

ENHANCING THE NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE BAHAMAS THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE METROLOGY LABORATORY PROJECT

ABOUT

The Enhancing the National Quality Infrastructure of The Bahamas Through the Establishment of the Metrology Laboratory Project is a two-year project which will increase the services provided to the private sector by the Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality (BBSQ). The project will also support, through enhanced capacity at the BBSQ, increased competitiveness by the private sector.

With support from the EPA and CSME Standby Facility for Capacity Building managed at the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and financed by the European Union (EU) it is anticipated that improvements to the current business environment and contributions to a more resilient Bahamas will be effected with the BBSQ's ability to provide calibration and testing services meeting internationally accepted and recognised ISO 17025 requirements in mass and volume. This service will be provided guided by a strategy and implementation plan to ensure sustainability and optimal impact.

PROJECT BENEFITS

The project will address the immediate needs of the BBSQ and aid in expanding the Bahamas' quality infrastructure and the business environment. This has potential benefits for both exporters and local businesses ideally increasing the provision of quality, reliable, safe, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure. Successful implementation will lead to an increase in the standards of commodities and processes used in production locally.



The initiative which commenced in November 2021 will:

- Aid in the establishment of a sustainable industrial metrology service for current and future needs
- Create a quality management system that meets the requirements for accreditation to the ISO/IEC17025 standard, including training and supporting documentation
- Procure and install laboratory equipment to provide basic metrology services in alignment with technical requirements and train staff in use
- Execute a marketing and communications programme to promote the new services

EPA AND CSME STANDBY FACILITY

The project was approved for implementation by the EPA and CSME Standby Facility Steering Committee in 2021. The EPA and CSME Standby Facility is a EUR 8.75 million programme financed by the European Development Fund (EDF) being managed by CDB to support projects in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago (CARIFORUM). It is intended to build capacity in the region and better position businesses to trade within CARIFORUM and the European Union.

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