



Eurachem

A Focus for Analytical Chemistry in Europe

9th PT/EQA Workshop - Portoroz 2017

Report from WG2



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Changes to PT/EQA schemes in developing countries over the last ten years

- Convenors:
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Participants' background

- Laboratory staff? 12
- PT organisers? 25
- Accreditation bodies? 2
- Teachers / trainers? 6
- Universities? 1
- researcher? 2
- Consultant 4



Where are you from?

- Africa? 4
- Asia? 9
- Australia and New Zealand? 2
- Europe? 18
- North America? 0
- South America? 1



Objectives

- Consider how PT/EQA schemes have evolved in developing countries during the last ten years
- Consider what is needed to support further evolution in the next ten years



1. What changes have been observed in PT/EQA scheme availability

- Has there been any change?
 - Yes 26
 - No 0, I don't know 6
- What is meant by availability?
 - Availability in terms of specific matrix and analytes for particular countries
 - Affordability

1. What changes have been observed in PT/EQA scheme availability

- If yes, are PT/EQA more /less available?
 - Less available because of particular country's regulations, e.g. custom
 - Affordability
 - Larger availability in general but not necessarily for developing countries
 - Local agents may act as the exclusive agent and dictate the price for supplying foreign PTS

1. What changes have been observed in PT/EQAS availability

- If yes, are there regions / sectors where changes were more significant?

Dynamic dev Iran, middle east, Egypt, relative availability according to local or foreign PT

Increase of demand from Africa and also depending on specific regulation

Singapore and Thailand provide a lot of local PTS and RMs

1. What changes have been observed in PT/EQAS availability

- Has the number of PT/EQAS organized in your country increased / decreased?

Increased (Iran, Middle East, Asia...)

Increased in any sector, local organizers are doing better and the quality increased also because PTP are getting accredited

1. What changes have been observed in PT/EQAS availability

- Do the PT/EQAS you have access to cover your needs?

Increasingly in general, but not for all fields,

Narrow limits can be a break to use existing PTS for developed countries

Need of education about the scheme of PTS, lack of culture in general, fitting for the purpose of the scheme of developing countries according the local economy,

Some countries have an offer that can suit (Europe, NZ), other not)

Scheme are available but not always local,

Needs are various depending of the regions, so local PTP should cover local needs, some area could not be that well covered (medicine ?)



1. What changes have been observed in the level of participation

- Has there been any change?
 - Yes 24
 - No 1 don't know 4

More laboratories take part but only for a few rounds a year or several year (poor frequency)

Some AB have a policy on frequency, so it can depend of AB



1. What changes have been observed in the level of participation

- If yes, has the level of participation in PT/EQA
 - as frequency of participation for single laboratory
 - Increased? Decreased?

N of lab has decreased in developing countries,

In some fields the scope of participation is low



2. What have been the drivers for change in:

- PT/EQA scheme availability?
 - Regulation, trade (have to meet the requirement of the market),
 - PT being made mandatory
 - Break of problem of clearance in customs
 - Government sponsoring of PTP (e.g. Philippine PTS supported by Government to help economy but sustainability) or because of local problem like pollutionCost
 - Changes in regulations, e.g. for transport
 - Impact of technology, e.g social networks



2. What have been the drivers for change in:

- Level of participation?
 - Obligation, some fields (microbiology), accreditation, demonstrate the quality of the results & the product) to the customer
 - Financial or cultural issues, not perceive like a benefit,
 - Development new analytical method,
 - Financial reasons



3. How has the awareness of the importance of participating in PT/EQA changed:

- Within the laboratories?
 - No change
 - Change 25
 - I don't know 5



3. How has the awareness of the importance of participating in PT/EQA changed:

- Within the laboratories?
 - Improved, because of
 - Educational value
 - Social network
 - Increasing business
 - Communication between users and PTP
 - Worsened, because of...
 - Lack of educational value
 - Fear of failure
 - Poor managerial commitment
 - pressure from regulation



3. How has the awareness of the importance of participating in PT/EQA changed:

- Within laboratory management?

Manager has to fund PTS;

Consideration about the value added, critical issues of quality e.g consumption of water)

Cultural perception of the PTS



3. How has the awareness of the importance of participating in PT/EQA changed:

- Within authorities/regulators?
 - Sponsoring to support economy (philipine)
 - State regulation linked to accreditation
 - Public health or quality life concerns



3. How has the awareness of the importance of participating in PT/EQA changed:

- How can it be improved further?



Pedagogic efforts from AB and PTP,

Training of labs,

Education with technical means eg. Social networks



4. What has to change for the next ten years to ensure sustainable PT/EQA schemes:

- What are the ongoing challenges?

Customs regulation

Cost

Local limits of schemes

Increasing of manager's support

Support from government,

Sharing information (social network, emulation among participants)

Training of PTP (statistics)

Sharing of local logistic means (collaboration between gvt and PTP)

Training of labs

More cooperation between PTP international PTP and local PTP