



Sri Lanka

## Strengthening Quality Infrastructure

<b>Objective</b>	Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) located in the northern region will increase their use of the enhanced offer of quality-assurance services based on international good practices.
<b>Approach</b>	The project will make use of different capacity development mechanisms and will follow a multi-stakeholder approach, including the core institutions of the national Quality Infrastructure (MUSSD, ITI, SLSI and SLAB) as well as regional laboratories, local chambers and federations in the north. There are three intervention areas: The <i>external quality assurance and international recognition</i> aims to integrate the national Quality Infrastructure into the international system and to align its services with international good practices. <i>Regional services of quality infrastructure</i> is based on the need for quality-related services expressed by the private sector, and strives to develop demand-oriented services, e.g. by making available testing laboratories for food analysis operating in the north. <i>Information and awareness raising</i> aims to identify the needs of SMEs concerning Quality Infrastructure, provision of information related to quality and existing services, and networking between the private and public sector, research institutes and universities as well as civil society.
<b>Impact</b>	Creating access to reliable and recognised Quality Infrastructure services, in particular for industry and consumers in the northern region, will contribute to a more intensive involvement of SMEs in domestic as well as international trade. The project thus makes a contribution, in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal No. 8, to improving the framework conditions for long-term, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, productive full employment and humane work without discrimination.
<b>Cooperation</b>	The project is carried out in close cooperation with other German and international implementing organisations, such as the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).
<b>Financing</b>	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
<b>Term</b>	2016–2019
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