



Serbia

Support to the Quality Infrastructure

Objective The capacities of the Serbian quality infrastructure system to meet domestic and European legal and market requirements have been strengthened in order to support Serbia's EU approximation in the area of the free movement of goods.

Approach The project follows a multi-level approach. At the **macro level**, capacities of the relevant ministry – the Ministry of Economy (MoE) – are strengthened to create suitable framework conditions for quality infrastructure (QI) in Serbia. At the **meso level**, Serbian QI institutions are supported to improve their services. Conformity assessment bodies (CABs) assessing the compliance of products with selected EU Directives shall be supported to improve their competence, customer orientation and market access. The Serbian National Metrology Institute, DMDM, and designated laboratories from the Vinča Institute for Nuclear Sciences are provided with capacity building to extend their metrology services and increase their level of international recognition. The effectiveness of the Institute of Standardization of Serbia (ISS) shall be improved by having its internal processes and stakeholder communication interconnected by a document management system. At the **micro level**, the project closely cooperates with GIZ's private sector development module, which provides SMEs with information and awareness-raising measures for quality-related issues.

The instruments mostly used are short-term experts, who transfer knowledge and build capacities in partner institutions. Other instruments are laboratory equipment for the delivery of new calibration services, and software or hardware for setting up a document management system which is procured at a small scale.

Impact The availability of demand-oriented QI services that are internationally recognized or comply with international best practice improves the competitiveness of the Serbian economy and the chances of exporting to the EU internal market and, in general, to international markets. This will support Serbia's EU approximation by creating favourable framework conditions related to an increased compliance with Chapter 1 "Free Movements of Goods" of the EU acquis. The living conditions for all Serbian citizens are strengthened through functioning market surveillance and consumer protection. The project thus makes a contribution, in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal No. 8, to improving the framework conditions for long-term, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, productive full employment and humane work without discrimination.

Cooperation The project is carried out in close cooperation with other German and international implementing organizations, in particular with the Private Sector Development Programme of the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

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