Central Asia

Strengthening of the quality infrastructure in the countries of Central Asia
Objective

The project aims at strengthening quality infrastructure institutions in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to offer demand-oriented services for quality assurance in the economy in accordance with international standards.

Approach

The state of quality infrastructure development differs from country to country in Central Asia, which results in different technical barriers to trade. This project therefore combines country specific capacity development with regional exchanges to strengthen regional cooperation.

The project focuses on three main fields of action. Firstly, it aims at consolidating and facilitating the further development of technical competences and services in the national quality infrastructure institutions in Central Asia. Secondly, the project supports quality infrastructure institutions to improve services for quality assurance in selected business applications. Thirdly, the project strengthens exchanges regarding technical competences and quality-assuring services at the regional and national level and seeks collaboration with the private sector.

Instruments applied to reach our objective include consulting on strategy development, organisational and process development, technical training and coaching, benchmarking, network activities and awareness-raising measures.

Impact

The development of quality infrastructure, especially with the aim of quality assurance, is a substantial element in supporting the competitiveness of products on international markets. The countries in Central Asia are still in a process of transformation which includes their economic and trade relations. Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, as members of the Eurasian Economic Union, are already more deeply integrated in this economic community, which influences not only their national economies, but also the trade relations in the region. Enhancing the technical competences and institutional capacities to provide recognised quality assurance services for specific demand-oriented applications, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises, will support trade development and the competitiveness of Central Asian products on national and international markets.

Cooperation

The project is carried out in close cooperation with other German implementing organisations in development cooperation, especially with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) within the scope of the project “Trade facilitation in Central Asia”. There is additionally cooperation with bilateral programmes supporting sustainable economic development. On a country basis, this project also collaborates with projects funded by the European Union or by development banks such as the Asian Development Bank.

Financing

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Term

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