

# Producing transparent results through appropriate QA/QC, data organization and storage

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Learn to apply quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) measures, as well as data organization and storage to produce more transparent results along the entire faecal sludge sampling chain.



#### Three main points

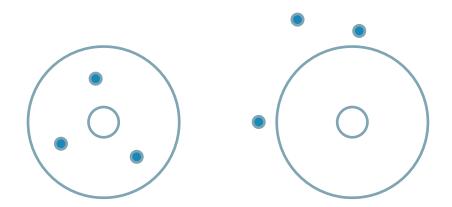
- 1. What is QA/QC and why is it important?
- 2. Examples of good and bad QA/QC?
- 3. How to implement QA/QC in the field and laboratories?



#### Terminology

Is your sampling and analysis precise and/or accurate?

	Crucible empty (g)	Crucible + wet sample (g)	Crucible + dry sample (g)	Total solids (wt%)
1	28.2720	52.9536	29.4978	5.0
2	24.0954	37.9876	25.3079	8.7
3	22.3725	41.9527	23.6988	6.8
				6.8 ± 1.9



QA/QC measures are those activities you undertake to demonstrate the **accuracy** and **precision** of your monitoring.



#### Quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC)

Quality assurance

- Broad plan for maintaining quality in all aspects of your program.
  - ✓ Study design.
  - ✓ Documentation of entire sampling and analysis procedures.
  - ✓ Personal responsibilities.
  - ✓ Training of staff.
  - ✓ Data management.
  - ✓ Chain of custody.
  - ✓ Data assessment.
  - ✓ Standard operating procedures (SOPs).
  - ✓ Quality control (QC) measures.



### Quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC)

Quality control (QC) - internal

Quality assessment of the specific precision and accuracy of your data.

QC tool	Description	Main purpose
Field blanks	A sample of deionized water which is treated as a sample.	Identify errors or cross-contamination during sample collection and analysis.
Field replicates	An additional sample which is taken at the same time and place.	Estimate sampling precision.
Lab replicates	A sample that is split in subsamples at the lab for separate analysis.	Estimate sampling precision.
Calibration blank	A calibration blank is deionized water processed like any of the samples and used to "zero" the instrument.	Identify drifts of the analysis device.
Calibrations standard	Standard concentration to set the correct relationship between indicator and measurement results.	Ensure analysis accuracy.



## Quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC)

Quality control (QC) - external

Quality assessment of the specific precision and accuracy of your data.

QC tool	Description	Main purpose
External field replicate	A sample which is collected by an external lab at the same time and place as the internal lab and analyzed by the external lab.	Estimate sampling and analysis precision.
Split sample	A sample that is split into two subsamples in the lab and analyzed in an internal and external lab.	Estimate analysis precision and accuracy.
Knowns/ Unknowns	The external lab sends samples for selected parameters with concentrations known/unknown by the internal lab. These samples are analyzed and the results compared with the known concentrations.	Estimate analysis precision and accuracy.
External analysis of duplicate sample	Either internal or external field replicate is anaylsed in an external lab and compared with the results of the internal lab.	Estimate analysis precision and accuracy.



#### **QA/QC** Practical experiences from Dakar and Kampala





## **Practical experiences from Dakar and Kampala**

Preparations



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No. Equipment	Description	Number/Quantity	E	۲	6	н		,	ĸ	L
1 PH & EC Meter	Meter unit with a PH and EC probe	1								
2 Unused pipettes	1 - 5ml	1								
2 Charles pipelies	0.2 - 1ml	1								
3 Used pipettes	1 - 5ml	1								
o osco pipettes	0.2 - 1ml	1								
4 Unused reaction tubes	Complete with red covers	4								
5 Used reaction tubes	Complete with red covers	21								
6 Safety goggles		2								
7 Microfiber filters	Unused packs	2								
	Half-used packs	1								
8 Timer (clock)	Digital	1								
9 Pipette tips	BBP 068 - unused boxes	6								
	BBP 070 - unused boxes	3								
	Used BBP 058 and BBP 070	Hundreds								
10 Plastic filter holders	Unused	1								
	Used	1								
Plastic syringe	20ml capacity	1								
11 Thermostat	LT 100 in great working condition with cables and attached plugs	2								
12 Spectrophotometer	In great working condition	1								
13 Crucibles	25ml capacity	32								
14 Cooler box	Red - 10 litre capacity	1								
15 Ice cooler packs	Blue	4								
16 Sampling bottles	White with green lids - approx 0.6litres capacity each	12								
17 Wash bottle	Approx. 1 litre capacity	1								
18 Spray bottle	About 0.8 litre capacity	1								
19 Washing sponge	Unused	1								
20 Tiles	Green - approx 0.03sg. Metres each	2					1			
21 Lab coats	Used, white, large size	2								
22 Data Folders	All field and lab analysis results (Blue)	2								
	Lab analysis protocol from UKN (Black)	1								
	Equipment manuals (Green)	1								
23 Unused protocol sheets	Different parameters	Many								
	ement of lab sup									Þ





#### **Practical experiences from Dakar and Kampala** Sampling







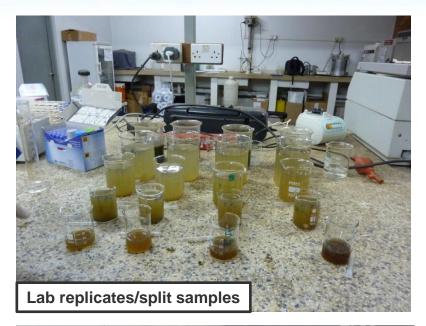


## **Practical experiences from Dakar and Kampala**

Laboratory analysis

equaric research 000 Sandee Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries	Public Health and Engineering (PH&E	ection	Page Nr.		
Protocol S	S	OP 013			
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Step	Date and Time	Name			ments
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		Label	uni	its in gram,	including all digits	an analytical sca	1e
	Nr.	Nr.	dry crucible	v	crucible + wet sample	crucible + dry sample	crucible + burned sample
9	1	1.1	28.2720	20ml	45.7653	29.4978	28.6760
1789	2	1.2	24.0954	ti	41.9755	25.3079	24 5085
L	3	1.3	22.3725	11	42.0472	23.6988	22.8202
6	4	2.1	24.4720	h	42.4060	24.6361	23.1636
1799	5	2.2	23.6033	)(			23.7146
L	6	2.3	23.7482	. u	41.6265	23.9167	23.8504
C	7	3.1	23.1763		42.6687	23.4537	23.3308
1802	8	3.2	22.0414	11	42.5542	22.3914	22.2532
L	9	3.3	22.3974	b	41.1072	22.6885	22.5553
	10	4.1				05 2421	
	11	4.2	- Carlos an			40 1000	
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#### **Practical experiences from Dakar and Kampala**

Data organization & assessment

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-	Sampling date	Analysis Date	Sample Number	Origin Category	Туре	NH4 Dilut	ion NH4-N1	NH4-N 2	NH4-N 3	NH4
	28.11.2013	29.11.2013	1	Instituational/Commercial/Industrial	Lined Pit	5	45,10	45,10	45,10	
	28.11.2013	29.11.2013	2	Instituational/Commercial/Industrial	Septic Tank	5	49,70	49,60	49,70	
	28.11.2013	29.11.2013	3	Public Toilet	Lined Pit	15	118,00	118,00	118,00	
	28.11.2013	29.11.2013	4	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	30	83,90	83,80	83,80	
	28.11.2013	29.11.2013	5	School	Septic Tank	5	31,50	30,50	30,40	
T	09.12.2013	10.12.2013	6	Household	Septic Tank	5	67,10	65,70	65,70	
	09.12.2013	10.12.2013	7	Instituational/Commercial/Industrial	Septic Tank	-	-	-	-	
)	09.12.2013	10.12.2013	8	School	Lined Pit	-	-	-	-	
	12.12.2013	13.12.2013	9	Multiple Household	Septic Tank	5	101,00	102,00	103,00	
2	12.12.2013	13.12.2013	10	Household	Lined Pit	20	95,20	95,40	95,50	
	12.12.2013	13.12.2013	11	Instituational/Commercial/Industrial	Septic Tank	1	77,60	77,60	77,60	
	16.12.2013	17.12.2013	12	Household	Septic Tank	1	87,20	87,20	87,20	
;	16.12.2013	17.12.2013	13	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	20	75,50	76,10	76,10	
;	16.12.2013	17.12.2013	14	Multiple Household	Septic Tank	10	101,00	101,00	101,00	
7	16.12.2013	17.12.2013	15	Multiple Household	Septic Tank	1	50,40	50,40	50,40	
3	18.12.2013	19.12.2013	16	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	5	83.4	83,00	83,20	
)	18.12.2013	19.12.2013	17	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	24	94,00	94,10	94,10	
)	18.12.2013	19.12.2013	18	Instituational/Commercial/Industrial	Septic Tank	10	31,60	31,50	31,60	
L	02.01.2014	03.01.2014	19	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	20	86,60	86,60	86,50	
2	02.01.2014	03.01.2014	20	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	10	66,10	66,00	66,20	
3	02.01.2014	03.01.2014	21	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	20	108,00	106,00	106,00	
L	02.01.2014	03.01.2014	22	Household	Lined Pit	10	111,00	111,00	111,00	
5	06.01.2014	07.01.2014	23	Restaurant/Hotel	Septic tank, Lined	3	74,60	74,50	74,50	
5	06.01.2014	07.01.2014	24	Public Toilet	Septic Tank	10	47,20	47,00	47,10	
7	06.01.2014	07.01.2014	25	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	10	70,40	70,40	70,50	
	06.01.2014	07.01.2014	26	Multiple Household	Septic Tank	5	65,20	65,20	65,20	
)	06.01.2014	07.01.2014	27	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	10	97,80	97,80	97,80	
)	08.01.2014	-	28	Public Toilet	Septic Tank	-	-	-	-	
	08.01.2014	09.01.2014	29	Multiple Household	Septic Tank	1	100,00	100,00	99,50	
!	08.01.2014	09.01.2014	30	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	20	80,80	80,80	80,90	
	13.01.2014	14.01.2014	31	School	Septic Tank	2	90,80	90,70	90,80	
	13.01.2014	14.01.2014	32	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	20	93,30	93,20	93,20	
	13.01.2014	14.01.2014	33	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	20	106,00	106,00	106,00	
5	13.01.2014	14.01.2014	34	Multiple Household	Septic Tank	10	68,30	68,10	68,20	
7	13.01.2014	14.01.2014	35	Multiple Household	Lined Pit	1	111,00	111,00	111,00	
3	13.01.2014	14.01.2014	36	Household	Septic Tank	10	27,00	27,10	27,00	

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#### **Take-home messages**

- QA/QC is a indispensable to receive precise, accurate and comparable faecal sludge quantities and characteristics for design and operation of faecal sludge management services.
- 2. Availability of local resources need to be incorporated into the development of a quantification and characterization study.
- 3. QA/QC costs time and money which needs to be included from the start in timelines and budgets.



#### QA/QC for FS?





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