

# Developing & maintaining laboratory infrastructure and testing standards to supporting African food regulatory authorities

African Food Regulatory Authorities Forum (AFRAF)  
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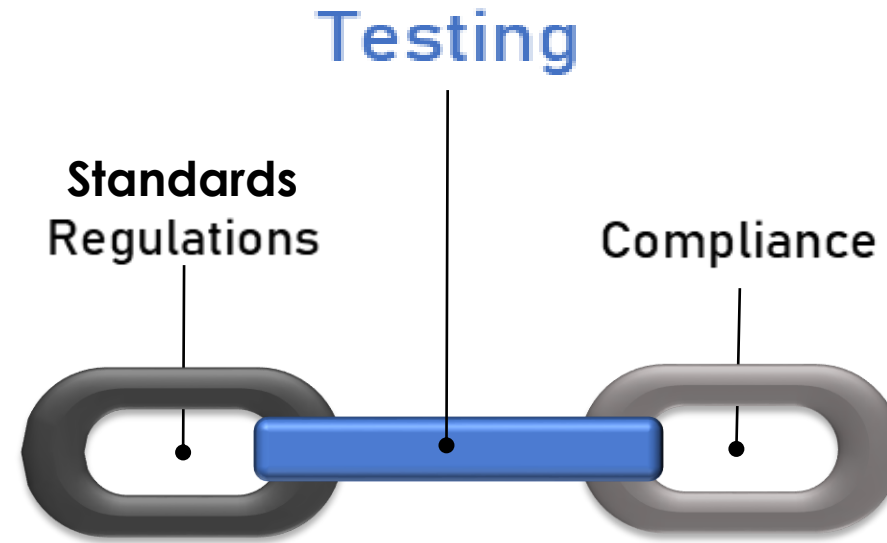


*Presented by: Owen P. Fraser, PhD,  
Past-President of the Africa Section of the AOAC INTERNATIONAL*

## Agenda

- Importance of testing & quality of testing
- Building capacity in food testing laboratories
- State of laboratory Infrastructure, standards & performance
- Improving laboratory capacity & sustaining performance
- Laboratory capacity & capability building activities

The importance of testing, the quality of testing



- Testing provide the link between Standards /Regulations and Compliance
- Testing is the only way to demonstrate compliance
- Testing method performance capability must inform Standards /Regulations

## The importance of testing, the quality of testing



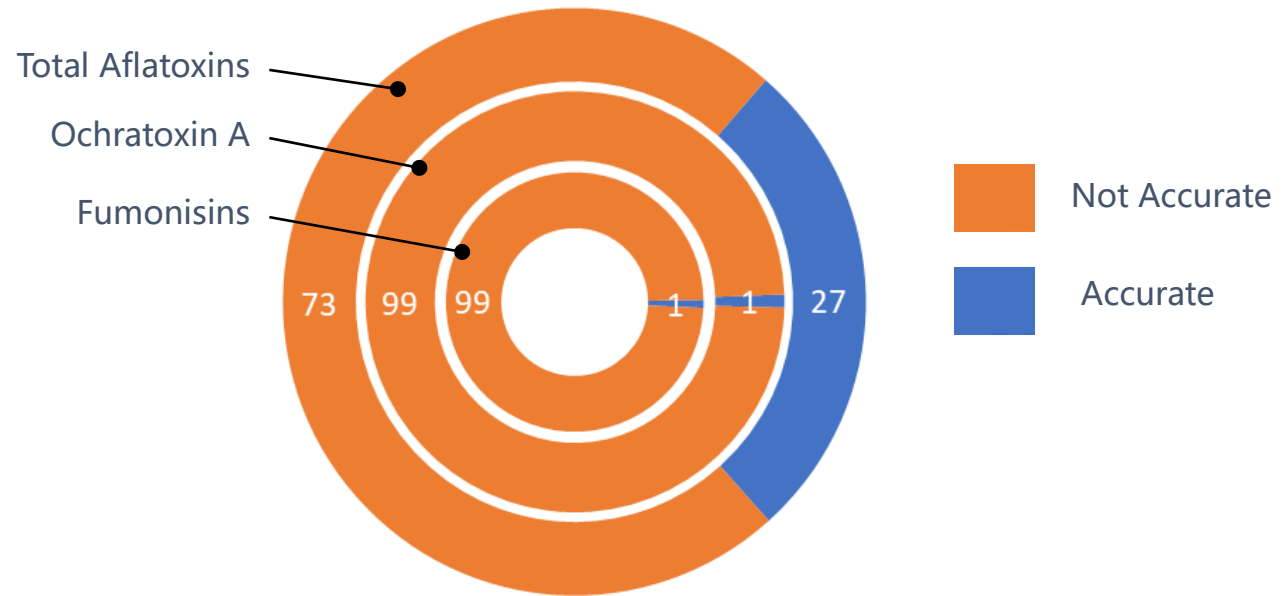
Accurate & reliable analytical results



Sustained testing standards & performance

- A measure of how reliable the analytical results produced by a laboratory at any given time
- Provides a measure of accuracy, precision, LOD, etc., of the analytical methods
- Considers QMS, Safety & GLP

## Status of Laboratory Standards & Performance in Africa



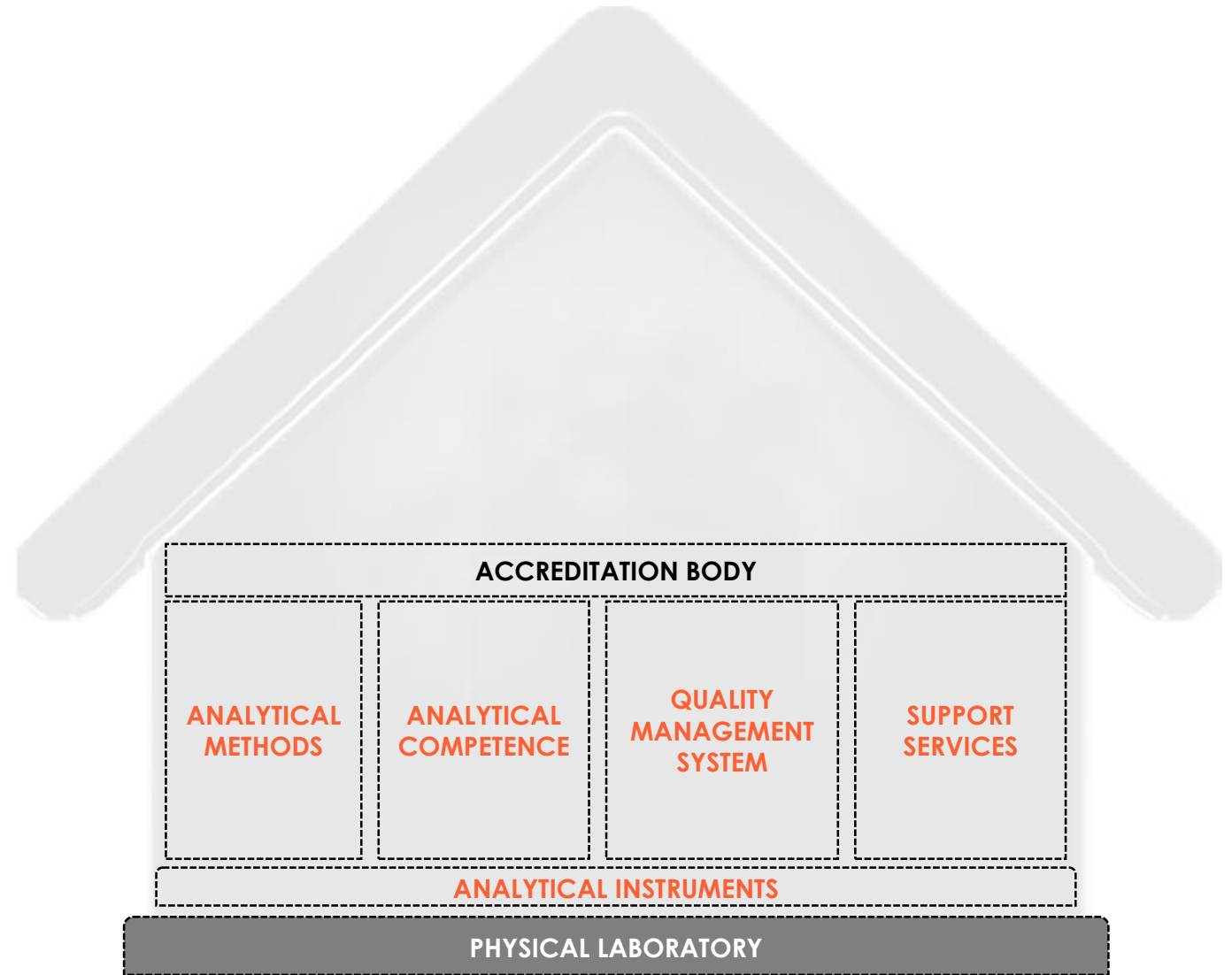
- AOAC Africa Laboratory Performance Benchmarking Program assessed the performance of **37 Testing Laboratories** from **8 countries**
- **More than 70 %** of the test results submitted for regulated chemical compounds in maize, e.g., mycotoxins, were **not accurate**

## State of Laboratory Infrastructure

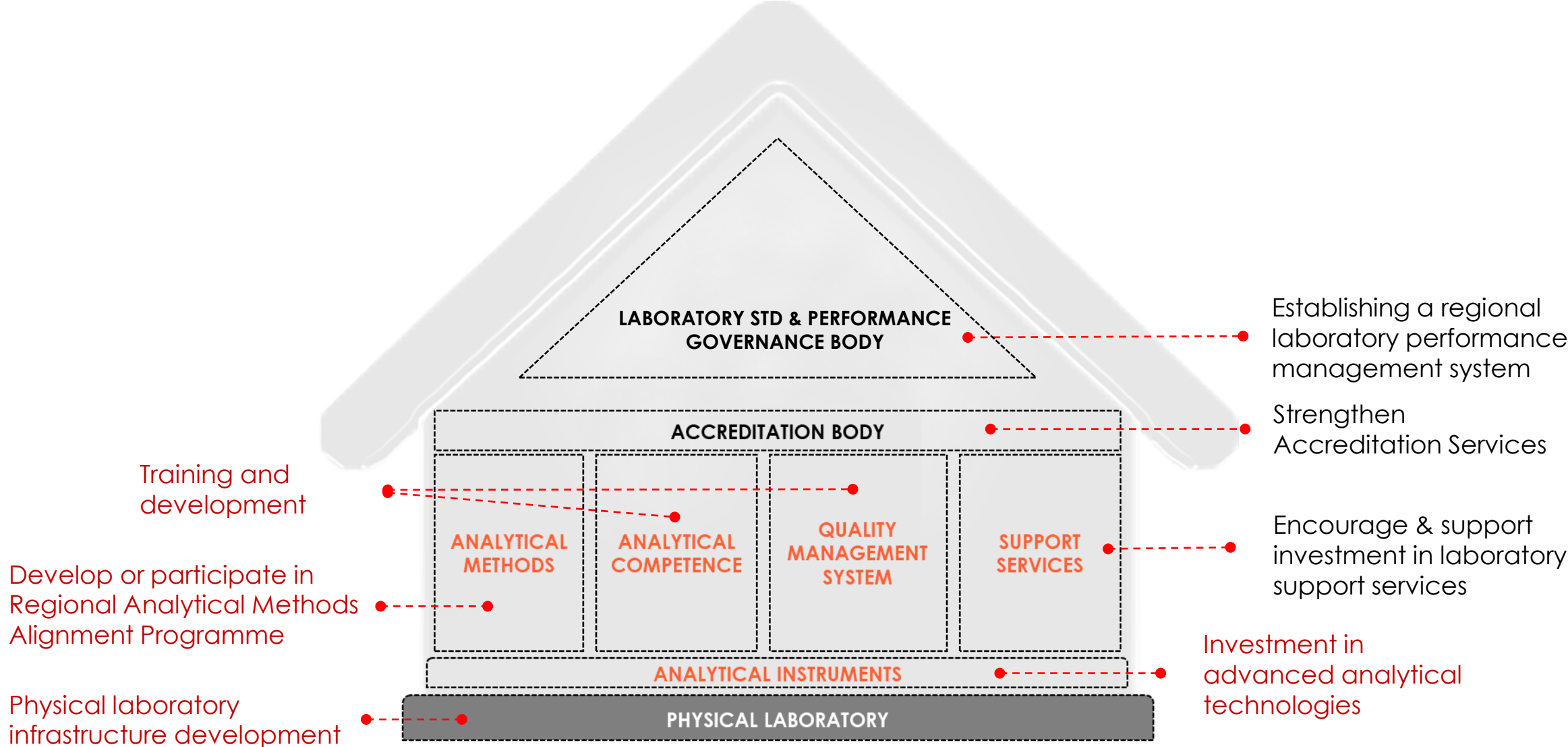


# Building capacity in food testing laboratories

*Essential components to  
consider!*



# Improving laboratory capacity & sustaining performance





## Building confidence and achieving analytical methods alignment & harmonisation

- Strengthen the basics
- Collaborations
- Networking
- Encourage scientific evidence-based consensus on fit-for-purpose analytical methods
- Do not reinvent the wheel ..... stick to the best practices & promote the use of International Official Methods

## Some Laboratory Capacity & Capability Building Activities



- Laboratory Performance Benchmarking Program
- Analytical Method Alignment Platform



- ARSO-AOAC collaboration



- FAO Africa laboratory capacity building program in collaboration with AOAC Africa Section



- Laboratory capacity building program

Thank  
you