



**SADCAS** Newsletter

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# THE PIONEER

**MARCH 2024 EDITION ISSUE 47**

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# WHAT'S INSIDE

04

## General and Leading Stories

SADCAS Accredits Testing Facilities in Tanzania  
SADCAS conducts CBAS Mentorship Programme in DRC

---

09

## Regional and International Interactions

Highlights of the 39th SADC TBT Cooperation Structure Meetings

---

12

## Marketing and Promotion

SADCAS publishes 15th Annual Report  
SADCAS pays Courtesy Call to SADC Executive Secretary

---

15

## NAFP News

Role of NAFPs in Supporting NQP & Promoting Benefits of Accreditation  
NAFP Awards- Eswatini and Lesotho Awarded 2024 NAFP Recognition Awards

---

17

## Assessors Corner

Under the eye of an Assessor – TLAS  
Under the eye of an Assessor – MLAS  
Under the eye of an Assessor – CBAS  
Under the eye of a Technical Expert- IBAS

---

20

## News on Services

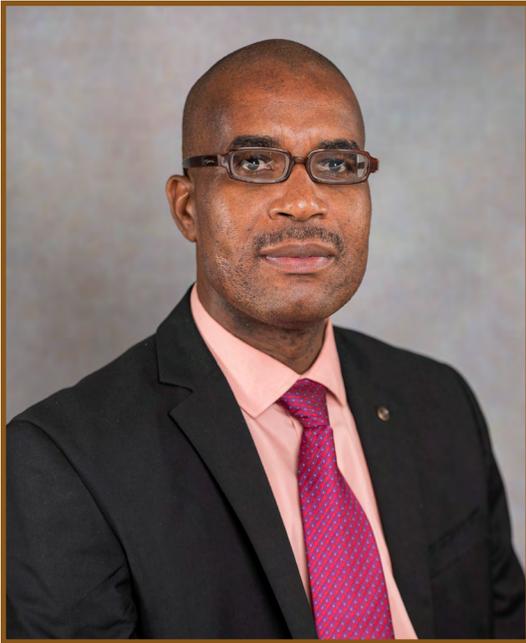
SADCAS Holds ISO 15189:2022 Carmelo training in Mozambique  
SADCAS Holds ISO 15189: 2022 Training for CIDRZ (Zambia)  
SADCAS Holds ISO 15189: 2022 Training for the Department of Health Inspectorate, Botswana  
2024/25 Training Calendar  
New accreditations November 2023 to March 2024

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31

## Adverts

Invitation to Register Technical Experts- Prioritized Scopes  
Assessor Advert



**Mr Xavier Mugari**



**Mr Boniface Badubi**

We are pleased to present Issue 47 of the SADCAS Newsletter (March 2024 Edition) to keep our readers updated on accreditation activities in the region and beyond. Inside you will find news on accreditation activities and exciting developments in the field of accreditation.

Following the publication of ISO 15189:2022 - Medical Laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence on 06 December 2022, SADCAS developed a transition policy in line with the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), that provides a 3-year transition period. The transition policy can be accessed on the SADCAS website: <https://www.sadcas.org/sadcas-policyiso-151892022-transition>.

Medical Laboratories are strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with the transition policy and abide by the stipulated timelines in order to ensure a smooth changeover to the new standard. SADCAS is currently offering training on ISO 15189:2022: <https://www.sadcas.org/202425-sadcas-training-calendar>. At the end of the transition period, accreditation of a medical laboratory to ISO 15189:2012 and accreditation of Point of Care Testing (POCT) to ISO 22870:2016 in conjunction with ISO 15189:2012 will not be recognised under the ILAC Arrangement.

**June 9th 2024** marks **World Accreditation Day (#WAD2024)**, a global initiative established by ILAC and IAF to promote the value of accreditation. This year's World Accreditation Day will explore the theme **"Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow and Shaping the Future"**, highlighting the role that accreditation can play in shaping various aspects of life, from technology to transportation, sustainability to security, and inclusivity to innovation, as digitalization, new technologies, and growing sustainability concerns continue to change our world.

# SADCAS ACCREDITS TESTING FACILITIES IN TANZANIA



**Front Row: Mrs Stella Mrosso, NAFP Tanzania, Mr David Ndibalema, Director of Standards Development, Ms Eve Gadzikwa, SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Ridhiwani Ramadhani Matange Director of Testing and Metrology, Mr. Joseph Makene, Testing Manager**

It is well acknowledged that, there are different non-technical ways in which Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) can be recognized locally by governments, regulators, users of CABs services, importers and exporters, however accreditation has become the globally accepted process of providing international recognition to an organization for its competence in performing specific conformity assessment tasks including calibration, testing, certification and inspection. In addition to assuring competence and delivering confidence, accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs)

also ensures their impartiality and adherence to specified requirements is maintained consistently. In the context of SADC, SADCAS (Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services) is an internationally recognised multi-economy accreditation body established under the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade. It services the accreditation needs of 14 SADC Member States that do not have their own accreditation bodies and its primary purpose is to ensure that conformity assessment service providers—including calibration, testing, medical

laboratories, certification bodies, and inspection bodies—operating in SADC Member States are subject to oversight by an authoritative body.

On 24 January 2024, it was the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer's great pleasure and honour to officiate at the momentous celebratory occasion of the accreditation certificate handover ceremony for the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS)- Directorate of Testing and Metrology Services, Fuel and Textile Laboratories in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025.

In order to demonstrate technical competence and produce precise and accurate results, Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) embarked on a programme to ensure that all its laboratories are accredited by the internationally recognized Accreditation Body, South African Development Community Accreditation Services (SADCAS).

In 2023, there were scope extensions to include two (2) unaccredited laboratories. It was therefore very special occasion to celebrate the accreditation of the seven (7) laboratories and the scope extension of the additional two (2), Textile Laboratory and Fuel Laboratories. This brought to nine (9) the total number of laboratories that are now accredited by SADCAS. The full list of TBS Laboratories accredited by SADCAS are indicated below;

1. Food Microbiology Laboratory
2. Food Chemistry Laboratory
3. General Chemistry Laboratory
4. Mechanical Engineering Laboratory
5. Electrical Engineering Laboratory
6. Building and Construction Laboratory
7. Textile Laboratory
8. Packaging Laboratory
9. Fuel Laboratory

The accreditation of all these laboratories indicates TBS commitment to ensure that all its testing laboratories are internationally recognized through accreditation by SADCAS. SADCAS was proud to join the Tanzania Bureau of Standards in celebrating this important milestone thus contributing to economic development, trade and protection of consumers.

At the Accreditation Certificate Handover Ceremony that was graced by the Chief Executive Officer, Ms Eve Christine

Gadzikwa, she stressed the important role being played by Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) in facilitating the work of Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) as a statutory body of the Government of the Federal Republic of Tanzania. She reiterated the critical importance of international recognition of TBS test and calibration results through accreditation under the ILAC/AFRAC/SADCA Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA) to which SADCAS is a member as a means to effectively promote trade within the context of SADC and AfCFTA.

During her 2-day official visit to Tanzania, she took time to visit all the accredited laboratories at Tanzania Bureau of Standards and encouraged the personnel to strive for excellence at all times and to make use of the accredited facilities to enhance market access and to demonstrate compliance to relevant regulatory requirements.



**Mr. Ridhiwani Ramadhani Matange, Director of Testing and Metrology delivering his speech.**



SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Ms Eve Gadzikwa being taken on a guided tour of the TBS Testing Laboratories Head Office, UBUNGO- DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

# SADCAS CONDUCTS CBAS MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME IN DRC



The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services (SADCAS) is a multi-economy accreditation body established in terms of Article 15 B of the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade with the primary purpose of ensuring that conformity assessment service providers (calibration/testing/medical laboratories, certification, inspection and legal metrology bodies) operating in those SADC Member States which do not have national accreditation bodies are subject to an oversight by an authoritative body. Within the SADC region, only South Africa and Mauritius have national accreditation bodies. The remaining 14 countries namely: Angola; Botswana; Comoros; Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); Eswatini; Lesotho; Madagascar; Malawi; Mozambique; Namibia; Seychelles; Tanzania; Zambia; and Zimbabwe do not have national accreditation bodies hence serviced by SADCAS. By assuring technical competence through accreditation, SADCAS plays a key role towards the achievement of SADC goals in trade facilitation and in the protection of health, safety and the environment.

SADCAS conducts its accreditation assessments using a pool of experts from the SADC member states. To date SADCAS has registered 96 Technical Assessors, 48 Team Leaders and 23 Technical Experts.

## CBAS TRAINEE ASSESSORS MENTORED IN DRC

SADCAS has trained groups of experts in ISO/IEC 17065:2012 and ISO/IEC 17021-1 in 2017, 2019 and 2022. Some of the experts have been qualified for mentoring and monitoring prior to recommendation for qualification as SADCAS assessors. SADCAS requested and was granted approval to undertake a mock assessment of the Official Certification Body of the Democratic Republic of Congo which is the Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC) in order to mentor and monitor experts from French-speaking SADC countries for their qualification as assessors.

- David Lumpungu Kanyinda from Office Congolais de Contrôle (OCC), République Démocratique du Congo (DRC) was mentored on ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17021-1.

- Mrs Sitraka Zaraso Rakotomahefa from Bureau des Normes de Madagascar (BNM), Madagascar was mentored on ISO/IEC 17021-1.

Due to various reasons other invited participants from the DRC and Madagascar could not manage to attend the training.

## The experts conducted simulated assessments and undertook the following;

- Evaluated the Management Systems and Product Certification Systems managed by the Congolese Control Office.
- Reviewed internal audits of the Quality Management System set up at the Congolese Control Office
- Sampled internal and external client files and undertook file reviews.

## Opportunity for the Congolese Control Office at the end of this mission:

The Office de Congolais de Contrôle was presented with an opportunity to use the knowledge gathered and the reports generated for process improvement, as

part of its internal audit program and/or for the preparation for the accreditation of its certification body leading to international recognition and improved competitiveness.

As part of continuous improvement, the Certification Officers of the Office de Congolais de Contrôle benefited from knowledge in the field of certification during the mock assessment.

The closing meeting was attended by the OCC Director General Dr Etienne Tshimanga Mutombo who reiterated and instructed the CB personnel of the Office de Congolais de Contrôle to embark on the accreditation process, taking

advantage of the mock assessment that served as a pre-assessment, and use the results to determine the readiness of a Certification body for initial assessment.

Mr Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator, Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme (CBAS) also thanked the OCC for allowing SADCAS to use the OCC as a CB to train its assessors. He encouraged experts from the DRC to express interest to be registered as SADCAS Technical Experts and eventually be trained to be monitored and supervised for their qualification to become SADCAS technical assessors for Francophone Africa.

With the help of personnel from OCC, SADCAS made all logistical arrangements for the training which was held between 19 and 22 February 2024 in Kinshasa, the DRC. SADCAS was responsible for all costs associated with the mentoring and monitoring of assessors.

The main Francophone Trainer and Instructor was Mr Moslem Barak from Morocco who undertook a very comprehensive mentoring and monitoring of the trainee assessors. He will submit reports for each trainee with recommendations. Mr Barak was assisted by Mr Victor Mundembe, SADCAS Scheme Coordinator - CBAS.

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# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 39TH SADC TBT COOPERATION STRUCTURE MEETINGS



SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa and Technical Manager, Mrs Pinkie Malebe during the 39th SADC TBT Meetings



**SADC MEL Meeting, 12 March 2024**

SADC MEL received the SADC MEL Annual Report, country reports and reports from PTB and OIML and resolved the following (selected)

- Noted the keynote presentation on OIML D22: Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSEs) and resolved to thank speaker Dr Matthijs van der Wiel from the Netherlands for the informative presentation
- Requested SADC Secretariat to circulate all funding proposals to members for their final input by 23 March 2024 and to submit the revised proposals to PTB by 28 March 2024
- Received information on the expert report on technical barriers to trade associated with the wine trade in the SADC region and resolved to work with the SADCTRLC to do the necessary benchmarking to develop a wine policy for wine industry in SADC
- Elected its office bearers for the next two years.

**28th SADC MET Meeting, 14 March 2024**

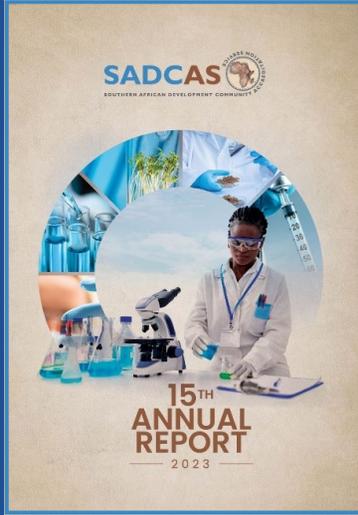
AFRIMETS and the BIPM requires that the Technical Assessors who participate in SADCAS assessments to be from an NMI that has published similar Calibration and Measurement Capabilities (CMCs) on the BIPM database. Following a request from SADCA for a list of approved assessors to assess NMIs, the SADC MET agreed to discuss the issue with the members to come up with the list for sharing with SADCA by the end of April 2024.

The SADC MET received the SADC MET Annual Report, TC Reports, Country reports and reports from PTB and resolved the following (selected):

- Adopted the strategic plan for 2024–2029 and requested Exco to start implementation of the strategic plan and the interlaboratory comparison (ILC) plan
- Training workshop to be considered on the OIML D1, Edition 2012 (E), for NMI Directors. The workshop to be held virtually would identify legal infrastructural gaps that this edition introduces to existing metrology laws as well as formulation of action plans to address these gaps
- Noted the theme of the World Metrology Day (WMD) 2024 which focusses on measurement for sustainability and welcomed the declaration by UNESCO to celebrate the 2024 WMD as a UNESCO WMD. SADC MET encouraged its members to celebrate the WMD on 20 May using the UNESCO WMD poster available on the BIPM website.
- Noted with appreciation the presentation made by Dr Christoph Sonntag from NMISA on the Digitalisation project with a primary focus on Digital Calibration Certificates and Digital Conformity Assessment Certificates and welcomed the proposal / recommendation for collaboration on building digitalisation capabilities of the NMIs in the SADC region
- Noted with appreciation the presentation made by Mr Sibusiso Jozela from NMISA on the Digitalisation project with a primary focus on Ionising Radiation and welcomed the proposal for cooperation on ionising Radiation within SADC MET
- Noted challenges with regards to hosting Virtual and Hybrid meetings which includes low participation by members attending virtually and poor connectivity which impacts the effectiveness of the meetings, recommended that going forward the next SADC TBT meetings be held physically.
- Elected its office bearers for the next two years.



# SADCAS PUBLISHES 15TH ANNUAL REPORT



The SADCAS Board of Directors approved the 2022/23 15th ANNUAL REPORT for publication. The Annual Report contains detailed information on SADCAS financial and non-financial performance, progress and activities for the year ending 31 March 2023.

The annual report is available for download on the SADCAS website [www.sadcas.org](http://www.sadcas.org) under "Publications" on the following link:

[https://www.sadcas.org/sites/default/files/annual\\_reports/SADCAS%2015TH%20ANNUAL%20REPORT%202024.pdf](https://www.sadcas.org/sites/default/files/annual_reports/SADCAS%2015TH%20ANNUAL%20REPORT%202024.pdf)

# SADCAS PAYS COURTESY CALL TO THE SADC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



The SADCAS CEO was accompanied by Technical Manager Mrs Pinkie Malebe (Far Left) and Finance and Administration Manager Mrs Laureen Gudo (Far Right)

SADCAS and SADC's relationship is maintained through an MoU on general cooperation whose main objective is to formalise the partnership between the two organisations as required by the SADC subsidiarity guidelines. The secondary objective of this MoU is for the two parties to facilitate the implementation of the regional accreditation system by inter alia; creation of a cordial working relationship between SADC and SADCAS as well as among the SADC Member States in the area of accreditation as envisaged in the SADC Protocol on Trade and in the SADC Memorandum of Understanding on Standardization, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM MoU). The SADCAS/SADC MoU also facilitates the application and implementation of the Principle of Subsidiarity in the context of SADC in view of SADCAS having attained the Subsidiarity Organization status with SADC. The MoU also enables SADCAS to operate the following accreditation programmes within the SADC Member States;

- testing laboratories;
- calibration laboratories;
- inspection bodies;
- certification bodies (management systems, products, personnel); and
- developing any other accreditation programmes that may be considered necessary.

The two organisations, SADC and SADC meet regularly in pursuance of the objects of this MoU through the Directorate of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) which coordinates all SQAM activities. After an initial meeting that was held with the SADC Executive Secretary on 25th April 2023, a follow up meeting was organised by the Directorate on 6 February 2024 to brief the SADC Secretariat on progress regarding implementation of a number of important initiatives under SADCAS 2022-2027 Strategic Plan.

In this meeting, SADCAS shared on some of its key initiatives in 2024 which include;

- Promoting the value, uptake and importance of accreditation in SADC Member States
- Capacity Building initiatives in new areas like Medical Imaging, Proficiency Testing, Forensic Testing
- Training, Mentoring, Monitoring and Qualifying SADCAS Technical Assessors to grow the pool
- Implementation of ISO 15189:2022 Transition Plan for Medical laboratories
- Enhancing the effectiveness of National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs)
- Launch of the Digitalisation project
- Update on participating by SADCAS in regional and international accreditation activities in SADC, AFRAC, ILAC and IAF.

The CEO highlighted that, as of 30th December 2023, SADCAS had issued 330 accreditation certificates to 279 accredited facilities in 14 SADC Member States including 2 from non-SADC countries i.e. Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. SADCAS had received 67 accreditation applications at various stages of processing plus 2 applications from Burundi.

SADCAS had cumulatively conducted 266 training courses in most SADC Member States as part of its efforts to develop the capacity of conformity assessment bodies for accreditation. She reiterated that, SADCAS was growing from strength to strength and that the organisation required continued support to be able to meet the growing demand for accreditation and noting the impact it was having in the SADC Region and beyond.

To remain relevant, SADCAS reported that, it was implementing a number of important capacity building and modernisation projects to enable the organisation to deliver world class services efficiently in the 14 SADC Member States. The CEO also highlighted that some challenges that were negatively impacting on the organisation and innovative ways it is tackling these head on based on the lessons learnt over the years.



**SADCAS Management making presentations at SADC Secretariat**



**The SADCAS CEO receiving a token of appreciation from SADC Executive Secretary, His Excellency Mr Elias Magosi**

The Executive Secretary expressed appreciation to the SADCAS delegation and commended the team for the excellent work that is being done by SADCAS in terms of supporting Member States through accreditation of their conformity assessment bodies. He underscored the need for SADCAS to also remain relevant under the AfCFTA realising that, inter-Africa trade depends on good quality products and suppliers providing assurance to markets through credible test results when exporting across borders.

# ROLE OF NAFP IN SUPPORTING NQP & PROMOTING BENEFITS OF ACCREDITATION

National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) are based in the SADC Member States using the services of the SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS), they serve as an administrative link between SADCAS and clients/potential clients in Member states.

NAFPs play a crucial role in supporting their respective National Quality Policy (NQP) and promoting the benefits of accreditation. Hence, SADCAS is committed to dynamic strategies that enhance the effectiveness of NAFP through Annual NAFP Meetings and training which enable an opportunity to review their performance, understand the challenges they face, and create a conducive environment for them to effectively execute their role.



NAFPs with SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa during the 17th National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) Annual meeting held on the 23 November 2023 at Premier Hotel OR Tambo, Johannesburg, South Africa.

SADCAS organises Annual NAFP Awards which recognize the hardwork and commitment of the work of NAFP in their respective countries. These awards are categorized into two main areas:

1. **Most Effective NAFP Award:** This award is given to the NAFP that has shown the most effectiveness for the reviewed period. NAFP Eswatini scooped the 2024 Most Effective NAFP Award.
2. **Most Improved NAFP Award:** This award is given to the NAFP that has shown the most improvement for the period in review. NAFP Lesotho was awarded the Most Improved Award.

These awards serve to encourage the NAFP to strive for excellence in their operations and services. They also highlight the importance in pushing the accreditation mandate in their countries.

In summary, NAFP play a significant role in supporting NQP, promoting the benefits of accreditation, and supporting quality infrastructure improvement in their countries. They play a crucial role in linking SADCAS to Member States and relevant stakeholders. Their role is integral in promoting the benefits of accreditation and emphasising its importance in supporting trade.

# SADCAS CELEBRATES 2024 NAFP RECOGNITION AWARDS



From Left, NAFP Eswatini- Ms Sybil Sthembiso Dlamini and Ms Phindie Priscilla Dlamini receiving their Most Effective Award gift from SADCAS CEO, Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa.



SADCAS Board Vice Chairman, Emmanuel Jinda (Far right) awarded the certificate of recognition to NAFP Lesotho (received by SADCAS Finance and Administration Manager, Mrs Lauren Gudo- Middle)

SADCAS Management and Board awarded the 2024 NAFP Recognition Award Winners at a ceremony held at the SADCAS AGM held in Luanda, Angola during the 39th SADC TBT Cooperations Meetings.

NAFP Eswatini scooped the NAFP Most Effective Award, and the winners were:

- Ms Sybil Sthembiso Dlamini and;
- Ms Phindile Priscilla Dlamini

NAFP Lesotho was awarded Most Improved Award and the winners:

- Mr Motjoka Azael Makara and;
- Mr Mosito Jacob Kanono

Congratulations to NAFP Eswatini and NAFP Lesotho for their hardwork and commitment!!!

\*National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) are responsible for the coordination, administration, promotion and marketing of accreditation and SADCAS within their respective countries.

# UNDER THE EYE OF ASSESSOR- TESTING LABORATORIES ACCREDITATION SCHEME (TLAS)

Karuna Reddi is a Mauritian with over fifteen (15) years of experience in the field of Forensic Science. She holds a Degree in Chemistry and a Masters in Quality Management.



Assessor - TLAS, Ms Karuna Reddi

Reddi has a versatile portfolio; she started her career in the Textile Industry before moving to Forensic Science. During her career, she has assumed different positions and acquired experience in the implementation of ISO 9001 and ISO IEC 17025. She has recently joined SADCAS as a Technical Expert, she is happy about her experience thus far:

"I would like to thank SADCAS for giving me this opportunity and it is a privilege to serve the SADC community by sharing the knowledge and skills I have acquired over the years. Since each organization is unique, this provides an invaluable learning platform and improvement tool for both the Assessment Teams and the Personnel applying for accreditation. I strongly encourage the members of the SADC community to embark on this enriching and fulfilling experience to achieve Organizational Excellence and Business Sustainability; and to make the most of the services offered by SADCAS. Additionally, I would like to thank the SADCAS Team for their unwavering support."

# UNDER THE EYE OF AN ASSESSOR - MEDICAL LABORATORIES ACCREDITATION SCHEME (MLAS)

Mr Douglas Chiwara is a Medical Laboratory Scientist with twenty-three (23) years post qualification experience. He holds an Honours Degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences from the University of Zimbabwe, a Bachelor of Technology in Quality Management from University of South Africa (UNISA) and a Graduate Certificate in Global Point of Care Testing from Flinders University in Australia. Douglas currently works as a Senior Manager for Quality Assurance, Occupational Health and Safety and Point of Care Diagnostics at the Namibia Institute of Pathology (NIP) where he oversees the establishment, implementation, and maintenance of the Quality Management System (QMS) in a network of 39 Medical Laboratories. Chiwara has extensive experience in QMS implementation and has been instrumental in the accreditation of 14 laboratories to ISO 15189.



Assessor - MLAS, Mr Douglas Chiwara

Douglas is a registered SADCAS Assessor under the Medical Laboratories Accreditation Scheme. He is both a Team leader and Technical assessor for the Clinical Chemistry and Serology Scopes. Douglas has conducted remote and onsite accreditation assessments in Malawi, Tanzania, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Lesotho and Eswatini. As an assessor, Douglas has realised the immense contribution that accreditation makes towards medical laboratory workforce development and medical laboratory systems strengthening in African countries, leading to accurate diagnosis, and monitoring of diseases especially those of public health concern such as HIV and TB. Sustained efforts in the implementation of QMS and accreditation of medical laboratories to ISO 15189 contribute significantly towards the achievement of the third United Nations sustainable development goal, namely, good health and well-being.

Assessor - MLAS, Mr Douglas Chiwara describes his experience as an assessor as professionally rewarding, enriching, and enlightening. It has presented him with immense opportunities to contribute towards medical laboratories quality improvement, and better public health outcomes in a professional, objective, and impartial manner.

"Conducting assessments has inevitably and inherently led to the sharing of knowledge, expertise, experience and cross pollination of innovative ideas and approaches for improving quality in medical laboratories". Since becoming an assessor, Douglas has experienced personal development as a Medical Laboratory Professional and Quality Management Practitioner.

## UNDER THE EYE OF AN ASSESSOR - CERTIFICATION BODIES ACCREDITATION SCHEME (CBAS)

Ms. Irene Shapi has been a nominated representative for the NSI Certification Body for over five years. She holds a Master's degree in Management of Natural Resources, a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration, and a BSc. in Food Science and Technology. Furthermore, Ms. Shapi has received various training in management systems such as ISO/IEC 17021-1, ISO 17065, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, ISO 22000, and FSSC 22000.



Assessor - CBAS, Ms Irene Shapi

She has over 20 years' experience in standardization and conformity assessment especially in product and management system certification services. She has cumulative experience in product certification, inspection, QMS, and FSMS auditing, and last but not least, management of CB's quality assurance activities including internal auditing in line with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1, ISO/17021-3, ISO/IEC 17065 and other accreditation scheme requirements.

I am grateful to SADCAS for providing me with the opportunity to join the SADCAS Assessment team, fulfilling a long-held dream. I have been very passionate about conformity assessment activities for many years which has been further fuelled by the addition of accreditation assessment, enhancing my expertise in this field.

Conducting assessments has been an enlightening and enriching experience. Working alongside a highly competent team of assessors with vast experience was invaluable. Despite initial challenges, the experience was immensely fulfilling, contributing value to the assessed CBs and strengthening the role of SADCAS within the region.

"I am honoured to be part of the esteemed pool of SADCAS Technical assessors, contributing to the improvement of the

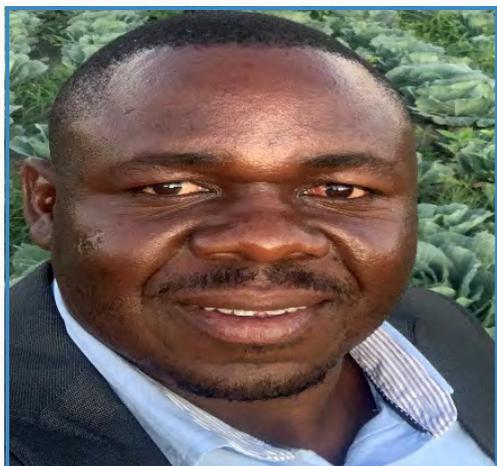
CB's value proposition to meet the relevant international standards and earn global recognition."

My participation in the SADCAS assessment team has deepened my appreciation for the crucial role accreditation bodies play in enhancing the global recognition of conformity assessment services which in turn enhances acceptance of local products and services in the global market

# UNDER THE EYE OF A TECHNICAL EXPERT - INSPECTION BODIES ACCREDITATION SCHEME (IBAS)

Tafara Teta is a technical expert in the farming sector who has acquired extensive experience working in different farming environments in the region.

"A Technical Expert is a person assigned by SADCAS to an assessment team to provide specific knowledge within the scope of the assessment. A Technical Expert works under the supervision of an experienced Team Leader or Technical Assessor."



Technical Expert - IBAS, Mr Tafara Teta

The assignment has provided Teta an excellent learning and travel opportunity that has enable him to meet and share ideas with other experts.

Teta has extensive knowledge and experience in overall farm management including in food handling and production processes ensuring safety compliance to meet expected high standards. He has been engaged in farm operations within the SADC region for a number of years working in Zimbabwe, Mozambique, South Africa, Angola and Namibia. His involvement in Global Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) set-up and audits in various farming enterprises has given him valuable exposure into the certification processes.

During his assignment under SADCAS, both witnessing and vertical assessments were conducted on table grapes exports and border control divisions. These assessments are vital in ensuring conformity to set operational standards especially production value chain where end-products are for human consumption. Assessments ensured that all potential hazards are eliminated and the food product consumed has a minimum amount of residual toxins.

Teta commented: "My experience as technical expert has been an eye-opener and I`m very excited to join the SADCAS family and look forward to improving my skills and upgrade learning through trainings and from other competent colleagues. It's a great honour and privilege for me to be afforded the opportunity to contribute, serve the SADC community through SADCAS."

# SADCAS CONDUCTS FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING IN PORTUGUESE, ON ISO 15189:2022-REQUIREMENTS AND INTERNAL AUDIT



Participants in the ISO 15189:2022 training course

## Background

ISO 15189 is an international standard that establishes the quality and competence requirements for medical laboratories. It provides guidelines for the development and implementation of quality management systems, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of laboratory test results.

The continuous improvement and accuracy of the results that precede the diagnostic decision depends on internal quality management in the healthcare sector, especially in clinical analysis laboratories. The implementation of a Quality Management system in a clinical laboratory is vitally important, as it allows the rapid performance of laboratory tests and the delivery of results very quickly (Leite at all, 2023). According to the WHO (2010), medical laboratories play a key role in global disease diagnosis, surveillance, outbreak investigation, initiation and monitoring of therapy, as well as research and development. Most medical

laboratories in Africa are, unfortunately, underdeveloped and very fragile due to limitations and lack of prioritization of human, financial and training resources; limited laboratory infrastructure; and resources and management capacity. and cannot meet the testing demands of rapidly growing health care delivery services.

SADCAS, being a multi-economic Accreditation Body in SADC region, established as part of the SADC technical regulation, standardisation, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology (SQAM) infrastructure, in order to meet the accreditation needs of SADC Member States that do not have national accreditation bodies, has defined in its annual plans, the ;human capacity development as one of the main activities. And to achieve this goal, SADCAS offers various courses related to accreditation, depending on the needs of its clients.

The training courses are delivered on behalf of SADCAS by a group of qualified

and registered trainers who have practical and up-to-date experience in accreditation matters. The training courses are designed to raise awareness of the benefits and importance of accreditation and to promote understanding of the requirements of the main accreditation standards.

## Face-to-face training on ISO 15189:2022-Requirements and Internal Audit

From December 18 to 22, 2023, SADCAS held the first face-to-face training in Portuguese on ISO 15189:2022 - Requirements and Internal Audit. This training took place in Mozambique in Gaza Province, Chókwe District. The training was organized by Carmelo Hospital and facilitated by SADCAS and was attended by 14 technicians from the Laboratories and senior managers of the hospital.

The Carmelo hospital is a community hospital, and has as one of its main activities, the treatment of

communicable and endemic diseases, in that region of southern Mozambique, with emphasis on Tuberculosis and HIV AIDS.

The Carmelo Hospital Laboratory has the Quality Management System implemented and based on the ISO 15189:2012 Standard, and is in the process of transitioning to the new ISO 15189:2022 standard. The training action was conducted in Portuguese by Mrs. Ana Paula Mandlazi, a trainer registered with SADCAS.

The training addressed the structural changes that the ISO 15189:2012 standard has undergone, to broadly align it with the latest version of ISO/IEC 17025:2017; the incorporation of requirements for point-of-care testing, and Risk management which is given greater emphasis in the new standard.

It also addressed the objectives of the revised edition of ISO 15189:2022, which is to protect the safety and well-being of patients, increase the quality and competence of medical laboratories, and improve the comparability of accredited testing laboratories (using this standard or accredited according to it) or their test results.

She highlighted the importance and need to ensure that the laboratory is

structured and managed in a way that safeguards impartiality, as well as aspects related to confidentiality.

The trainer described the requirements of the process, addressing aspects of equipment management, metrological traceability, reagent management and service agreements. Important aspects of the definition, review and approval of laboratory requirements for all externally supplied products and services were also discussed in detail.

In this training action, a simulated assessment activity was carried out in the Laboratories of Molecular Biology, Haematology, Biochemistry and in the Quality Management Sector, where the participants carried out an audit exercise (in groups) applying the principles explained during the course. In this practical exercise, participants were able to demonstrate a certain mastery in the area of audits, completed the internal audit checklists, documented the process and presented all the findings during the practical audit session.

After the completion of the training action, all participants took a written exam. All participants successfully completed the course, with the maximum score in the exam being 92.5% and the lowest grade being 75%. The average

score was 88% for 14 participants (full participation).

This event was attended by the Director of the Carmelo Hospital, Dr. Maria Elisa Verdu, who had the honour of closing the course, where she made the final remarks and thanked SADCAS for the availability to facilitate this course, participants for their active participation, particularly through regular interaction and fruitful discussions on pertinent topics. She also expressed satisfaction and thanked the trainer for the didactic way in which she conducted the training.

### Conclusion

Updates to ISO 15189 have a significant impact on medical laboratories. They require laboratories to adapt their processes and quality management systems to meet the new requirements. This may involve implementing new technologies, reviewing procedures, and training staff. SADCAS is carrying out its activities in the 3 official SADC languages, English, Portuguese and French so as to be more inclusive especially to Portuguese and French speaking countries in the SADC region and the existing opportunities for institutions embarking on the accreditation process.

# SADCAS REALIZA FORMAÇÃO PRESENCIAL EM PORTUGUÊS, SOBRE A NORMA ISO 15189:2022-REQUISITOS E AUDITORIA INTERNA



## Participantes no curso de formação sobre a Norma ISO 15189:2022

### Contextualização

A ISO 15189 é uma norma internacional que estabelece os requisitos de qualidade e competência para laboratórios médicos. Ela fornece diretrizes para o desenvolvimento e implementação de sistemas de gestão da qualidade, garantindo a precisão e confiabilidade dos resultados dos exames laboratoriais.

De acordo com a WHO (2010), os laboratórios médicos desempenham um papel fundamental no diagnóstico global de doenças, vigilância, investigação de surtos, iniciação e monitorização da terapia, bem como na investigação e desenvolvimento. A maioria dos laboratórios médicos na África são, infelizmente, subdesenvolvidos e muito frágeis devido às limitações e falta de priorização dos recursos humanos, financeiros e de formação; laboratório infraestruturas; e recursos e capacidade de gestão e não podem atender às demandas de testes de serviços de prestação de cuidados de saúde em

rápido crescimento.

A melhoria contínua e precisão dos resultados que precedem a decisão de diagnóstico depende da gestão da qualidade interna no setor da saúde, especialmente em laboratórios de análises clínicas. A implementação de um sistema de Gestão de Qualidade num laboratório clínico é de vital importância, pois, permita a realização rápida de exames laboratoriais e uma entrega de resultados de forma muito célere (Leite at all, 2023).

O SADCAS, sendo um Organismo de Acreditação multi-económico a nível da região austral de africa, criado como parte da infraestrutura de regulamentação técnica, normalização, garantia de qualidade, acreditação e metrologia (SQAM) da SADC, a fim de satisfazer as necessidades de acreditação dos Estados-Membros da SADC que não dispõem de organismos nacionais de acreditação, definiu nos seus planos anuais, a capacitação humana como uma das principais

atividades. E para atingir esse desiderato, o SADCAS oferece vários cursos relacionados com acreditação, dependendo das necessidades dos seus clientes.

Os cursos de formação são realizados em nome da SADCAS por um grupo de formadores qualificados e registados que têm experiência prática e atualizada em questões de acreditação. Os cursos de formação destinam-se a sensibilizar para os benefícios e a importância da acreditação e a promover a compreensão dos requisitos das principais normas de acreditação.

### Formação presencial sobre a norma ISO 15189:2022-Requisitos e Auditoria Interna

O SADCAS realizou de 18 a 22 de dezembro de 2023, a primeira formação presencial em língua Portuguesa sobre a Norma ISO 15189:2022- Requisitos e Auditoria Interna. Esta acção de formação teve lugar em Moçambique na Província de Gaza, Distrito de Chókwè.

A formação foi organizada pelo Hospital Carmelo e facilitada pela SADCAS e contou com participação de 14 técnicos do Laboratórios e gestores seniores do hospital.

O hospital Carmelo é um hospital Comunitário, e tem como uma das principais actividades, o tratamento de doenças transmissíveis e endémicas, naquela região de sul de Moçambique, com destaque para a Tuberculose e HIV SIDA.

O Laboratório do Hospital Carmelo, têm o Sistema de Gestão de Qualidade implementado e baseado na Norma ISO 15189:2012, e está em processo de transição para a nova norma ISO 15189:2022. A acção formativa foi conduzida na língua Portuguesa pela Sra. Ana Paula Mandlazi, formador registado no SADCAS.

A formação abordou as mudanças estruturais que a norma ISO 15189:2012 sofreu, para alinhá-la amplamente com a última versão da ISO/IEC 17025:2017; a incorporação dos requisitos para os ensaios no local de prestação de cuidados e; a gestão de riscos que é dado maior ênfase na nova norma.

Debruçou também sobre os objetivos da edição revista da ISO 15189:2022, que é proteger a segurança e o bem-estar dos doentes, aumentar a qualidade e a competência dos laboratórios médicos, e melhorar a comparabilidade dos laboratórios de ensaio acreditados (que utilizam esta norma ou que estão acreditados de acordo com ela) ou dos seus resultados de ensaio.

Destacou a importância a necessidade de assegurar que o laboratório seja estruturado e gerido de forma a salvaguardar a imparcialidade bem como aspectos referentes a confidencialidade.

A formadora fez a descrição dos requisitos do processo, abordando aspetos da gestão de equipamentos, rastreabilidade metrológica, gestão de reagentes e acordos de serviço. Foram ainda discutidos em detalhe aspetos importantes da definição, revisão e aprovação dos requisitos laboratoriais para todos os produtos e serviços fornecidos externamente.

Nesta acção formativa realizou-se uma actividade de avaliação simulada nos Laboratórios de Biologia Molecular, Hematologia, Bioquímica e no Sector de Gestão da Qualidade, onde os participantes realizaram um exercício de auditoria (em grupo) aplicando os princípios explicados durante o curso. Neste exercício pratico, os participantes forma capazes de demonstrar um certo domínio na área de auditorias, preencheram as listas de verificação da auditoria interna, documentaram o processo e apresentaram todas as conclusões durante a sessão prática de auditoria.

Após a conclusão da acção formativa, todos os participantes realizaram um exame escrito, com uma duração de 1 hora e 30 minutos. Todos os participantes concluíram o curso com aproveitamento, sendo a nota máxima no exame de 92,5% e a nota mais baixa de 75%. A nota média foi de 88%, relativa a 14 participantes (participação plena).

Este evento contou cm a presença da Diretora do Hospital de Carmelo, Dra. Maria Elisa Verdu, que teve a honra de encerrar o curso, onde fez as considerações finais e agradeceu ao SADCAS pela disponibilidade em facilitar este curso, aos participantes pela participação ativa, particularmente através da interação regular e discussões frutíferas sobre temas pertinentes. Ela também expressou satisfação e agradeceu à formadora pela forma didática que conduziu a formação.

### Conclusão

As atualizações na ISO 15189 têm um impacto significativo nos laboratórios médicos. Elas exigem que os laboratórios adaptem seus processos e sistemas de gestão da qualidade para cumprir os novos requisitos. Isso pode envolver a implementação de novas tecnologias, a revisão de procedimentos e a capacitação de pessoal. O SADCAS está a realizar actividades de divulgação das suas actividades principalmente nos países falantes da língua Portuguesa e francesa a nível da região e das oportunidades existentes para as instituições que embarcam no processo de acreditação.

# SADCAS CONDUCTS ISO 15189:2022 REQUIREMENTS & INTERNAL AUDITING TRAINING FOR CIDRZ ZAMBIA

The ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing course was conducted from 26 February – 01 March 2024 at Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) in Lusaka, Zambia. The training course was attended by 24 participants from the organization. The objective of the course was to provide an understanding of ISO 15189:2022 requirements and practical skills to develop and implement a laboratory quality management system as well as practical skills to conduct internal audits. The course was also organized to provide detailed comparison between the new standard and the previous version i.e., ISO 15189:2012.

The training was conducted by SADCAS trainer, Mr Kgomotso Baitsomedi who made the opening remarks and encouraged participants to engage fully in the training as it would play an important role towards the laboratory's transition to ISO 15189:2022.

The expectations the participants that attended the training course included: To identify and understand the changes between ISO 15189:2012 and ISO

15189:2022

- How to implement the internal audit process and conduct the audit;
- To be able to implement ISO 15189:2022 requirements;
- To understand application of risk management in the context of ISO 15189:2022;
- How will the new standard help the laboratory to implement the changes.

The trainer explained the structural changes whereby ISO 15189 had to be aligned to ISO/IEC 17025:2017, and emphasised that the new ISO 15189:2022 is less prescriptive as it focuses more on the outcome of the laboratory process rather than prescribing specific procedures or methods that must be followed compared to the previous one. The trainer also explained the key changes on the differences between the process vs procedure. The trainer emphasised on the issue about the inclusion of point-of-care testing (POCT), and the 22870:2016 will be withdrawn. The laboratory-supported POCT should be included in the scope

of the management system and should follow the requirements of the standard, Module 2 was introduced the management system concepts, quality, management system, quality control, quality assurance, quality costs, were explained and questions and clarity from the participants were discussed and addressed including the Key Success Factors (KSFs).

The importance of impartiality in undertaking laboratory activities was highlighted, together with the need for ensuring that the laboratory is structured and managed to safeguard impartiality. The roles and responsibilities of the laboratory director with regards to impartiality and application risk management to all aspects of laboratory operations was described.

Together with the 5-day ISO 15189:2022 Requirements & Internal Auditing course, SADCAS now also offers a 3-day training course on ISO 15189:2022 Transition which will mainly highlight the changes and additions that have been incorporated in the new standard.

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH INSPECTORATE BOTSWANA TRAINED ON ISO/IEC 17020:2012 REQUIREMENTS & INTERNAL AUDITING

The Department of Health Inspectorate which is under the Ministry of Health and Wellness Botswana was trained on ISO/IEC 17020:2012 Requirements and Internal Auditing course, the training was conducted from 19-23 February 2024 at Travel Lodge in Gaborone, Botswana. The mandate of the department is to promote and drive programs aimed at improving the quality and safety of health care in Botswana through inspections and regulatory mechanisms to ensure conformity by health facilities, institutions, and personnel. The training was attended by fourteen participants with a diverse training background that included training on ISO 9001, ISO 15189, or ISO/IEC 17025.

The training was facilitated by SADCAS trainer, Mr Danmore Mabambe. Deputy Director of the Inspectorate, Mrs. Pinkie Letsholo kickstarted the course with opening remarks. She highlighted that the course was very important to the inspectorate as implementation of standards was on their strategic plan. She therefore encouraged every participant to actively participate in the course.

The trainer made a comprehensive elaboration on each clause of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 with examples on how some organisations have met the requirements. Participants were made to understand the importance of competence of personnel, facilities, traceability of measurements,

environment conditions, inspection methods and procedures as vital tools towards accreditation. Participants were also appraised on why procedures need to be documented by all the staff performing specific activities and why they are consolidated into a single document called Quality Manual. They were made to understand why procedures should be available at all relevant locations of their workplaces.

The training enabled participants to understand why the inspection system requires a policy, which is the overall intentions and direction of an organization to inspection as formerly expressed by top management. They were also able to understand why it contains objectives which

require commitment, understanding, implementation and maintenance by all staff in the organization..

On internal auditing the trainer covered the reasons for carrying out internal audits, the audit process (including how to conduct the opening and closing meetings), positive and negative characteristics of an auditor, competence requirements for auditors

The training provided invaluable practical experience and knowledge was gained on the development, implementation, maintenance, and improvement of a quality management system that meets ISO/IEC 17020:2012 requirements

# TRAINING CALENDAR FOR THE PERIOD – 01 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

No.	Course	Date(s)	Venue (Country/City)	Fees Per Person (BWP)	Fees Per Person (USD)
1	ISO 15189:2022 Transition	23-25 April 2024	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
2	Root Cause Analysis	06-08 May 2024	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
3	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing	13-17 May 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
4	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing	27-31 May 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
5	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing	27-31 May 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
6	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing	03-07 June 2024	Gaborone, Botswana	12,000.00	-
7	ISO 15189:2022 Transition	03-07 June 2024	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
8	Root Cause Analysis	17-21 June 2024	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
9	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements and Internal Auditing	24-28 June 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
10	ISO 15189:2022 Transition	03-05 July 2024	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
11	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements and Internal Auditing (French)	08-12 July 2024	Kinshasa, DRC	-	750.00
12	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing	15-19 July 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
13	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing (Portuguese)	05-09 August 2024	Maputo, Mozambique	-	750.00
14	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements and Internal Auditing (Portuguese)	12-16 August 2024	Luanda, Angola	-	750.00
15	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing	19-23 August 2024	Gaborone, Botswana	12,000.00	-
16	Root Cause Analysis	28-30 August 2024	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
17	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements and Internal Auditing	09-13 September 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
18	Method Validation & Measurement Uncertainty	23-27 September 2024	Virtual	8,800.00	650.00
19	ISO/IEC 17020:2012 Requirements & Internal Auditing	07-11 October 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
20	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements & Internal Auditing	07-11 October 2024	Mbabane, Eswatini	-	750.00
21	ISO 15189:2022 Transition	21-25 October 2024	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
22	ISO/IEC 17021:2015 Requirements & Internal Auditing	04-08 November 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00

No.	Course	Date(s)	Venue (Country/City)	Fees Per Person (BWP)	Fees Per Person (USD)
23	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing (French)	04-08 November 2024	Virtual	-	585.00
24	ISO/IEC 17065:2012 Requirements & Internal Auditing	18-22 November 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
25	ISO/IEC 15189:2022 Requirements & Internal Auditing	02-06 December 2024	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
26	ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements and Internal Auditing	20-24 January 2025	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
27	Root Cause Analysis	10-12 February 2025	Virtual	4,750.00	350.00
28	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing	24-28 February 2025	Windhoek, Namibia	-	750.00
29	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing	10-14 March 2025	Virtual	7,900.00	585.00
30	ISO 15189:2022 Requirements and Internal Auditing	17-21 March 2025	Harare, Zimbabwe	-	750.00

For more information contact the Training Administrator, Mr. Mogae Molaoa

Email: [mmolaoa@sadcas.org](mailto:mmolaoa@sadcas.org)

Website: [www.sadcas.org](http://www.sadcas.org)

# NEW ACCREDITATIONS, SCOPE EXTENSIONS, SUSPENSIONS AND WITHDRAWALS FROM 1 NOVEMBER 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

	Organizations	ACC Decision	ACCR No.	New Accreditations	Extension within existing scope	New Scopes Accredited	Reassessments	Scope Reduced	Accreditations Withdrawn
0342	Turiani Hospital Laboratory, TZ	04.11.2023	MED 145	Blood Bank					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Serology					
0377	Vijibweni Hospital Laboratory, TZ	05.11.2023	MED 146	Mycobacteriology					
				Parasitology					
				Serology					
0379	Mazwi Health Centre Lab, TZ	13.11.2023	MED 147	Blood Bank					
				Serology					
0376	Dr Atiman Memorial Council, TZ	16.11.2023	MED 148	Blood Bank					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Serology					
0222	Shabani and Mashaba, Zim	16.11.2023	TEST-5 0022						Chemical
344	SOCOME, Seychelles	29.11.2023	TEST-5 0084	Chemical testing (Food)					
0204	Ndola Teaching Hospital Laboratory	01.12.2023	MED 055			Mycobacteriology			
						Parasitology			
0047	Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital	05.12.2023				Haematology			
0229	Medlane, Botswana	15.12.2023	TEST-1 0022						Microbiology
0418	Bureau Burundais de Normalisation et Contrôle de la Qualité (BBN)	24.01.2024	INSP-1 004	INSPECTION DES PRODUITS ALIMENTAIRES					
0419	Direction De La Protection Des Vegetaux (DPV)	29.01.2024	INSP-15 002	INSPECTION DES VEGETAUX ET PRODUITS VEGETAUX					
0151	Malawi Bureau of Standards	23.01.2024	CAL-8 008;			CAL-9 006 Volume			
			CAL-9 006						
0370	Oasis Healthcare Laboratory, Tanzania	08.01.2024	MED 149	Blood Bank Haematology Parasitology Serology					

	Organizations	ACC Decision	ACCR No.	New Accreditations	Extension within existing scope	New Scopes Accredited	Reassessments	Scope Reduced	Accreditations Withdrawn
0366	Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital Laboratory, Tanzania	08.01.2024	MED 150	Blood Bank					
				Serology					
0367	St Gaspar Referral & Teaching Hospital Laboratory, Tanzania	08.01.2024	MED 151	Blood Bank Haematology Parasitology Serology					
0371	Dream Molecular Laboratory, Tanzania	10.01.2024	MED 152	Clinical Chemistry					
				Molecular Biology					
0375	Mbeya Regional Referral Hospital Laboratory, Tanzania	10.01.2024	MED 153	Blood Bank					
				Molecular Biology					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Parasitology					
				Serology					
0374	Mbinga DHL, Tanzania	11.01.2024	MED 154	Mycobacteriology					
				Parasitology					
				Serology					
0378	Mbarali District Hospital Laboratory	24.01.2024	MED 155	Clinical Chemistry					
				Molecular Biology					
0373	Kahama Municipal Council Hospital Laboratory	24.01.2024	MED 156	Blood Bank					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Serology					
				Parasitology					
0386	Kabwe Central Hospital Laboratory	26.01.2024	MED 157	Blood Bank					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Parasitology					
				Serology					
0396	Zanzibar Bureau of Standards	30.01.2024	TEST-5 0085	Chemical (Fuel)					
0393	Unilabs Diagnostics and Imaging	23.02.2024	MED 158	Clinical Chemistry					
				Haematology					
0372	Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute	24.02.2024	MED 159	Clinical Chemistry					

	Organizations	ACC Decision	ACCR No.	New Accreditations	Extension within existing scope	New Scopes Accredited	Reassessments	Scope Reduced	Accreditations Withdrawn
				Serology					
				Haematology					
0388	Kyela District Hospital Lab	25.02.2024	MED 160	Blood Bank Serology					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Parasitology					
0407	Optimum Health Medical Lab	26.02.2024	MED 161	Blood Bank					
				Clinic Chemistry					
				Immunology					
				Serology					
				Microbiology					
0411	SGS Minerals RDC	21.02.2024	TEST-5 0086	Chemical testing (Minerals)					
0359	PMRA, Malawi	21.02.2024	PHAR-004	Pharmaceuticals					
0074	OCC Kasumbalesa	16.02.2024	TEST-1 0016				Microbiology		
			TEST-5 0086	Chemical					
399	Ludewa District Hospital Lab	16.03.2024	MED 162	Blood Bank Serology					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Parasitology					
399	NMRL-TB, Zimbabwe	24.03.2024	MED 163	Mycobacteriology					
398	Butha Buthe Hospital Lab	18.03.2024	MED 164	Haematology					
				Molecular Biology					
				Mycobacteriology					
384	Geita District Hospital Lab	19.03.2024	MED 165	Haematology Blood					
				Bank Molecular					
				Biology Serology					
				Mycobacteriology					
				Parasitology					
400	Seboche Mission Hospital Lab	27.03.2024	MED 166	Mycobacteriology					
0389	BV Balama	27.03.2024	TEST-5 0089	Chemical (Coal)					
0409	GCLA Forensic Toxicology	17.03.2024	FOR-002	Forensic (Toxicology)					
0100	Mutanda mining	31.03.2024	TEST-5 0090	Chemical (Minerals)					
0392	Tanzania Medical Dev Authority	18.03.2024	TEST-11 004	Physical (Condom)					
0394	Eswatini Energy Reg Authority	11.03.2024	TEST-5-0088	Chemical (Fuel)					

# INVITATION TO REGISTER TECHNICAL EXPERTS - PRIORITIZED SCOPES

SADCAS invites experts with specific technical expertise in the newly introduced Medical Imaging Accreditation Scheme (MIAS) and 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 will be prioritized;

## Technical Experts and Registered Assessors in PROFICIENCY TESTING

## TECHINAL EXPERTS and Registered Assessors in DIGITAL FORENSICS

## MEDICAL IMAGING ACCREDITATION SCHEME (MIAS) – NEW!!

### Technical Experts with experience in the following;

- General Radiography
- Computerised Tomography (CT)
- Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (NM)
- Ultrasound (US)
- Interventional Radiography (IR)
- Mammography
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)



#### Testing Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (TLAS)

Forensic analysis  
DNA Testing  
Civil Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering  
Electrical Engineering  
Radiation Dosimetry  
Non-destructive Testing  
Textile Testing  
Petroleum Products Testing



#### Medical Laboratories accreditation Scheme (MLAS)

Histopathology  
Cytology  
Parasitology  
Endocrinology  
Immunophenotyping  
Blood Banking



#### Veterinary Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (VLAS)

Mycology  
Parasitology  
Helminthology  
Protozoology  
Histology  
Cytology  
Toxicology  
Pathology



#### Pharmaceutical Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (Under TLAS)

Microbiology  
Chemical  
Toxicity  
Medical Devices Testing



#### Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme (CBAS)

Product Certification  
Personnel Certification  
Food Safety Management Systems  
HACCP  
Environmental Management Systems  
Quality Management Systems



#### Legal Metrology Accreditation Scheme (LMAS)

Verification  
Repair and Maintenance  
Inspection of Products for Sale  
Quantity Control  
Type Testing  
OIML Certification Scheme  
Certification of Verifiers  
Certification of Repairers



#### Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (CLAS)

Viscosity  
Electrical – DC low frequency  
Electrical RF  
Fibre Optics  
Force/ Hardness/ Torque  
Flow  
Humidity  
Radio Activity  
Photometry  
Radio frequency  
Time and frequency  
Wind speed  
Acoustics and Vibration  
Radiation Dosimetry Metrology

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); [info@sadcas.org](mailto:info@sadcas.org)

# 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 banner features the Business Benefits logo on the left, which consists of a stylized blue globe icon and the text "BUSINESS BENEFITS Evidence. Impact. Value." To the right of the logo is a grid of six images, each with a colored bar at the bottom containing a benefit category:

- ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE**: A worker in a white protective suit and mask using a handheld device.
- MARKETING MESSAGE**: A man and a woman in business attire reviewing a whiteboard with colorful sticky notes.
- COST SAVINGS**: A man in a blue shirt looking up at a warehouse shelf.
- MARKET OPPORTUNITIES**: A man in a blue blazer smiling in an office setting.
- QUALITY IMPROVEMENT**: Two workers in blue uniforms and white hard hats looking at a large gear.
- COMPANY PERFORMANCE**: Two men in suits reviewing documents at a desk.

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.