

Countries Supported by the Project

ECSA Member States

1. Kenya
2. Lesotho
3. Malawi
4. Mauritius
5. Eswatini
6. Tanzania
7. Uganda
8. Zambia
9. Zimbabwe

Non - ECSA Member States

10. Burundi
11. Botswana
12. Eritrea
13. Mozambique
14. Namibia
15. Rwanda
16. South Sudan
17. Sychelles
18. Somalia
19. Ethiopia
20. Angola
21. Liberia



REGIONAL TB LAB STRENGTHENING PROJECT



UGANDA **Supranational[®] Reference Laboratory**

Timely Accurate Diagnostics for a TB-Free Africa



MINISTRY OF HEALTH



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About the Regional TB Lab Strengthening Project

The Uganda National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory is the first Supranational Reference Laboratory (SRL) in East Africa, and the second in Sub-Saharan Africa. We attained this accreditation from the WHO in April 2013.

The SRL started as the Uganda Bacteriological Investigation Unit in the late 1950's under the then East African Community. After the collapse of the East African Community in 1970's, the laboratory reverted to the line ministries and became known as Uganda National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory (NTRL).

As SRL Uganda, we are currently implementing a Global Fund supported 'Regional TB Lab Strengthening Project' in partnership with the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC). SRL Uganda runs the operations of the laboratory, supporting and mentoring countries national TB Labs of 21 countries in the region to build resilient and sustainable TB diagnosis systems.

Training & Mentoring National TB Labs in Africa

Ultimately, our target is to mentor other countries in our network to build their own resilient and sustainable TB Lab systems and eventually achieve WHO accreditation. We serve as a demonstration site, offering training and peer to peer mentorship for both local and regional lab personnel in various essential skill sets. Our teams also make several visits to various in country and regional sites to train, mentor, encourage and challenge the personnel to do better.

From our network, Mozambique has now achieved a Supranational Lab status, while Tanzania, Namibia and Kenya are in line to achieve WHO accreditation.

About NTRL Uganda / SRL Uganda

Who We Are

Mission

Provide quality laboratory services and strengthen SRL diagnostic network through leadership and expert guidance; and reduce the burden of TB in supported countries.

Vision

Every person in Sub-Saharan Africa has access to quality TB diagnostic services.

Our Expertise

- Diagnostic Testing
- Training & Mentorship
- External Quality Assurance (EQA)
- Proficiency Testing

We have been accredited by South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) for 'Medical Testing Laboratory Tuberculosis and Molecular Tuberculosis' – ISO 15189:2012 and 'Proficiency Testing by Interlaboratory Comparisons' – ISO/IEC 17043:2010 attesting to our world-class technical competency in TB diagnostics.



A section of officials from Global Fund, ECSA-HC and SRL Uganda at a project review workshop in Kampala. Global Fund recently extended funding for the project for three more years bringing the beneficiary countries under SRL Uganda from 17 to 21.