



Sri Lanka

Strengthening Quality Infrastructure



Objective	Small and medium-sized enterprises from the project regions (Northern Province, North Central Province) will make increased use of the offered quality assurance services, which are based on international good practices.	
Approach	The project aims to enable small and medium-sized enterprises in the food sector in the Northern Province and North Central Province of Sri Lanka to make use of quality infrastructure services for improved quality management. To achieve this goal in a sustainable manner, the project partners, including the North Central Province Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (NCPCCIA), support food-processing businesses through hands-on advice in compliance with Sri Lankan Standards (SLS) and good manufacturing practices (GMP). The result is that companies are increasingly requesting quality assurance services, a demand that is being met by an improved range of services offered by water and food testing laboratories in the project regions. With the aim of enhancing the competencies of the seven partner laboratories in line with international best practices, the project provides extensive technical training and consulting services. Both the testing laboratories and the companies also require calibration services to ensure the traceability of their measuring instruments. The project addresses this need by providing training and consulting services on the relevant measurement quantities to the National Metrology Institute of Sri Lanka, MUSSD, as well as to the two calibration laboratories (ITI and SLSI) that provide internationally accepted services at the national level. In addition, PTB cooperates with the accreditation body SLAB and other quality infrastructure institutions to expand the range of proficiency testing services in metrology as well as in chemical and microbiological analysis in Sri Lanka.	
Impact	To be effective, food safety programs rely on all pillars of quality infrastructure. A functioning quality infrastructure is therefore the key prerequisite for ensuring the quality of food products and thus promoting participation in domestic and international trade and at the same time contributing to health, environmental and consumer protection. The food sector is central to creating employment and securing incomes for poorer segments of the population in the Northern and North Central Province. The project, through the interventions of its four components, contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goals 3 (health and well-being), 6 (clean water), and 8 (decent work and economic growth).	
Cooperation	The project is being implemented in close cooperation with the national quality infrastructure institutions and their line ministries in Sri Lanka as well as in coordination with other international implementing organizations for development cooperation.	
Financing	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	
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