



Egypt

Strengthening of Metrology for the Improvement of Competitiveness in the Egyptian Economy

Objective	The Egyptian National Institute of Standards (NIS) offers additional metrological services to its customers in the food processing sector based on their needs. These metrological services allow the testing of food products with regard to exporting local products in line with international standards. This then improves the economic competitiveness relating to exports and assures higher food safety.	
Approach	<p>The technical cooperation project is aligned to the overarching German development cooperation programme targeting private sector development and thus contributes to achieving the objectives of the Egyptian government and German cooperation efforts.</p> <p>Currently, metrological services that meet the needs of the food processing sector, with a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), are insufficiently offered by Egyptian quality infrastructure (QI) service providers. At the same time, the food processing sector is currently not actively demanding these services, as awareness about the added value of QI in the sector – especially that of private actors – is not very widespread.</p> <p>The project aims to establish new services at the Egyptian national metrology institute, the National Institute of Standards (NIS), and to improve cooperation between the QI sector and the food processing sector as their new client. In addition, the capacities of NIS in the field of food analyses will be expanded. To this end, technical and process consultation with regulatory authorities and central actors from the food sector on quality assurance is being provided, training measures on interlaboratory comparisons and relevant issues are being carried out and an exchange platform between the QI and the processed food sector is being established. In addition, the transfer of international expertise on the topic of export in line with international standards and food safety is being supported.</p>	
Impact	<p>The project aims at strengthening the competences of NIS in the measurement of processed food products. This will enable NIS to offer needs-based metrological services to Egyptian actors from the processed food sector to test their products in Cairo according to international standards and, hence, verify the quality of their food products. Furthermore, it is envisaged that the cooperation with and competences of other QI service providers will be strengthened in collaboration with central actors from the processed food sector, such as the National Food Safety Authority (NFSA). Awareness of the added value of closer cooperation will be increased within both sectors and, finally, the national dialogue between food processing sector stakeholders and the QI institutions will be initiated.</p> <p>The overall impact of the project entails strengthening the economic competitiveness of the QI and processed food sectors in trading high-quality processed food products and, thus, in ensuring higher food safety for consumers.</p>	
Cooperation	The project will cooperate closely with other German development cooperation projects and with international partners in the sectors. It will be implemented in close cooperation with the National Institute of Standards (NIS).	
Financing	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ)	
Term	2022–2025	
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