

## IUPAC Project Progress Report

**Date:** 4 March 2009

**Task Group Leader:**

**Project number:** 2005-024-2-600

**Project Title:** Establishment of guidelines for the validation of qualitative and semi-quantitative (screening) methods by collaborative trial: a harmonized protocol

**Important information:** *Since 2007 this project is working together with a corresponding working group of the European project "MoniQA" ([www.moniqa.org](http://www.moniqa.org))*

**Report:**

1. Current status of project:

Currently the following three scientists are working on the project:

- Christoph von Holst (IRMM)
- Roy Macarthur (Central Science Laboratory)
- Stéphane Pietravalle (Central Science Laboratory)

The work conducted in 2008 focused on the evaluation of results from three different collaborative studies validating *qualitative* methods. Since the designs of the studies in terms of (1) number of laboratories, (2) number of replicates and (3) number of different concentration levels of the target analyte were quite different, we were able to identify critical parameter combinations that need to be taken into account when setting up the design of a validation study. Various statistical simulations were conducted to establish the impact of these parameters on the precision of the estimated method performance characteristics. In addition, we tried out three different statistical approaches for the data treatment to learn more about the pros and cons of these techniques. For this year we established an additional cooperation with another European project (<http://safeedpap.feedsafety.org>), which allows us to be actively involved in the design of a real validation study of a qualitative method and the corresponding data treatment. All these experiences will definitely improve the first draft of the guideline.

2. Progress relative to 'milestones':

There is still a delay considering the planned deadline of the project. However, in 2008 we made a real progress.

3. Difficulties encountered (or concerns):

We had to deal with the following challenges

- Change of personnel in one of the project partners, but the problem is solved
- Looking for a real validation study of a qualitative method to apply the statistical techniques that we evaluated until now. This is solved by cooperating with another European project (<http://safeedpap.feedsafety.org>).

4. Projected completion date (documents ready for external review):

5. Please list all of the intended outputs and the dissemination plan for this project (viz. articles, CD, conference presentations; etc.).

Some results are presented in a workshop (<http://www.moniqa.org/node/263>, IAM/MoniQA FST - "Method Performance and the Criteria Approach: Truth and Consequences) organised by the EU project (MoniQA) and the slides are attached. In addition, we are also working on a publication of the results from the simulations conducted.

6. If your project is within 6 months of completion, how do you plan to utilise any remaining budget for this project?

7. Work on this project may have identified new problems, issues, challenges, emerging topics, opportunities for related projects, etc. Please indicate these here so that the Division can follow up on them:

**I would like to ask for a prolongation of the project by at least one year. The prolongation does not require an additional budget.**

**The request for prolongation is justified by the very good progress made in 2008 and the important results expected for 2009.**