

# THE PIONEER

## SADCAS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021 EDITION - ISSUE 39

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# Note from the Editors



**Mrs. Maureen Mutasa**



**Mr Xavier Mugari**

**We are pleased to present Issue 39 of the SADCAS Newsletter (July 2021 Edition) to keep our readers updated on accreditation activities in the region and beyond. Inside you will find news on accreditation activities undertaken by SADCAS and developments in the field of accreditation.**

June 9, marks World Accreditation Day (WAD) as a global initiative jointly established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation-related activities. The inaugural WAD was celebrated in 2008. Accreditation: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is the theme for 2021 WAD. The theme has been chosen to ensure that policymakers continue to use accreditation and Quality Infrastructure (QI) services to support their SDG Agenda.

World Accreditation Day provides the opportunity for SADCAS to share examples of how accreditation may be applied to meet objectives such as increasing trade, addressing health and safety concerns, and improving the general overall quality of output in an economy.

This year activities to celebrate 2021 WAD were once again rather limited due to COVID-19 pandemic. Celebrations in the region ranged from circulation and publication of press releases in the various national media, circulation and posting of WAD video on social media, television interview to virtual and physical workshops/seminars.

Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, SADCAS has ensured continuity in service provision by continually investing in technology so as to fully exploit the benefits presented by remote assessments, online training, virtual meetings and working remotely from home.

*Enjoy the reading and stay safe!*



## SADC CELEBRATES WORLD ACCREDITATION DAY 2021 AMIDST 3<sup>RD</sup> WAVE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

June 9, marks World Accreditation Day (WAD) as a global initiative jointly established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation-related activities. The inaugural WAD was celebrated in 2008.

**Accreditation: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is the theme for 2021 World Accreditation Day which was celebrated worldwide on 9 June 2021. This theme highlights the role of accreditation in supporting the implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goals.**

This year's activities to celebrate 2021 WAD were rather limited due to COVID-19 pandemic. Celebrations in the region ranged from circulation and publication of press releases in the various national media, circulation and posting of WAD video on social media, television interview to virtual and physical workshops/seminars. In preparation for the celebrations SADCAS provided all National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) with a press release.



**In Botswana** a virtual workshop was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2021. The workshop started off with opening remarks by Ms O Tiroesele, Acting Deputy Permanent Secretary followed by the presentation by Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, SADCAS CEO on the Role of accreditation in supporting the implementation of SDGs. In her presentation Mrs Mutasa focused on the important role that accreditation plays in the achievement of the United Nations' SDGs shared examples of how SADCAS was contributing towards the regional objectives of enhancing the competitiveness of goods and services, enhancing market access of SADC goods and services, contributing towards regional integration, increasing trade, addressing health and safety concerns, and improving the general overall quality of output in an economy. Five (5) presentations were delivered on the role of testing/calibration/medical laboratories and inspection/certification bodies in supporting the Implementation of the SDGs. The NAFP representatives also presented the 2021 WAD videos developed jointly by International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF). The Botswana workshop was attended by over 100 delegates from all over Botswana including policymakers, conformity assessments bodies captains of industry etc.



**In Eswatini** WAD 2021 celebrations were held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2021 attended by the Honourable Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade, Senator Manqoba Khumalo, the UN Resident Coordinator, Ms Nathalie Ndongo, Principal Secretaries, Undersecretaries, Senior Government Officials, CEOs of parastatal and industry and other laboratory personnel. Minister Khumalo highlighted the relevance of accreditation in the implementation of SDGs and that 2021 WAD had provided an opportunity for the quality infrastructure institutions to share information with policymakers, regulators, and consumers on how accreditation may be applied to meet objectives such as increasing trade, addressing environment, health and safety concerns, and improving the general overall quality of outputs in an economy. The NAFP-Eswatini presented on how accreditation supports the SDGs. She stated that accreditation and other Quality Infrastructure (QI) activities including metrology, standardization, conformity assessment and technical regulations, was a critical cornerstone in supporting the SDGs and the three interrelated thematic priorities: creating shared prosperity, advancing economic competitiveness and safeguarding the environment.



**In Madagascar** WAD was celebrated in collaboration with the Codex Alimentarius Contact Point of Madagascar. An article based on the SADCAS WAD Press release together with the video on WAD were circulated by email to entities from the public and private sectors, laboratories, inspection and certification bodies and consumer’s association. The article and the video were widely disseminated on Facebook, LinkedIn and the website of the Codex Alimentarius contact point for Madagascar



**In Mozambique** WAD was celebrated on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2021 through a seminar organised by the Association of Mozambique Laboratories and the National Institute of Health. During the seminar, NAFP-Mozambique presented on “Application of Accreditation for Economic Development”.



**In Seychelles** WAD celebrations were limited to the publication of the WAD article on local newspaper and circulation of the SADCAS WAD Press release to CABs, members of the Association of Seychelles Laboratories (ASL), Regulators and Ministry responsible for Industry and Trade.



**In Tanzania** WAD celebrations were held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2021. The event was attended by over 60 stakeholders from government and private sector. The following presentations were delivered during the celebrations:

- The role of Accreditation in supporting **implementation of SDGs**.
- Role of Metrology in supporting scientific and industrial calibration .
- Role of Standards in supporting infrastructure.
- Contribution of Standards towards Achieving **SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation**.
- Role of Accreditation in Medical Sector.
- Benefit of Accreditation to testing Labs .
- Value of Management certification systems in supporting business growth.

## ACCREDITATION IN SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The theme for 2021 WAD is **“Accreditation: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”**. The theme which is focused on the important role that accreditation plays in the achievement of the United Nations’ sustainable development goals and its impact on industrial development and economic growth. The theme of this year’s WAD was chosen to ensure that policymakers continue to use accreditation and Quality Infrastructure (QI) services to support their SDG Agenda. World Accreditation Day provides the opportunity for SADCAS to share examples of how accreditation may be applied to meet objectives such as increasing trade, addressing health and safety concerns, and improving the general overall quality of output in an economy.



**THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a blueprint for achieving a better and more sustainable future. This ambitious plan whose objective is designed to enhance prosperity, eradicate poverty and protect the planet, is recognized globally as essential for a sustainable world. It requires consensus, collaboration and innovation from all parts of society, including local and national governments, business, industry and individuals. This UN's ambitious strategy to end poverty by 2030 and make significant global social and environmental progress could create almost 380 million jobs and opportunities worth \$12 trillion in sectors ranging from affordable housing and energy efficiency to circular economy models and advances in healthcare. The 2030 Agenda, which is articulated across 17 SDGs and 169 associated targets seeks to guide all global, regional and national development endeavors. The SDGs are therefore at the core of the UN 2030 Agenda and address global challenges including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, and justice.

**SO HOW DOES ACCREDITATION SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS?**

Accreditation which is defined as the process by which an authoritative body gives formal recognition that an organization or person is competent to carry out specific tasks, involves the creation of confidence in the work carried out by conformity assessment bodies such as testing laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies. It is the basis of trust.

**The positive impact of accreditation is therefore clearly aligned with the pillars of :**



Accreditation supports policy objectives in areas including cross-border trade, food safety, health and environmental protection, and, industrial and infrastructural development. Accreditation provides a trusted platform for defining, developing and verifying requirements for products and services. It helps to ensure and demonstrate that products and services meet specified requirements. Accreditation also provides policymakers, businesses and other stakeholders with the technical knowledge and capacity to strengthen the implementation, measurement and monitoring of many of the objectives and targets contained in the SDGs, and support to achieve them.

**Meeting the needs of People (SDGs 1 to 5)**

**SDGs 1 to 5** are centered on improving well-being. These goals focus on addressing poverty and hunger, reducing inequalities, and providing access to quality education and good health. Accreditation supports the needs of people as it verifies that products are safe, and quality expectations are met. Accredited measurement ensures that consumers are protected, while health and social care systems are delivered by competent professionals.

Accreditation creates competitive domestic markets, and facilitates trade for both importers and exporters through the removal of technical barriers. Conformity assessment ensures food is fit and safe for consumption and helps achieve sustainable agriculture and food production. This in turn, contributes to eradicating hunger and securing adequate nutrition and clean water for all people, allowing people to live healthy lives and improve their social and economic well-being. The ILAC and IAF mutual recognition arrangements facilitate trade, thus contribute to economic development. By using gender-sensitive standards and favoring technical competence, conformity assessment has a positive impact on gender equality and on the economic empowerment of women. Lastly, using accredited conformity assessment helps prevent unsafe, unhealthy or environmentally harmful products from entering the marketplace.

The SADCAS Medical Laboratories Accreditation Scheme (MLAS) supports good health and well-being. Medical laboratories play an important role in the evaluation of human health status and the correct diagnosis, treatment and prognosis of diseases. The quality and technical level of medical laboratories are directly related to the health and well-being of the public. The SADCAS MLAS was established in June 2010 and is a multi-disciplinary accreditation scheme operated in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011. Medical laboratories seeking to be accredited on the SADCAS MLAS need to comply with international standard ISO 15189. The fields of accreditation under the SADCAS MLAS as per TG 03 include: Clinical chemistry; Cytology; Hematology; Histopathology; Immunology; Microbiology (Bacteriology; Virology; Mycology; Parasitology); Serology; Andrology; Molecular Biology; Blood banks; Endocrinology; Immunophenotyping; Mycobacteriology; etc. and now COVID-19 testing.

SADCAS issued its first medical laboratory accreditation certificate in February 2014. By the end of April 2021, SADCAS had accredited 63 medical laboratories from 7 SADC Members State (MS) and 2 from non SADC countries. The SADCAS MLAS is currently the fastest growing scheme with 32 applications from 5 SADC MS under



process. A number of countries in the region have recognized the importance of medical laboratory services as an integral part of the health delivery system and have in their policies embraced accreditation as a strategy for the competence of medical laboratories. Programmes have been put in place to assist medical laboratories to implement ISO 15189 such as the programmes that the Botswana Ministry of Health has in place.

In October 2017, SADCAS became a signatory to the mutual recognition agreements of the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) and the ILAC for medical testing in accordance with ISO 15189. SADCAS will continue to make greater contributions to the construction of a healthy Botswana as well as the 13 other SADC MS it services.

SADCAS through its Advisory Committee AC.07 is currently exploring Medical Imaging Accreditation Scheme (MIAS) in accordance with ISO 15189. Criteria documents are currently under preparation by the Advisory Committee which comprises of expertise in the area from across the region. SADCAS aims to launch the scheme in 2022.

Metrology which is defined as the science of measurement is the cornerstone of any credible accreditation process. When we test or inspect, we measure. The accuracy and traceability of these measurements is paramount and is influenced by the reliability of calibration laboratories. Calibration laboratories provide the essential link between national measuring standards and the working standards, test and measurement equipment. The SADCAS Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (CLAS) was established in October 2009 and is internationally recognized having achieved signatory status in ILAC MRA in 2015. SADCAS has accredited 11 calibration service providers from 9 SADC MS. The Legal Metrology Accreditation Scheme (LMAS) was established by SADCAS in February 2018 and up to date one water meter verification laboratory has been accredited.

**Building prosperity (SDGs 7 to 11)**

This group of the SDGs relates to industry, innovation and infrastructure, decent work and economic growth. Accreditation creates competitive domestic markets, as well as facilitating trade for both importers and exporters through the removal of technical barriers. Economic development, a key driver of building prosperity, is linked to domestic and cross-border trade. The need to meet regulatory requirements, national standards, trading partner requirements, and consumer needs can be demonstrated through

reliable accredited conformity assessment.



Accredited conformity assessment services underpin effective policies and programmes by which countries can implement the energy transition required to achieve **SDG 7**. Exceptional efforts need to be pursued to address these challenges and to achieve SDG 7. Solving the energy conundrum is probably humanity's hardest challenge, along with climate change, where accreditation is making a difference.



**SDG 8** calls for structural transformation and economic growth by increasing the capacity of local industries for value addition, economic diversification, and export promotion, as well as for the creation of decent jobs in industry and industry-related services. The ILAC and IAF mutual recognition arrangements aim to facilitate international trade, which is an essential component of a country's path to prosperity. Accredited conformity assessment services in this regard cover a multitude of services, including product life cycle assessments based on objective and internationally recognized criteria, inspection and certification of the design and operation of environmentally benign technologies and services, and the audit of health and safety management systems.



**SDG 9** promotes socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable economic development by enhancing infrastructure, industry and innovation. Conformity assessment services continually endorse new technologies and support economic and industrial growth, build trade capacities in industries, and ensure that all countries can benefit from international trade and technological progress.



**SDG 10** calls for more opportunities for all women and men, as well as across social groups, by building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation.



**SDG 11** calls for effective development of cities and metropolitan areas that are considered as powerhouses of economic growth. Accredited conformity assessment services support levelling up living standards and reducing global carbon emissions, inadequate and overburdened infrastructure and services related to rapid urbanization.



A study carried out by Accredia, the Italian accreditation body, a public insurer and the Italian Quality Institute, has identified that companies with accredited certification of their health and safety management systems experience reduced severity and frequency of workplace accidents. In order to increase adoption of accredited certification, the insurer is able to provide lower premiums due to the lower risk. This scheme protects the health and wellbeing of the worker.

SADCAS extended its signatory status in the AFRAC MRA and the International Accreditation Forum’s Multi-Lateral Arrangement (IAF MLA) under the Main Scope Management Systems, to Sub-scope Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-10), OHSMS (ISO 45001:2018) achieved in May and June 2020 respectively. Up to date SADCAS has only accredited one certification body under this sub-scope and hopes to accredit more in the future. SADCAS however accredited 3 certification bodies under the main scope Main Scope Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-1) Sub-scope Quality Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-3), one certification body under Sub-scope Environmental Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-2) and one certification body under the Sub-scope Food Safety Management System (FSMS) ISO/TS 22003. This scheme was established in June 2010. SADCAS initially achieved signatory status in the AFRAC and IAF mutual recognition arrangements in 2019 and subsequently extended to Sub-scopes EMS and OHSMS in 2020. SADCAS hopes to achieve recognition of the FSMS by December 2021 and Product certification scheme by 31 December 2023.

The National Social Security Authority (NSSA) of Zimbabwe under which the Factories and Works Inspectorate falls requires all inspection bodies to be accredited in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020 in order to be registered as an independent inspection authority. The objective of this requirement is to have confidence of inspection bodies performing inspections in both the regulatory and voluntary domain in order to determine that products, machinery, equipment and processes comply with legislation and meet technical, regulatory and procurement requirements.

To implement this requirement, NSSA the delegated authority for occupational health and safety issues in Zimbabwe with the Ministry of Labour as the responsible authority entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the SADCAS. The MOU spells out the operational relationship, provide for a structured cooperation between SADCAS as the accreditation body and NSSA, the regulator and outlines the Parties obligations. SADCAS main obligation is

to provide NSSA with an accreditation system based on verifying competence whilst NSSA’s main obligation is to grant approval to inspection bodies based on their accreditation status. The SADCAS Inspection Bodies Accreditation Scheme (IBAS) was established in 2010 and up to date 8 inspection bodies of which 6 are from Zimbabwe have been accredited and subsequently registered as inspection authorities. One application from an inspection body from the same sector from Zimbabwe is currently under process. Efforts are underway to promote the model in other SADC MS that are serviced by SADCAS.

**Protecting the Planet (SDGs 6, 12 to 15)**

This group of the SDGs addresses the protection of the natural world. Trade and consumerism have an impact on the environment, through the use of limited natural resources, pollution, and waste. This is impacting the climate, the sustainability of scarce natural resources, and pollution of air, land and oceans. Accreditation underpins environmental performance by reducing contamination and greenhouse gases and controlling waste and pollution.



The impact of human activity on the planet has reached dangerous levels, threatening the sustainability and management of natural resources and the protection of the biosphere. The **SDG 13**

**on Climate Change** aims to adopt an integrated approach to economic development, in which environmental sustainability is a key priority. Under the umbrella of the ILAC and IAF mutual recognition arrangements, accreditation and accredited conformity assessment services provide an essential contribution to the implementation of policies and actions aiming to protect the planet.



On **SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation** and while substantial progress has been made in increasing access to clean drinking water and sanitation, billions of people—mostly in rural areas—still lack these basic services. Water is an essential part of everyday life and clean water is a basic and crucial human rights issue. The key issues of concern with drinking water are whether the water is safe, free of pathogens, toxins and contaminants. Accredited water testing, water management systems certification and other conformity assessment services give national and local regulatory authorities, public or private operators of water and wastewater services, industries, households and other stakeholders the technical means for effectively managing water resources. This helps to improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials.



Some governments have mandated the use of accredited laboratories to ensure the availability of clean drinking water both in cities and in rural areas. These laboratories normally cover a wide range of technical disciplines including chemistry; microbiology; biological; and physical tests on water and waste water. Within the region, the Tanzania Government is requiring all the 17 water testing laboratories under the Ministry of Water to be accredited and so far, 6 of the laboratories have been accredited by SADCAS under the TLAS.

Water testing laboratories are accredited under the SADCAS Testing Laboratories Accreditation Scheme (TLAS). The SADCAS TLAS was established in October 2009. Water testing laboratories seeking to be accredited on the SADCAS TLAS need to comply with international standard ISO/IEC 17025.

By the end of April 2021, SADCAS had accredited 22 water testing laboratories from 7 SADC Members States serviced by SADCAS. Three (3) of these accredited medical laboratories are from Botswana. At the same time SADCAS has three (3) water testing laboratories under process. In October 2015, SADCAS became a signatory to the mutual recognition agreement of the ILAC for testing in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 in 2015.



**SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production**

Worldwide consumption and production, a driving force of the global economy, rests on the use of the natural environment and resources in a way that continues to have destructive impacts on the planet. In accordance with agreed international frameworks, quality infrastructure, and especially accreditation, help achieve environmentally sound chemical and waste management. This significantly reduces their release into the air, water and soil, minimizing their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

We live in a time where there is continuous deterioration of coastal waters owing to pollution, and ocean acidification is having an adverse effect on the functioning of ecosystems and biodiversity. This is also negatively impacting small scale fisheries. Accredited testing, inspection and certification has formed an essential part in the numerous voluntary fisheries and aquaculture standards published over the last 20 years along with schemes, and international agreements reached.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation depend on the transformation of economic activities to become “climate friendly”, or “carbon neutral”. Using accredited tests, measurements and verification and validation services strengthens the global response to the threat of climate change by playing a central role in energy efficiency programmes, energy generation from renewable sources and public policies such as carbon pricing, financing for low carbon development projects, and by incentivizing the promotion of low-carbon solutions and carbon emission reduction schemes like International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation ( CORSIA).

While there have been a number of successes around the world in implementation of the SDGs, the challenges faced by governments and society in the SADC region, in the implementation of the SDGs calls for policy makers to step up the momentum on the use accreditation and QI services so as to meet the 2030 Agenda objectives of increasing trade, addressing health and safety concerns, and improving the general overall quality of output in an economy. The need for technical competence of conformity assessment bodies (testing laboratories/certification bodies/ inspection bodies) cannot be over emphasized. Accreditation is now increasingly accepted as the most transparent, non-discriminatory mechanism to assure competency of conformity assessment service providers.

Governments, regulators and businesses to embrace accreditation as a tool for implementing the SDGs. SADCAS is ready to service your accreditation needs.





**Mr Uahoroka L W Kauta**

## **SADCAS APPOINTS NEW BOARD MEMBER**

The SADCAS is proud to announce the appointment of Mr Uahoroka, Lovelace Watkinse Kauta as a member of the SADCAS Board of Directors. Mr Kauta was co-opted onto the SADCAS Board of Directors with effect from 29 July 2021. In line with the Constitution of SADCAS, Mr Kauta shall hold office until the next annual general meeting when he shall then be eligible for election for a term of 5 years. Mr Kauta is the General Manager Finance and Administration/ Chief Financial Officer of the Namibia Training Authority

Prior to this position Mr Kauta lectured in the Department of Accounting at the University of Namibia, was Head of Unit Trust Business then Business Development Executive at Old Mutual Investment Group. He trained as an Auditor with Deloitte and Touché and was Audit Manager at the same Company.

A Chartered Accountant, Mr Kauta holds a Bachelor of Accounting from the University of Namibia, a Bachelor of Commerce Honours (Accounting) and Certificate in the theory of Accounting from University of Kwazulu Natal and a Postgraduate Certificate in the Theory of Accounting from Rand Afrikaans University. Mr Kauta also serves on the Audit Development Committee of the Public Accountants and Auditors Board of Namibia.



## NEW SADCAS BOARD MEETS VIRTUALLY

Following the registration of the SADCAS Constitution on 16 April 2020, the General Assembly during the 16<sup>th</sup> AGM on 17 March 2021 elected new Board members to serve under the new Constitution. The newly constituted Board met virtually for the 70<sup>th</sup> meeting on 20 May 2021.



**Board meeting in session: Members and SADCAS Secretariat**

The Board started off the meeting by electing the Mr Steven Bruce Sidney as the Board Chairman and Mr Emmanuel Jinda as the Vice Chairman. The Board further reconstituted the Board Committees and appointed the Committees' chairs.

### Human Resources and Remuneration Committee (HRRC)

- Emmanuel Jinda (Mr) - Chairman
- Alfredo Filipe Siteo (Mr) - Member
- Davlin Moyenda Damaziel Chokazinga (Mr) – Member

### Finance Risk and Audit Committee (FRAC)

- Mmatlala Dube (Mrs) - Chairman
- Alfredo Filipe Siteo (Mr) - Member

Following the appointments, the Board adjourned and the Committees proceeded with their meetings after which the Board meeting continued in the afternoon and discussed the business for the day:

- Considering the financial report from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021
- Consider FRAC's recommendations on bad debt assessment of trade receivables, assessment of useful lives of assets and bank signatories;
- Reviewed the 2020/21 external financial audit program of action and progress thereof and to appoint FRAC representative to the 2020/21 external financial audit;
- Reviewing the progress on government funding of SADCAS and donor matrix;
- Consider the SADCAS Risk Profiles;
- Review the FRAC and HRRC Terms of Reference and membership;

- Consider the CEO and Board performance contracts for the year 2021/22;
- Consider HRRC's recommendation on Management and staff remuneration;
- Consider the 2021/22 Annual implementation and Marketing plans;
- Review the summary of NAFP quarterly reports for the period 1 January to 31 March 2021.

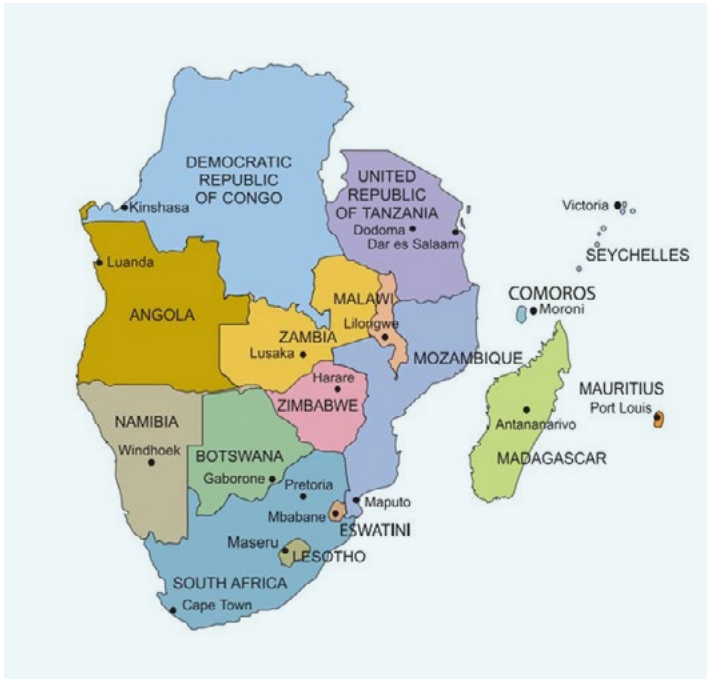
The SADCAS Board of Directors currently comprises of 7 non-Executive Members and one Executive member.

The Directors are:

- Steven Bruce Sidney (Mr) – Chairman, Non-Executive Director
- Emmanuel Jinda (Mr) – Vice Chairman, Chairman of HRRC, Non-Executive Director
- Mmatlala Dube (Mrs) - Chair FRAC, Non-Executive Director
- Alfredo Filipe Siteo (Mr) - Non-Executive Director
- Davlin Moyenda Damaziel Chokazinga (Mr) - Non-Executive Director
- Uahoroka, Lovelace Watkinse Kauta (Mr) – Non-Executive Director
- Dr Lomkhosi Lineo Mkhonta –Gama – Nov Executive Director representing the SADC Secretariat
- Maureen Primrose Mutasa (Mrs) - Executive Director



## HIGHLIGHTS OF SADCA ANNUAL MEETINGS



The Southern African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA) is a Cooperation of accreditation bodies in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. SADCA is a Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Cooperation Structure established under the TBT Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade. SADCA currently has a total of 20 Members:

**3** Arrangement Members  
(MRA Signatories)

**12** Ordinary Members

**0** Associate Members

**5** Stakeholder Members

SADCA Membership covers 14 SADC Member States namely: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

This year the SADCA annual meetings were held virtually between April and May 2021 and were hosted on by SANAS where the SADCA Secretariat is housed. The meetings were attended by representatives from all the membership categories. SADCAS participated in the following meetings:

### Testing and Calibration sub-committee

The 1<sup>st</sup> Testing and Calibration Sub-committee meeting was held on 13 April 2021 and was chaired by Mr Mahesh Koolwont from MAURITAS. The meeting passed the following decisions:

- Recommended the approval of its ToRs by the TC.
- Resolved to mobilize membership from SADCA members.
- Encouraged members to participate in the ongoing revision of ISO 15189.
- Recommended its 2021 Workplan for approval by the Technical Committee.

### Certification Sub-Committee

The 1<sup>st</sup> Certification Bodies Sub-committee meeting was held on 13 April 2021, chaired by Mr Willy Muyila the Chairman of the from SADCAS Advisory Committee for Certification and a Director at Malawi Bureau of Standards. The following key issues were discussed:

- Resolved to mobilise at least five (5) members to join the Sub-Committee
- Defined its quorum for meetings i.e. one-third of full membership present for meetings to proceed.
- Recommended its 2021 Workplan for approval by the Technical Committee
- Recommended that the Sub-Committee meetings be held in series rather than parallel to allow for more participation.



### SADCA Technical Committee Meeting

The SADCA held its 8<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting on 15 April 2021, chaired by Mr Letoke Mahlase from SANAS. The following key issue were discussed.

- Approved the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the following Sub-Committees:
- Testing and Calibration Sub-Committee
- Certification Sub-Committee.
- Appointed Mr Victor Mundembe as the interim Chair of the Inspection Sub-committee until such a time that the Inspection Sub-Committee appoints a Chair.

### Approved the 2021 workplans of the:

- Testing and Calibration Sub-Committee; and
- Certification Sub-Committee.
- Recommended the Technical Committee 2021 Workplan for the SADCA GA's approval
- Agreed to the Certification subcommittee recommendation that the TC Sub-committee meetings be held in series instead of parallel in order to allow members who are in more than one sub-committee to attend the meetings
- Requested SADCA members to nominate members to the TC and TC Sub-committees
- Encouraged members to participate in the revision of ISO 15189 and other accreditation standards that will follow.

The TC established a Task Force Group comprised of Messrs Letoke Mahlase and Victor Mundembe to review the SADCA Toolkit for CABs.

### SADCA General Assembly

The 25<sup>th</sup> SADCA General Assembly (GA) was held virtually on 6 May 2021. The meeting which held under the Theme **“Accreditation: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”** was attended by more than 40 delegates including special guests Mr Emanuele Riva, the Vice Chairman of the IAF, Mr Brahim Houla – APAC, Mr Moslem Barrak – ARAC, Dr Ron Josias – AFRAC, Ms Jana Bante - PTB, Germany etc. The GA was chaired by Mrs Maureen Mutasa, the SADCA Chair.

A total of 30 resolutions were passed by the SADCA GA. Some of the key resolutions passed were as follows:

- The GA noted the report on the 2020 SADCA Internal audit conducted in December 2020 and congratulated the Secretariat on a clean internal audit with only eight (8) comments being raised for improvement purposes.
- The GA noted with appreciation reports received from Arrangement Members MAURITAS, SADCAS and SANAS and congratulated them for the progress made during the period under review despite the COVID-19 pandemic. A period when the SADCA Arrangement members managed to:
  - Ensure continuity in service delivery by applying remote assessment techniques and online training.
  - Successfully transitioned to ISO/IEC 17011: 2017.
  - Extended scopes of international recognition in the ILAC MRA and IAF MLA.
- The GA noted with appreciation reports received from Ordinary NAFFP members from Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles and Zimbabwe.
- The GA noted with appreciation reports received from Stakeholder members Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS); Namibia Standards Institution (NSI); National Laboratory Association of Eswatini (NLAE); Association Congolaise Des Laboratoires (ASCOLAB) and SADC Regional Laboratory Association (SRLA).
- The GA endorsed the SADCA Service Delivery Charter including the key performance indicators for the committees, with amendments.
- The GA approved the 2020 SADCA Annual Report with amendments.
- The GA noted with appreciation the update provided by UNIDO on various projects aimed at building capacity of laboratories, laboratory managers and laboratory associations in the region. The GA further congratulated UNIDO on the launch and publication of the guide to develop an inclusive and sustainable Laboratory Policy.
- The GA endorsed the EXCO's recommendation to approve the following documents: A001-08 SADCA Bylaws; A007-03 SADCA Strategic Plan 2022- 2026, A009-09 SADCA EXCO Workplan 2021; A011-09 SADCA Technical Committee Workplan 2021; A012-04 MRA Committee Terms of Reference; A013-09 SADCA MRA Committee Workplan 2021 ; and A015-06 SADCA Marketing and Communications Committee Workplan 2021



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AFRAC MID TERM MEETINGS

The African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) is a cooperation of accreditation bodies (national and multi-economy), National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFP), sub-regional accreditation cooperations and stakeholders whose objective is to provide internationally recognized and accepted accreditation support to industry and to contribute to the protection of health and safety of the public and the protection of the environment, thereby facilitating trade and contributing to the improvement of Africa's competitiveness within the global market.

The AFRAC Mid-term meetings were held virtually in June 2021. The meetings were attended by representatives from Arrangement, Ordinary, Associate and Stakeholder members, observers and cooperating partners. SADCAS was represented at the meetings by Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Pinkie Malebe Technical Manager, Mr Xavier Mugari Quality Manager, Mr Victor Mundembe, Mrs Eva Muronda and Ms Varsha Gungoa, the latter 3 of whom are Scheme Coordinators. **The key issues discussed and resolutions passed in the respective Committee/Council meetings are described below.**



### MRA Committee Meeting

The MRA Committee meeting was held virtually via video-conference on 15 June 2021. Out of the 14 members of the committee, 11 members were in attendance. The MRA committee resolved the following:

- The members resolved that a 2-day training workshop on remote assessment techniques targeting accreditation body assessors be arranged. A Task Force comprising of Mrs Maureen Mutasa, Eng. Mahmoud Eltayeb and Mrs Yolanda Vinnicombe was set up to make arrangements for the training workshop.
- The MRA Committee expressed their appreciation to Eng. Mahmoud Eltayeb for expertly facilitating the ILAC P15 training in December 2020 and February 2021.
- The MRA Committee agreed to the EWG's recommendation to identify and mentor candidates in the scopes of Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS), Energy Management System (EnMS) and Certification of Persons.
- The MRA Committee adopted the following ILAC/IAF publications:
  - ILAC G7:04/2021 Accreditation Requirements and Operating Criteria for Horseracing Laboratories
  - ILAC G17:01/2021 ILAC Guidelines for Measurement Uncertainty in Testing
  - ILAC P14:09/2020 ILAC Policy for Measurement Uncertainty in Calibration
  - IAF/ILAC-A1/A2: Addendum 01/2021 - IAF/ILAC Approach to Remote Peer Evaluations of Regions and Single Accreditation Bodies during the COVID-19 Pandemic
  - IAF/ILAC Statement: Replacement of Assessments During the COVID-19 Pandemic
  - IAF MD 13:2020 Knowledge Requirements for Accreditation Body Personnel for Information Security Management Systems (ISO/IEC 27001).
- The MRA Committee noted the withdrawal of the following ILAC/IAF publications:
  - ILAC P13:10/2010 Application of ISO/IEC 17011 for the Accreditation of Proficiency Testing Providers
  - IAF/ILAC A5:11/2013 IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangement (Arrangements): Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004



- IAF MD 11: 2019 IAF Mandatory Document for the Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for Audits of Integrated Management Systems, Issue 2, Version 2
- The MRA Committee further noted that IAF MD 11 reverted back to the 2013 version.
- The MRA Committee reiterated that all CABs that have not transitioned to the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 by 1 June 2021 are no longer recognised under the ILAC and AFRAC MRAs.
- The MRA Committee congratulated the Secretariat for the positive outcome of the ILAC/IAF evaluation of the Secretariat, and also for addressing the findings raised which has resulted in their satisfactory clearance.

### Technical Committee Meetings

All the subcommittees of the AFRAC technical Committee met during the mid term meetings starting with the Testing and Calibration and Certification Subcommittees on 14 June 2021, Medical and Inspection Subcommittees on 15 June 2021 followed by the Technical Committee meeting on 15 June 2021. All the meetings were held virtually.

The Technical Committee meeting was attended by 23 participants from AFRAC Members and was chaired by Mr Mpho Phaloane from SANAS. SADCAS was represented on the Committee by Mr Mundembe and Ms Gungoa. The following resolutions were passed during the Technical Committee meeting which took into account all the recommendations from the various subcommittees that had met earlier:

- **The AFRAC TC expressed appreciation for the following facilitators for conducting AFRAC TC trainings/workshops:**
  - Eng. Mahmoud Eltayeb – ILAC P15:2020
  - Mr Neville Tayler - ISO/IEC 17034:2016 – General Requirements for the Competence of Reference Material Producers
  - Ms Barbara Mokgethwa and Ms Doris Mueni – ISO 15190:2020 - Medical Laboratories – Requirements for Safety
  - Mr Robert Njuguna – Calibration and metrological traceability in medical laboratories.
- The TC recommended the following documents for approval:
  - TP001-02 Accreditation of NMIs by AFRAC ABs
  - TP002-02 AFRAC Internal Audits for Inspection Bodies and Laboratories
  - TP004-01 Metrological Traceability
  - TP005-01 Guide for the Implementation of pre-audit activities as part of Management Systems
  - TP006-01 Interpretation and Guidance on estimation
- The TC recommended the approval of the AFRAC Proficiency Testing Brochure
- The TC recommended the approval of GD003-01 Guidance document on remote evaluations.

### MCC Meeting

The AFRAC Marketing and Communication Committee (MCC) meeting was held virtually via videoconference on 14 June 2021. AFRAC MCC passed 9 resolutions at its meeting and the substantive resolutions were as follows:

- The MCC requested the EXCO to advise on regional meetings that AFRAC would be represented, in order to assist with targeted stakeholder communication in implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan.
- The MCC requested the ABs that commemorated 2021 WAD to submit a two-page article with pictures by 9 July 2021 for publication on the upcoming AFRAC newsletter.
- Engagement of the ILAC MCC and IAF CMC convenors to train the AFRAC MCC and AB communication persons on emerging communication tools and applications.

The AFRAC MRA Council and Executive Committee also met during the week of mid - term meetings.



## NAFP-LESOTHO AT THE FRONTLINE OF PROMOTING ACCREDITATION AND MARKETING SADCAS SERVICE OFFERING IN LESOTHO



**Mr Motjoka Azael Makara**  
1<sup>st</sup> NAFP-Lesotho

Whilst accreditation is recognised as key to demonstrating competency of a conformity assessment body, it is usually challenging to convince Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) to embrace it, especially because it attracts costs. The National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) therefore have the mammoth task of convincing management of such CABs that accreditation is not a cost but an essential part of their quality infrastructure hence an investment.

NAFP-Lesotho started with the rest of the region to promote and market SADCAS services. But it lagged behind. Up until January 2020 it was the only SADC Member State without a single accredited conformity assessment body. This did not sit well with NAFP-Lesotho as it looked as though no effort was being put. We doubled our efforts to see the first laboratory being accredited in 2020. This was a major achievement to us because the accredited facility is in a voluntary domain. We were now able to show other CABs that it can be done. This laboratory is now the role model for others to emulate.

Interesting enough, all technical staff from all CABs understand and appreciate the importance of accreditation as a yard stick that measures their competency. On the contrary, management usually regard it as an undesirable luxury because it attracts costs.



**Mr Mosito Kanono**  
2<sup>nd</sup> NAFP-Lesotho

This attitude is compounded by the fact that in most cases the local market does not readily demand results from an accredited facility except for a few cases like the bottled water industry where a demand for accredited test results is a requirement.

This therefore says that regulators and 'government procurement', must continually be sensitised on the importance of accreditation, this would bring a ripple effect to increase the demand.

In the past, the SADCAS CEO, Mrs Maureen Mutasa visited Lesotho to promote and market services offered by SADCAS. Amongst others, regulators were kept abreast of the importance of accreditation. NAFP-Lesotho has taken up this duty to perpetuate the same. Several awareness and training courses have been held for CABs. However, for those willing to go for accreditation, limited financial resources remain a major challenge.

NAFP-Lesotho took an excursion to Eswatini to pick a few pointers from them. We found out that Government of Eswatini is sponsoring SADCAS training courses, and we also learned the degree of assistance given to the CABs. We observed that the take-up for accreditation is proportional to the number of trainings. This enlightened NAFP-Lesotho to double efforts in extending assistance and promoting SADCAS work.



**Participants pose for photo after going through a SADCAS training**



**Happy faces after celebrating WAD and sharing a presentation made by SADCAS**

Other than awareness trainings that are held during the World Accreditation Day celebrations, NAFPL- Lesotho held television and radio shows. SADCAS awareness material is distributed to CABs.

One other strategy NAFPL-Lesotho is implementing is to employ the Lesotho Federation of Laboratories (LFL) as a partner that plays a pivotal role in promoting accreditation and encouraging its members to go for accreditation. It is through this organization that members are assisted to start their quality management systems. The LFL also undertakes internal audits of laboratory management systems.

The medical laboratories are also members of the LFL. Lately three tuberculosis laboratories have applied for SADCAS accreditation and we are hopeful that come next year, more are going to apply for the same. NAFPL Lesotho foresees an exponential take up in the medical laboratories.

At the moment, the certification and inspection aspects of accreditation are not doing well, largely because there are no private inspection and certification bodies. However, the testing world seems to be expanding to a new horizon. The Medical Cannabis testing facility has flagged interest in



**NAFPL-Lesotho Invited to witness the first Management Review Meeting of a Laboratory**

accreditation and has a wish to apply before the end of the year. There is also a wool and mohair laboratory, which is a potential client that NAFPL - Lesotho must earnestly pursue. In pursuit to promote and market SADCAS, COVID-19 has stifled our efforts, but we will certainly be active enough to catch-up with the rest of the region. NAFPL-Lesotho wishes to acknowledge the thorough and meticulous training offered to NAFPLs by SADCAS over the years ensured that such offices deliver as expected. We indeed believe that any system starts and end with training.





## SADCAS MEETS WITH SIDILEGA PRIVATE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT

SADCAS in conjunction with the National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) Botswana representatives held a meeting with Sidilega Private Hospital on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 in the afternoon. The objective of the meeting was to raise awareness on accreditation and SADCAS services. The meeting which was conducted virtually amidst the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave of COVID-19 pandemic a part of SADCAS marketing strategy to reach out to potential clients in the 14 SADC Member States serviced by SADCAS.

The meeting was attended by 9 participants as follows: Three (3) from SADCAS namely Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, SADCAS Chief Executive Officer; Mrs Pinkie Malebe, SADCAS Technical Manager; and Mr. Mogae Molaoa, SADCAS Training Administrator; two (2) from the NAFP office namely, Mr. Edward E. Mmatli and Ms Boikhutso Pheto; and a team of four (4) from Sidilega comprising of Dr Suresh Menon Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Martha Mbayi, Hospital Quality Officer, Mr. Boyce Nokane, Information and Technology Manager and Kennedy Mokgethi, Laboratory Manager. Sidilega Private Hospital is a private multi-specialist tertiary hospital based in Block 7, Gaborone – Botswana and has been in operation since 2020.

During the meeting, the SADCAS CEO gave a background on SADCAS including the need and importance of accreditation

and the achievements so far obtained by SADCAS. The SADCAS Technical Manager and Training Administrator presented on the accreditation and training services offered by SADCAS respectively while the 1<sup>st</sup> NAFP representative gave a presentation on the role of the NAFP.

The Sidilega Private Hospital Laboratory Manager gave a presentation on the laboratory including the overall organisational structure of the hospital. Sidilega Private Hospital Laboratory serves the hospital and carries out tests in the following scopes; haematology, microbiology, biochemistry, immunoassay, serology, blood bank, coagulation and covid-19 molecular and antigen rapid test.

The meeting was concluded with a question-and-answer session following which the Laboratory and Hospital management thanked SADCAS for the targeted marketing visit and presentations. On her part, the SADCAS CEO Mrs Maureen Mutasa thanked the Sidilega Private Hospital Laboratory for a fruitful meeting and extended a vote of thanks to the NAFP-Botswana for coordinating this targeted marketing visit.





## COMMUNIQUÉ ON COMPLETION OF SADCAS F 121 - COMPLIANCE TO SADCAS POLICY ON METROLOGICAL TRACEABILITY



SADCAS continuously monitors and evaluates Assessor competence and performance through various means that include monitoring of assessors every 3 years, and on an ongoing basis through evaluation of assessments records.

The review of assessment records over time indicate that there is a lack of understanding by some assessors in evaluating requirements for Metrological Traceability as defined in SADCAS TR 09. SADCAS has noted incomplete, inadequate and incorrect completion of the SADCAS F 121 – Compliance with Metrological Traceability form. It is noted that some assessors raise non-conformities on the basis that the CAB used a Calibration Service Provider that is not accredited; without evaluating other options as stipulated in SADCAS TR 09 Clause 2.1.1.

Team Leaders are reminded of their responsibility to review and ensure that all assessments records are properly and accurately completed and signed before the assessment pack is submitted to SADCAS.

This communique therefore, serves to remind all assessors to read and understand SADCAS TR 09 and to properly complete SADCAS F121 to demonstrate compliance with the Metrological Traceability requirements.

A sample of a completed sample of SADCAS F121 was circulated to all assessors. The Procedure SADCAS TR 09 can be found on the link below:

<http://www.sadcas.org/criteria-performing-calibration-and-intermediate-checks-equipment-used-accredited-facilities>

## SADCAS REGISTERS MORE ASSESSORS

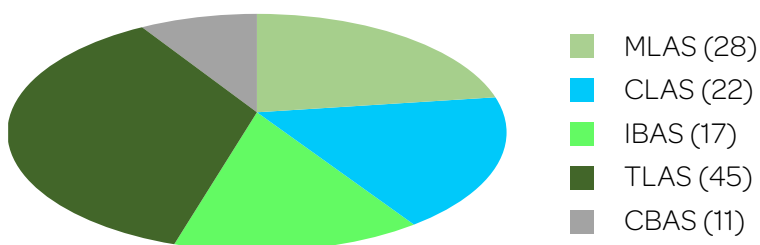
In order to meet the growing accreditation needs in the SADC countries it services, SADCAS continues to identify and register assessors competent in the accreditation scopes it offers. The pool of assessors who undertake assessments on behalf of SADCAS is growing having registered 8 additional assessors.

Name	Registration and Scheme	Country
Mr Paul Johannes Botes	Upgraded to Team Leader - Testing	South Africa
Mr Collen Ndamba	Upgraded to Team Leader - Medical	Botswana
Mr Desire Mhlabi	New Team Leader - Medical	Botswana
Mr Hannaniah Moyo	Technical Assessor - Medical	Malawi
Ms Shelli Turner	New Team Leader - Medical	New Zealand
Mr Michael Mokale	Technical Assessor - Testing	South Africa
Ms Anna Motaung	Technical Assessor - Testing	South Africa
Mr Lovemore Mpofu	Technical Expert - Certification	Zimbabwe

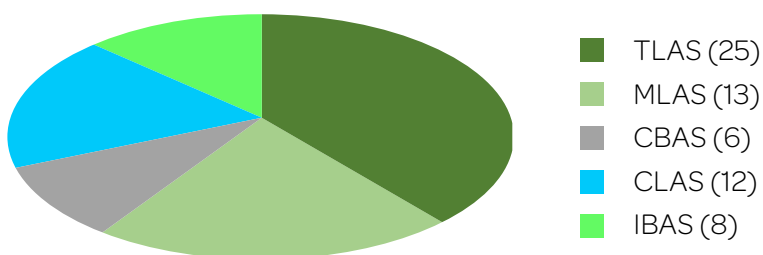


As at 30 June 2021, SADCAS had registered 123 Technical assessors, 46 Team Leaders and 16 Technical Experts. See Figures 1 and 2 for breakdown of Assessors per accreditation scheme.

**Fig. 1. Breakdown of Technical Assessors by Field of Accreditation**



**Fig. 2. Breakdown of Team Leaders by Field of Accreditation**



Training of assessors is ongoing with the mentoring of experts trained in 2019 expected to be undertaken during this financial year and other experts expected to be trained as ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO/IEC 17065 assessors.



### **UNDER THE EYE OF AN ASSESSOR MR MICHAEL MOKALE**

Michael Mokale was registered as a SADCAS assessor in the final quarter of 2019 under the Testing Laboratories Accreditation Scheme (TLAS). Mr Mokale who is South African had been scheduled to undertake his first assignment on behalf of SADCAS in the first quarter of 2020 but unfortunately the world was hit with the COVID-19 Pandemic and all had to be done remotely. Though he registered with SADCAS in 2019, Mr Mokale has about seven years of experience in ISO/IEC:17025 assessments and each assessment is a new experience for me.

My passion with technical assessments is ever growing and I really enjoy when I have to clarify what the standard says versus what the conformity assessment body believes it says. I view the phrase “at the time of this assessment” is very crucial in all assessment because it clears the confusion when Nonconformities must be raised. At times the information needed by assessors is not necessarily unavailable, but some facilities have stricter document controls and elect to make one person a custodian of crucial information. The risk is that when this information is needed “at the time of this assessment” it is not available resulting in a Nonconformity being raised. Interesting enough, later in the day or in the close out meeting the document emerges and there is an expectation to withdraw the Nonconformity. Words like “shall” and “may” are often confused by facilities and I believe it is our responsibility as assessors to explain with humility what their implications are. This helps in future assessments as they become easier. Nobody like Nonconformities myself included as they may appear like the facility is not fit for purpose but engaging with the assessed team becomes crucial because we are not policemen but assessors. I have expanded my acquaintances base since joining SADCAS and never thought working with people who are in at least three different countries can be such fun! I cannot wait for the pandemic to be over so that we can begin with physical or site assessment.



### **UNDER THE EYE OF AN ASSESSOR MR DESIRE MHLABI**

Desire Mhlabi is a SADCAS registered Team Leader under the Medical Laboratories Accreditation Scheme. He holds a Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Sciences Honors Degree (University of Zimbabwe), a Master's in Public Health (University of Limpopo) and a Master's in Business Administration (University of Stellenbosch Business School). He has over 20 years' experience in Laboratory Management having been a Laboratory Manager for Diagnofirm Medical Laboratories (7 years), Laboratory Director at Bokamoso Private Hospital (8 years) and is currently the Laboratory Director of Optimum Health Medical Laboratories all in Gaborone Botswana. He led both Diagnofirm and Bokamoso Laboratories to accreditation to ISO15189.

He received theoretical and practical Assessor training as well as mentorship under SADCAS and was registered as a Team Leader in January 2021. To date he has been Team Leader in six virtual assessments and reports on how the experience has been incredible.

Mr Desire Mhlabi reports that virtual assessments have been a groundbreaking innovation by SADCAS to enable assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) using electronic means such as web conferencing, video links, telephone interviews, WhatsApp interviews.



CABs submit copies of their Management System documents (policies, procedures, job aids etc.) as well as records required to achieve a vertical assessment, witnessing of activity, evaluation of proficiency testing programs as well as compliance to SADCAS policy on Metrological traceability. CABs are expected to submit all documents at least two weeks prior to the Assessment date so as to give the Assessors enough time to familiarize with the documents. Opening meeting is conducted virtually via Zoom, Teams or WhatsApp platforms (whichever is convenient). Assessors then get on with the task of reviewing CAB's records against the requirements of the standard while completing relevant SADCAS checklists. Where clarity is required, interviews of CAB representatives is conducted by phone or emails are sent to seek clarification. Non-Conformances identified are raised as detailed observations, discussed and agreed with CAB's representatives. Assessors convene virtually to discuss the outcome of the Assessment and make recommendations which are shared with the CAB before the closing meeting. Once the Assessment is concluded, the Team Leader compiles the Assessment Pack and forwards it to SADCAS electronically. Challenges faced by Assessors during Virtual Assessments includes poor internet connectivity but all in all Virtual Assessments have been a resounding success story by SADCAS in my view after having conducted four initial Assessments and two periodic on site assessments virtually.

## OBITUARIES

**In the difficult times of the COVID-19 pandemic that we live in, the SADCAS family has not been spared. It is with great sadness that we announce the death of the following assessors.**

### **Dr Chibola Chikwililwa - Namibia**

Dr Chibola Chikwililwa passed away on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021. Chibo as she was affectionately known, was a Marine Biologist, an astute assessor in various fields of accreditation (testing and inspection) and a Trainer par excellence on accreditation and accreditation related matters. She was one of our dependable Trainer, Team Leader and Technical Assessor in the fields of Marine Chemistry, Marine Phycotoxins, Phytoplankton identification. She will be dearly remembered for the knowledge and wealth of experience which she shared with all not forgetting her bubbly character, great sense of humor and her positive outlook to life.

### **Mr Françoise Beneke – South Africa**

Mr Frans Beneke was the Managing Director of Interlock Quality Consulting Network. Mr Beneke was a well-known assessor in various fields of accreditation i.e. Team Leader and Technical Assessor in the fields of Testing (Civil Engineering and Materials testing) and Certification. He was one of the first SANAS assessors to be registered as a SADCAS Assessor. Mr Beneke will be dearly remembered for the knowledge and wealth of experience which he shared with all and his great sense of humour.

### **Eng James Robin Williamson – South Africa**

Engineer James Robin Williamson passed away on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2021 at the age of 81. Robin was a registered Technical Assessor for SADCAS, under the Inspection Bodies Accreditation Scheme

(IBAS) in the scope of Pressure equipment for both on-service and manufacturing. He joined SADCAS at a critical time when the Inspection Bodies in the SADC region were seeking accreditation from SADCAS as a regulatory requirement prior to approval.

Before being a SADCAS assessor, Robin was the President of South African Institute of Welders (SAIW) from 1994 to 1998, a Fellow of Institute of Mechanical Engineers and a SANAS Technical Assessor. Robin held SAIW Certification as Inspector of Pressurised Equipment (IPE) and as Competent Person (CP) for Steam generators. He was also qualified by the American Welding Society as a Welding Inspector. Engineer Williamson operated his own Consultancy company *WilConsult*, registered in South Africa.

He will be sincerely missed and remembered as a Leader, Consultant, Assessor, Mentor and a fountain of knowledge. On behalf of the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) Board of Directors, management and staff, we would like to express our most sincere compassion and condolences to their families and pray that Their Dear Souls Rest in Eternal Peace.

**On behalf of the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) Board of Directors, management and staff, we would like to express our most sincere compassion and condolences to their families and pray that their dear souls rest in eternal peace.**



## SADCAS STAFF FAMILIARIZED WITH REVISED STAFF CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

SADCAS staff attended a workshop on the revised SADCAS APP 03 – Staff conditions of Service conducted by HRD Consult from 14 to 15 July 2021. In 2020, SADCAS engaged HRD Consult to review the SADCAS Conditions of Service. The Board of Directors having reviewed and approved the proposed changes, resolved that the approved Conditions of Service be effective from 1 April 2021.



The workshop which was conducted over 2 half- day sessions was facilitated by Mr Khulekani Khupe and supported by Mrs Gladys Madondo. On Day 1, the focus was on the basic conditions of service so as to familiarize staff with the conditions of service:

- Principles of Conditions of Service
- Recruitment and Selection
- Termination / Redundancy
- Employment Contract
- Induction / Probation / Promotion
- Leave
- Salaries & Benefits
- Travel
- Performance Management
- Workshop & Development
- Code of Conduct

On Day 2, the workshop focused on the Disciplinary Code &

Grievance procedures as contained in the conditions of service. The workshop was very interactive as staff had the opportunity throughout the workshop to ask questions on any unclear conditions. A question and answer session was also held when staff sought further clarification on the conditions of service and the disciplinary code and grievance procedures. The workshop was a success and it allowed staff to familiarise with the staff conditions of service and in particular the disciplinary code and grievance procedures. A few areas were identified for further review/revision as follows:

- Duration of warnings.
- Compulsory medical aid requirement.
- Performance management system review.
- Roles in formal enquiries and grievance procedures.

The proposed changes or recommendations will be taken to the Board for consideration at the September 2021 meetings.



## MRS EVA MURONDA UNDERGOES TRAINING ON ISO 15190: MEDICAL LABORATORIES- REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFETY

Mrs Eva Muronda, the SADCAS Medical Laboratories Accreditation Scheme Coordinator attended a virtual training course on ISO 15190: Medical Laboratories- Requirements for Safety. ISO 15190 specifies requirements for safe practices in the medical laboratory. The training was facilitated by Ms Barbara Mokgethwa from South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) and Ms Doris Mueni from Kenya Accreditation Service (KENAS).

The training was attended by 41 participants from various accreditation bodies.

The objectives of the training were to:

- **Create an awareness of the standard that specifies requirements for safe practices in the medical laboratory**
- **Determine if the standard can be adopted to be used in line with ISO 15189**
- **Establish similarities between Safety requirements of ISO 15189 and ISO 15190 and need to expand as required.**



The workshop covered the following areas: Designing for Safety; Safety Management Program; Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment; Biosafety and Biosecurity hazards; Chemical Hazards; Physical Hazards; Emergency Preparedness and response; Fire Prevention and Control; Laboratory Ergonomics Equipment Safety; Safe Personnel Work practises; Personnel Protective equipment; Transport of samples and hazardous materials; Waste disposal; Housekeeping Practises; Incidents, injuries, accidents and occupational illness.

The following recommendations were made from the training workshop:

- **Benchmark with other accreditation bodies that have adopted the ISO 15190 standard as part of ISO 15189 accreditation.**
- **Consider criteria for safety as part of assessment/accreditation.**
- **Encourage the Medical Laboratories to adopt the standard without making it a requirement of accreditation.**
- **Consider countries that don't have safety regulations**
- **Conduct a survey on the awareness or use of ISO 15190 as well as safety regulatory requirement in Africa.**
- **Create awareness on the use of the standard through a publication/ newsletter in collaboration with AFRAC Marketing and Communication Committee (MCC).**

## MR VICTOR MUNDEMBE ATTENDS TRAINING ON UNDERSTANDING ISO/IEC 17021-1

Mr Victor Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for Certification Bodies Accreditation Schemes attended a training course on Understanding the Requirements of ISO IEC/17021-1:2015 - Conformity assessment –Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems –Part 1: Requirements. The training was undertaken via the WEBEX virtual platform from 12 to 14 May 2021. The training was provided by ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) The training was attended by 15 other experts from the United States of America and Europe, representing Accreditation Bodies, Certification Bodies, Certification Schemes and Consultancy Firms.



The objective of the training was to provide the trainees with:

- **A general understanding of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015;**
- **The relationship ISO/IEC 17021-1: 2015 has with other certification scheme standards and IAF guidance documents; and**
- **A working knowledge of the standard and provide practical examples of how the requirements can be interpreted.**

The training involved self-study, exercises to apply the IAF MD documents and quiz testing that enabled meaningful participation in the discussions aiding the understanding of the requirements. A clause-by-clause approach discussed all the clauses with IAF MD 1, 5 and 11 documents.



The course was a success and it enabled Mr Mundembe to understand the requirements of IAF MD 1, 5 & 11, and how these documents should be used in combination. Mr Mundembe also interacted with international experts in Management Systems Certification. After successful completion of the examination Mr Mundembe was awarded a Certificate of completion.

## MR VICTOR MUNDEMBE ATTENDS TRAINING MAKING IAF MANDATORY DOCUMENTS WORK FOR YOU

Mr Victor Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for Certification Bodies Accreditation Schemes attended a training course on Making IAF MD Documents Work For You. The training was undertaken via the WEBEX virtual platform from 27 to 28 May 2021. The training was provided by ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB), USA. The training was attended by 6 other experts from the United States of America and Europe, representing Accreditation Bodies, Certification Bodies, Certification Schemes and Consultancy Firms.

The intent of the course was to:

- **Help to demystify the content of these IAF MD 1, 5 & 11**
- **Demonstrate how these documents should be used in combination; and**
- **Help understand that the documents allow flexibility to consider each potential Certification Body client on a case-by-case basis.**

The training complements a skills transfer mentorship programme being undertaken under the SANAS/SADCAS Twinning Partnership Agreement (TPA) to ensure that Mr Mundembe adequately meets the competence requirements of the Scheme Coordinator for SADCAS CBAS – Management Systems Certification. The training was undertaken in the as part of implementation of the capacity building project supported by African Export-Import Bank (AFREXIMBANK), to extend the scope of SADCAS international recognition in the AFRAC/IAF multilateral recognition arrangements.

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### SADCAS Vision

SADCAS vision is to be a sustainable accreditation body at the cutting edge of credible accreditation service delivery.



### SADCAS Mission

SADCAS mission is to provide credible, cost effective, accreditation services for SADC Member States aimed at supporting trade, enhance the protection of consumers and the environment, and improve the competitiveness of SADC products and services in both the voluntary and regulatory areas.



### SADCAS Mandate

SADCAS draws its mandate from Article 15 B of the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Annex to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Trade. The SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS) is recognized by the SADC Council of Ministers as a subsidiary institution of SADC. The relationship between SADCAS and SADC is formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on general cooperation. The objects, powers and rules for the operation of SADCAS are set out in the Constitution of SADCAS Ltd lodged with the Registrar of Companies, Botswana.





## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION UNIT STAFF ATTEND THE TAX PRACTICES UPDATE WEBINAR



**Mrs Lauren Gudo**  
Finance and Administration Manager



**Ms Segomotso Kobe**  
Administrative Assistant

SADCAS is committed to ensuring that the staff in continuously develop and enhance their personal skills and proficiencies. Continuous Professional Development (CPD) combines different methodologies to learning, such as training workshops, conferences and events, e-learning programs, best practice techniques and ideas sharing. Every year in conjunction with the performance management system, areas requiring development are identified and incorporated in to the Staff CPD Programme.

The Botswana tax laws and practices continue to evolve as tax loopholes are closed whilst the tax-base is expanded. Some tax practice notes and tax imposition notices have been issued, which affect taxpayers and the Income Tax Amendment Bill of 2021 issued on 26 March 2021 is one of such amendments. The Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants facilitated a 2-day Taxation Webinar (via Microsoft Teams) from 27 to 28 May 2021. Mrs Lauren Gudo the Finance & Administration Manager and Ms Segomotso Kobe the Administrative Assistant as part of CPD attended the tax practices update Webinar.

The following intriguing topics were discussed during the Webinar:

- **An analysis of the new PAYE and Personal Income Tax Tables published in the Income Tax Amendment Bill 2021;**
- **The introduction of a final withholding tax on directors' fees: the shift from PAYE;**
- **The new thresholds for deducting withholding tax on rent and commission;**
- **The new withholding tax treatment of interest;**
- **Instances where businesses will continue to charge VAT at 12% after 1 April 2021;**
- **An update of the Tax Administration Act announced in prior budget speeches: how it will affect tax compliance, in addition to requiring tax practitioners and accountants to register with BURS as tax agents;**
- **The waiver of transfer pricing documentation preparation and filing for some taxpayers; and**
- **The newly introduced Sugar Tax and how it is levied.**

### SADCAS Company Values

SADCAS in its service provision upholds the following six core values:

Impartiality	We are organized and operate so as to safeguard objectivity and impartiality of our services.
Transparency	We are dedicated to provide complete transparency in our work by communicating effectively with our clients.
Non-discrimination	We treat our clients fairly and in an equitable manner.
Integrity	We act with honesty and integrity.
Innovation	We generate new ideas and utilize creative approaches to problems for -continuous improvement.
Diversity	We respect the diversity of our clients and ensure balance of interest in representation.





## MCAZ ACCREDITED IN INSPECTION OF PHARMACEUTICAL PREMISES AND PERSONS



**MCAZ Offices in Harare**



**Pharmaceutical Inspector at work**

SADCAS is proud to announce the accreditation of the Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe (MCAZ) - Licensing and Enforcement Division in the scope of Inspection of Pharmaceutical Premises and Persons to ISO/IEC 17020:2012. This makes MCAZ - Licensing and Enforcement Division, situated at 106 Baines Avenue, Harare, Zimbabwe, the first inspection body to be accredited by SADCAS in the Pharmaceutical sector. Through this accreditation, the MCAZ - Licensing and Enforcement Division has been granted the unique accreditation number **INSP-9 001** (Inspection of Pharmaceutical Premises and Persons), indicating that MCAZ - Licensing and Enforcement Division is now a SADCAS accredited inspection body. The certificate which was issued on 22 April 2021 expires on 21 April 2026.

The initial assessment of MCAZ - Licensing and Enforcement Division was undertaken over 12 days in November and December 2020 by a team of assessors and technical experts competent in assessing inspection of pharmaceutical premises and persons. The Team Leader, Technical Assessor and one Technical Expert conducted the assessment virtually while the other Technical Expert was on-site. The assessment techniques employed by the assessment team included review of documented information, interviewing personnel, vertical assessments and witnessing the inspectors undertaking inspections.

The SADCAS Inspection Bodies Accreditation Scheme (IBAS) was established in June 2010 and is operated in accordance with ISO/

IEC 17011 the standard that specifies requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies. Accreditation certificates issued by SADCAS for inspection bodies are internationally recognised following the achievement of signatory status in the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Mutual Recognition Arrangement (ILAC MRA) for inspection in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020 in October 2017. ISO/IEC 17020 specifies criteria for the operation of various types of inspection bodies irrespective of the sector involved. It is the international standard against which inspection bodies are accredited.

The MCAZ is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament and is responsible for protecting public and animal health by ensuring that accessible medicines and allied substances and medical devices are safe, effective and of good quality through enforcement of adherence to standards by manufacturers and distributors. As part of this enforcement, the MCAZ carries out pharmaceutical inspections, including inspections of pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacies, dispensing clinics, dispensing medical practitioners, public institutions, veterinary medicines general dealers (VMGD), wholesale dealers and medicine distributors and makes decisions concerning the issue or withdrawal of establishment and person's licences or authorizations of their activities, the issue or withdrawal of GMP compliance recognition and handling suspected quality defects.



The pharmaceutical sector which develops, produces, and markets drugs/medicinal plant materials for use as medications is identified in the SADC Industrial Policy as one of the priority sectors for development in selected value chains. Within this sector accreditation plays a key role from research to production of medicines and in strengthening the regulatory capacity. Accreditation which is an independent evaluation of inspection bodies by an authoritative body, in this case SADCAS, confirms the competence, consistency and impartiality of the inspection body. Throughout the world many countries now rely on accreditation as a means of independently evaluating competence of inspection bodies.

To date SADCAS has accredited eight (8) inspection bodies and has another four (4) applications at different stages of the SADCAS accreditation process. Scopes of accreditation under IBAS include but are not limited to food, gas tests stations, textiles/clothing/leather/footwear, vessels under pressure, timber, electrical, metallic tanks etc.

### SADCAS ACHIEVES 98% TRANSITION TO ISO/IEC 17025:2017

ISO/IEC 17025:2017: General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories was published on 30 November 2017. On 4 November 2016, and ahead of its publication, the ILAC published a resolution on the transition period for the implementation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

**ILAC Resolution GA 20.15:** *“As the revised version of ISO/IEC 17025 is scheduled for publication in 2017, the General Assembly endorses the recommendation of the AIC that a transition period\* of 3 years from the date of publication be adopted. At the end of the transition period\*, accreditation of a laboratory to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 will not be recognized under the ILAC Arrangement.”*

Following the recommendation of the ILAC Arrangement Management Committee (ILAC AMC) and as a result of ILAC Ballot which closed on 3 June 2020, the 2016 ILAC Resolution GA 20.15 was revised to extend the end of the transition period from November 2020 to 1 June 2021. ILAC and ISO have agreed to this extension to ensure all laboratories are able to be transitioned following the restrictions imposed as a result of the global coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak.

As part of its preparations for the implementation of the ILAC Resolution GA 20.15 and following the publication of ISO/IEC 17025:2017, SADCAS undertook the following:

- Issued TR 14 : SADCAS Policy Transition to ISO/IEC 17025:2017; and
- With funding from PTB Germany, trained SADCAS staff and assessors for the Testing/Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Schemes on ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and risk-based assessments in December 2018;

Transition plans from all facilities accredited to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and from applicants whose applications were submitted before 1 July 2018 according to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 were received and evaluated by SADCAS with implementation of the respective transition plans being monitored and evaluated by the assessment team during scheduled assessments after 1 December 2018.

By the transition deadline of 1 June 2021:

<b>21</b>	New applications assessed and accredited
<b>53/53</b>	Testing laboratories transitioned to new standard.
<b>10/11</b>	Calibration laboratories had successfully transitioned to the new standard
<b>1/1</b>	Verification laboratory had successfully transitioned to the new standard

This represents an achievement of 108% against the anticipated 90% transition rate.



**Seychelles Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory amongst testing laboratories that transitioned in time**



**Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC) – Mechanical Meter Verification Laboratory transitioned on time**

Only one calibration laboratory failed to meet the extended transition deadline. The facility which was under suspension and had a reinstatement assessment in December 2020, failed to have a Clearance of Findings assessment on time due to COVID-19 pandemic as staff of the laboratory were down with COVID. On expiry of the transition period and in line with TR 14, the facility's accreditation was withdrawn with effect from 1 June 2021 and the Laboratory's listing on SADCAS' directory of accredited facilities was removed. In line with the requirements of TR 14 which states that nonconformities raised shall be dealt with in accordance with the SADCAS normal processes and must be cleared within the set

timelines before accreditation can be granted, the Laboratory was therefore advised to address the outstanding nonconformities and arrange for a Clearance of Findings assessment on or before 01 August 2021. A report was submitted to AFRAC on the actions taken on CABs that did not meet the transition timeline.

Speaking during a staff meeting, the SADCAS CEO congratulated the Technical Unit for the achievement of 98% transition rate which she attributed to the dedicated and hardworking assessors, staff and the CABs in spite of the challenges presented by the operating environment.

## STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF ZIMBABWE EXTENDS SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION TO FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

SADCAS is proud to announce the accreditation of the Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) - Certification Services in the scope of Certification of Food Safety Management Systems sub-scope to ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015. This makes SAZ - Certification Services, situated at 66, Craster Road, Southerton, Harare, Zimbabwe, the first certification body to be accredited by SADCAS in the Food Safety Management Systems sub-scope. Through this accreditation, the SAZ - Certification Services has been granted the unique accreditation number **FSMS-CERT 001**, Food Safety Management Systems sub-scope. The certificate which was issued on 22 April 2021 expires at the end of the current accreditation cycle on 26 November 2022.



**SAZ Certification Staff**



The newly accredited sub-scope is described by the following levels of the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (IAF MLA) structure:

- **Level 4: ISO/TS 22003:2013 Food safety management systems– Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems (Categories C, E and M).**
- **Level 5: ISO 22000:2018 Food safety management systems - Requirements for any organization in the food chain.**

This brings to four (4) the accredited sub-scopes of SAZ including:

- **Quality Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-3), QMS (ISO 9001);**
- **Environmental Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-2), EMS (ISO 14001); and**
- **Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO/IEC TS 17021-10), OHSMS (ISO 45001).**

The SADCAS Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme (CBAS) was established in June 2010 and is operated in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011 the standard that specifies requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies. SADCAS was admitted as a signatory to the IAF MLA Recognition Arrangement in the Main Scope Management Systems Certification (ISO/IEC 17021-1), Sub-scope Quality Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-3), QMS (ISO 9001:2015) achieved in November 2019. Subsequently in May 2020, SADCAS extended its scope of recognition to the sub-scope environmental management systems and occupational health and management systems. Hence the accreditation certificates issued by SADCAS on most of the accreditation schemes offered by SADCAS are internationally recognized except the product certification bodies accreditation scheme (CBAS-Prod) and the management systems certification body accreditation scheme (CBAS-MS) in the sub-scope food safety management systems (FSMS).

The assessment of the Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) was undertaken between September and November 2020 by a team of assessors and technical experts competent in assessing certification of Food Safety Management Systems. The assessment techniques employed by the assessment team included review of documented information, interviewing personnel, vertical assessments and witnessing the auditors undertaking audits at the premises of the certification body clients. The accreditation of SAZ to the FSMS sub-scope was processed dually in accordance to the SANAS/SADCAS Twinning Partnership Agreement to enable SAZ to enjoy international recognition. Both SANAS and SADCAS Accreditation Certificates were issued and the SANAS accreditation will be withdrawn as soon as SADCAS achieves international recognition in the sub-scope FSMS.

The SAZ is the National Standards Body for Zimbabwe, formed in 1957 and incorporated in 1960. The SAZ mission is to develop national standards and promote their use for socio-economic



development through among other things:

- **preparing and publishing Zimbabwe National Standards**
- **promoting an understanding of standards requirements by offering standards-based training,**
- **providing technical services for the testing of manufactured goods and raw materials and calibration of equipment and**
- **encouraging the use of Zimbabwe Standards by operating Certification / Registration schemes.**

The SAZ Certification Services department has the mandate to provide management system and product certification services to the Zimbabwe market and beyond. To date SADCAS has accredited eight (3) certification bodies and has another four (4) applications at different stages of the SADCAS accreditation process.

## **SADCAS CONDUCTS TRAINING ON ISO/IEC 17025:2017 TRAINING UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SADC EU EDF 11 PROJECT**

SADCAS secured funding from SADC EDF 11 for the capacity building of testing and calibration laboratories from the key development sectors in 16 SADC Member States namely: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, DRC, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The training was commissioned through the SADC Trade Facilitation Programme (TFP) and the European Union, under the 11<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF) hence SADC EU EDF 11. The programme is designed to assist with effecting regional integration in the economic and trade sectors. The Programme focuses its support on Key Result Areas that include the SADC Protocol on Trade and Trade in Services. One of the activities in this result area, activity is enhancement of recognition of competence of conformity assessment bodies in the region. This activity includes capacity building of testing and calibration laboratories with priority to those that are servicing the key development sectors as identified in the SADC Industrial Policy in the 16 SADC Member States.

The overall objective of this assignment was to contribute to the increase in intra-regional trade through increasing market access and enhancing compliance to ISO/IEC 17025:2017. The

assignment was also aimed at training SADC TBT, SPS and Private Sector institutions on SQAM and SPS principles in order to facilitate interpretation and implementation of the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and to capacitate the trainees with necessary auxiliary skills on SQAM and SPS principles.

A total of seven (7) training sessions were conducted via SADCAS Online Zoom platform and SADCAS Training Portal over a period of three (3) weeks in May and June 2021. The training courses were conducted by registered SADCAS Trainers in the three (3) official SADC languages of English, French and Portuguese. The National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) in each Member State were responsible for identifying the participating laboratories using a predetermined criteria and guidelines.

The training included One-day Awareness course and Five-day Requirements, Implementation and Internal Auditing Course. The one-day awareness training on ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 gives an overview of accreditation, benefits of accreditation, the global accreditation infrastructure, worldwide trends in accreditation and outlines the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and gives an insight into the SADCAS accreditation process and related costs. This course is aimed at top management/and or support staff ie HR, Finance etc who support laboratory activities to make them appreciate the need for accreditation and what their role is in the process. A certificate of attendance was awarded to participants that attended this course fully. A total of 236 participants from 87 laboratories in 16 SADC Member States attended the one- day awareness course.

The five days' course on the requirements, implementation and internal auditing in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 is an intensive course aimed at management and staff involved in the implementation and maintenance of testing laboratories systems as well as those involved in monitoring system compliance through internal audits. A total of 236 participants from 87 laboratories in 16 SADC Member States attended the one- day awareness course.

This project has managed to create awareness on the need and importance of accreditation and to impart the necessary knowledge and skills to laboratory staff from key development sectors for them to implement ISO/IEC 17025 in their laboratories and to monitor compliance thereof. As a follow up to the project and 12 months after the training, it is recommended that a survey be undertaken



amongst the participating laboratories. The main objective of this exercise is to determine progress in implementation of ISO/IEC 17025 thus confirm the outcomes of the project activities; to document challenges and lessons learned from the project; and to determine further actions to be taken.

It is recommended that the training on key accreditation standards be extended to other conformity assessment bodies such as inspection bodies (ISO/IEC 17020), product certification bodies (ISO/IEC 17065) and management systems certification bodies where uptake has been rather slow SADCAS would like to thank the SADC Secretariat and its supporting partners, the National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs), SADCAS Trainers, SADCAS Staff, and the participating testing/calibration laboratories for a successful training.

## **BOTSWANA MINISTRY OF HEALTH TRAINED ON ISO 15189**

the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) to conduct a 5 days' training course on ISO 15189:2012. The training was held at Avani Hotel in Gaborone, Botswana from 28 June to 02 July 2021. The training was funded by the Botswana-University of Maryland School of Medicine Health Initiative now Bummhi through the Ministry of Health and Wellness' Technical Support Services.

Accreditation is a key strategy for the competence of medical laboratories, which enables them to deliver accurate and reliable results to their customers. The objective of the course was therefore to train laboratory staff from the District Laboratories in Botswana on the requirements, implementation and internal auditing to the ISO 15189: 2012: Medical Laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence standard. This is part of the 5-year technical support by Bummhi to have district laboratories accredited to ISO 15189:2012.

## **22 Participants**

<b>Athlone Hospital</b>
<b>Botswana National Quality Assurance Laboratory, BNQAL</b>
<b>Deborah Retief Memorial Hospital, Mochudi</b>
<b>Ghanzi Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Goodhope Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Gumare Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Gweta primary Hospital</b>
<b>Hukuntusi Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Kasane Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Letsholathebe II Memorial Hosp</b>
<b>Mahalapye District Hospital</b>
<b>Masunga Primary Hospital</b>
<b>National Health Laboratory (NHL)</b>
<b>Palapye Hospital</b>
<b>Scottish Livingstone Hospital, Molepolole</b>
<b>Sefhare Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Selebi-Phikwe Government Hospital</b>
<b>Seventh-Day Adventist Church Hospital, Kanye</b>
<b>Thamaga Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Tsabong Hospital</b>
<b>Tutume Primary Hospital</b>
<b>Bummhi</b>

The training started with opening and welcome remarks from the National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) - Botswana, Mr Edward Mmatli. He gave an overview of SADCAS services and explained the role of the NAFP whose objective is to promote accreditation and to market SADCAS accreditation and training services. He indicated that the NAFP serves as a link between SADCAS clients, potential clients within the SADC Member States serviced by SADCAS. Mr Mmatli introduced the Trainer, Mrs Pinkie Malebe who was being supported by Mr Xavier Mugari. He advised the participants to tap on the wealth of combined experience from the Trainers.

The training course was interspaced with exercises and care was taken to ensure fair distribution of participants by organization and by gender and social distancing was observed. The group work were very lively and highly enriching presentations from the wide collection of experiences among the participants. Participants were continuously evaluated throughout the training course and at the end of the training course participants sat a written examination all in an effort to evaluate the effectiveness of the training



### Training in session

During the closing session held on the last day of the course after the examination, Mr Mugari who represented SADCAS management, thanked the participants and encouraged them to go and implement what they have learnt and strive to get accreditation to indicate to their management and the sponsor their dedication and return on investment. He stated, from the Accreditation Body perspective, it has been demonstrated that number of trainings conducted, are directly proportional to the number of accreditations.

A representative of the participants also working for Bummhi as a Mentor, Mr Ophius Chishawa thanked the SADCAS and the Trainers for a brilliant, well balanced and highly practical training course. He

indicated that as a Mentor it was key for him to attend the training course so as to harmonize his understanding of the requirements, in particular accreditation requirements. He encouraged them to put into practice all the knowledge and skills they acquired during the one-week training.

In closing, the Trainer thanked Bummhi for choosing SADCAS training and the participants for their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. She indicated that they were a highly interactive and knowledgeable group that made the training and information sharing easy and enjoyable. She then declared the training closed.

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY BOTSWANA TRAINED ON ISO 17025:2017 AND METHOD VALIDATION AND MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY

SADCAS recently conducted a series of training courses on ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing, ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Internal Auditing and Method Validation & Measurement Uncertainty for the Department of Agri Business Promotion (DABP) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security. The ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing course was held from 17 to 21 May 2021 at Oasis Motel in Tlokweng, on the outskirts of Gaborone, Botswana. This training was attended by 33 participants from both government and private laboratories that are operating in the agricultural sector namely; National Food Control Laboratory, Department of Veterinary Services, Plant Protection, Butcher Shop, Senn Foods, Metres and Milea, Quality Meat. This was a physical



**Participants for the Method Validation and Measurement Uncertainty Course held from 14 to 18 June 2021**

training held under strict COVID-19 protocols. The participants included Chief Medical Laboratory Scientists, Microbiologists, Managers, Principal Agricultural Scientific Officers, Food Hygiene Quality Control Officers and Food Safety Managers. In his opening remarks, Mr Edward Mmatli, the 1st NAFP for Botswana highlighted that SADCAS offers accreditation in key accreditation standards which include ISO/IEC 17025:2017, ISO 15189:2012, ISO/IEC 17020:2012. Representatives from the Department of Agri Business Promotion Mr. Onkgopotse





Ezra Ramogapi accompanied by Ms. Gorata Boikanyo both from Agribusiness gave the closing remarks and declared the training over.

The ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Internal Auditing course was conducted from 2 to 4 June 2021 and was attended by 32 participants most of whom had attended the earlier course. As this was an in-depth course on Internal Auditing. The participants did exercises on audit dimensions which included audit purpose, basis and scope of the audit, preparation of the audit checklist, preparation of non-conformities report amongst others. The course ended with an exam on the final day.

The 3rd training course was on Method Validation and Measurement Uncertainty which was held remotely (via Zoom) from 14 to 18 June 2021 and was attended by 16 participants. The training was very intensive and required basic understanding of mathematics. The course covered statistical fundamentals before progressing to relatively advanced concepts of statistical techniques that are used in both method validation/verification and in calculating measurement uncertainty of test results. The course consisted of a mix of theoretical and practical applications and also included critiques of real examples of validation, verification and measurement uncertainty. The course ended with a two (2) hour examination on the knowledge assimilated by the participants.

A 2nd Method Validation and Measurement Uncertainty course was held on 21 to 25 June 2021 for another group of fourteen participants and was concluded with an examination on 25 June 2021. In closing the Trainer, Mr Mike Mc Nerney, emphasized the importance of participants institutionalizing the information that they learnt into their workplaces. He also encouraged all participants to apply the knowledge that they have gained in the pursuit of accreditation of test and calibration laboratories in Botswana.



**Participants for the Method Validation and Measurement Uncertainty Course held from 21 to 25 June 2021**

## **SADCAS CONDUCTS ASSESSOR TRAINING COURSE FOR TANZANIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDEC), Tanzania engaged the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) to conduct a 5 days' Assessor training course for Medical Laboratories (ISO 15189:2012). The training was held at Four Points Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 26 July to 30 July 2021. The training was funded by the MoHCDEC in collaboration with the Henry Jackson Foundation Medical Research International (HJFMRI-Tanzania). The training was conducted by Mrs Monica Peart, a registered SADCAS Trainer and supported by Mr Xavier Mugari, a registered Team Leader and Technical Assessor for Medical Laboratories and the SADCAS Quality Manager.



**Participants listening attentively during the Assessor Training**

The overall objective was to train and have a pool of local competent Assessors for Tanzania. The training workshop started with registration of all the participants followed by opening and welcome remarks from the Acting Chief of Medical Services – Tanzania People's Defense Force (TPDF), Dr Charles Mzava. The participants in attendance were a diverse group from the different medical laboratories in Tanzania. In total there were 23 participants.



During the training, the requirements of ISO 15189:2012 standard were covered in full and scenarios were presented to illustrate implementation of the clauses. The methodology employed for this training was presentations on the different requirements of the standard with discussions and small group discussions on the different requirements. A combination of group exercises centered on actual practices encountered during an assessment situation and presentation of scenarios was the methodology employed for assessor techniques aspect of the course. These included the classification of non-conformances in accordance with the clauses of the appropriate standard and the recording of non-conformances and how they must be written to be of use to the facility personnel and the accreditation body. Candidates also participated in practical assessment exercises aimed as equipping

them with assessment skills. The candidates were also trained on determining the suitability of documentation used by a facility and were given practical exercises with feedback to gauge their understanding.

During the closing session held on the last day of the course after the examination, Major Haji Lukupulo who represented TPDF, thanked the participants and encouraged them to go and implement what they learnt.

On her part, the Trainer thanked MoHCDEC for choosing SADCAS training and the participants for their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn.

## NEW ACCREDITATIONS, SCOPE EXTENSIONS, SUSPENSIONS AND WITHDRAWALS FROM 1 APRIL TO 31 JULY 2021

Organization and Location	Scheme	Dates	New Accreditations	Scope Extensions	Suspensions	Withdrawal
1. PROBITAS Engineers (Pvt) Ltd, Zimbabwe	Inspection to ISO/IEC 17020:2012	2021.07.09	<b>INSP-5 007</b> (Inspection of Pressure Equipment)			
2. Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe (MCAZ) Licensing and Inspection	Inspection to ISO/IEC 17020:2012	2021.04.22	<b>INSP-9 001</b> (Inspection of Pharmaceutical Premises and Persons)			
3. Standards Association of Zimbabwe	Food Safety Management Systems to ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 and ISO/TS 22003:2013	2021.04.22		<b>FSMS-CERT 001</b> (Food Safety Management Systems sub-scope), Categories C, E and M		
4. Standards Association of Zimbabwe	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Systems to ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 (Certification to ZWS 749:2010).	2021.04.22		<b>HACCP-CERT 001</b> (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Systems sub-scope) Codes 2 and 7.		
5. Gamma Allergy Immunology Laboratory, Zimbabwe	Medical Testing to ISO 15189	2021.03.31			<b>MED 039</b> <b>Clinical Chemistry and Serology</b>	
6. Veritec Inspection Engineers, Zimbabwe	Inspection to ISO/IEC 17020:2012	2021.03.12			INSP-5 003 (Inspection of Pressure Equipment)	
7. TAAG Angola Airlines – Metrology Laboratory	Calibration to ISO/IEC 17025	2021.06.01				<b>CAL-5 001</b> (Torque Metrology) and CAL-12 003 (Pressure Metrology)



## STATUS OF KEY ACCREDITATION STANDARDS AND ILAC/IAF/SADCA/AFRAC DOCUMENTS



STANDARD	STATUS
<b>ISO/IEC TS 17021-13</b> - Conformity assessment – Competence requirements for auditing and certification of compliance management systems (CMS)	Close of voting
<b>ISO/IEC Guide 68:2002</b> – Arrangements for the recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results	Close of review
<b>ISO CD 15189:2012</b> Medical Laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence	Close of voting
<b>ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015</b> - Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 1: Requirements	Close of review
<b>ISO/IEC TS 17023:2013</b> - Conformity assessment – Guidelines for determining the duration of management system certification audits	Close of review
<b>ISO/IEC 17030:2003</b> Conformity assessment -- General requirements for third-party marks of conformity	Close of review
<b>ISO/IEC 17040:2005</b> Conformity assessment - General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies	Close of review
<b>ISO/IEC 17043:2010</b> - Conformity assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing	International Standard to be revised
<b>ISO/IEC 17050-1:2004</b> Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity -- Part 1: General requirements	International standard confirmed
<b>ISO/IEC 17050-2:2004</b> Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity -- Part 2: Supporting documentation	International standard confirmed
<b>ISO/IEC 17060</b> - Conformity assessment – Code of good practice	DIS ballot initiated – 12 weeks
<b>ISO/IEC 17067:2013</b> Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of products certification and guidelines for product certification schemes	Close of review
<b>ISO/CD 22003-1</b> Food Safety Management Systems - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems - Part 1: Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems	DIS registered
<b>ISO/AWI 22003-2</b> Food Safety Management Systems - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems - Part 2: Requirements for bodies providing audit of food safety management systems in conjunction with safe food product/process certification	DIS registered
<b>ISO/IEC DTS 27006-2</b> - Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of privacy information management systems according to ISO/IEC 27701 in combination with ISO/IEC 27001 – Part 2: Title missing	International Standard to be revised
<b>ISO 14065:2020</b> - Greenhouse gases - Environmental information – Requirements for bodies validating and verifying environmental information	International Standard published
<b>ISO/TR 14069:2013</b> Greenhouse gases – Quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions for organizations – Guidance for the application of ISO 14064-1	Close of voting
<b>ISO 14091:2021</b> – Adaptation to climate change – Guideline on vulnerability, impacts and risk assessment	International Standard published
<b>ISO 14097:2021</b> Framework and principles for assessing and reporting investments and financing activities related to climate change	International Standard published
<b>ISO 19694-1:2021</b> Stationary source emissions – Determination of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in energy-intensive industries – Part 1: General aspects	International Standard published



<b>ISO 50003:2021</b> Energy management systems – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of energy management systems	International Standard Published
<b>ISO 45002</b> - Occupational health and safety management systems - General guidelines on implementation of ISO 45001:2018	DIS Registered
<b>A001-08</b> - SADCA Bylaws	Issue No.8 This document has been prepared by SADCA Secretariat and approved by the General Assembly. The document defines the formal structures and rules of procedure of SADCA.
Issue and application date: 06 May 2021	
<b>A006-04</b> – SADCA Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026)	Issue No.4 Issue and application date: 19 July 2021
<b>A009-09</b> - SADCA Executive Committee Work Plan - 2021	Issue No.9 This document has been prepared by SADCA Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly.  Issue and application date: 06 May 2021
<b>A011-09 – SADCA</b> Technical Committee Work Plan - 2021	Issue No.9 This document has been prepared by SADCA Technical Committee and approved by the General Assembly.  Issue and application date: 06 May 2021
<b>A012-04 – SADCA</b> MRA Committee Terms of Reference	Issue No.4 This document has been prepared by SADCA MRA Committee and approved by the General Assembly.
<b>A013-09 – SADCA</b> MRA Committee Work Plan - 2021	Issue No.9 This document has been prepared by SADCA MRA Committee and approved by the General Assembly.  Issue and application date: 06 May 2021
<b>A020-05 – AFRAC</b> MRA Council Terms of Reference	Issue No.5 This document has been prepared by AFRAC Document Working Group and approved by the General Assembly  Issue and application date: 23 July 2021
<b>A010-03 – AFRAC</b> Technical Committee Terms of Reference	Issue No.3 This document has been prepared by AFRAC Technical Committee and approved by the General Assembly. Issue and application date: 23 July 2021
<b>IAF MD 16</b> – Application of ISO/IEC 17011 for the Certification of FSMS	30 - day comment period
<b>ILAC P9:06/2014</b> - ILAC Policy for Participation in Proficiency Testing Activities	Under revision. Circulated to ILAC members for 2 <sup>nd</sup> 60-day comment in February 2021
<b>ILAC G18:04/2010</b> - Guideline for the Formulation of Scopes of Accreditation for Laboratories	Under revision. Circulated to ILAC members for 2 <sup>nd</sup> 60-day comment on 29 June 2021
<b>ILAC-G19:08/2014</b> - Modules in a Forensic Science Process	This document is intended to provide guidance for Forensic Science units involved in examination and testing in the Forensic Science process by providing application of ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO/IEC 17020.
The document is under revision, comments stage	
<b>ILAC G24:2007 / OIML D10</b> - Guidelines for the determination of calibration intervals of measuring instruments – under revision with OIML	A final draft was circulated and commented on early November 2020 and it is expected to be ready for ballot in both OIML and ILAC first half of 2021
<b>VIM 4</b> – International Vocabulary of Metrology	CD comment stage till 19 April 2021

## DIARY OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Event/Meeting	Date	Venue
SADCAS HRRC Meeting (M 47)	2 Sept 2021	Virtual
SADCAS FRAC Meeting (M 50)	2 Sept 2021	Virtual
SADCAS Board of Directors Meeting (M 71)	2 Sept 2021	Virtual
IAF Executive Committee Meeting	9 Sept 2021	Virtual
SADCAS/SANAS TPA M35	15 Sept 2021	Virtual
MRA Documents Working Group & Evaluators Working Group	20 Sept 2021	Virtual
AFRAC Technical Committee Certification Sub-Committee	20 Sept 2021	Virtual
AFRAC Technical Committee Calibration and Testing Sub-Committee	20 Sept 2021	Virtual
AFRAC Technical Committee Inspection Sub-Committee	21 Sept 2021	Virtual
AFRAC Technical Committee Medical Sub-Committee	21 Sept 2021	Virtual
Technical Committee (TC)	21 Sept 2021	Virtual
Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Committee	21 Sept 2021	Virtual
Marketing and Communication Committee		
(MCC)	22 Sept 2021	Virtual
MRA Council	22 Sept 2021	Virtual
Executive Committee (EXCO)	23 Sept 2021	Virtual
General Assembly (GA)	24 Sept 2021	Virtual
AFRAC Sharing of Experiences – Remote Techniques in Assessments	27 Sept 2021	Virtual
SADCAS Board of Directors Strategic Session	30 Sept – 01 Oct 2021	Virtual
12th AFRAC General Assembly	20-24 Sept 2021	Virtual
AFRAC Workshop on Sharing Experiences in Remote Assessments	27 Sept 2021	Virtual
SADCAS M98 Meeting	8 Oct 2021	Virtual
Workshop on Enhancing the Effectiveness of NAFPs in SADCA/SADCAS Activities	22-23 Nov 2021	Virtual
15th Annual NAFP Meeting	25 Nov 2021	Virtual
ILAC General Assembly	2 Nov 2021	Virtual
IAF General Assembly	4 Nov 2021	Virtual



## THE BUSINESS BENEFITS OF STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION



There are many cases where standards and accredited conformity assessment help businesses of any size and sector reduce costs, increase productivity and access new markets. They can help to:

- Build customer confidence that your products are safe and reliable;
- Meet regulation requirements, at a lower cost;
- Reduce costs across all aspects of your business; and
- Gain market access across the world.

Business Benefits [www.business-benefits.org](http://www.business-benefits.org) is a website jointly developed by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), ILAC, International Organization for Standards (ISO), Independent International Organisation for Certification (IIOC), and International Certification Network (IQNet), that showcases these benefits through case studies, research papers, and supporting materials. The examples published on the site cite tangible financial data to evidence the cost savings achieved whether through resource efficiency or meeting regulation at lower cost, the value of accessing new markets, or savings achieved through recognition from organisations such as insurers, regulators or purchasers. The site contains case studies from multinationals such as IBM, Chrysler, and Hitachi to national companies such as Aberdare Cables and Pretoria Portland Cement Company.



The site was launched in October 2017 at the ILAC and IAF conference in Vancouver. Additional case studies will be added in due course to ensure that the site can be a valuable resource to promote the use of standards and accreditation to the business community. The site aims to mirror the success of **Public Sector Assurance**, a similar site that promotes the value of accreditation to policy makers.



## TECHNICAL EXPERTS ADVERTISEMENT FOR PRIORITIZED SCOPES

SADCAS invites experts with specific technical expertise in any of the accreditation schemes currently offered by SADCAS to be registered as Technical Experts. A Technical Expert is a person assigned by SADCAS to an assessment team to provide specific knowledge or expertise within the scope of assessment. A Technical Expert works under the supervision of an experienced Team Leader or Technical Assessor.

The following specific areas are prioritized;

Testing Laboratory Accreditation Scheme	Medical Laboratories accreditation Scheme	Veterinary Laboratory Accreditation Scheme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forensic analysis</li> <li>• DNA Testing</li> <li>• Civil Engineering</li> <li>• Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>• Electrical Engineering</li> <li>• Radiation Dosimetry</li> <li>• Non-destructive Testing</li> <li>• Textile Testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Histopathology</li> <li>• Cytology</li> <li>• Parasitology</li> <li>• Endocrinology</li> <li>• Immunophenotyping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mycology</li> <li>• Parasitology</li> <li>• Helminthology</li> <li>• Protozoology</li> <li>• Histology</li> <li>• Cytology</li> <li>• Toxicology</li> <li>• Pathology</li> </ul>
Pharmaceutical Laboratory Accreditation Scheme	Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Scheme	Legal Metrology Accreditation Scheme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microbiology</li> <li>• Chemical</li> <li>• Toxicity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Viscosity</li> <li>• Electrical – DC low frequency</li> <li>• Electrical RF</li> <li>• Fibre Optics</li> <li>• Force/ Hardness/ Torque</li> <li>• Flow</li> <li>• Humidity</li> <li>• Radio Activity</li> <li>• Photometry</li> <li>• Radio frequency</li> <li>• Time and frequency</li> <li>• Wind speed</li> <li>• Acoustics and Vibration</li> <li>• Radiation Dosimetry Metrology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verification</li> <li>• Repair and Maintenance</li> <li>• Inspection of Products for Sale</li> <li>• Quantity Control</li> <li>• Type Testing</li> <li>• OIML Certification Scheme</li> <li>• Certification of Verifiers</li> <li>• Certification of Repairers</li> </ul>

Technical experts from private and public sectors as well as from technical institutions are invited to apply by completing SADCAS F 26: SADCAS Assessor/Technical Expert Information Record which can be downloaded from the SADCAS website link [http://Microsoft Word - SADCAS F 26 - SADCAS Assessors-Technical Experts Information Record \[Issue 5\]](http://Microsoft Word - SADCAS F 26 - SADCAS Assessors-Technical Experts Information Record [Issue 5])

SADCAS will review and evaluate all applications received to ensure that the experts have the requisite qualifications, technical knowledge and experience required by SADCAS.

**Applications shall be addressed to:**  
**Mrs Pinkie Malebe SADCAS - Technical Manager**  
**Email: [pmalebe@sadcas.org](mailto:pmalebe@sadcas.org)**



**SADCAS**

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY



ACCREDITATION SERVICE