



Palestinian Territories

Supporting the National Quality Infrastructure

Objective	The module aims to enhance quality assurance services offered by relevant quality infrastructure organisations in the Palestinian Territories that have been prioritised in the updated National Quality Policy implementation plan.	
Approach	Entering its fourth phase of cooperation, this module focuses on further developing and expanding quality infrastructure services in order to improve the economic framework conditions required for Palestinian enterprises to become more competitive internationally and for the Palestinian economy to achieve sustainable development. Currently, quality infrastructure services are either not provided at all or are not available in the required quality. The strategic approach chosen is to update the implementation plan for the National Quality Policy (2019), which requires prioritisation and strategic refinement. In this context, PTB supports the Ministry of Industry (MIND) and an inter-ministerial committee commissioned to supervise the implementation of the National Quality Policy through consultation, technical advice and capacity building measures. The improvement and expansion of the quality infrastructure is further supported by building technical and institutional capacities in legal and industrial metrology (such as verification and calibration services) for the National Metrology Directorate (NMD) of the Palestine Standards Institution (PSI). Following a three-level approach, the third component of the cooperation comprises a demand-oriented capacity development fund. This fund will allow other relevant stakeholders such as the national accreditation body, the consumer protection department, public medical laboratories and especially business and trade supporting organisations to strengthen their technical, institutional and structural capacities.	
Impact	Strengthening the institutions of the national quality infrastructure will improve the framework conditions for facilitating trade and promoting sustainable economic development in the Palestinian Territories. A functioning and internationally recognised quality infrastructure will ensure the safety and quality of products and services for customers and enable Palestinian companies and industries to access new markets. Expanding quality assurance capacities – for example, through new and improved services – can improve the surveillance of products and services on the Palestinian market. Such expanded capacities can also enable local companies and industries using these services to benefit from higher product quality, thereby increasing their competitiveness in the Arab and international markets. Overall, the interaction of these effects creates employment and income opportunities for the Palestinian population and economy against the backdrop of high political volatility, thus contributing to economic and social sustainability. Furthermore, improved quality infrastructure services enable a more economical and sustainable use and handling of energy and raw materials using calibrated and verified measuring and testing equipment. The module contributes to Sustainable Development Goals 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and 12 (Sustainable consumption and production).	
Cooperation	The module is part of a German development programme titled <i>Sustainable Economic Development, Employment Promotion and Education in Palestine</i> . In addition, PTB maintains close synergetic links with a programme titled <i>EU4Business, Investment and Standards</i> led by the European Union with contributions from other international donors in the field of quality infrastructure.	
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