

PTB in brief

A globalized international economy calls for globalized metrology. This is why the orientation and impact of PTB, the national metrology institute of Germany, is not restricted to the national borders.

PTB with its 1,800 staff members is rather a “global player” in the world of metrology and faces the responsibility involved for society, economy and science.

The international tasks of PTB include cooperation in all kinds of metrological organizations (the Meter Convention being the most prominent example) and cooperation with national metrology institutes all over the world. Furthermore, the PTB International Technical Cooperation advises and supports the conceptual design and practical implementation in the establishment of the quality infrastructure in developing and transition countries.

The clients of the Technical Cooperation projects are above all the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, (BMZ), which finances the majority of projects with PTB participation, but also the European Union, the World Bank and other organizations. For the implementation of projects a network of strategic partners is available.

All in all, the global networking of PTB has one major objective: the international harmonization of quality infrastructure and its mutual acceptance.



Project Data

Consultation for the development of quality infrastructure with special emphasis on agricultural products

Source of finance

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

German contribution

1,100,000 EUR thereof 400,000 EUR for the current phase

Implementing agency

Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)
National Metrology Institute, Germany

Term

From May 2006 to October 2013
Current phase from October 2010 to October 2013

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Consultation for the development of quality infrastructure with special emphasis on agricultural products Thailand

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Background

Thailand's economy faces tough regional competition, both with regard to labour cost and product quality. In order to improve product quality and thus the competitiveness of Thai enterprises, an efficient, regionally and internationally integrated quality infrastructure is a necessary prerequisite.

Compliance with the increased quality requirements for products and services on the international markets and meeting obligations arising from global and regional trade agreements is indispensable.

The necessary components of the quality infrastructure (standardization, metrology, testing, accreditation and certification) are largely available in Thailand. However, some QI issues are yet to be resolved, such as analysis for certain pesticide residues. As a result, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are faced with difficulties and expenses when exporting fruits and vegetables abroad.



Objective

Thai national quality infrastructure institutions will be supported in their ability to address issues of an agricultural nature. This will ensure that services for enterprises in the agricultural sector become more efficient.



Components of support

Component 1

Improving testing capabilities of accredited Thai testing laboratories. The project will collaborate closely with testing laboratories for pesticide analysis and the implementing partner to provide specialized training and consultation.

Component 2

Activities aimed at improving the framework conditions for a QI-system are coordinated with the Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), the secretariat of the National Standard Council.

Mediators in this project are decision-makers in ministries who assume tasks in the field of „quality infrastructure“, organizations of the corporate economy and of civil society, as well as scientific-technical associations.

Cooperation

The project is part of the German-Thai programme “Enhancing the competitiveness and eco-efficiency of SMEs” coordinated by GIZ (German International Cooperation). It is implemented in collaboration with the other German implementing organizations and international donors.



National Implementation Partners

Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA)
Metrology Society of Thailand (MST)

