

A National Metrology Institute (NMI) for full and reliable traceability of Nigerian products and services

Challenge

The most basic necessity of a trading system is metrology, without which the ability to determine length, mass, volume, time and temperature, and even make the simplest transactions, would be open to abuse. This would make regulating trade – especially fair trade – impossible, and legislation aimed at protecting health and welfare of citizens would be of no effect. A national measurement or metrology system is therefore the first step in facilitating trade.

Creating an National Metrology Institute is essential for traceability used in industry, commerce and services, and its standards should in turn be linked to international measuring standards. Such an institute assures the accuracy of measuring instruments, allowing more trust in human activities that use such devices in production processes, tests, trade, health, justice, sports and many other sectors.

In Nigeria, there is not yet a nationwide recognized NMI to provide calibration services and traceability which will ensure that Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) in the country have appropriate competencies to carry out their operations.

Response

Given there is no institution for this, the proposed UNIDO-EU project addresses these challenges by strengthening the institutional quality for national products in Nigeria.

As part of the institutional capacity building, this project will assist the Federal Government of Nigeria in creating a National Metrology Institute.

The following outputs are carried out to develop a National Metrology Institute in Nigeria:

Development of a NMI with its statutes, premises, business plan, leadership, internal organization, personnel and resources
Calibration for international traceability. Installation of existent equipment
Purchasing and installation of new equipment. Further training for metrologists
Creation of a repair and maintenance shop as a business unit in NMI, able to provide this kind of service to calibration laboratories
Implementation in the NMI of the requirements of International Standard



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