



Ghana

Strengthening of the quality infrastructure system
to increase the competitiveness of agricultural
export products

Objective	The range of QI services that are necessary to assure the quality of selected agricultural export products is improved taking due account of international good practice and the services are increasingly utilised.	
Approach	<p>The project draws on the results and experience gained from previous PTB projects in the field of food quality and food safety in Ghana. The goal is to strengthen the range and the utilisation of services for the quality assurance of agricultural products, with a particular focus on processed products for export. This increases the competitiveness of Ghanaian producers in international markets and, at the same time, ensures the provision of high-quality products for the population.</p> <p>The project pursues a multi-level approach. On the one hand, the further improvement of the services of testing and metrology laboratories and conformity assessment bodies is supported as well as their increased utilisation by producers. On the other hand, the project supports a deeper anchoring of quality criteria for agricultural export products in technical standards, guidelines and technical regulations.</p> <p>An important starting point for these components is raising the awareness of all stakeholders and an institutionalised exchange between them. For this, PTB will use a special method for the analysis of value chains with a focus on the requirements placed on quality infrastructure and will also train the stakeholders in the method.</p>	
Impact	<p>By means of accredited testing and calibration services, reliable proof will be rendered of the improvements that have been achieved in agricultural production methods within the scope of the “Market-Oriented Agriculture Programme” (MOAP). The focus thereby lies on processed agricultural products with the goal of increasing value creation in the country and the development of more complex QI services. These will be established in agreement with requirements that are placed internationally on trade and on the safety of food. Not only food producers and processors of food will benefit from this, but also trade.</p> <p>The assistance for the establishment of a national accreditation body in cooperation with the Ministry of Trade and Industry will have an impact on many – also non-agricultural – economic areas and will strengthen the competitiveness of Ghana in general.</p> <p>With that, the project will establish important framework conditions for reaching Sustainable Development Goal No. 8, for sustainable economic development. The utilisation of internationally recognised QI services in Ghana itself will improve the standings of Ghanaian products in international markets.</p>	
Cooperation	The project is a module of the German “Market-Oriented Agriculture Programme” in Ghana. There will be a very close coordination with the “Green Innovation Centre” projects. Beyond that, collaborations with programmes from other international donors to improve the export of agricultural products exist. The most important implementation partner is the Ghana Standard Authority (GSA).	
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