

## Group B: Planning National Biosafety Scale-Up

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- In a fiscally challenged setting, what priorities should be considered when scaling up biosafety programming?
  - Creation of Laboratory Department -- funded by Ministry
  - National level position: Chief Biosafety Officer – ideally salaried position by govt
    - Position recognition - sets policies
    - TWG member
  - System approach: equality across tiers, e.g. supply chain
  - Engaging private sector and harmonizing activities regionally and internationally
  
- Should a national biosafety scale-up focus initially on one laboratory tier level (refer to Maputo document), or should the national scale-up occur across all laboratory tiers?
  - Tiered approach but risk based (potential pathogen exposure)
  - Situational: top-down or bottom-up
  
- What existing local solutions can be adapted to address local biosafety challenges? For example, can we incorporate existing African resources to address African challenges—which might be more effective in sustaining biosafety standards?
  - National policy with operational plan
  - creation of bs/s office with enforcement capacity
  - TWG; M&E responsibilities
  - TOT model - Uganda example
  - protocol development by NRL for lower levels
  - phased approach to achieve each biosafety standard for the tiered level
  - local organization strengthening (lab associations)
  - political buy-in from higher level
  - engaging private sector
  - risk assessment
  
- Are there specific and proven strategies from other programs that could be incorporated into national planning?
  - Polio, Better labs for better health (WHO Euro), QMS (SLMTA-like approach)
  - Networking: national, regional, and international
  - System coordination – other professional bodies

- Community engagement