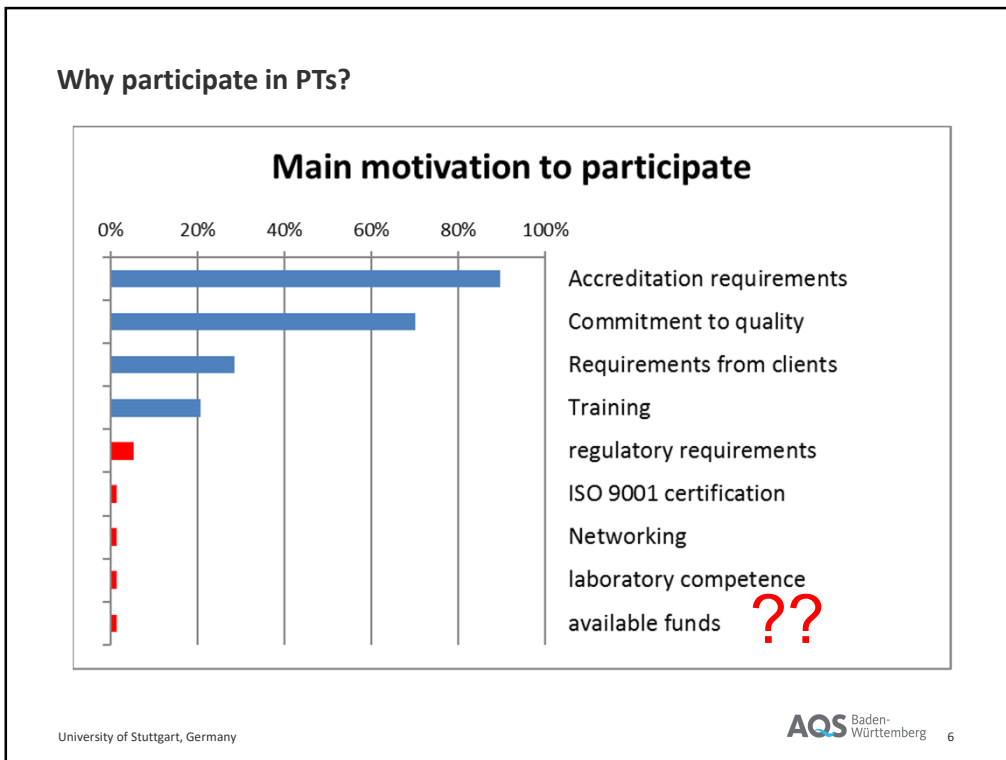
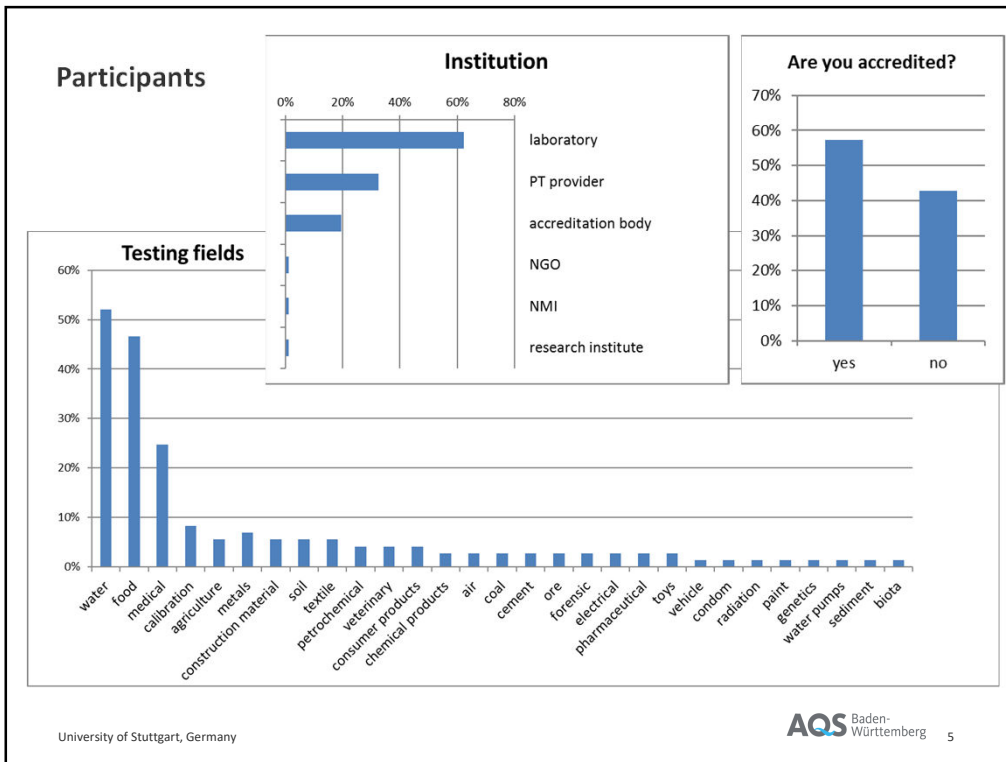
- I want to share the main results with you

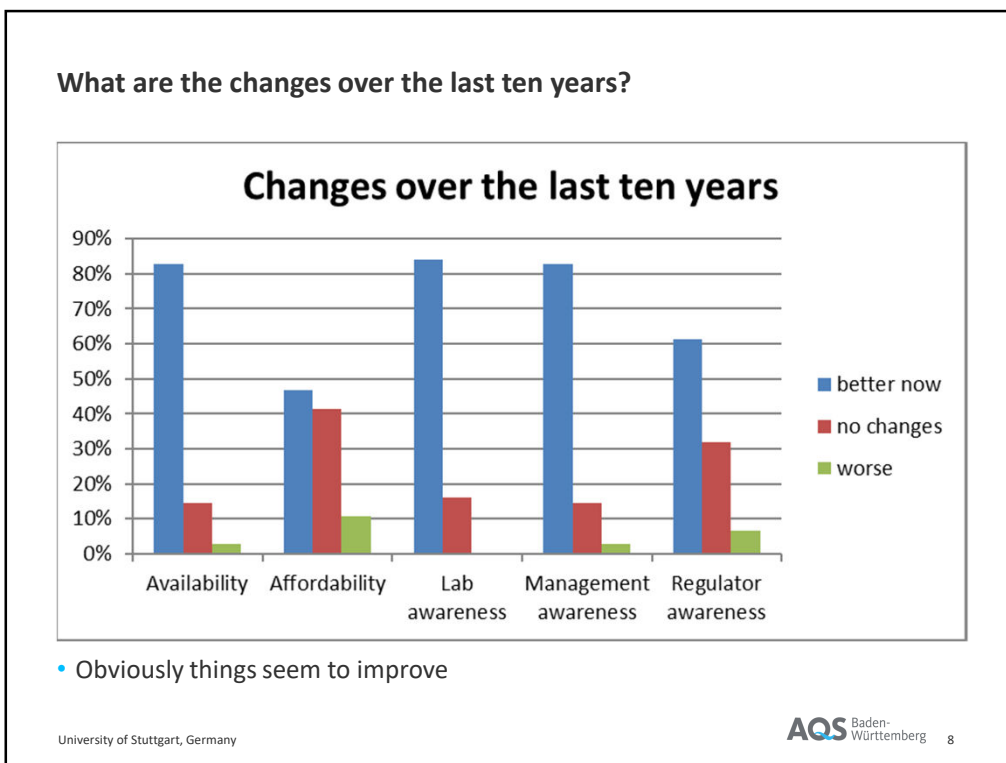
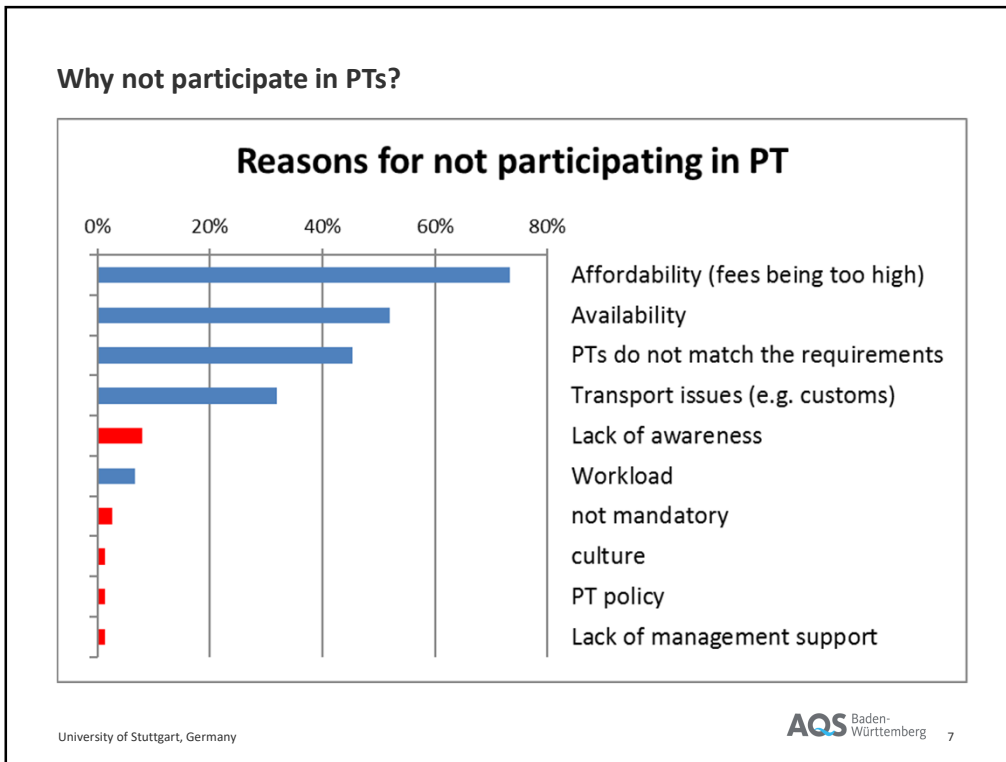
Participation in the online survey

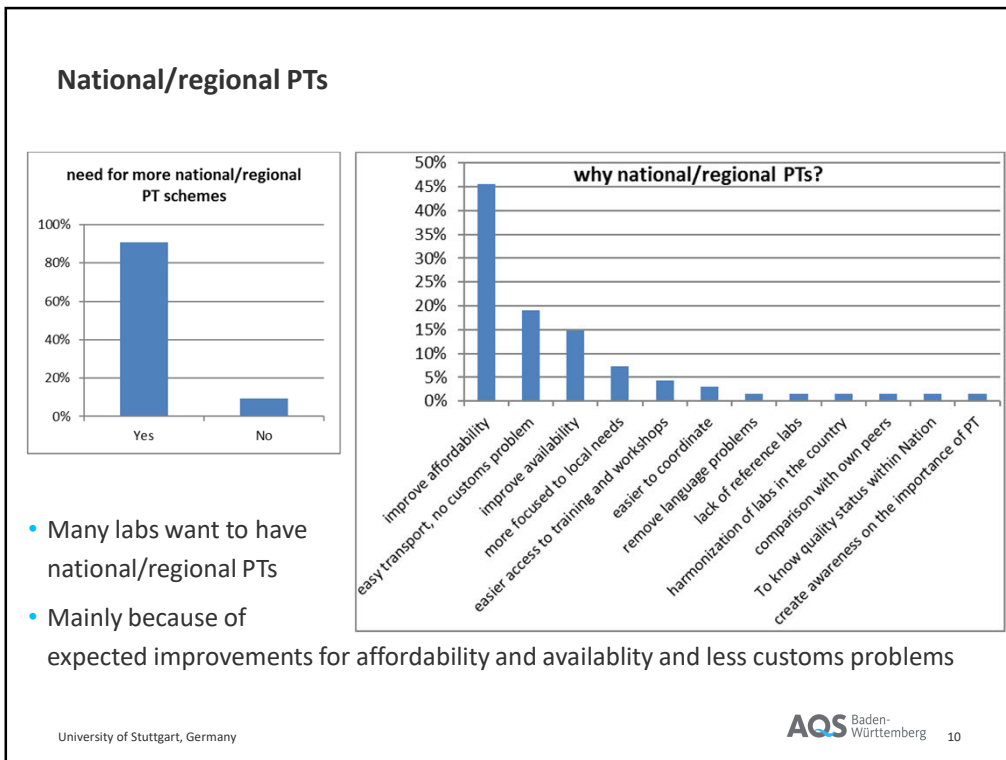
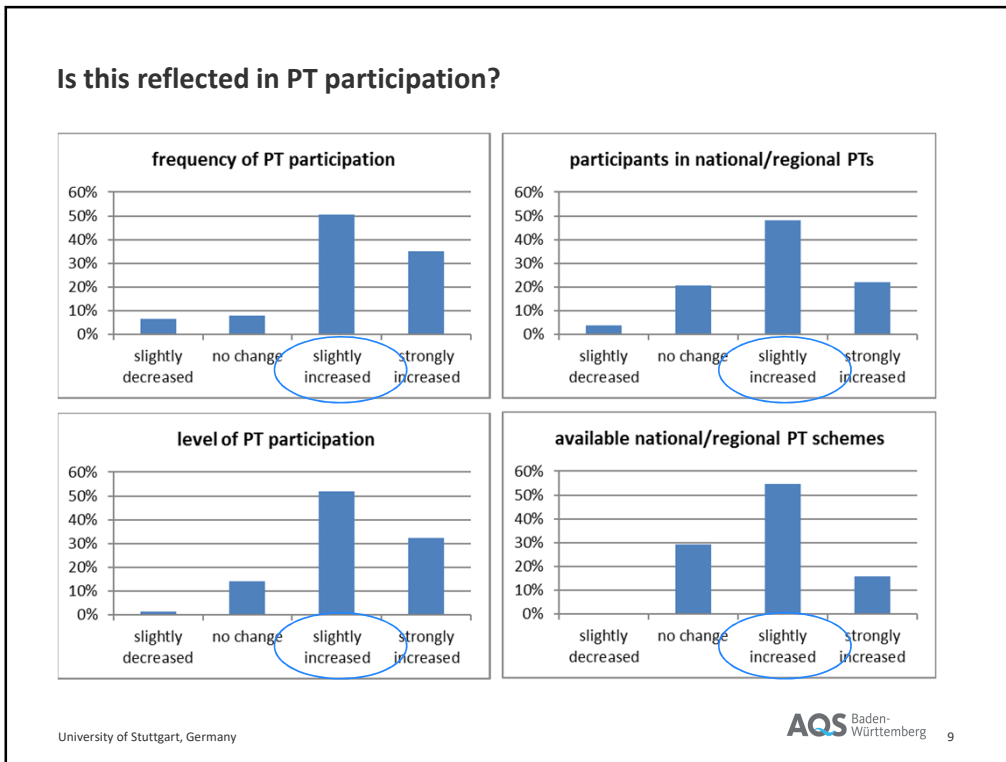
- 77 answers have been received from 35 countries
- Either directly from developing countries or from people organizing PTs in developing countries

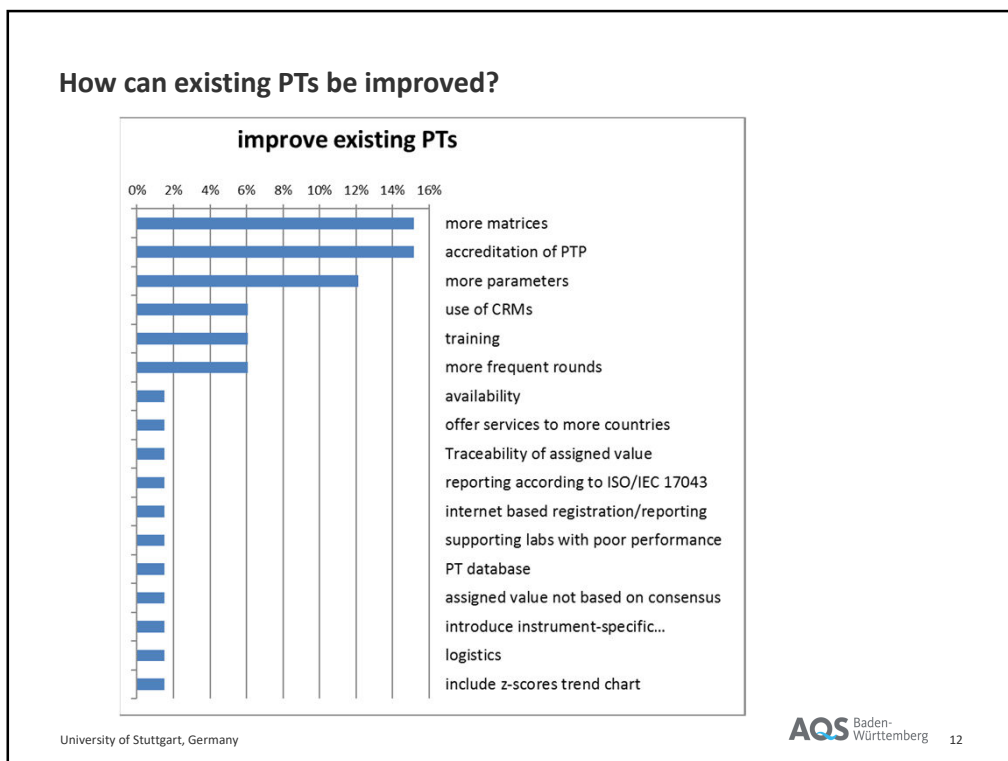
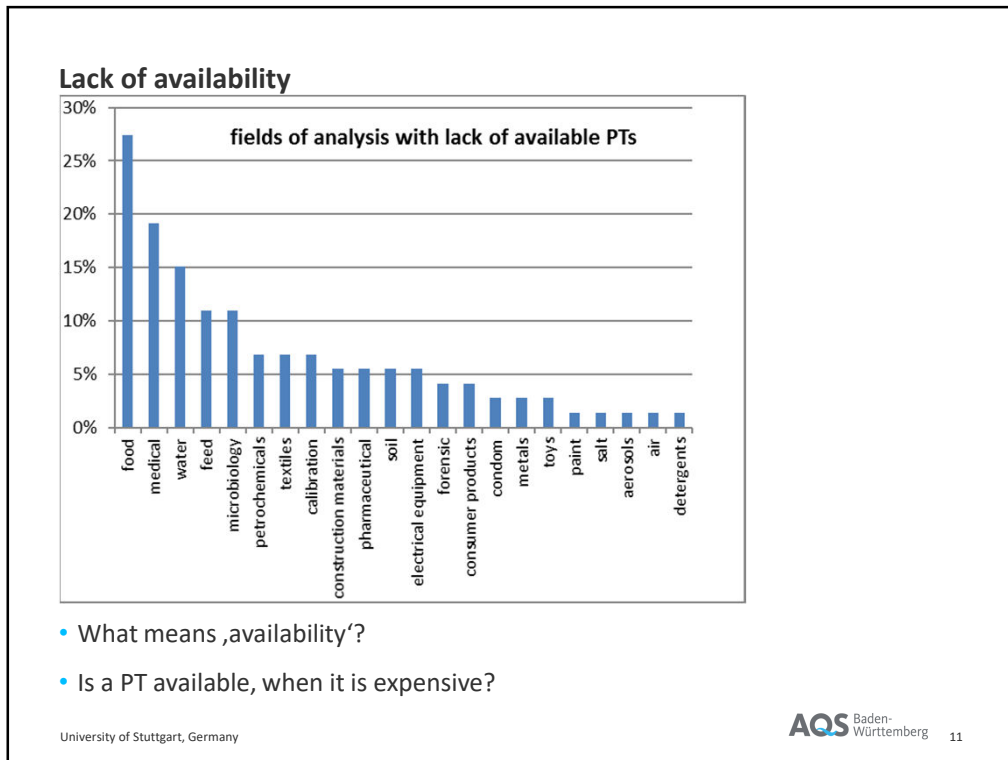


Titel der Präsentation

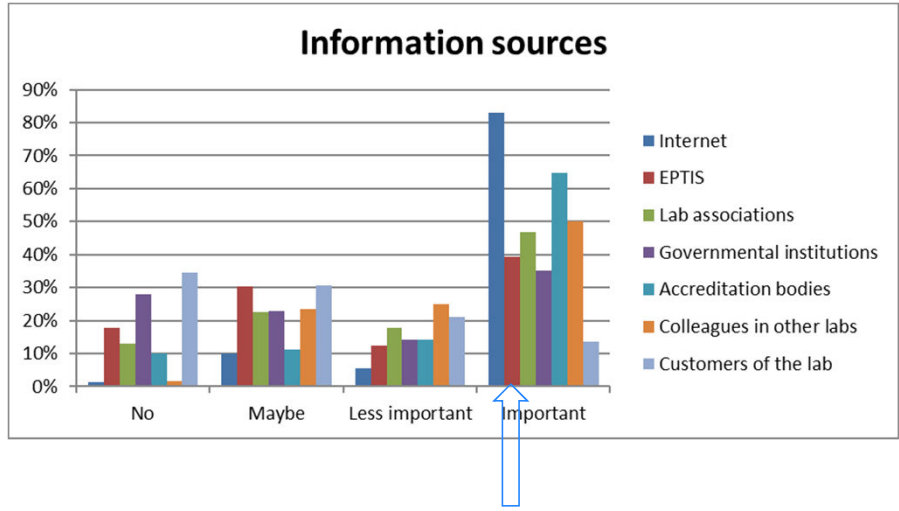






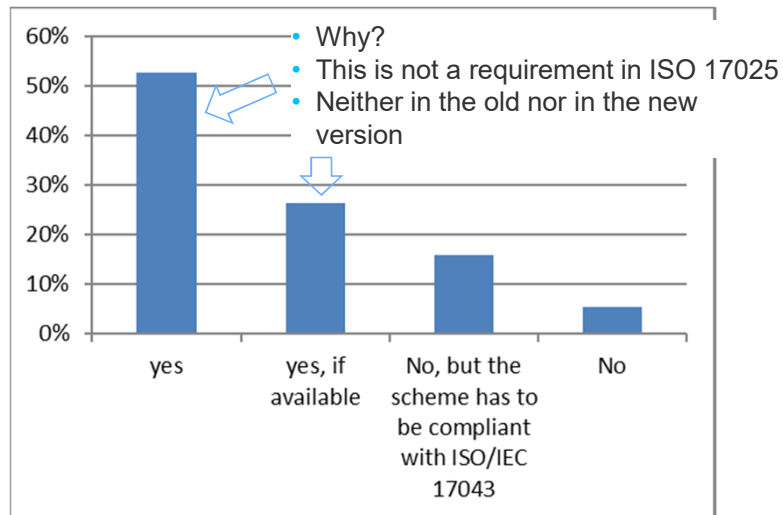


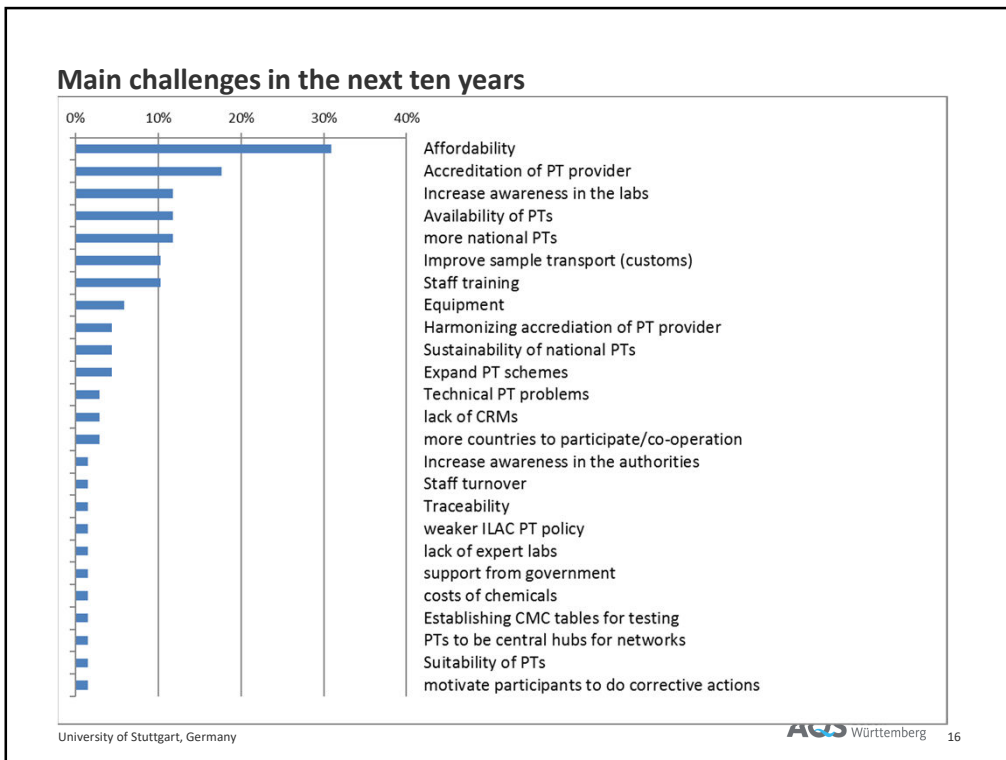
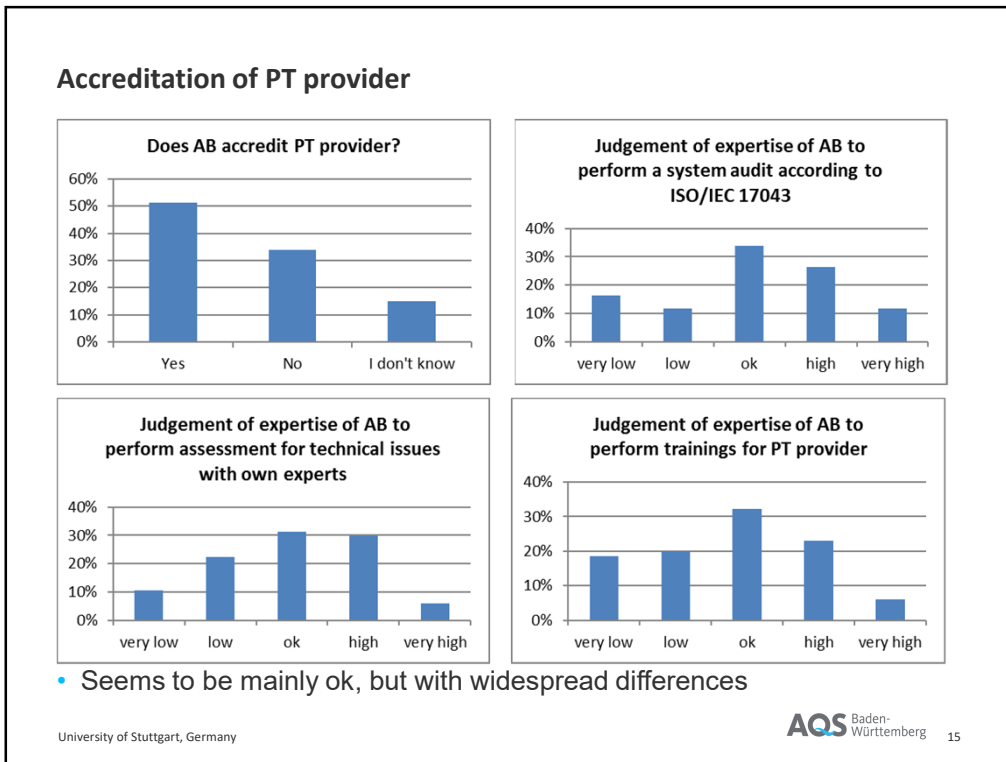
What information sources are used to find suitable PTs?

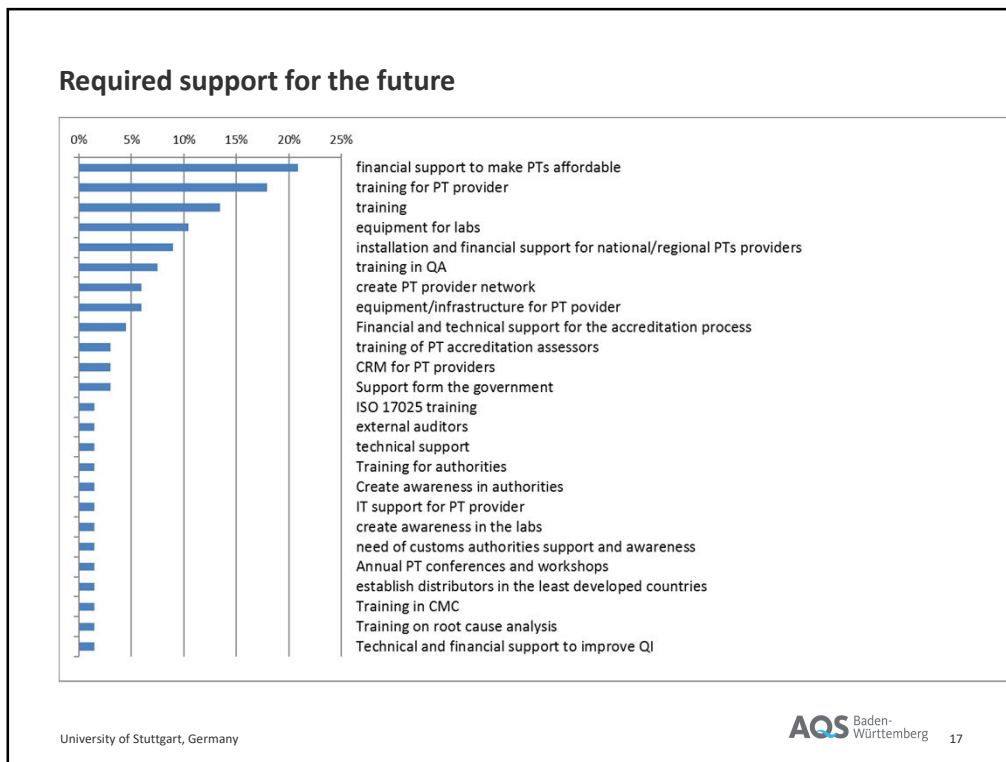


degree of popularity surprisingly low

Does the accreditation body require you to participate in accredited PTs?







- ### My personal opinion - I
- Are national/regional PTs the solution?
 - Without sponsoring it is a bit cheaper, but not much
 - External sponsoring should be only temporary
 - Sponsoring should come from national governments to be sustainable
 - Customs problems
 - Very unpredictable
 - A special tariff code for PT samples could be helpful
 - Who is taking care of that?
 - What means availability?
 - Is a PT from Europe „available“, if it is very expensive due to expensive transport?
 - Have all information sources been used?
- University of Stuttgart, Germany
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My personal opinion - II

What is necessary for the future?

- Costs for participation in proficiency tests are part of the analytical costs. When calculating the costs of analyses for the customer this has to be included and therefore covered by the customer
- External financial support is useful only if it is part of a sustainable(!) solution
- Financial support of EPTIS specifically for the improvement of coverage of developing countries and increase of the awareness about EPTIS from funds dedicated to development cooperation could make sense
- The competence of AB in connection with participation in PT sometimes has room for improvement
- Networking between labs always is helpful

Conclusions

- Affordability still is the major topic
- Training for laboratories and for accreditation bodies would be helpful
- If possible trainers should be trained in the developing countries
- It should be considered thoroughly in advance whether a national/regional PT scheme is really sustainable.
Sometimes this could be the case. But the scheme needs to survive the end of sponsoring

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Thank you very much!



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