Brief description and objectives of the project

The project's objective was: The strengthened national quality system offers services that contribute to the reliability of drinking water consumption measurements and analysis of drinking water and wastewater quality. Three outputs were defined: (i) Laboratories and the National Metrology Laboratory have improved their measurement capabilities. (ii) The accreditation body has strengthened its capacities. (iii) Standards for wastewater were developed. The project concept was retained, there were no significant changes.

Important results

The evaluation concluded that the project had a positive impact on strengthening quality assurance services for the drinking water and wastewater sector delivered by public, private and academic institutions.

- The project was designed to be relevant to both the population and the institutions involved.
- The project was scarcely coordinated with German development cooperation projects and with other donor projects. However, it complements the partners' own efforts very well.
- Measured by the three outcome indicators, 66% of the target was achieved.
- Resources were used economically but were far from being fully spent.
- The project has made a plausible contribution to three targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Drinking Water.
- It is expected that many results will continue after the end of the project. However, challenges have also been identified in some of the advised institutions, e.g. a lack of strategic planning.

Overall evaluation: Successful (2.2)

Conclusions

- The project supported a proficiency testing (PT), which was one of the first PTs in the country. The laboratory in charge received advice from the Costa Rican Metrology Laboratory (LCM). This cooperation proved to be a great contribution to the laboratory as a close working relationship could be developed, which can also be referred to in the coming years in case questions come up.
- In addition to the strong application-oriented advisory approach, strategic issues, e.g. a better marketing of their offers should also be given greater focus with the partner in order to ensure sustainability.