Philippines

Strengthening of the National Quality Infrastructure
Objective
The national Quality Infrastructure (QI) offers demand-oriented services in accordance with international requirements and is being strategically further developed with the participation of stakeholders. The focal areas are metrology and, to a lesser extent, accreditation.

Approach
The project approach is to strengthen the capabilities of the project partners in the fields of metrology, accreditation and awareness raising. The project partners are the National Metrology Laboratory (NML), the Standards and Testing Division (STD), the National Accreditation Body (PAB), the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) and the non-profit organisation PhilMSTQ Inc.

The following fields of intervention will be addressed: (1) NML will be enabled to participate in the design and in the conception of strategies and legal bills. It will also be supported in ensuring the sustainability of its existing services and in developing new demand-oriented services. (2) STD will be assisted in building up technical capabilities in the field of Metrology in Chemistry, which is important for consumer and environmental protection. (3) PAB and BAFS will be supported in developing and implementing a joint procedure for the accreditation of certification bodies in organic agriculture in order to improve the exportability of Philippine organic produce. (4) Awareness raising activities on Quality Infrastructure by PhilMSTQ will be facilitated targeting the private sector, political decision makers and civil society. Additionally, a systemic approach to Quality Infrastructure will be promoted with the aim of strengthening networking and cooperation between the QI institutions.

Impact
In its Development Plan 2010–2016, the Philippine government has acknowledged the importance of a functioning Quality Infrastructure. A strengthened Quality Infrastructure will facilitate the participation of small and medium enterprises in global and regional trade. It will help the Philippines to become more competitive and to better cope with challenges of the ASEAN single market. This will ultimately lead to economic growth and hence to a rise in income and employment. In addition, a functioning Quality Infrastructure will contribute to improving consumer and environmental protection.

Cooperation
The project coordinates its activities with the EU-funded “Trade Related Technical Assistance Programme” (TRTA). In addition, the project cooperates with other implementing agencies of German development cooperation, especially with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

Financing
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Term
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