



Kyrgyzstan

Increasing the Use of Quality-Related Services

Objective	The project aims to increase the use of quality-related services in Kyrgyzstan to improve product quality, consumer protection, and the competitiveness of Kyrgyz businesses in national and international markets.	
Approach	<p>The institutions of the national quality infrastructure (which include metrology, accreditation, and standardization) have already developed a range of internationally recognized services. However, they cannot yet meet the existing demand for services in all scopes that are relevant for the Kyrgyz economy. Moreover, most services are available only in the capital, Bishkek, leaving the economically active southern region insufficiently covered.</p> <p>The project focuses on three main areas of action. Firstly, it aims at consolidating and facilitating the further development of technical competences and quality-related services (particularly calibrations, accreditations, and food testing). Secondly, the project supports the national metrology institute of Kyrgyzstan in developing calibration services in its regional branches to meet the demand of local businesses and laboratories. Thirdly, the project facilitates dialogue and awareness-raising activities with the private sector to enhance the understanding of quality requirements and to stimulate demand for quality-related services.</p> <p>The project applies different types of capacity development, such as technical training courses and coaching, strategy consultancy, organizational development, and benchmarking. It also encompasses networking and awareness-raising events with businesses and ministries.</p>	
Impact	<p>Building a quality infrastructure that matches the needs of Kyrgyzstan plays a key role in promoting sustainable economic development. The international recognition of measurements, tests, and certificates removes technical barriers to trade and helps Kyrgyz producers engage in export as well as in regional and international value chains. Moreover, access to quality-related services also allows companies to make their production processes more efficient, reliable, and innovative.</p> <p>Being a member of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), Kyrgyzstan has become increasingly integrated in this economic community, which offers tremendous potential for regional trade. As Kyrgyzstan is also a beneficiary of the European Union's (EU) Generalised Scheme of Preferences, Kyrgyz exporters can supply more than 6000 product categories to the EU at a zero tariff rate. To tap the full potential of these trade agreements, Kyrgyz small and medium-sized enterprises must be able to demonstrate the conformity of their products with EEU and EU requirements. Increasing the use of quality-related services therefore contributes to the competitiveness of Kyrgyz products in national and international markets.</p>	
Cooperation	The project forms part of the programme of German development cooperation on Sustainable Economic Development. It is carried out in close cooperation with other German implementing organisations, especially with the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) within the scope of the project "Promotion of Sustainable Economic Development in Kyrgyzstan" and its regional projects.	
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