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# Feedback from twinning questionnaire



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# Questionnaire

- **Aim:** Feedback on pros and cons of twinning programme
- **Questionnaire covered**
  - Pre-existing relationship
  - Communication
  - Gains
  - Obstacles and solutions
  - Research publications
  - Government support
  - Twinning experiences
  - Advice

# Questionnaire

- Parent and Candidate lab: 11 Questions
- Candidate lab: 5 questions
- Parent lab: 5 questions
- Questionnaire sent to confirmed participants of 16 parent & 13 candidate twinning labs
- Parent labs: Australia, Argentina, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Africa, Spain, UK, USA
- Candidate labs: Brazil, Chile, Cuba, India, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Russia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia and Turkey

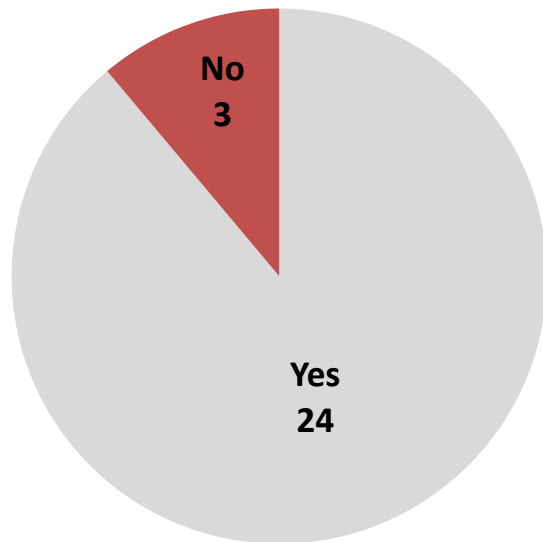
# Feedback

- ❖ Out of 16 parent labs, 14 responded
- ❖ Out of 13 candidate labs, 13 responded
- ❖ Total responses: 27 out of 29

## Source from where heard about OIE twinning concept

- OIE website - 3
- OIE representative of the ref lab - 3
- OIE ref lab meeting - 7
- OIE regional meeting - 1
- Other OIE meeting - 4
- OIE headquarters (invitation) - 5
- Other meeting (not OIE) - 1
- Research partner - 2
- National ministry of agriculture - 1

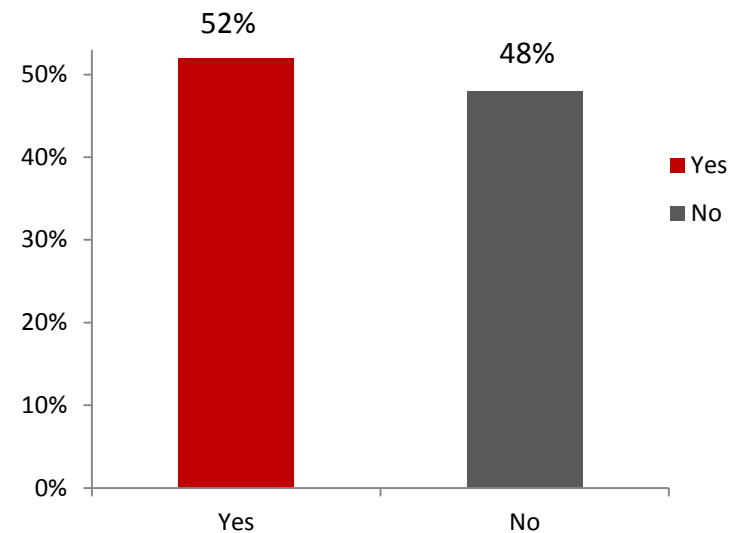
## Pre-existing relationship with twinning partner



### No pre-existing relation

- Invitation from twinning partner
- Collaboration after supervision and training

## Timely completion of milestones in original plan



Reasons: Logistics, equipment repair, natural events, political, funds, many milestones in first schedule

# Communication frequency and mode

## Frequency:

- Weekly (6)
- Very frequently (6)
- Monthly (11)
- Every three months (1)
- Twice a month (2)

## Mode:

E-mail (27)

Telephone (14)

Fax (3)

Visits (10)

# Gains from the twinning project

- Upgrading the diagnostic capacity of candidate lab (8)
- Learning new techniques (5)
- Further collaboration with twinning partner (5)
- National recognition of candidate lab (5)
- Increased networking (4)
- Experience exchange between partners (3)
- Joint research interactions leading to publications (2)
- Quality management (2)
- Real field problems (3)



## Challenges encountered during twinning implementation

Obstacles / Barriers	Solutions found
Lack of equipments	Request through other international organisations; donation by parent lab
Bad equipments	Recalibration; replacement
Shipping and receiving materials takes too long time	MTA agreement at government level; Find suitable couriers like Fedex
Difficulty in travelling procedures	Long term visa; schedule in advance;
Language problems	Explaining slowly; identification of translator; undergoing courses; help from OIE regional office
Deficiency in budget	Convincing the national government for lab capacity; reduce travel expenses; complementary funding;
Schedule problems for visits and training	Good planning and communications

# Positive or negative surprise

## Positive

- Enthusiasm of the staffs involved in twinning
- Help and welcome from partners
- Generous helping from parent lab

## Negative

- Sometimes it is slow to get things going
- Most appropriate person is not identified for training
- Difficulty in receiving materials
- Lack of good equipments in candidate lab
- Lack of perspective and vision in the second phase
- Bureaucracy and lack of flexibility of governments

# Research publications with partner



5 research articles - **1**  
4 research articles - **1**  
3 research articles - **1**  
2 research articles - **4**  
1 research articles - **3**

# Candidate lab responses

- 6 out of 13 labs receive diagnostic specimens from other countries
- 9 out of 13 labs are involved in other capacity building projects
- 8 said they were operational before/during/after OIE twinning project
- 6 projects are complementary to each other
- Organising capacity building for state veterinarians
- Extended duration of training
- Provision of equipments

# Candidate lab responses

- Training to staff of other laboratories (within or outside your country)

Yes: 12

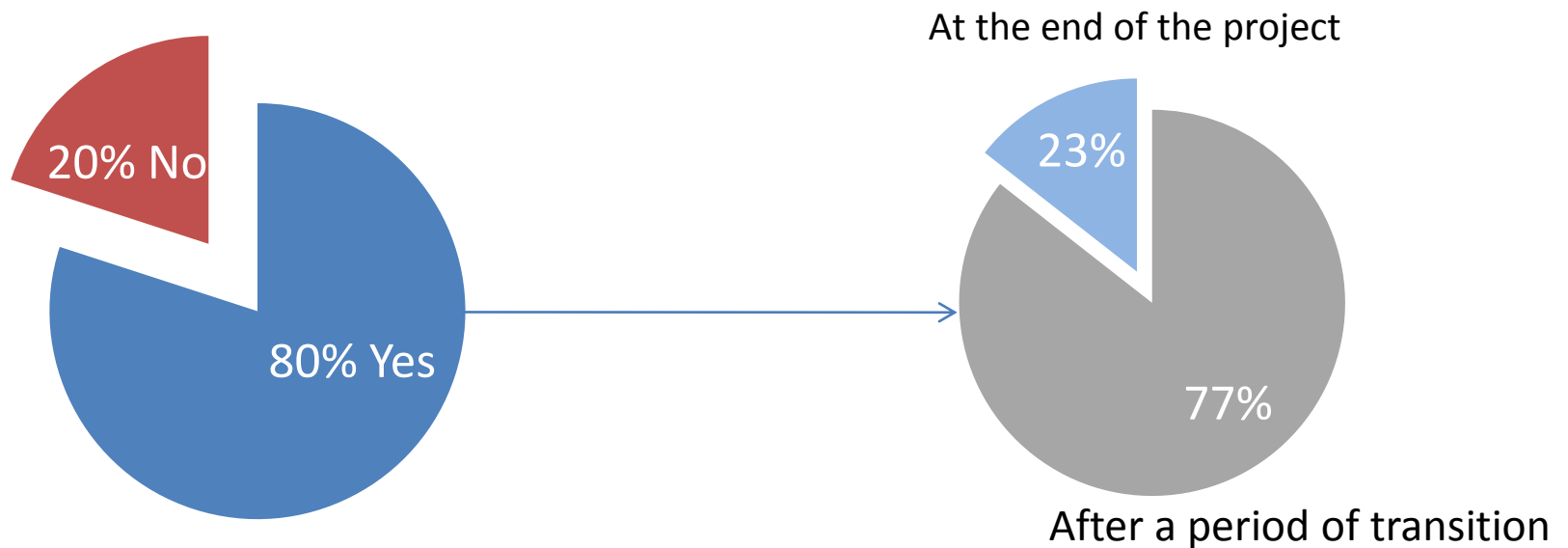
No: 1

- Government support for sustainable development of laboratory

Yes: 13

# Parent lab responses

Ability of twinning partner to apply for OIE RL/CC status



# Parent lab responses

- Planning or maintaining contact with twinning partner after conclusion of twinning project

**100 % Yes**

- Government support for the international work of laboratory

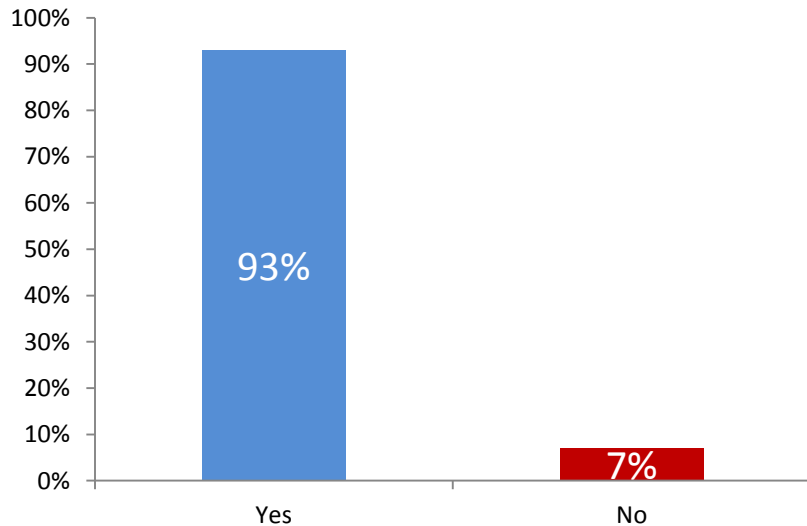
**99 % Yes**

- **Impact of twinning programme on other projects**

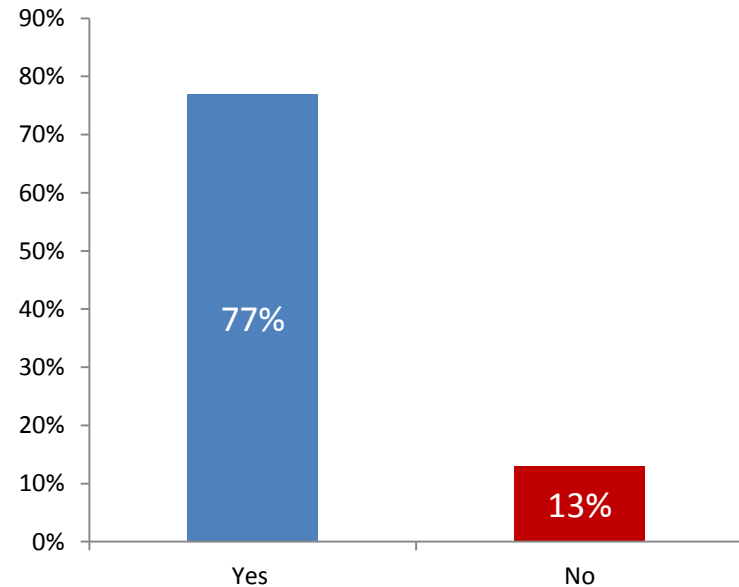
- Positive impact on international outreach programme
- Twinning helps for collaboration continuation and funding by other means
- PL disease free, CL disease present: Test development /validation

# Parent & Candidate lab responses

- Involvement in the consultation process within their government on draft OIE standards prior to their adoption



Parent



Candidate



# Parent & Candidate lab responses

## Summary of twinning experience:

- ❖ Excellent
- ❖ Rewarding (but also time consuming)
- ❖ Good idea, good help and support from OIE
- ❖ Interesting
- ❖ Trust and mutual benefits
- ❖ Very useful

# Parent & Candidate lab responses

## Advice to future participant of OIE twinning:

- Visit to candidate labs prior to setting twinning project; initial assessment is vital
- Ensure government support to lab and project
- Improvement in laboratory upgradation and scientific skill
- Expectations and objectives have to be fine-tuned at the beginning

# Parent & Candidate lab responses

Advice to improve OIE global policies for supporting veterinary laboratories worldwide:

- ✓ Continue with twinning projects but allocate more money for consumables on the projects
- ✓ Encourage more referral labs region-wise or zone wise so that referral services are accessed easily and efficiently
- ✓ Funding for equipments through collaboration with other international organisation
- ✓ Supporting students for attending relevant OIE conferences

# Parent & Candidate lab responses

Advice to improve OIE global policies for supporting veterinary laboratories worldwide:

- ✓ Develop laboratory assessment and improvement pathway
- ✓ Facilitation of an effective sample referral system to regional reference lab involving couriers, customs, quarantine and standard reporting protocols

# Conclusions

- ❑ 89 % of the labs had pre-existing relationship with their twinning partner
- ❑ 50 % of the labs are able to complete the milestones laid out in the original project plan
- ❑ Twinning partners communicate with each other monthly or weekly by e-mail and telephone
- ❑ Gains by twinning project include capacity building, new techniques, collaboration, publications
- ❑ Labs face difficulty in shipping and receiving materials.  
MTA at government level would solve this problem

# Conclusions

- ❑ 55% of CL receive samples from other countries
- ❑ CL are involved in capacity building at regional level
- ❑ Both CL and PL receive government support in sustainability and international work
- ❑ PL expression for CL becoming RL/CC status:
  - 66% After a period of transition
  - 20% at the end of the project
  - 14 % said No
- ❑ 77% CL & 93% PL are involved in adopting OIE standards
- ❑ All labs maintain contact after twinning project
- ❑ More twinning projects needed region wise to improve OIE global policies for supporting veterinary labs worldwide

# Thank you for your attention



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