

NQA WEBINAR

UKAS underpins the UK quality infrastructure to
create confidence in the products and services
we all rely upon

Monday 15th March 2021



CONFIDENCE IN EVERYDAY LIFE



OUR PURPOSE: CREATING TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

Our Purpose:

- + UKAS delivers the UK's National Accreditation Service.
- + We underpin the UK and global quality infrastructure with our independence and expertise,
- + creating trust and confidence in the products and services we all rely upon.



ABOUT UKAS:

- + Founded in 1966, consolidated as UKAS in 1995
- + Not for Profit and non-profit distributing organisation
- + Appointed as sole UK National Accreditation Body
- + Regulation on Accreditation and Market Surveillance No 765/2008
- + Incorp in GB law by the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and deficiencies were corrected by the Product Safety and Metrology Amendment etc. (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 UK Statutory Instruments 2019 No. 696
- + Northern Ireland, Regulation (EC) No. 765/2008 of the European Parliament
- + 265 full time staff
- + 190 permanent Assessment Managers
- + 700 External Technical Assessors
- + Accreditations: 3,221
- + 33,000 assessment days



ABOUT UKAS: GOVERNANCE AND REPRESENTATION

GOVERNMENT



CUSTOMERS



BUSINESS



PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER INTERESTS



Consultation and guidance via:

Technical and Market:

- + Technical Advisory Committees
- + External Industry Groups
- + Appointed Technical Focal Points
- + Development Pilots

Strategic/Policy:

- + Policy Advisory Forum (60 members)
- + Policy Advisory Council (Linked to Board)
- + Healthcare Steering Group
- + IR4.0 Steering Group

WHAT IS ACCREDITATION?

Accreditation is the ongoing **formal recognition of the competence, impartiality and integrity of a conformity assessment body** to perform specific conformity assessment tasks:

Conformity assessment covers:

- + **Testing** - e.g. Covid-19 antigen tests
- + **Inspection** - e.g. Passenger lifts
- + **Certification** - e.g. ISO 9001 Quality Management
- + **Verification and validation** - e.g. EU emissions trading scheme (greenhouse gas reports verification)

Conformity Assessment Body activities:

- + Laboratories - Testing and Medical examinations (ISO/IEC 17025, ISO 15189)
- + Laboratories - Calibration (ISO/IEC 17025)
- + Certification Bodies - Product certification (ISO/IEC 17065)
- + Certification Bodies - Certification of persons (ISO/IEC 17024)
- + Certification Bodies - Management systems certification (ISO/IEC 17021)
- + Inspection (ISO/IEC 17020)
- + Validation and Verification (ISO 14029)
- + Proficiency Testing Providers (ISO/IEC 17043)
- + Reference Material Producers (ISO 17034)
- + UK Designated/EU Harmonised standards – consensus driven

WHAT IS ACCREDITATION?



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Peer Evaluation
(by EA for IAF/ILAC)

UKAS
Accreditation

International &
Other Standards

Conformity Assessment:
Testing, Calibration, Inspection,
Certification, Verification and Validation

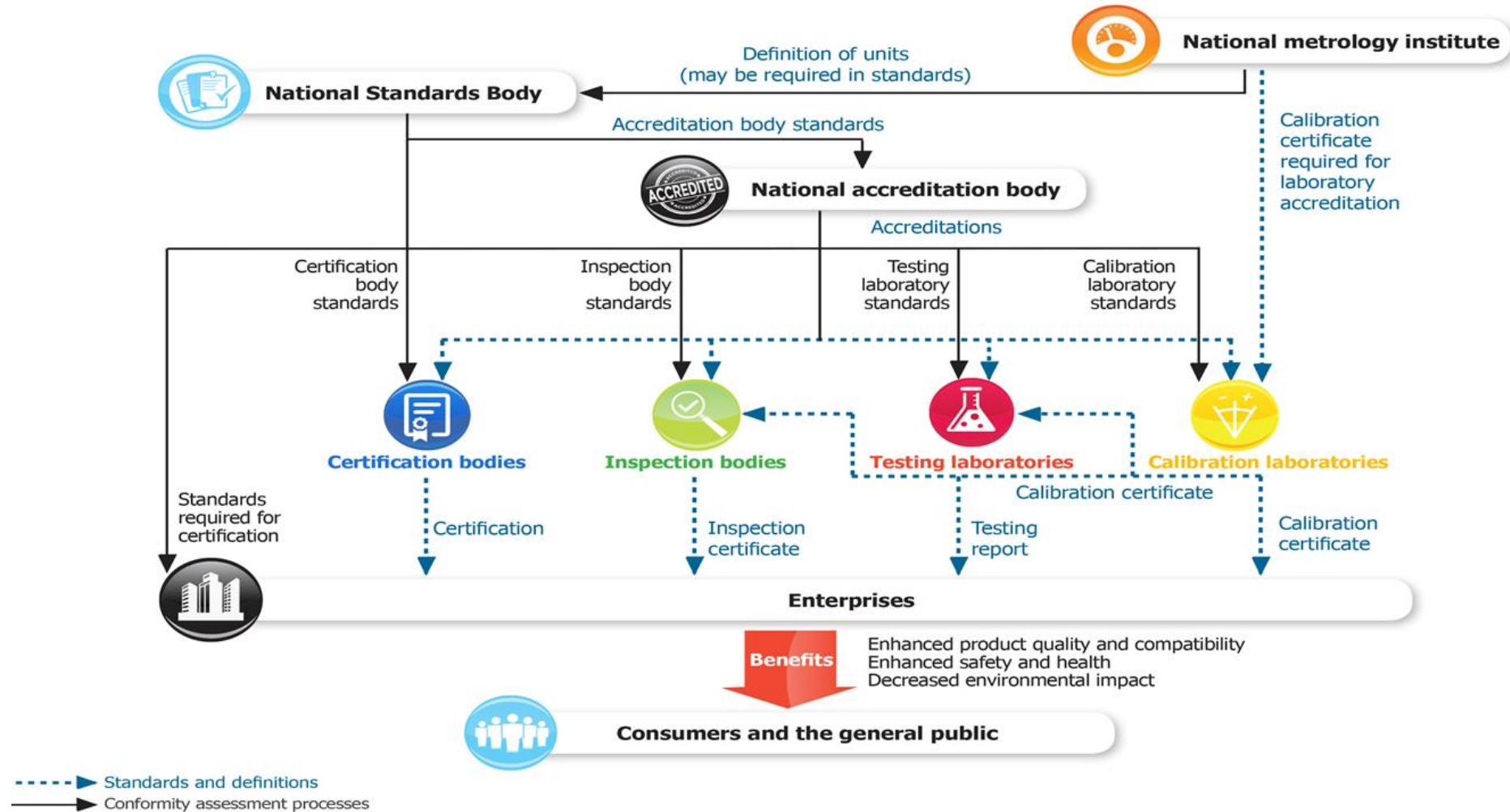
Standards, Regulatory
Requirements and Scheme Criteria

Product and Service Provides:
People, management systems,
equipment, organisations, products etc...

Assurance, Trust and Confidence
for Government, Industry and Society



ROLE OF ACCREDITATION: QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE





Role of Accreditation and Mutual Recognition

A world of confidence

GLOBALLY TRUSTED:



MUTUAL RECOGNITION: EQUIVALENCE

- + Accreditation is part an international network to ensure equivalence and acceptance of results. It aims to removal of technical barriers to trade
- + **tested, inspected or certified once accepted everywhere**
- + There is mutual recognition agreement (MRAs) at two levels:
- + **Technical recognition between accreditation bodies**. Purpose of these MLAs is to allow the accredited conformity assessment of signatories of the MLA to be recognised by other members of the MLA. Hence, the acceptance of products and services across national borders. This is based upon peer evaluation and continued surveillance to ISO17011. Signatories must be declared competent to ISO 17011. EA members must also be compliant with the principles of the EU Accreditation Regulation 765/2008.
- + **Bilateral agreements between states**. The objective is to promote trade in goods between nations by facilitating market access and aim to benefit industry by providing easier access to conformity assessment.
- + UKAS is the United Kingdom member of:



International Accreditation Forum



International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation



European Co-operation
for Accreditation

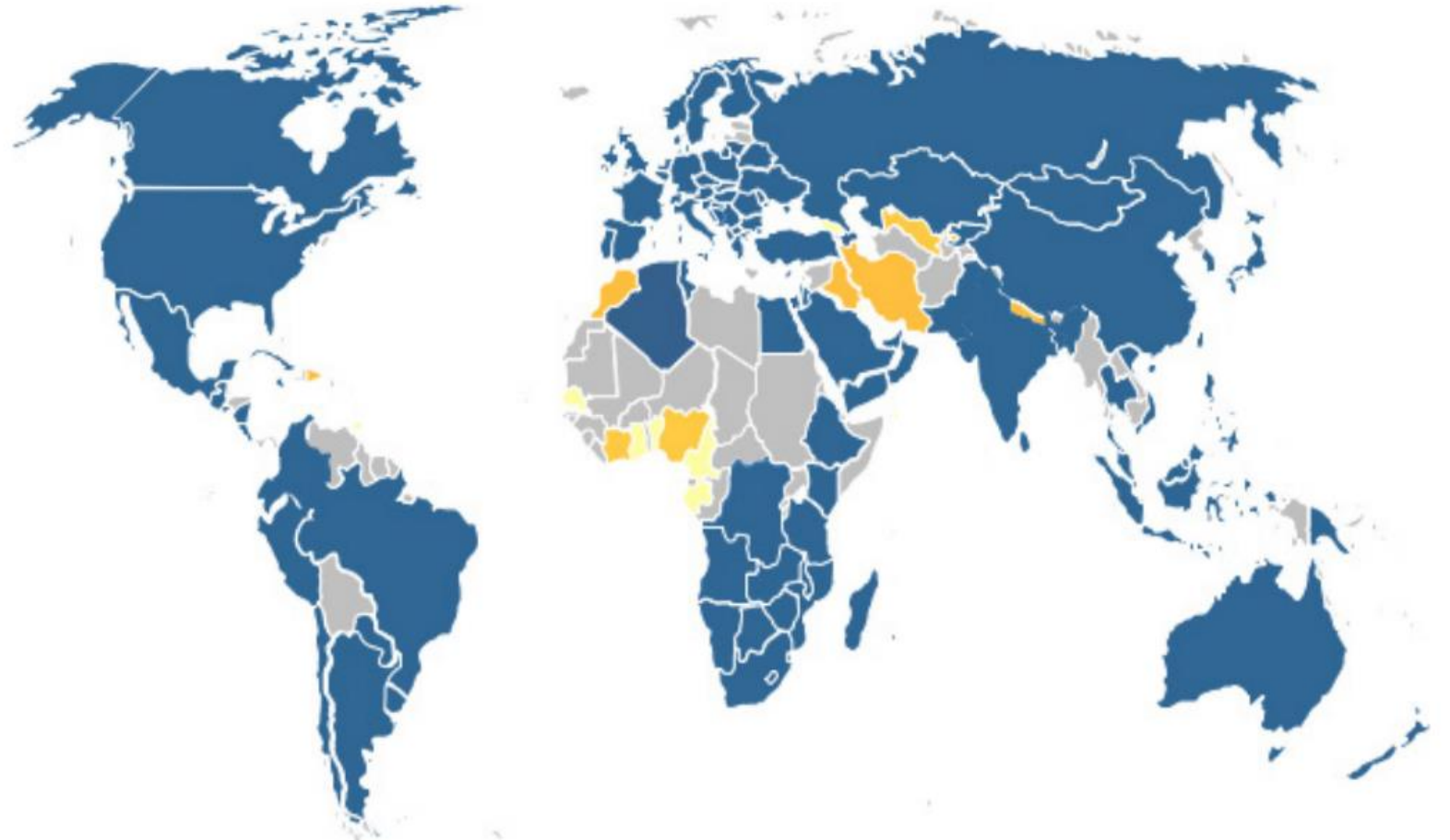
INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK:

COVERAGE OF THE ILAC MRA

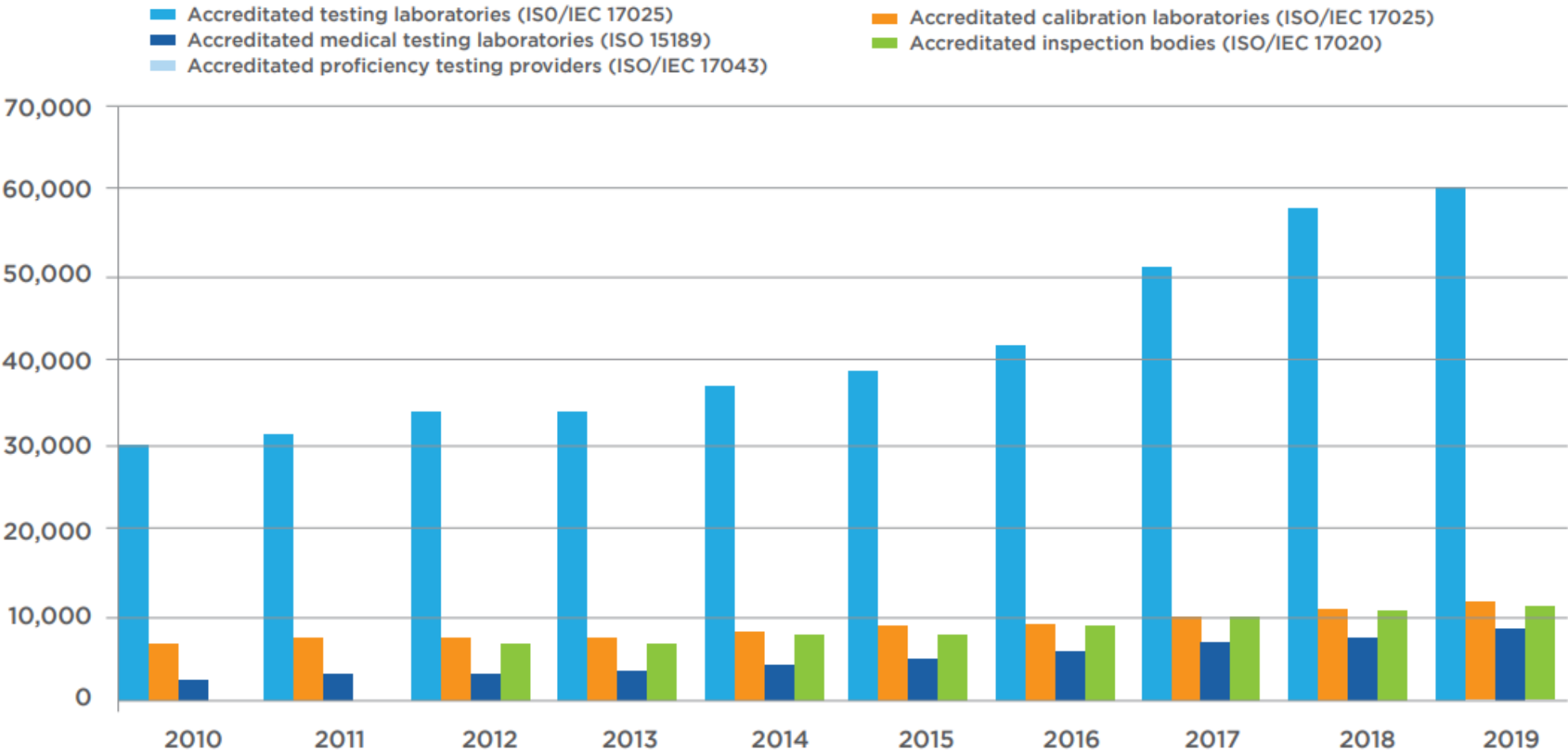
April 15th, 2020

- ILAC MRA Signatories
- ILAC Associate Members
- ILAC Affiliate Members

RESULTING IN A TOTAL
OF 102 SIGNATORIES
TO THE ILAC MRA FROM
104 ECONOMIES.

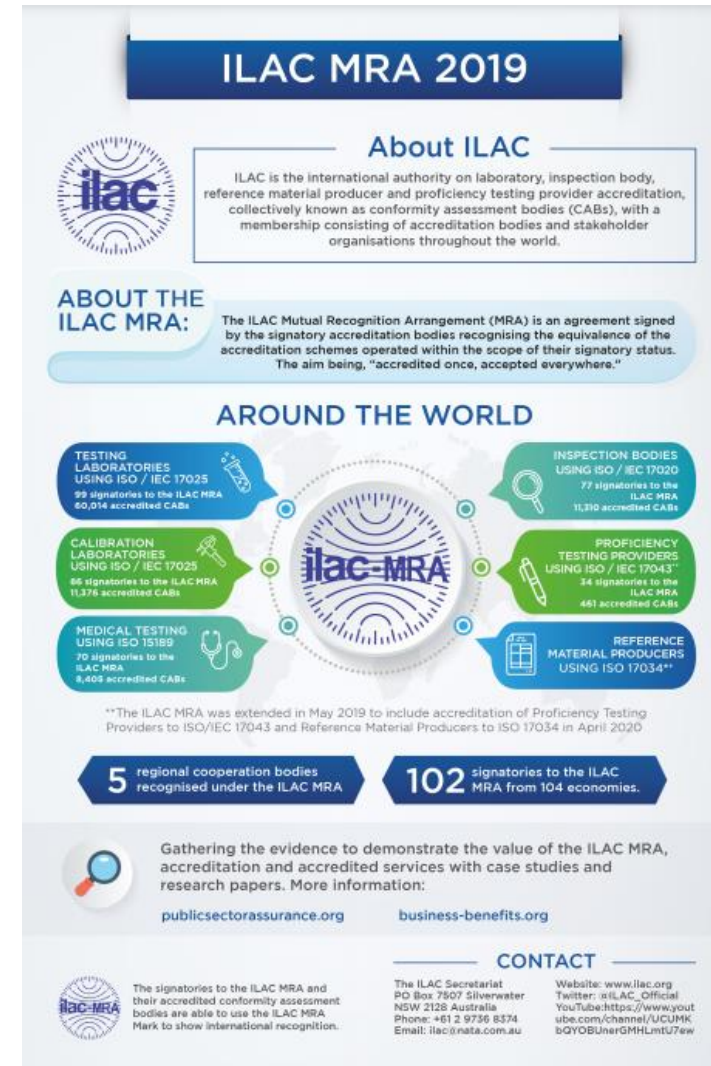
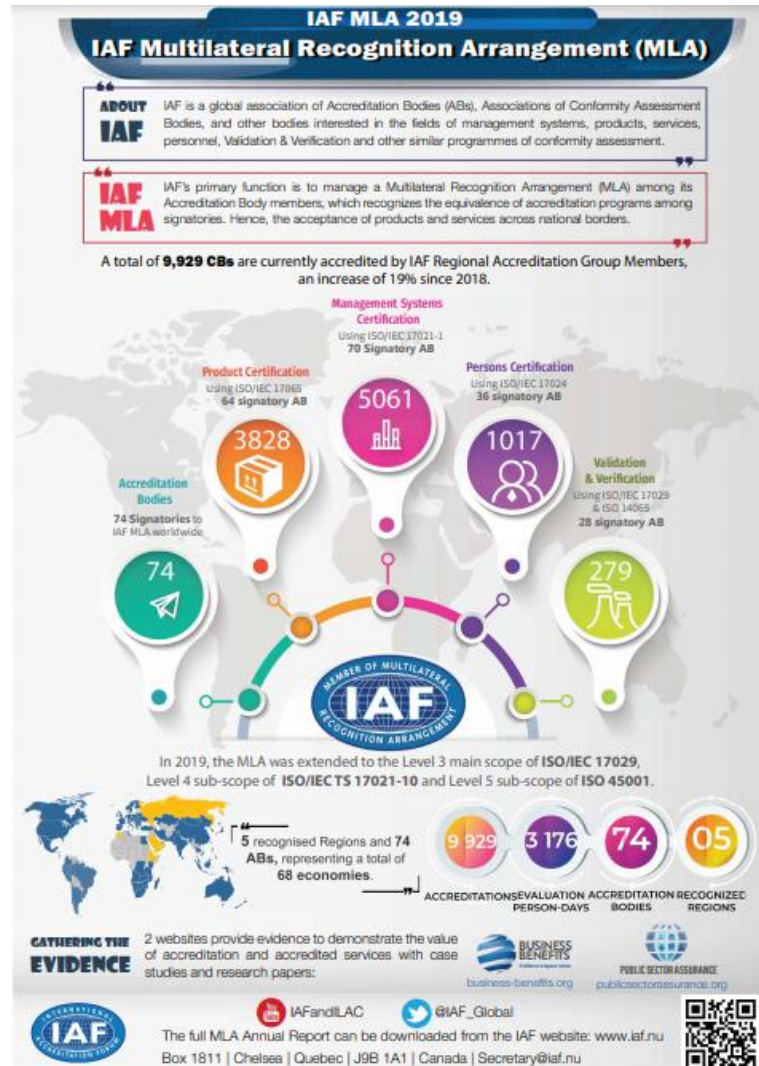


INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK:



As well as 8,374 Certification Bodies currently accredited,

MUTUAL RECOGNITION: FURTHER INFORMATION





Promoting Accreditation and Mutual
Recognition
UKAS Recognition – UK/EA/IAF/ILAC

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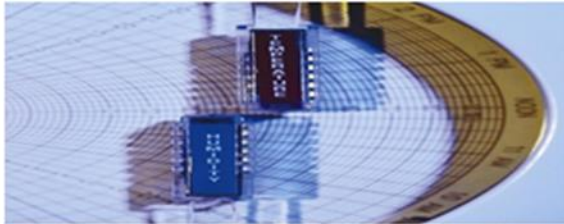
HMG/BEIS: CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT & ACCREDITATION POLICY

- + For Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) Accreditation is applicable to both the regulated and non-regulated sectors. Accreditation being at the topmost level of control for CABs an authoritative statement of the technical competence
- + Accreditation is a public authority activity and should operate in public interest
- + UKAS should be self-supporting but run as a not-for-profit activity.
- + Accreditation should operate with integrity; independence and impartial and free from commercial pressure.
- + Central to Government policy is the requirement that "where a UK CAB requests accreditation, it shall do so from UKAS as the sole NAB for the UK".
- + In addition, it recommends UK businesses, government and local authorities requiring third party conformity assessment services to source such services, where they exist, from conformity assessment bodies accredited by UKAS.
- + For conformity assessment bodies established outside of the UK, it recognises the equivalence of their accreditation where delivered by accreditation bodies that are members of the European or international multilateral agreements (i.e. those operated by the European cooperation for Accreditation (EA), International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF).



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

ROLE OF ACCREDITATION:



Quality Management



Farm/Environ.



Building Regulations



Forensics



Emissions Trading



Asbestos



Drinking Water



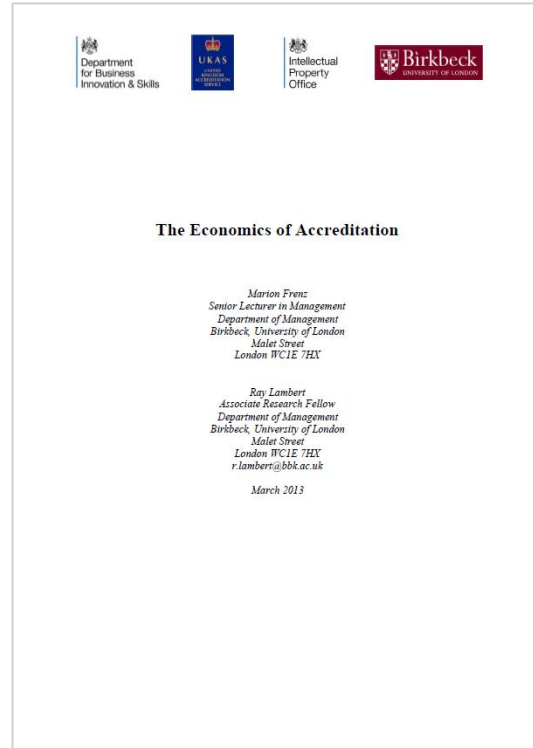
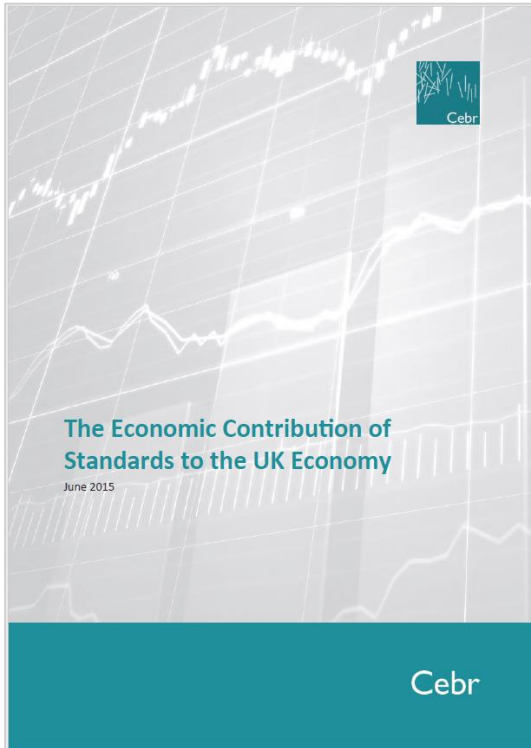
Food Safety



Health Care



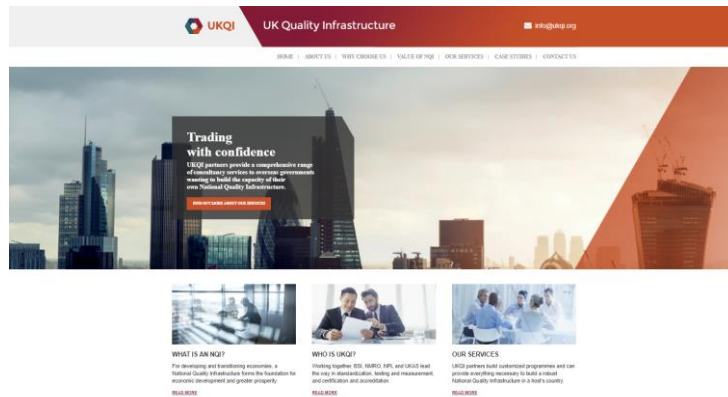
VALUE OF STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION: EVIDENCE



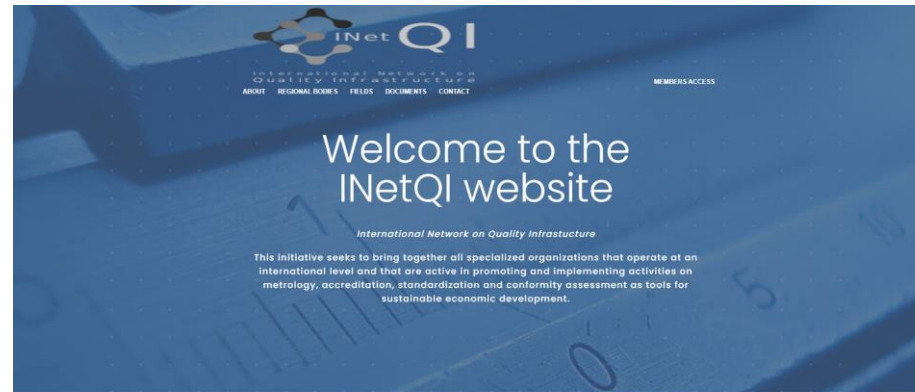
Based on price premia, an estimate of market sizes, and the shares of accredited in total services, the benefits of UKAS accreditation to conformity assessment bodies would amount to around £295m per annum. This broad estimate of downstream commercial benefit amounts to approximately £320m per annum.

- + UK productivity: 37.4% of UK productivity growth can be attributed to standards;
- + UK GDP growth: 28.4% of annual UK GDP growth can be attributed to standards, equivalent to GBP8.2 billion at 2014 prices;
- + UK exports: GBP6.1 billion of additional UK exports per year can be attributed to standards annually.

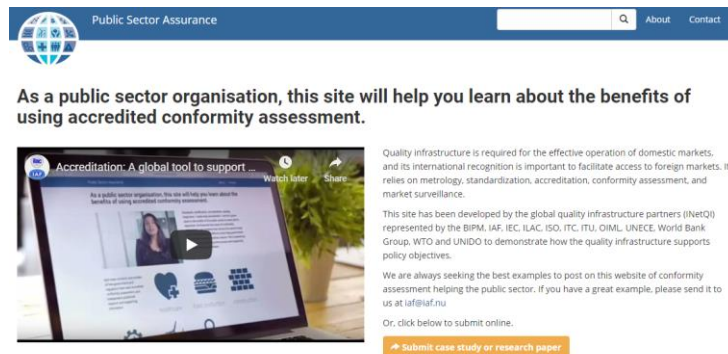
PROMOTING ACCREDITED CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT:



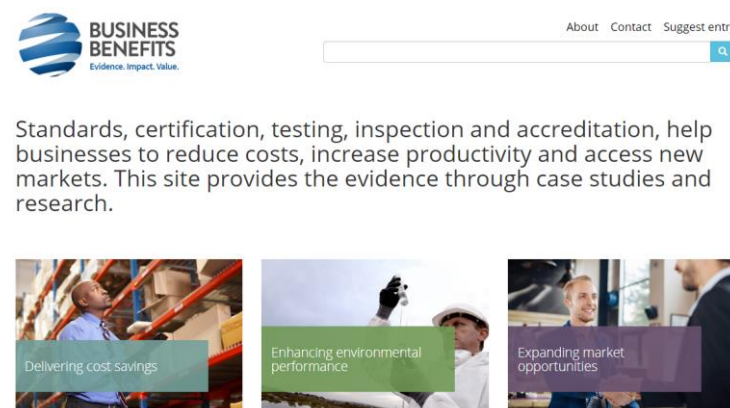
United Kingdom Quality Infrastructure:
<https://ukqi.org/>



International network on Quality Infrastructure:
<https://www.inetqi.net/>



<https://publicsectorassurance.org/>



<https://business-benefits.org/>

MUTUAL RECOGNITION: UKAS AND EA MEMBERSHIP

- + UKAS is founding member of European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA)
- + UKAS is an active and influential member, over two decades
- + Membership requires AB members to be in EU or EFTA Member State or candidate country
- + UKAS no longer meets the EA membership criteria.
- + EA has expressed the importance of having UKAS as a member, even after the withdrawal of the UK from the EU
- + EA introduced the option of a transition period, which allowed UKAS to maintain its membership for a further 2 years from when the UK left the EU (i.e. until 31 January 2022)
- + EA will revise membership criteria with the aim that UKAS remains an EA member
- + Both parties are confident that a satisfactory resolution shall be reached during 2021
- + As signatory to the EA MLA the accreditation system operated by UKAS continues to be accepted by the other signatories as equivalent to their own accreditation system
- + UKAS's membership of both the ILAC and IAF, including full signatory status of their mutual recognition agreements) have been unaffected by the UK's exit from the EU





C19 Pandemic and Remote Assessments

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C19 PANDEMIC LESSONS:





Strategy: Risk and Opportunities

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LONGTERM OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES:

- + IR4.0: AI, IoT, Blockchain, Drones, Autonomous Vehicles
- + Info Security/GDPR
- + Climate change
- + Built Environment, Construction Products
- + Healthcare
- + Food Provenance and sustainability



SUMMARY:

- +UKAS: UK's sole National Accreditation Body, appointed by Government, recognised globally through mutual recognition.
- +Purpose: recognition of the competence, impartiality and integrity
- +Value: Protect Business and Consumers, providing confidence and assurance
- +Mutual recognition: facilitates international trade ("certified once, accepted everywhere")
- +Alternative/Complement to Regulation: applicable to mandatory and voluntary schemes
- +Sustains Quality and Innovation: critical in the commercialisation of emerging technologies, which support the creation of new markets
- +Challenges and Opportunities: Strong international frameworks and constructive and collaborative approach needed



Thank you
www.UKAS.com

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