



# TB Diagnostic Network Assessments

## SRL-Uganda Experience

# Presentation Outline

- SRL Network
- Mandate of SRL-Uganda
- Enablers and Barriers for TB DNA
- Uganda TB DNA experience



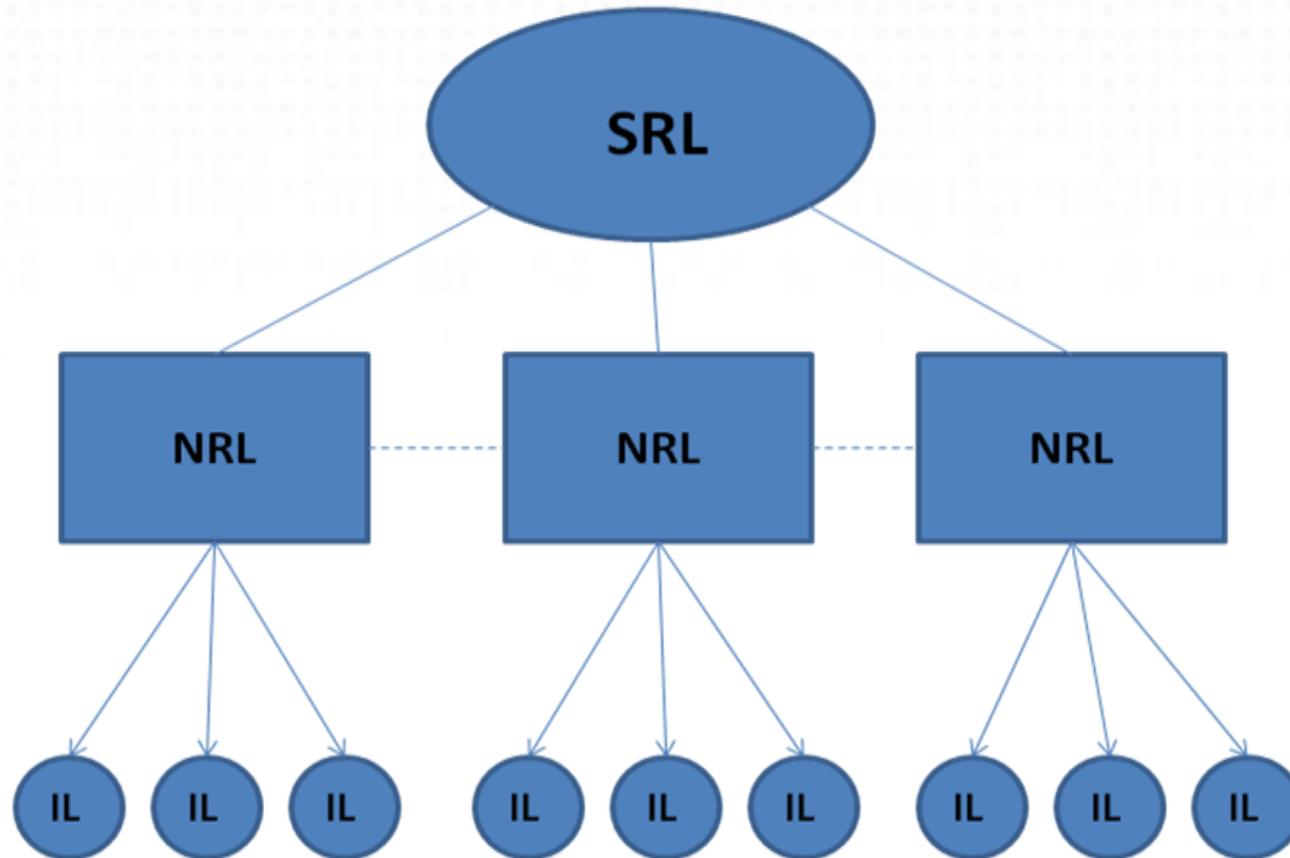
# SRL Network

Established in **1994**

- Provide technical resource for laboratory scale-up and capacity development
- Composed of **32 SRL** and **2 Candidate SRL** (Africa)



# Implementation approach



# Mandate of SRL-UGANDA

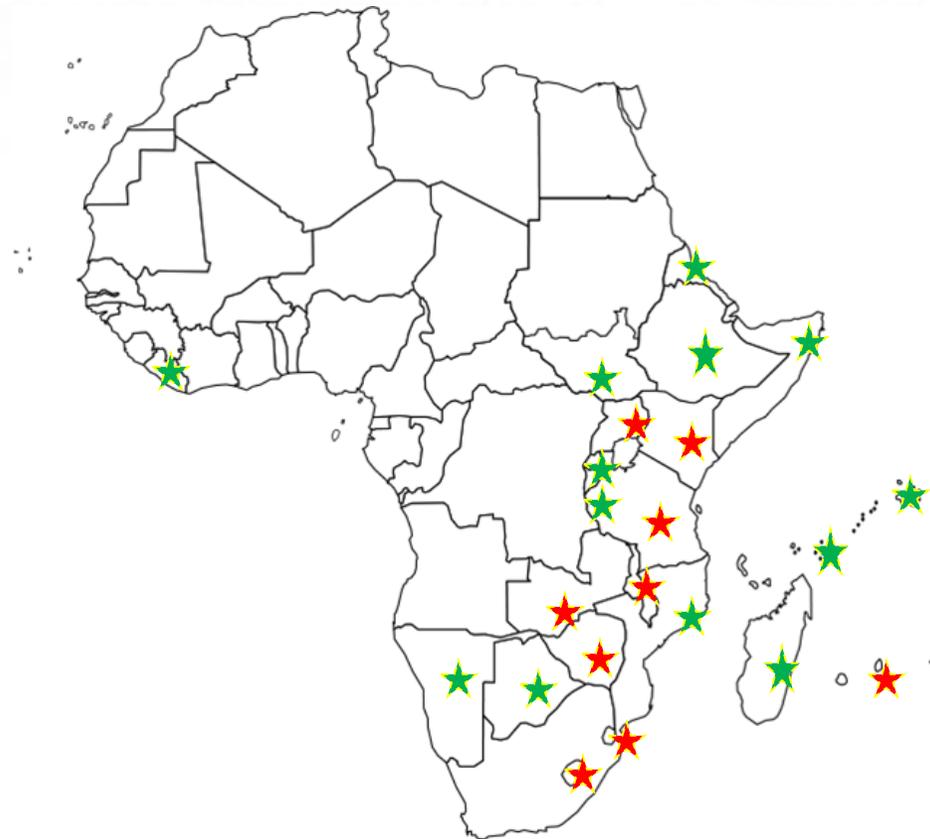
- Assist NRLs and (NTPs) implement WHO policy guidance on TB diagnostics
- Provide standardized external quality assessments
- Facilitate sharing of standardized technical reports
- Co-ordinate comparative evaluations of diagnostic tests
- Advocate with NTPs to help ensure capacities for the diagnosis and treatment of TB and drug resistant TB are aligned.
- Oversee the pathway for the development and implementation of standardized protocols
- Support reviews and assessments of the TB diagnostic networks



# SRL-Uganda supported countries

## ECSA Member States

- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe



## Other Countries

- Burundi
- Botswana
- Eritrea
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Rwanda
- Liberia
- South Sudan
- Seychelles
- Somalia
- Ethiopia
- Madagascar
- Comoros



# TB DNA coverage

SRL-Uganda has supported TB DNA in 12 Countries

## AFRICA (10)

- DRC
- Ethiopia
- India
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Nigeria
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Zimbabwe
- Uganda



## OTHERS COUNTRIES (2)

- Cambodia
- India



# ENABLERS FOR SRL TO SUPPORT TB DNA



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

UGANDA **Supranational**<sup>®</sup>  
Reference Laboratory

*Timely Accurate Diagnostics for a TB-Free Africa*

- A Decade of support to low and middle income countries



Positioned to support implementation of resulting recommendations through:

- Advocacy and resource mobilization
- Policy development and strategic planning
- Capacity building



# Established strategic partnerships



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
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UGANDA **Supranational<sup>®</sup>**  
Reference Laboratory

*Timely Accurate Diagnostics for a TB-Free Africa*

# Experienced Personnel with skill-mix to match the DNA agenda - winners



# Barrier to conducting the TB DNA

**Limited  
knowledge  
of benefits**

**Political  
and social  
will**

**Limited systems  
to monitor  
implementation  
of  
recommendations**



# Way forward-Regional contexts

1. Support TB DNA to remaining countries

2. Review countries progress toward attaining recommendations

3. Advocate for funding to address the recommendations



- Regional interventions
- Country interventions





# Uganda Experience in TB Diagnostic Network Assessment

# TB DNA was conducted in Aug 2019

## FIVE KEY INTERVENTIONS PROPOSED

1. **Accelerate implementation** of the 2019 TB diagnostic algorithms and monitor progress
2. Simplify, refocus and reinvigorate **supportive supervision**
3. Expand the **accessibility** and **promptness** of Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra testing
4. Strengthen **data collection** and **analysis** to measure the effect of interventions
5. Develop end-to-end integrated interoperable **connected systems** and deploy **electronic data systems** across all diagnostic and laboratory levels



# Progress thus far

NTP/NTRL developed a strategic plan aligned to each intervention:

- The country developed and deployed **LabXpert connectivity solution** to all mWRD platforms
- Streamlined **monitoring and evaluation** systems at the NTLP
- Intensified district trainings to conduct ACF
- Increased mWRDs **coverage and access** from **263** to **320** GeneXpert machines, **40** Truenat and **16** TB LAMP.
  - Implementing **multi-disease testing** using GeneXpert
- Piloted **Clinical Laboratory Interface** to;
  - Improve Linkage to testing
  - Improve Linkage to treatment
  - Improve treatment outcomes

# Outcome of DNA to Uganda TB program

- Increase in **treatment coverage** from **75%** in 2019 to **105%** in 2022
- Increased access to WRDs among notified cases from 49% in 2019 to 70% in 2022
- Increase in **bacteriological confirmation** from 50% in 2019 to 64% in 2022
- Increase of bacteriologically confirmed TB cases tested for Rifampicin resistance from 45% in 2019 to 74% in 2022
- Increase **DR case finding** from 37% in 2019 to 54% in 2022



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- Ameseginalehu !
- Thank you !!
- Asente sana!!
- MERCI!!
- Obrigado !!

