



Curtin University and ChemCentre

Present:

International Workshop on “Regional Leadership in Food Analysis for Safety, Trade, and Innovation”

**Wednesday 30th September to
Friday 2nd October 2026**

**Venue: Building 500 Exhibition Hall,
Curtin University Bentley Campus,
Kent Street, Bentley, Western Australia 6102**

WELCOME TO PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

On behalf of the Organising Committee, we welcome you to Perth, the capital of Western Australia. Spectacular natural surroundings meet the vibrant buzz of this thriving city. Perth is brimming with entertainment options sure to inspire, where a kaleidoscope of food, wine, arts, culture, hip boutiques and new bars await. Nestled between the magnificent Swan River and one of the world's largest inner-city parks, Perth city is fringed with a natural beauty which beckons attention. And with a world-class wine region and sunsets over the ocean within half an hour of the city centre, and more hours of sunshine than any other capital city in Australia, there's plenty to enjoy in this picture-perfect city.

APFAN, the Asia Pacific Food Analysis Network, was formed in 1989 as a special project of the Federation of Asian Chemical Societies (FACS). APFAN's mission is to serve the needs of food analysts in their dual roles to achieve food quality, food safety and good nutrition and to promote food trade in the Asia Pacific region. The goal of the current APFAN project is to provide laboratories in the Asia Pacific region access to inexpensive PT trials in order to assess their performance compared to their peers. We are pleased to advise that the PT7 materials will again be distributed free of charge to the Perth Workshop participants.

Curtin University is an innovative, global university known for its high-impact research, strong industry partnerships and commitment to preparing you for jobs of the future. Curtin is a vibrant, future-focused university ranked in the top 1% of universities worldwide, where ideas and cultures combine to create a place of enthusiasm, endeavour and achievement.

ChemCentre is Western Australia's leading provider of specialised chemical and forensic science services. ChemCentre provides chemical and forensic science services for a safe and prosperous Western Australia. Its mission is to provide excellence and innovation in chemical & forensic science, emergency response and research to support the administration of justice and a safe and prosperous WA.

APFAN, Curtin University and ChemCentre look forward to welcoming you to this event as we realize our goal to improve the proficiency and capabilities of food and agriculture testing laboratories in the Asia Pacific region, enabling the participants to improve their methodologies and adopt a more uniform approach to regional food analysis.

Yours sincerely

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Analysis Network)
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INTRODUCTION

APFAN is currently conducting a multi-phase project entitled '*Low-Cost Analytical Proficiency Testing (PT) to Improve Food Laboratory Analyses in the Asia Pacific Region*', where PT materials are produced and distributed free of charge to food analysis laboratories in the Asia Pacific region. The PT results are then discussed at follow-up PT Workshops that have so far been held in Indonesia (PT1 - 2018), Thailand (PT2 - 2019), the Philippines (PT3 - 2023), Malaysia (PT4 - 2024), and Fiji (PT5 – 2025, see <https://www.usp.ac.fj/the-institute-of-applied-sciences/news/pacific-and-international-experts-meet-in-fiji-to-strengthen-food-analysis/>). The Workshops discuss the PT results in detail, to highlight any common problems and possible solutions, as well as discussing new developments in international quality systems standards and methods.

The PT6 Workshop will emphasise the food analysts' expanded roles in improvement of Food Analysis, Food Trade, and Food Innovation, as well as food fraud, food safety, and food security. Presentations from professionals involved in the various fields of food science and technology, including environmental health, agricultural science, industrial food production, government regulation, and education will be welcomed.

WORKSHOP AIMS

Globalisation of markets is creating an urgent need to harmonise divergent national systems for measurement, standards and conformity assessment. The Asia Pacific region is home to 60 percent of the world's population, scattered over a vast area. The region conducts 42 percent of the world's trade and it is the world's largest trading bloc. Australia and especially Western Australia play a significant role in the Asia Pacific region through the export of 'clean, green' foods and raw materials as well as mentoring food testing laboratory personnel in their conformity assessment roles in food safety and food trade.

Food analysis is vital to food quality, food safety and food trade. Accurate chemical and microbiological analyses and regional equivalence of laboratory standards are essential and critical for policy development, monitoring regulatory standards, health advancement, and hence for regional social and economic development. The level and nature of training requirements and trainee expectations in food analysis have evolved with advances in analytical technology and complexity of instrumentation. To meet international expectations, laboratories in the Asia Pacific region involved in the testing of food commodities need to adhere to the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025 international standard. Accreditation agencies require analytical laboratories to participate in appropriate PT schemes to detect and cure any unacceptably large inaccuracies in their reported results. However, participation in PT studies can often be expensive, with limited opportunity for follow-up to allow outlier laboratories to look more closely at their results.

The Workshop will provide the opportunity to discuss topical issues with international experts from APFAN and the Asia Pacific region in an effort to continuously improve your laboratory's proficiency. Importantly, the pitfalls in PT participation will be outlined to ensure your laboratory maximizes its chance of getting satisfactory results each time.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Call for Abstracts will be announced in the second quarter 2026.

DELEGATES AND SPEAKERS

The workshop will be of value to:

- **Chemists, microbiologists and technical specialists;**
- **Laboratory quality managers and senior analysts;**
- **Proficiency testing providers and reference materials producers**
- **Laboratory assessors and accreditation bodies**
- **Staff of accredited and non-accredited laboratories;**
- **Junior analysts and technicians;**
- **Government regulatory departments;**
- **University researchers and students;**
- **Policy makers and educators; and**
- **Food and environmental consultants.**

International Speakers, including from Australia and the Asia Pacific region will present papers at this Workshop, bringing the latest knowledge of food analysis, food science and food technology, technical and management systems for PT and reference materials (RMs) production, guidelines and statistical methods in conducting and interpretation of PT schemes. But most importantly, delegates have the opportunity to present papers and discussion topics themselves to make the Workshop truly participatory.

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

Wednesday 30th September 2026

Day 1 – Standards & Foundations

Session 1: ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – Management Systems

- Managing human resources risks
- Training systems for laboratory personnel

Session 2: ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – Technical Systems

- Method validation, verification, and measurement uncertainty
- Measurement traceability through reference materials and proficiency testing

Session 3: Advances in Food Composition & Nutrition

- Analyses for heart health and reducing obesity
- Food composition testing and data reliability

Session 4: PT6 Results & PT7 Distribution

- PT6 - Kava Pilot Proficiency Test results
- Distribution of free-of-charge PT7 materials

APFAN General Meeting

End of Day 1

Thursday 1st October 2026

Day 2 – Food Safety & Sustainability

Session 5: Residues & Toxins in Food Products

- Pesticides and heavy metals in our food
- Mercury and histamines in fishery products
- MOSH and MOAH residues in food

Session 6: Food Microbiology & Emerging Pathogens

- Microbiology test kits
- Methods for emerging pathogens - antimicrobial resistance

Session 7: Indigenous & Underutilised Foods

- Nutrient value of indigenous/local foods
- Native foods and medicines
- Trade and safety issues with traditional food systems

Session 8: Sustainable Futures & Climate Impacts

- New protein sources and rural innovation
- Effects of climate change on food safety and trade

Conference Dinner

End of Day 2

Friday 2nd October 2026

Day 3 – Capacity Building & Future Directions

Session 9: Capacity Building & Regional Initiatives

- The Pacific Quality Infrastructure Initiative (PQII)
- AOAC and harmonisation of methods

Session 10: Food Safety and Food Trade

- Processed foods and food waste
- Provenance and food chain security
- Food allergens and food intolerance

Session 11: Emerging Technologies & Contaminants

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) in instrumental testing
- Food packaging and microplastics
- What's new in sensory evaluation

Session 12: Analyses for Tourism

- Allergens in foods
- Methanol in alcoholic drinks
- Analyses for Halal and Kosher foods

End of Day 3

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REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ORGANISATION _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

I WOULD LIKE TO (please tick):

- ☐ **Attend for the full three days.**
- ☐ **Attend for a single day.**
- ☐ **Attend the Workshop Conference Dinner (\$100 AUD).**
- ☐ **Attend the Pre- and/or Post- Workshop Tours (please send more information).**

Three Day Workshop

Delegates	\$485 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2026)
Students	\$305 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2026)

Single Day Registration

Delegates	\$260 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2026)
Students	\$180 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2026)

PAYMENT OF \$ _____ AUD WILL BE MADE

Please forward this form to the Coordinator at:

apfan.apfan@yahoo.com

and an invoice for payment will be sent to you.

SIGNATURE _____

PRE- AND POST-WORKSHOP TOURS

Pre- and post-Workshop tours can be arranged at extra cost, for Tuesday 29th September or Saturday 3rd October. For example, for the tourists, a visit to the 'Pinnacles' and for the technically minded, a visit to a modern food industry.

VISAS and ACCOMMODATION

Most visitors to Australia will need to obtain a visa. Please refer to: [Do I need a visa to attend a conference in Australia - Search](#). It is best to apply early.

There are many accommodation options available, including Nesuto Curtin on the University campus (see <https://reservations.travelclick.com/113917?groupID=5129715>), at Airbnbs in Bentley, or in Perth city just 8 km away.

REGISTRATION FEES

The Workshop fee covers entry, morning and afternoon teas and lunch each day, as well as workshop materials. Attendance at the Workshop Conference Dinner is available at extra cost (\$100).

ADDED BONUS: Each delegate will be given a set of the PT7 proficiency testing materials and may participate in the PT7 free of charge.

EARLY BIRD, BEFORE 24th July 2026:

Three Day Workshop

Delegates	\$485 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2025)
Students	\$305 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2026)

Single Day Registration

Delegates	\$260 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2026)
Students	\$180 AUD	(Early bird, before 24 th July, 2026)

REGISTRATION FEES, AFTER 25th JULY 2026:

Three Day Workshop

Delegates	\$610 AUD	(After 25 th July, 2026)
Students	\$375 AUD	(After 25 th July, 2026)

Single Day Registration

Delegates	\$315 AUD	(After 25 th July, 2026)
Students	\$220 AUD	(After 25 th July, 2026)

Payment options will include by Bank Transfer, via PayPal, or payment in cash at the registration desk.

SPONSORSHIP

We welcome **Business Events Perth** as a Platinum Sponsor for this event. Business Events Perth, in conjunction with local organisations, markets Western Australia nationally and internationally as a destination for conventions, exhibitions and incentive travel groups. See [Business Events Perth](#).

This Workshop would not be possible with the generous support of Sponsors and there are opportunities for companies to gain more exposure to regional food analysts through sponsorship of this International Workshop. As well as direct exposure to the participants in Perth, Western Australia, sponsorship of the APFAN PT6 Workshop will provide your organisation with access to over 4,000 APFAN contacts in 73 countries in the Asia Pacific region. As one of our valuable partners, your support as a sponsor is most welcome and in gratitude, we will be glad to include your company's name in our Technical Program and other event promotional materials in the lead up to and during the Workshop.

Sponsorship Packages are available to both private and government organizations and agencies:

Major Sponsor: For Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze Sponsor.

Meals Sponsor: For morning tea, lunch or afternoon tea on each day of each Workshop.

Participant sponsor: Assistance provided to attendees from under-developed countries in the Asia Pacific region to attend the Workshop.

Local Sponsor: Available to SME organisations within Western Australia.

For more information on the Sponsorship Packages available and the Terms and Conditions for sponsorship, please contact the APFAN Secretariat at apfan.apfan@yahoo.com or +61 403 808 982.