



Organisation mondiale  
de la santé animale  
Fondée en 1924



## Formation des points focaux nationaux pour la santé des animaux aquatiques (Cycle IV)

8 - 10 juillet 2024 Tunis, Tunisie





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# THE WOAAH Twinning Program

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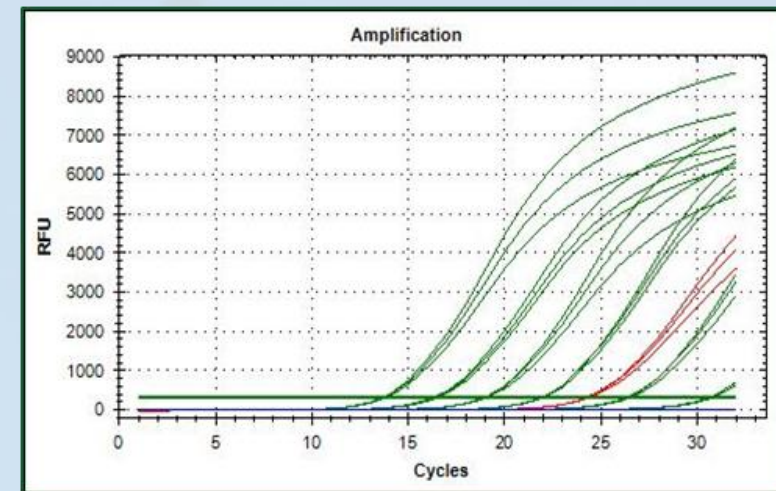
## Animal Health Labs safeguard animal and public health through their role in:

1. The detection of new infectious agents and in supporting surveillance
2. Recording and reporting the occurrence of new and known diseases in their geographic area
3. Food Safety
4. Production of medicinal products, vaccines, and diagnostic tools.



## Valid laboratory results are achieved through:

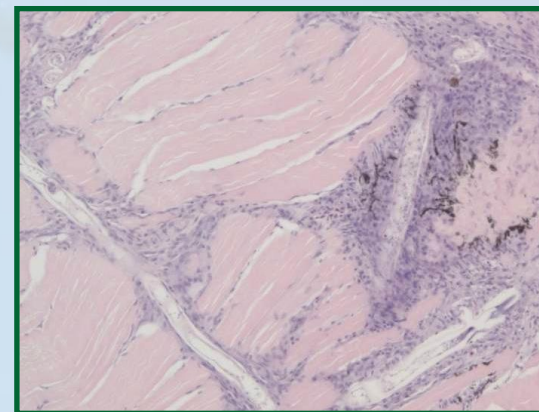
1. Good management practices
2. Valid test and calibration methods
3. Proper techniques
4. Quality control and quality assurance
5. All working together within a quality management system.



## WOAH Reference Centres and collaborating centres are laboratories and other types of scientific institutes which:

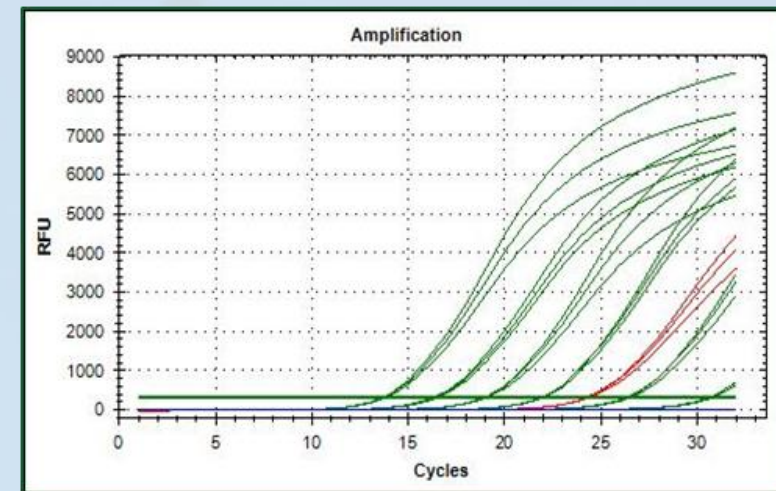
1. have the capacity to uphold the standards of the WOAH Terrestrial and Aquatic Manual of Diagnostic Tests.
2. contribute scientific progress in their fields through active research and development.

These institutes are expected to support animal health systems globally through testing of samples, to provide training and advice to other Member Countries, and to collaborate with dedicated scientific networks.

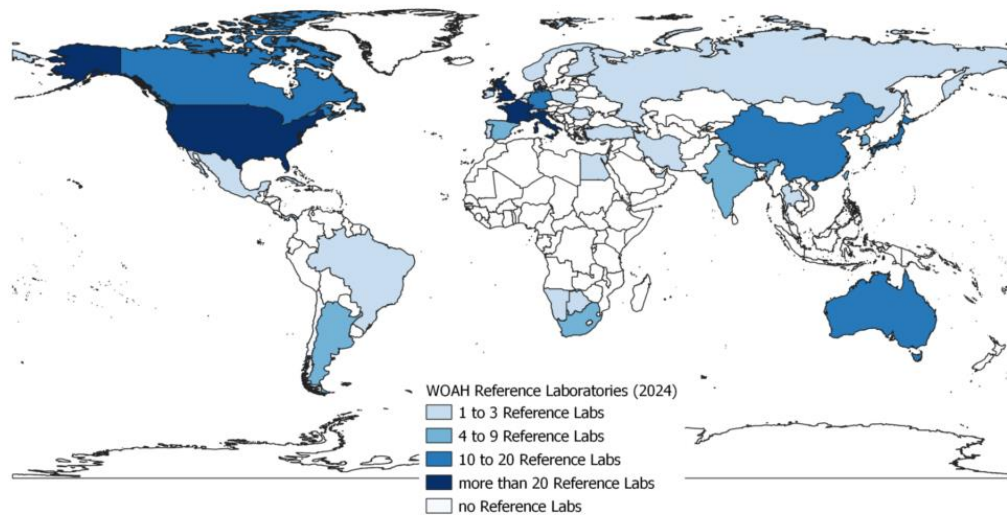


## Veterinary laboratories across the world face the following challenges in meeting these critical requirements.

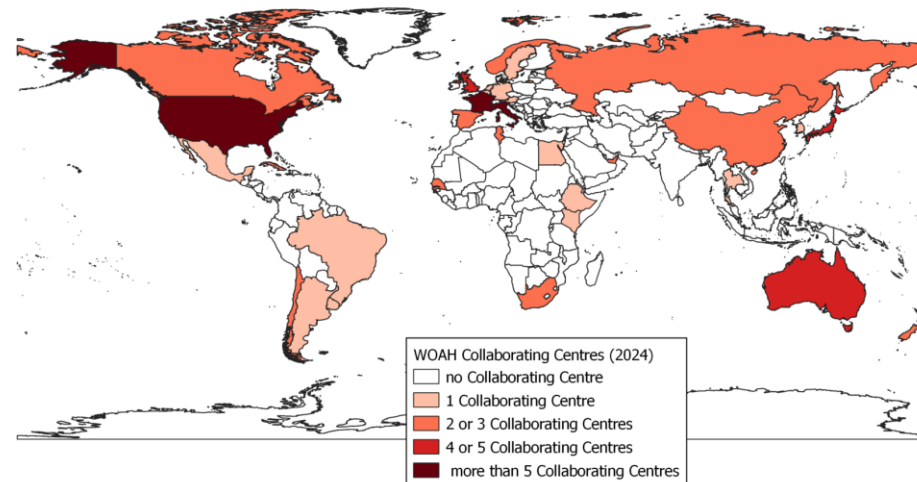
1. Poorly adapted infrastructure
2. Inappropriate allocation of funds
3. Lack of trained staff
4. Insufficient sample flow
5. Systemic management deficiencies



**World Distribution of WOA Reference Laboratories**



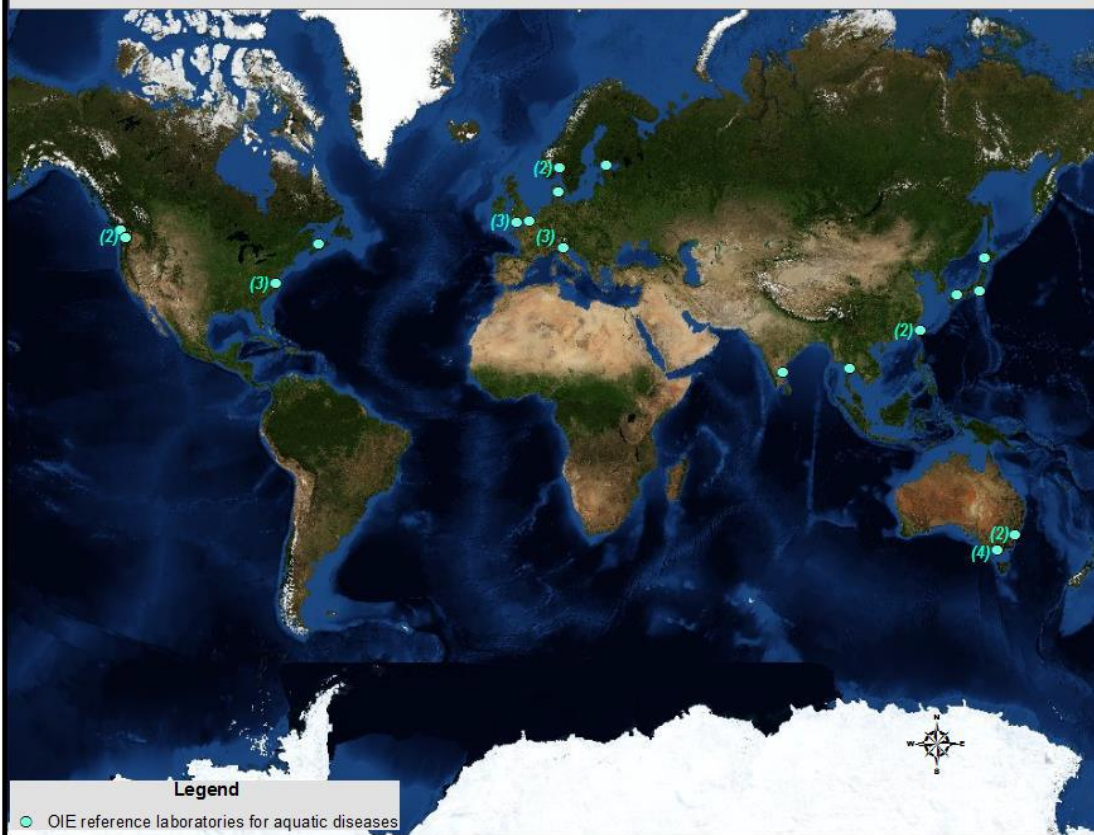
**World distribution of WOA Collaborating Centres**



The global distribution of veterinary reference laboratories and collaboration centres is uneven.

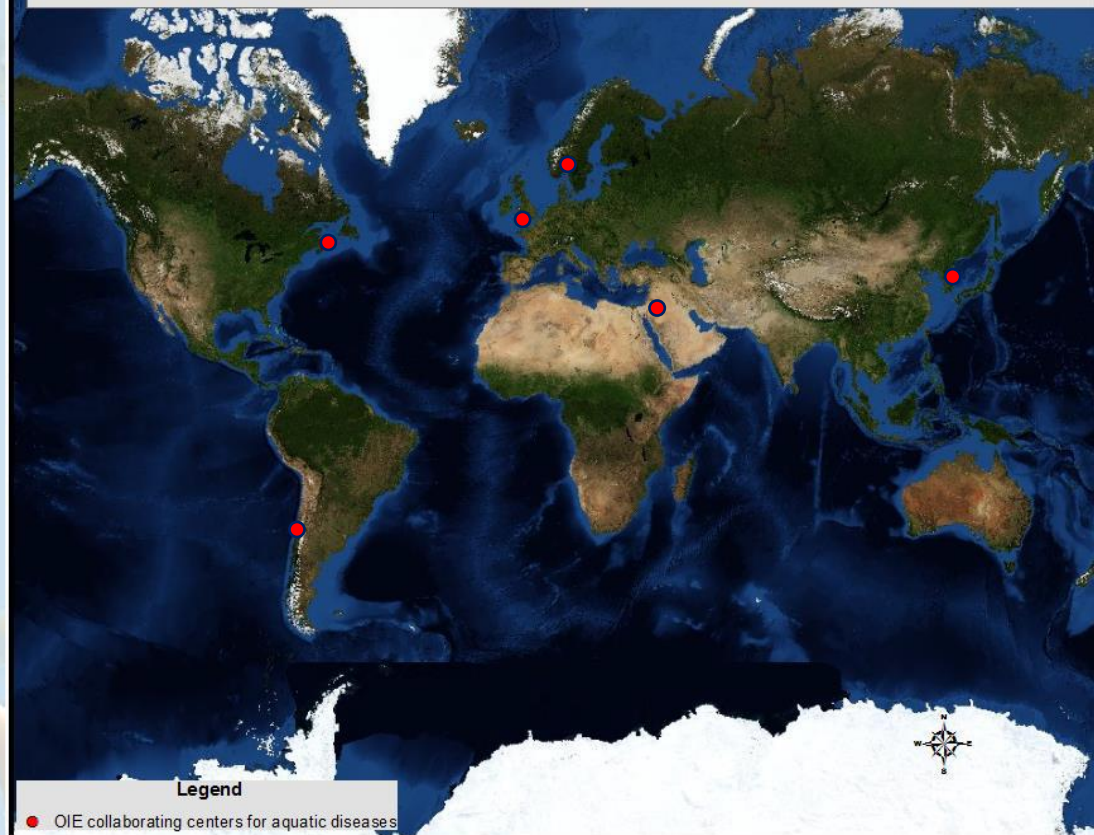
WOAH offers solutions to its Members through the PVS Pathway, namely, the **Sustainable Laboratories missions** and the **Laboratory Twinning Programme**.

### OIE REFERENCE LABORATORIES FOR AQUATIC DISEASES



~30 Reference Laboratories **(0 in Africa)**

### OIE COLLABORATING CENTERS FOR AQUATIC DISEASES



6 Collaborating Centres **(0 in Africa)**

Images taken from: <https://rr-Africa.woah.org/en/trainings/Kigali-hosts-the-fourth-cycle-training-of-aquatic-animal-health-focal-points-in-Africa/>

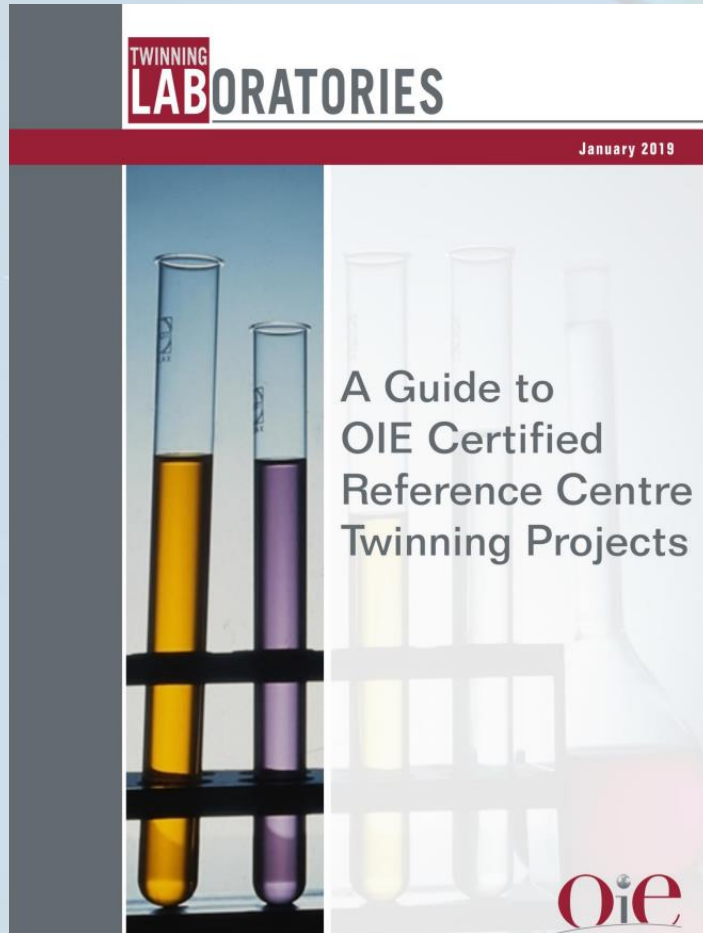
27. BRUN - Twinning  
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## Sharing expertise through Laboratory twinning

Through laboratory twinning, WOAAH aims to:

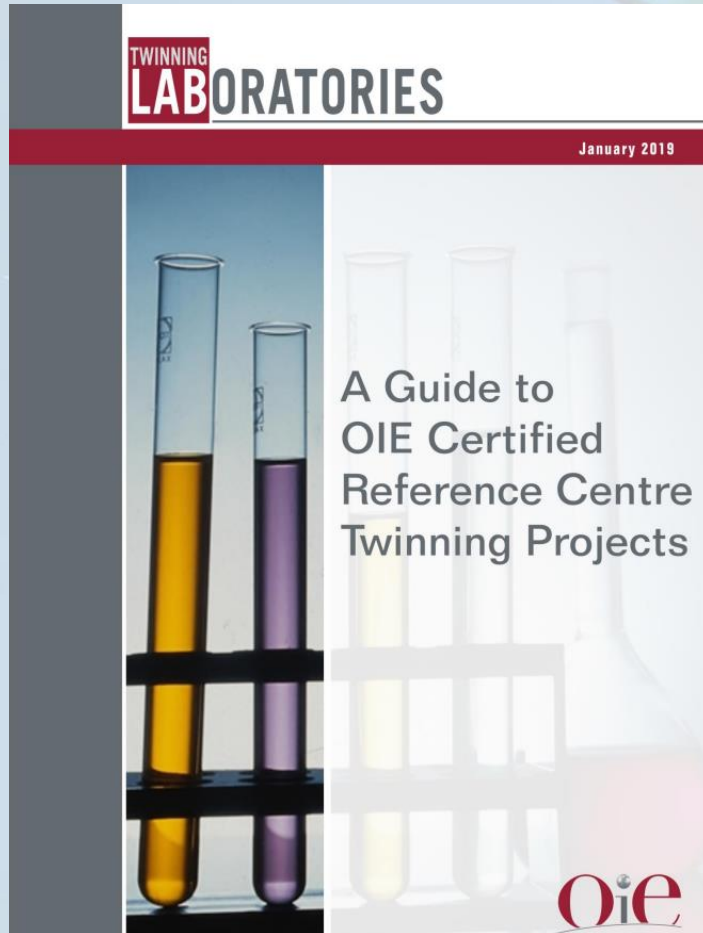
1. Foster a more balanced geographical distribution of advanced expertise
2. Enhance access high-quality diagnostic testing and technical knowledge regionally



<https://www.woah.org/app/uploads/2021/12/a-guide-2019.pdf>

## Sharing expertise through Laboratory twinning

1. Linking existing **WOAH Reference Laboratory or Collaborating Centre** with a **Candidate institute**.
2. Knowledge and skills are shared over a defined project period through:
  - a) staff exchanges
  - b) training of key personnel
  - c) quality assurance
  - d) biosafety reviews
  - e) proficiency testing.



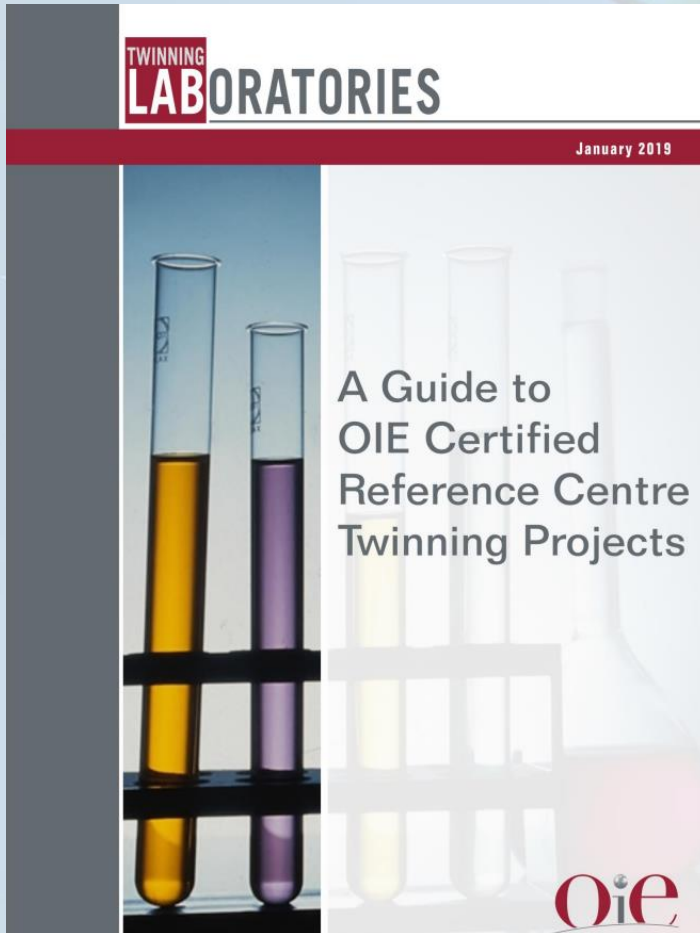
<https://www.woah.org/app/uploads/2021/12/a-guide-2019.pdf>

## Sharing expertise through Laboratory twinning

WOAH **Laboratory Twinning Projects** provide mutual **benefits** for both institutions, including:

1. The creation of joint research opportunities
2. The establishment of research networks, and sustainable capacity building.

The aim is to support the application of the Candidate institute to become a WOAH Reference Centre, with benefits at country and regional level.

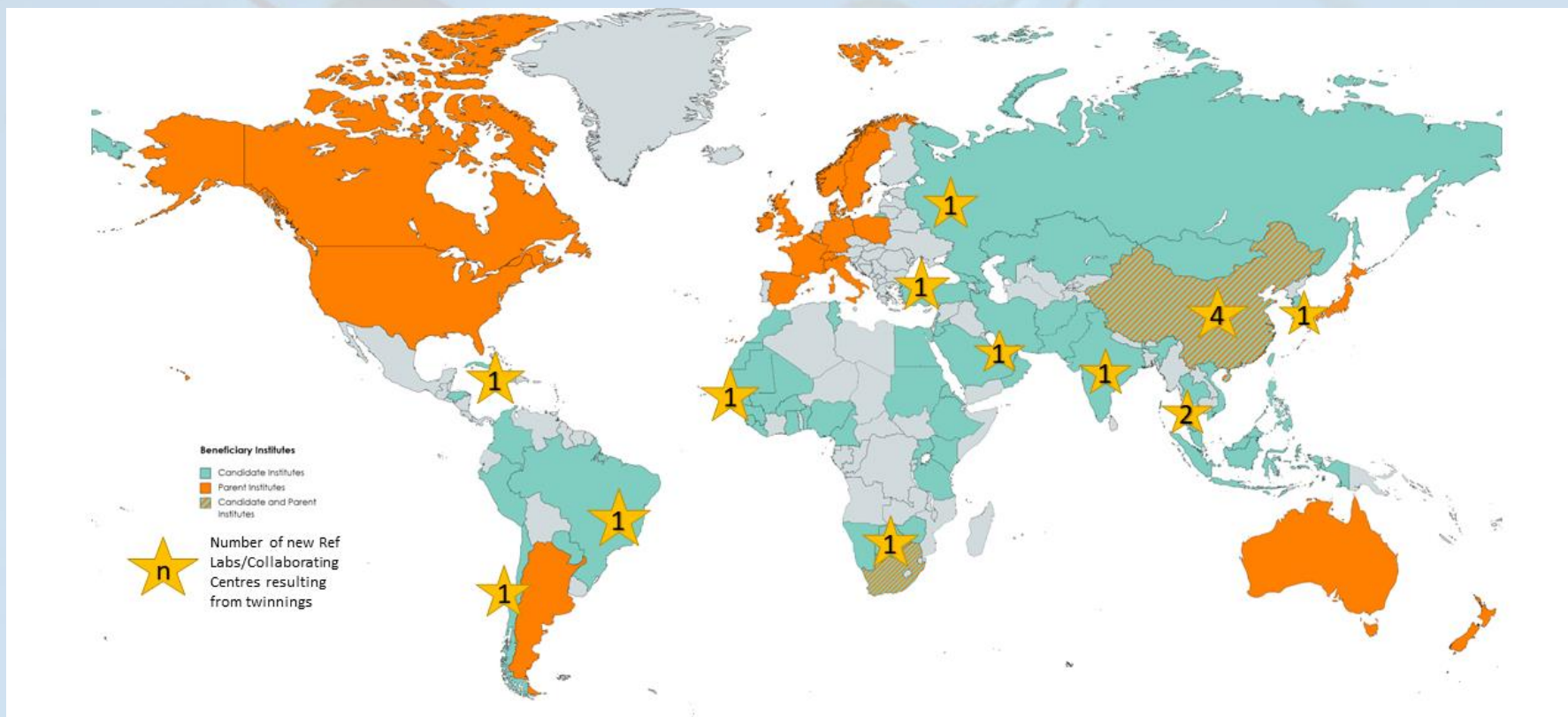


<https://www.woah.org/app/uploads/2021/12/a-guide-2019.pdf>



## Global distribution of WOAHLaboratory Twinning projects implemented in the period 2006–2022.

Marrana *et al* (2022) Reporting on 16 years of laboratory capacity building while exploring the future of WOAHLaboratory Twinning Programme. *Front. Vet. Sci.* 9:1058335.



92 projects completed – 8 (~10 %) Aquatic – 0 Aquatic projects in Africa

12 Ongoing projects – 0 Aquatic - 0 Aquatic projects in Africa

5 Approved projects and On - Hold 0 Aquatic - 0 Aquatic projects in Africa

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-offer/improving-veterinary-services/pvs-pathway/sustainable-laboratories-support/>

## Launch of the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory Network for Africa (RAAHLN-AF)



## ***Launch of the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory Network for Africa (RAAHLN-AF)***

Promoting collaborative partnerships and networking between:

1. National, regional and international aquatic animal health laboratories
2. Public and private-sector fisheries
3. Aquaculture institutions

Improving access to quality aquatic animal health laboratory services and information in Africa

Establishing a continental Aquatic Animal Health laboratory information system and capacity building (training) programmes.



Merci / Thank You