

Introducing the National Quality Infrastructure Project for Nigeria (NQIP) Component 1



building trust for trade

THE NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT FOR NIGERIA

The National Quality Infrastructure Project for Nigeria (NQIP) supports the development of missing standards and quality control bodies in Nigeria, with the overall objective of improving the competitiveness of Nigerian goods and services on the domestic, regional and global markets. Component 1 of 5 focuses on the enhancement of the legal framework related to the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI). This is to be achieved through the promulgation of a National Quality Policy (NQP) and improvement of the ensuing NQI legislation. In particular, NQIP also works towards the implementation of the National Food Safety Policy and the Good Governance Standard.

National Quality Policy and Technical Regulations

The Nigerian National Quality Policy (NNQP) which prescribes several key instruments to support the country's production, trade and business climate was prepared with the technical assistance of the project. Presently, it is awaiting formal promulgation at the Federal Executive Council. NQIP has also been working towards the establishment of a national office for the coordination of technical regulatory activities. To this end, a draft policy document was developed and a Working Group on Technical Regulations established. Further NQIP activities under Component 1 have been directed at capacity-building of existing trade-related institutions in Nigeria.



Food Safety, Zero-Rejects and Conduits of Excellence



In addressing 2015's EU-imposed import ban on dried beans, the NQIP developed the 'Conduits of Excellence' initiative, which has been endorsed by the Nigerian Government. The 'CoE' is a full-chain Quality Management System based on the National Quality Infrastructure designed to eliminate identified gaps of quality in supply chains for products/services bound for export and local markets (see graphic).

The NQIP has also been assisting key stakeholders with the implementation of the National Food Safety Policy (NFSP). In this respect, the First Nigeria Food Safety and Investment Forum (FSIF) was organized in February 2017. The event brought together nearly 400 participants to exchange global and local best practices and expertise in food safety, value chain enhancement and investment. Other key activities include the food safety and awareness campaign to engender a Food Safety culture across Nigeria, and the facilitation of the first meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Food Safety (IMCFS).

Good Governance

Together with key stakeholders, the NQIP has developed guidelines on Good Governance, which are in the process of being converted into a voluntary National Good Governance Standard.

The Standard is based on the promotion of core principles which are essential for Good Governance, including the respect for the rule of law, respect for the interests of all stakeholders, accountability, integrity, transparency, honesty and credibility. A Technical Committee was established for this purpose and extensive capacity-building carried out.

NQIP in Brief

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA



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