



East African Community

Strengthening the Regional Quality Infrastructure for Selected Sectors

Objective	The quality infrastructure in the East African Community (EAC) is strengthened according to the needs of the selected sectors (pharma, leather and fruit & vegetables).	
Approach	<p>Pharmaceuticals, leather and fruits & vegetables are among the economic sectors that are prioritized for development in the EAC Industrial Development Strategy. The EAC Partner States are striving to promote agricultural and pharmaceutical production for domestic and export markets in order to increase their contribution to socio-economic development in the region.</p> <p>However, the existing quality infrastructure (conformity assessment services, use of recognized standards) and the pool of qualified technical staff in some instances may not meet international standards and ensure world-class quality and safety. It is for this reason that the project will develop capabilities and capacities in order to ensure that the quality infrastructure services along the selected value chains in the aforementioned sectors are upgraded and utilized.</p> <p>The project supports and strengthens cooperation and exchanges between public (legal and regulatory) authorities and private-sector stakeholders.</p> <p>Activities aimed at strengthening the quality infrastructure will be anchored in the respective regional strategies and action plans for the selected sectors and mainstreamed into the reporting mechanisms along the relevant EAC structures and policy organs.</p> <p>The EAC Secretariat will be supported in taking up and addressing the private sector needs for enhanced quality infrastructure and harmonization of standards in order to improve the framework conditions for increased value addition and trade in the region and beyond its borders. National quality infrastructure authorities will be supported by targeted capacity-building measures to ensure reliable laboratory analyses. This will improve the quality of products placed on the market and ensure compliance with relevant standards while enhancing their safety for consumer consumption in both domestic and international markets.</p>	
Impact	<p>The regional production and processing businesses in the selected economic sectors will have better access to quality assurance services. The capacities and capabilities of regulatory authorities to verify and certify products are improved. This will create an environment which is conducive to better exploiting offered development opportunities of the value chains, resulting in stronger competitiveness and increased trade in the region and beyond its borders. These efforts will increase the opportunities for enhanced productivity and positive social and economic impacts (employment, income, added value) for the EAC population and increase the share of high-quality pharmaceutical and agricultural products in the market, contributing to consumer well-being and protection.</p> <p>Strengthening the regional quality infrastructure with the participation of numerous private-sector and public-sector stakeholders from the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania will contribute to enhanced regional economic integration in line with the aspirations of the EAC Treaty.</p>	
Cooperation	The project is an integral part of the German Development Programme to support the East African Community. It cooperates closely with the GIZ project “Support to East African Market Driven and People Centred Integration”.	
Financing	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	
Term	2019–2022	
Contact	Jean Baptist Havugimana Director Productive Services EAC Secretariat, Arusha, Tanzania jhavugimana@eachq.org	Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt Tobias Diergardt +49 531 592 8228 tobias.diergardt@ptb.de

