



Government of Sri Lanka

NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY OF SRI LANKA 2018-2022



The National Quality Infrastructure Strategy is an official document of the Government of Sri Lanka

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This National Quality Infrastructure Strategy was developed on the basis of the National Quality Policy, approved by the Cabinet in November 2016; the Sri Lanka National Quality Infrastructure Gap Assessment completed by the World Bank; the technical assistance of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); and the process and methodology of the International Trade Centre (ITC) for the formulation of Sri Lanka's National Export Strategy.

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Government of Sri Lanka

NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY OF **SRI LANKA** 2018-2022



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MESSAGE FOR NQI STAKEHOLDERS

Sri Lanka has aspirations to become a middle-high income country by 2025 by having a highly competitive economy with a diversity of products and services for local requirements and export markets. An increase on export revenue will only take place by consolidating Sri Lanka's market hold in existing markets and by venturing into and establishing itself in newer markets through new, highly value added and diversified products and services. Sri Lanka's ambitions of becoming South Asia's next regional Trade Hub are therefore anchored to many national development programmes including the implementation of The National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) strategy.

For Sri Lankan goods and services to maintain their current market hold amid increased regional competition, it is vital that Sri Lankan products and services are considered to be synonymous with high quality and safety and compliance with international regulations and standards. A strengthened NQI has the potential to boost the standing of Sri Lankan goods and services but also to provide an enabling environment for SMEs in managing requirements of local and international markets, thereby boosting rural economies of Sri Lanka.

In order for Sri Lanka to be recognised as a regional Trade Hub by 2025, the NQI strategy has identified three priority areas. These include focus on policy, legal framework & regulatory issues and supply side issues & demand side issues. Therefore, the strategy outlines that NQI related policy & regulatory frameworks need to be updated, capacity building needs to be setup, and staff with expertise on NQI development are trained and deployed to implement the plan of action.

A focussed intervention in these strategic issues will ensure that the NQI works smoothly to increase the quality, safety and environmental protection in Sri Lanka. As such, stakeholders of the Sri Lankan NQI have agreed to the vision statement '**A national quality infrastructure at the service of socio-economic development in Sri Lanka**'. Adherence and support to this vision and strategic approach will pave the way for a well-established and dynamic NQI in Sri Lanka.

The NQI has identified three strategic objectives. These are, to implement the National Quality Policy together with the National Quality Council as the monitoring body of the NQI, to promote recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system and to foster a culture of national quality consciousness while improving provision of NQI services to all Sri Lankans.

We, the stakeholders of NQI in Sri Lanka, look forward to the implementation of this long-awaited strategy, which Sri Lanka's manufacturing and export bases have long been in need of. We pledge therefore, to contribute and cooperate to the best of our ability to ensure that the NQI strategy is implemented such that Sri Lankan products and services can reach their optimal potential.



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The document benefited particularly from inputs and guidance provided by members of the national quality infrastructure team and key stakeholders that steered the formulation of the Strategy, namely:

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The full list of public and private stakeholders that contributed their precious time to the design of this Strategy are detailed in Appendix 1.

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ACRONYMS

The following abbreviations are used :

APHA	American Public Health Association	MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
APLAC	Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation	MoDSIT	Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade
APMP	Asia Pacific Metrology Programme	MoFARD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development
BIPM	International Bureau for Weights and Measures	MoHNIM	Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
BS	British Standard	MoPI	Ministry of Primary Industries
CAA	Consumer Affairs Authority	MoSTR	Ministry of Science, Technology and Research
CAB	Conformity Assessment Body	MRA	Mutual Recognition Agreement
CCC	Ceylon Chamber of Commerce	MS	Management System
CDA	Coconut Development Authority	MUSSD	Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department
CIPM	International Committee for Weights and Measures	NCE	National Chamber of Exporters
CMC	Calibration and Measurement Capability	NES	National Export Strategy
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	NFA	National Food Authority
DoA	Department of Agriculture	NMI	National Metrology Institute
DAFH	Department of Animal Production and Health	NPQS	National Plant Quarantine Service
DoC	Department of Commerce	NQC	National Quality Council
EDB	Sri Lanka Export Development Board	NQI	National Quality Infrastructure
EN	European Norm	NQP	National Quality Policy
EU	European Union	PoA	Plan of Action
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices	RIA	Regulatory Impact Analysis
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice	SLAB	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board
GoSL	Government of Sri Lanka	SLATL	Sri Lanka Association of Testing Laboratories
HS	Harmonized System	SLS	Sri Lankan Standard
IAF	International Accreditation Forum	SLSI	Sri Lanka Standards Institution
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission	SME	Small and Medium-sized enterprise
IECD	Import Export Control Department	SPS	Sanitary and phytosanitary
ILAC	International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation	TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
IoT	Internet of Things	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	WB	World Bank
ITC	International Trade Centre	WTO	World Trade Organization
ITI	Industrial Technology Institute		
KCDB	Key Comparison Database (BIPM)		
MIC	Ministry of Industry and Commerce		



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The goal of Sri Lanka's National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) Strategy is to set quality-related functions on a course to provide high-performance services that allow small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), larger companies and exporters to comply with market requirements. It equally aims to build capacities, support the enforcement of Sri Lankan regulations, assist environmental sustainability and ensure consumers are protected through access to quality and safe goods.

The NQI Strategy originates from the need to implement the National Quality Policy (NQP) of Sri Lanka. All key NQI institutions, the private sector, relevant Government institutions and civil society (representatives from universities and technical and vocational education and training institutions) were involved in the consultative and inclusive design process to ensure the final document reflects their diverse ambitions and is fully implementable for the benefit of Sri Lanka.

This Strategy builds upon the findings of an NQI gap assessment,¹ corresponds to a broader vision for the long-term improvement of the quality function, and defines a precise five-year implementation road map (action plan) This NQI Strategy was designed in conjunction with the National Export Strategy (NES) of Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka's NQI has been developing progressively for many years and has established the main functions required to operate and be internationally recognized through multilateral agreements. Sri Lanka has all the necessary institutions that form the basis of an NQI: the national metrology institute (NMI) of Sri Lanka handles industrial, legal and scientific metrology; the Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI), which formulates standards for Sri Lankan products in line with international standards; and the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB), which is the national accreditation body of Sri Lanka. These core institutions, in close coordination with conformity assessment bodies (CABs), have been protecting Sri Lankan consumers and ensuring compliance of Sri Lankan exports.

Quality as a national priority has been addressed through the development of a comprehensive policy framework (the NQP), demonstrating Government commitment to establishing a modern NQI and accompanying governance structure. Although all the functions required in a contemporary NQI are present and the policy framework is in place, some specific weaknesses continue to impede the performance of the NQI. There are also gaps in overall coordination. In order for Sri Lanka to be recognized as a trade hub by 2025, there are key NQI priorities that need to be addressed, outlined below.

Policy, legal framework and regulatory issues: The legislation supporting the NQI is outdated and incomplete. Coordination mechanisms for institutions and regulatory bodies must be set in place. A centralized system to keep track of technical regulators or technical regulations is also needed; as well as a comprehensive legal framework for central coordination, planning, oversight and monitoring of the NQI, including implementation of regulatory impact analysis (RIA) to ensure regulatory efficiency.

Supply-side issues: There are not enough technical staff with recognized competence operating in NQI institutions. An increase in staff is required in most institutions, especially in the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD). Long-term budgetary planning for the NQI is weak and not coordinated between institutions. In addition, conformity assessment services must be extensively developed, accreditation broadened and conformity assessment services made visible, especially to the private sector.

Demand-side issues: There is limited understanding and visibility of conformity assessment processes in Sri Lanka, as well as their accreditation status. Standards committees do not cover all key sectors, nor do they address all of the standardization needs. International buyers are increasingly requesting private certification schemes but Sri Lankan SMEs have limited access to such schemes, which are also expensive. Sri Lanka could establish a comprehensive and open standard and certification scheme incorporating ethics and environment sustainability which would be acceptable to buyers.

1.- WB (2017). Sri Lanka NQI Gap Assessment.

There is a general lack of awareness about NQI-related issues within institutions, the private sector and consumers. A centralized information repository of NQI services is required for SMEs to access a one-stop shop for all quality-related services.

The institutional, regulatory and service provision set-up of the NQI, including how it is coordinated, needs to be optimized. The following represent the main focus areas of the NQI Strategy:

- Reinforce overall institutional coordination in the NQI;
- Revise the legal framework and initiate the development of RIA and an umbrella legal framework for the NQI;
- Strengthen managerial and technical capacities of NQI core institutions in line with international best practice;
- Strengthen and broaden conformity assessment services in Sri Lanka with international recognition;
- Broaden and coordinate the metrology function;
- Promote the participation of national technical institutions (SLSI, SLAB, MUSSD) in international technical forums;
- Develop national standards in line with newly developing economic sectors;
- Streamline food safety control in Sri Lanka;
- Build awareness and understanding about quality in the private sector and the general public.

The strengthening of these strategic points will ensure that the NQI works efficiently to raise the bar of quality, safety and environmental protection in Sri Lanka. The following vision and strategic approach will guide the way for a well-established and effectively functioning NQI. This vision statement and strategic arrangement were agreed by key NQI stakeholders of Sri Lanka.

“ A national quality infrastructure at the service of socioeconomic development in Sri Lanka ”

Looking into the future:

In 2020, Sri Lanka will have all NQI services accessible to priority sectors, with international recognition.

In 2023, Sri Lanka's NQI will be operating with a higher level of inter-agency coordination, led by a national quality council (NQC); more active institutional participation in international and regional forums; regulations following RIA; and conformity assessment services used by the public and private sectors and academia, including research, development and innovation.

In the years following the implementation of this Strategy, Sri Lanka will be the leader of quality in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC); NQI will have a strong planning, coordinating, and monitoring NQC leading a quality promotion agency; NQI institutions will participate and play key roles in international forums; and all conformity assessment schemes/services will be internationally recognized and widely used by SAARC countries and other Asian countries.

The vision will be achieved by addressing the key constraints of the NQI in a comprehensive manner, and through implementing the robust and realistic strategic plan of action (PoA) defined and agreed by NQI stakeholders. In order to plan, work and act towards the coherent vision, it is necessary to reach the following three strategic objectives and 11 operational objectives.

1: Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI

- Reinforce institutional coordination in the NQI by creating the NQC, an interactive information platform and a quality unit (or agency) to promote and facilitate quality-related services
- Revise the legal framework supporting the NQI and enable RIA
- Strengthen managerial and planning capacities in NQI institutions

2: Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system

- Strengthen conformity assessment service provision
- Strengthen MUSSD to have their CMCs internationally recognized
- Strengthen NQI institutions and support participation in international forums
- Expand SLAB accreditation services and increase international recognition
- Review national technical regulations to cover exclusively: environmental and health and safety requirements, consumer protection, and justice

3: Improve provision of NQI services to all Sri Lankans and foster a national quality culture

- Assemble existing food safety units into a dedicated NFA
- Establish standardization committees and standardization units for key sectors
- Increase the knowledge, skills and qualifications in technical and quality aspects for the industry, non-NQI institutions and the general public

Benefits to the Sri Lankan economy and consumers

The implementation of the NQI Strategy is expected to require public and private investment of approximately LKR 3.1 billion over the next five years. Strategic objectives:	Investment 2018–2022 (USD thousand)
1: Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI	3,915
2: Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system	8,625
3: Improve provision of NQI services to all Sri Lankans and foster a national quality culture	3,200
Total (USD thousand)	15,570

According to World Bank (WB) estimates, the potential impact of an improved NQI function on gross domestic product (GDP) can be estimated at an additional 1%–3% for the following five years. Considering a GDP of USD 81.322 billion and a moderate increment of 0.2% per year, the projected contribution of the NQI Strategy to Sri Lankan GDP is shown in table 1.

The investment required to implement the NQI Strategy is estimated as USD 15.5 million. Assuming a revenue rate of 3% (tax collection) over the increment of GDP, the analysis of the return on investment from a National Budget perspective is shown in table 2.

Table 1: Projected contribution to GDP of a national quality infrastructure, 2018–2022, USD million

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Increment of GDP (0.2% per year)	162.64	325.61	488.91	652.53	816.48

Source: UNIDO calculations based on WB estimates.

Table 2: Estimated return on investment of implementing a national quality infrastructure, 2018–2022, USD million

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
NQI Strategy investment	Additional tax revenue (3% of the GDP increment as fiscal income)				
15.5	4.88	9.77	14.67	19.58	24.49
				Internal rate of return	
				62.84%	

Source: UNIDO calculations based on WB estimates.

Beyond the financial returns to the Sri Lankan economy, the NQI strategy will:

- Improved protection for domestic consumers, through safer products, a clean environment and more reliable health services.
- Advanced capacities for the state to assess risks and enforce regulations, as well as have more reliable information and assessment of services.
- Level playing field for businesses to provide services related to quality.
- Healthier competition in the provision of quality services through more private CABs, will help to reduce the costs of compliance for SMEs and exporters.

- Cutting-edge testing facilities to test for entrepreneurs and innovators to improve their new products and bring to market.
- Effective coordination between institutions and services to help exporters to reach their destination.

Overall, investment in quality and compliance services will benefit all Sri Lankans.



Transparent 50



Transparent 31



INTRODUCTION

If the prosperous future that Sri Lanka desires –with good governance; rule of law; and inclusive, sustainable economic development based on international trade– is to be achieved, better quality-related services are essential. Improved business opportunities, better standards of living and improved quality of life require a strong capacity to identify, establish and effectively assess the characteristics of products, processes, systems and services. In order to build that capacity, this Strategy streamlines the implementation of the NQP, responds to the emerging compliance needs of Sri Lankan enterprises, and establishes a clear way forward for all institutions and partners of the NQI.

The Government's economic vision² necessitates transforming Sri Lanka into an open trade hub in the Indian Ocean. In the current global context, characterized by increasing interdependence among national economies and the formalization of international trade (e.g. agreements of the World Trade Organization (WTO)), all economies are subject to increasingly strong challenges, resulting in a growing demand for quality, while policies to protect both the environment and consumers have become ever more stringent.

For Sri Lanka, this means that increasing the supply capacity of quality evaluation services is essential to create high-growth/high-value opportunities, gain entry into world markets, and achieve regional harmonization and integration. In addition to the effective production of goods, it is essential to ensure the high level of quality requested by international and regional markets, including proving conformity to international standards and technical regulations. In addition, producers are increasingly expected to demonstrate that they apply sustainable and ethical practices to protect the environment and people.

Effective systems should be set up to control the quality and safety of imported and national products. This implies establishing an effective technical regulatory regime with the necessary conformity assessment³ capabilities in line with the accepted rules of international trade. To prove compliance with quality standards and technical regulations, it is essential to have a competent and internationally recognized NQI.

This NQI Strategy was designed through a consultative process between public and private stakeholders and technical meetings with key institutions, and in conjunction with the NES of Sri Lanka, to effectively support the sustainable economic growth of the country. It constitutes the plan to build the capacity of the NQI, promote the use of quality practices and implement the NQP. This Strategy will guide the development and strengthening of quality-related services and better use of quality tools in order to increase productivity, comply with technical requirements, execute production in a sustainable way and demonstrate responsibility to society.

The Strategy has the following structure:

- Section 1 describes the current NQI situation in Sri Lanka
- Section 2 is a diagnostic highlighting issues and opportunities to improve the NQI
- Section 3 shows the way to move forward by establishing the strategic framework for the NQI
- Section 4 establishes the action framework to carry out the Strategy, including the PoA
- Section 5 indicates the public and institutional anchoring and how to implement the NQC, together with key factors for successful implementation
- Section 6 is an analysis of benefits and expected results, plus key factors for successful implementation
- References and appendices complete the document.

2.– Sri Lanka (2015). Vision 2025. Available from http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/10181/66400/Vision_2025_English.pdf/8d93e8db-2c3a-4e15-9ab2-fc619817e6fd.

3.– Conformity assessment means evaluating and confirming features such as quality, reliability, safety, economy, efficiency and effectiveness as defined in standards and regulations.



A WELL-DEVELOPED YET UNFINISHED NQI FOR SRI LANKA

The NQI in Sri Lanka has been developed over the past 70 years and today possesses the basic functions required to operate and be internationally recognized through multilateral agreements.⁴ It is in line with the requirements of international trade determined by WTO as well as regional trade agreements. Accreditation activities are already recognized internationally and a legal infrastructure is in place. However, the capacity and scope of conformity assessment can still grow vastly.

In 1998 the first Sri Lankan NQP was launched. Following the introduction of this first NQP, the national NQI was developed to a great extent. In 2014, the country's economic evolution required that the NQP be revised to align with the needs of emerging sectors of the economy. The functions of the NQI were improved and reviewed. With the technical assistance of the German international development agency GIZ, the second, improved NQP was developed in 2015/16 and approved in November 2016.

The NQP provides for setting up a high-level governance structure, the NQC, to implement the NQP and coordinate all issues related to quality. However, this NQC and a related secretariat have not yet been operationalized. The NQC is foreseen to be the apex policymaking body, with high calibre membership⁵ and capable of undertaking general planning, including:

- Investments
- Coordination among NQI institutions
- Monitoring/oversight
- Fostering RIA
- Inventorying technical regulations
- Ensuring international recognition
- Supporting the quality movement
- Promoting education and training in quality topics.

4.– The following section of the NQI Strategy is adapted from: WB (2017). *Sri Lanka NQI Gap Assessment*, pp. 23–33; data from the National Quality Policy and data collected through public–private consultations facilitated by ITC and UNIDO.

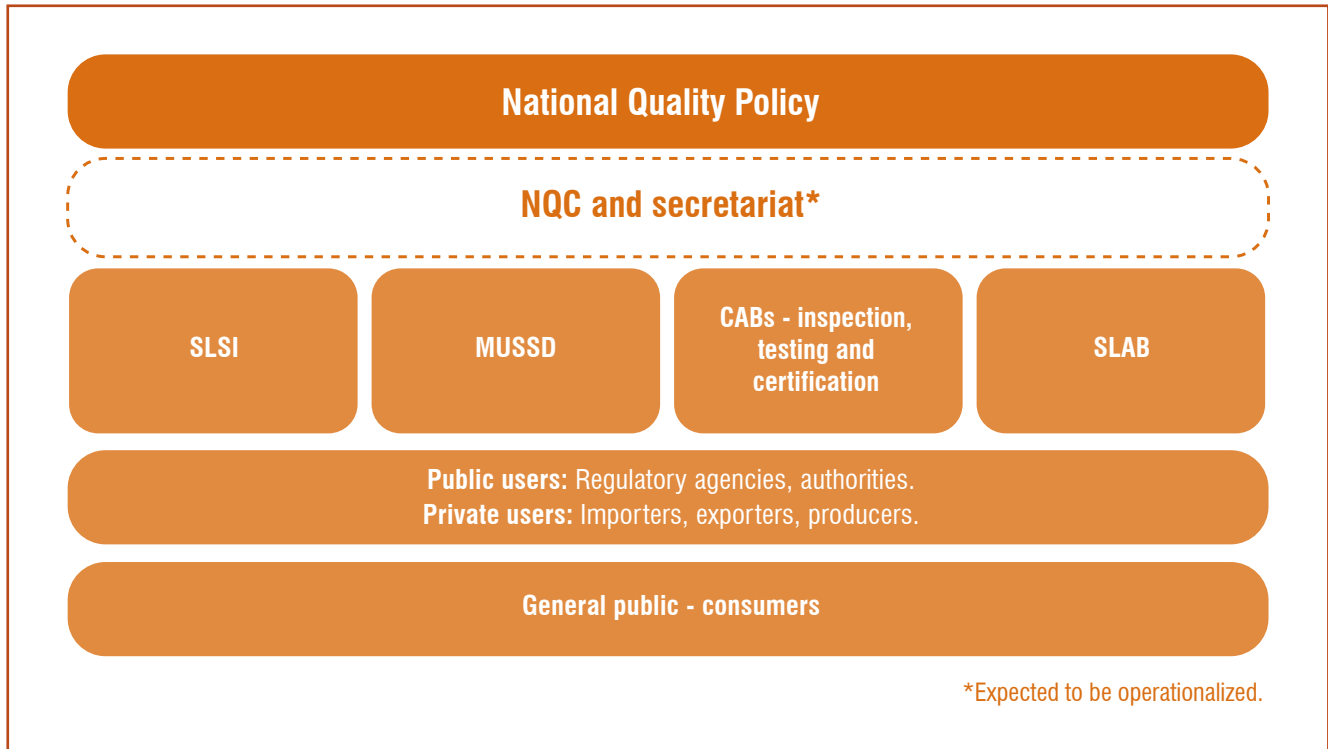
5.– According to the NQP, the members of the NQC will be appointed by His Excellency the President.



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Standardization, metrology, conformity assessment and accreditation are the main functions of NQI institutions. The services provided by these institutions are used by authorities and regulatory agencies to enforce and assure compliance and for market surveillance. The private sector relies on the NQI to assess and certify technical characteristics of products, processes, services and systems. At the end, consumers and the general public receive great benefits from NQI services by getting more and better information, and safer products, while the environment is protected. Figure 1 describes the structure of Sri Lanka's NQI and its key functions.

Figure 1: Structure of the NQI



LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The legal framework of the NQI is based on Acts passed by the Parliament of Sri Lanka. These Acts govern the establishment and functioning of core institutions and related authorities. The three core institutions that form the basis of the NQI are: MUSSD, which is the NMI of Sri Lanka heading industrial, legal and chemical metrology; SLSI, which formulates the standards that are adopted by the authorities, to be mandatory when a need arises; and SLAB, which is the national accreditation body of Sri Lanka.⁶ CAA and CEA are regulatory authorities watching for consumers and the environment. They are governed by the following Acts.

MUSSD	Act No. 35 of 1995
SLSI	Act No. 6 of 1984
SLAB	Act No. 32 of 2005
Consumer Affairs Authority (CAA)	Act No. 9 of 2003
Central Environmental Authority	Act No. 47 of 1980

However, although Sri Lanka has had this legal structure for many years, the various Acts were created at different times for different purposes and sometimes not considering the whole picture. Therefore, an assessment of the existing legal infrastructure and further recommendations for restructuring are required to create an umbrella legal framework to govern all NQI institutions and related authorities. Further, some areas of NQI that need to be addressed in order to comply with international best practices are lacking: e.g. the legal elements governing CABs are not addressed in any of the Acts.

Restructuring will also help address the conflicts among the Acts governing the NQI institutions so that the national NQI supports both local production and international trade efficiently and effectively.

The following Acts and Directions are the basis for NQI regulation in Sri Lanka.

Imports and Exports Control	Act No.1 of 1969
Consumer Protection	Act No 1 of 1979
Imports and Exports Control	Act Amendment December 1985
National Environment Act (Amendments)	Act No.56 of 1988 and Act No.53 of 2000

6.– Department of Government Printing, Sri Lanka.



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Other important legal provisions related to NQI are:

Directions issued under the Consumer Protection for Sri Lankan Standard (SLS) Marking	Act No. 1 of 1979
Directions issued under CAA	Act No. 9 of 2003 for SLS Marking
Gazette notification No. 1844/9 of 08 January 2014 under the Imports and Exports Control Act No.1 of 1969 for the imports control of SLS marking	
Gazette Extraordinary Notification No.1953/27 of 11 February 2016, to cover taps and accessories under the Import Inspection Scheme	

REGULATION, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND MARKET SURVEILLANCE

There is no central body that coordinates or monitors market surveillance. Most technical regulation functions comprise part of the work of market surveillance bodies. One important example is CAA. This organization prepares technical regulations in the area of 'consumer affairs' (a very broad area that overlaps with many sectors) and is the main market surveillance body for the protection of the Sri Lankan domestic market. CAA investigates complaints about the manufacture or sale of articles which do not conform to the

regulations and specifications determined by CAA published in the Gazette, based on the standards and specifications drafted by SLS Standards. CAA also has other functions, such as educating the public and running public awareness campaigns, undertaking studies on the sale or supply of any goods and services, etc.

SLSI, through the SLS marking system, also has a market surveillance role: where a certification mark is declared to be compulsory for any commodity or product for its manufacture, production, processing or treatment, it has to comply to the relevant standard specifications. The SLS Mark has two main problems: it is used for both voluntary and mandatory purposes (indistinct for the final consumer), and it is used by authorities to enforce compliance with regulations. Regulators should use product certification bodies accredited by SLAB or other internationally recognized accreditation bodies.⁷

Regarding technical regulations and market surveillance in Sri Lanka, responsibility is shared across varied institutions for more than 30 focus areas. While certain areas are not covered, it appears that definition of technical regulations in Sri Lanka uses a complicated and partially fragmented framework.

7.- SLSI is not accredited, to date, for product certification. A complete list of accredited CABs can be found in appendix 3.

Table 3: Area of responsibility and responsible organization for market surveillance

Area of responsibility	Responsible organization
Food items	Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine (MoHNIM)
Cosmetics, drugs and devices	MoHNIM
Spices	MoHNIM
Meat products	Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
Agricultural products	Department of Agriculture (DoA)
Pesticides	MoA
Fisheries	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Consumer affairs	CAA
Desiccated coconut	Coconut Development Authority (CDA)
Tea	Sri Lanka Tea Board, Tea Commissioner's Department
Analysts	Government Analyst's Department, Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)
Atomic energy	Atomic Energy Authority
Ayurveda and homeopathic drugs	Department of Ayurveda, Ayurveda Research Institute
Analysis of medical products	Medical Research Institute, National Drugs Quality Control Laboratory
Measurements units and legal metrology	MUSSD, Department of Internal Trade
Environment, wildlife and forestry	Central Environmental Authority
Emissions from motor vehicles	Central Environmental Authority, Department of Motor Traffic
Gems and jewellery	National Gem and Jewellery Authority
Pharmaceuticals	State Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Electrical Testing	National Engineering Research and Development Centre, Arthur C. Clarke Centre
Housing and construction	Department of Building, Institute of Construction Training and Development, National Building Research Organization, Condominium Management Authority, Urban Development Authority, Colombo Municipal Council
Public health and safety	Office of Chief Medical Officer
Registration of factories	Department of Labour
Telecommunications	Telecommunications Regulatory Authority
Imported items	CAA, SLSI, Import Export Control Department (IECD)
Fuel transportation	Ceylon Petroleum Corporation
Compulsory products	Department of Internal Trade, SLSI
Energy Conservation	Ceylon Electricity Board
Marine engineering and shipping	Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Marine Pollution Prevention
Road development	Ministry of Higher Education and Highways

Source: WB (2017). *Sri Lanka NQI Gap Assessment*, p. 22.

STANDARDIZATION

The standardization function is taken up by SLSI, the national standards body of Sri Lanka established in 1964.

SLSI now functions under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Research (MoSTR) and is governed by a Council appointed by the Minister. SLSI is a member of and official Sri Lanka representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). As member of ISO,

SLSI exchanges, on a reciprocal basis, copies of its national standards, and is responsible for disseminating information on standards, technical regulations and standards-related activities to the community at national level. SLSI also represents Sri Lanka in the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

Currently about 2,000 national standards are used in Sri Lanka, and about 1,400 of them relate to products, commodities, materials, processes and practices. While no research data are available on the ideal number of standards

required to serve the needs of an economy, large, sophisticated economies normally have around 10,000 to 20,000 national standards and smaller economies have around 5,000. In cases where suitable national standards are not available, industry often makes use of suitable international standards or foreign national standards (usually from trading partners such as India). The standards information function at SLSI has access to several international standards databases and can provide these to the public. Standards are prepared through sectoral committees. Sri Lankan Standards are prepared in 14 categories:

1. Food
2. Agriculture
3. Chemicals
4. Cosmetics
5. Paper and board
6. Packaging
7. Societal needs
8. Textiles and garments
9. Leather and footwear
10. Codes of practice
11. Test methods
12. Terms and glossaries
13. Management system standards
14. Other

National standards are developed and approved in accordance with annex 3 to the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) agreement, *Code of Good Practice for the Development of Standards*. The procedure is captured in the national standard SLS 0 – published on the SLSI website and publicly available at no charge. A quality system is in place to provide assurance that procedures are followed, and to this end the standards development function is certified to ISO 9001 by the Bureau of Indian Standards. The *WB NQI Gap Analysis (2017)* pointed to frustrations by members of the public with the time taken for to develop certain standards that are needed.

The standards development function is committed to aligning national standards with international standards, and SLSI is thus a member of both ISO and IEC. Sri Lanka participates in 197 out of 688 technical committees at the international level (71 committees as a full participation member and 126 as an observer) and three ISO policy development committees. SLSI also facilitates the membership of the Sri Lanka national committee at the IEC, where it participates in four technical committees. In general, the participation of SLSI in international committees is very limited, and hence the correspondence of mirror technical committees in Sri Lanka is inadequate.

As the leading institution mandated for quality in Sri Lanka, SLSI has many functions. In addition to its fundamental role in the preparation of standards, SLSI provides training to the industry, performs laboratory services in terms of calibrations and product tests, runs the product certification system (SLS Mark), organizes the Sri Lanka National Quality Awards, performs import inspections, is the WTO enquiry point and performs certification.

METROLOGY

The metrology function in Sri Lanka is led by MUSSD. As in any other country, metrology is one of the main components in any kind of NQI and has three areas: development of measurement standards and techniques (or scientific metrology), calibrations (industrial metrology) and verifications on behalf of national interests (legal metrology). MUSSD plays the role of NMI in Sri Lanka and is responsible for scientific, industrial and legal metrology activities in the country. MUSSD was established in 1997 according to the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Act No: 35 of 1995. It replaced the former Weights and Measures Bureau, which functioned as a small division of the Price Control Department. This division mostly concentrated on legal metrological activities rather than scientific or industrial aspects.

The National Measurement Laboratory was also established under the MUSSD Act, and is the core institute of MUSSD and the NMI in Sri Lanka but with a different name. Establishment, maintenance and dissemination of national measurement standards in Sri Lanka are performed by the National Measurement Laboratory.

Apart from Government institutes such as ITI, SLSI, the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board which have calibration laboratories, few other bodies provide calibration facilities. Additionally, four private sector calibration laboratories also operate in Sri Lanka.

While basic calibrations can be provided to industry by MUSSD and these other calibration laboratories, the calibration functions of MUSSD require recognition and traceability to international measurement standards through the inclusion of their CMCs in the Key Comparison Database (KCDB) of the International Bureau of Weights and Measurements (BIPM⁸). As the economy grows in size and complexity, additional measurement traceability and higher accuracy of existing measurements will be required; significant investment will be needed.

8.– BIPM follows the name in French: Bureau International des Poids et Mesures.

Sri Lanka is an Associate (not yet a member state) of the General Conference on Weights and Measures and has been participating in the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM)⁹ Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) since 14 November 2007 (excepting the period 1 January

9.– CIPM follows the name in French: Comité International des Poids et Mesures.

2015 to 16 August 2016). For MUSSD to obtain international recognition, it is still necessary to sign the CIPM MRA. In order for that to happen, the quality system of MUSSD has to be assessed and approved by Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP) Technical Committee for Quality System and must have approved participations in key comparisons organized by BIPM. After that, MUSSD CMCs could be included in the KCDB.

Box 1: Metrology in the SAARC region

In the SAARC region, no country other than India has published CMCs in the KCDB. In the extended Asia Pacific region, there is the regional metrology forum, APMP, which is a grouping of NIMs from which MUSSD can obtain technical knowledge.

In South-East Asia, other members of APMP have included some of their CMCs in the KCDB (e.g. Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Viet Nam). Other members of APMP are in a more advanced situation than Sri Lanka, with many CMCs included – providing a high level of calibration in several physical magnitudes as well as ionizing radiation – and are producing a large number of certified reference materials (e.g. Republic of Korea, Japan, China).

ACCREDITATION

The accreditation function is performed by SLAB, the Sri Lankan national accreditation authority. SLAB functions under the purview of MoSTR and is governed by a Council with 13 members. The Director is the Chief Executive of the Accreditation Board. SLAB is responsible for promoting accreditation activities and providing the necessary accreditation services to facilitate conformity assessments in the provision of goods and services for domestic and export markets. In delivering accreditation services, SLAB works closely with governmental organizations and professional bodies whose members represent different committees and could thus compromise the confidentiality and impartiality of accreditation. However, suitable steps are always taken to minimize or eliminate any conflicts of interest regarding accreditation.

Accreditation in Sri Lanka is performed in five groups, in line with international practices:

- **Accreditation of testing/calibration laboratories:** chemical testing, biological testing, physical and mechanical testing, and calibration laboratories.
- **Accreditation of medical/clinical laboratories:** clinical pathology, clinical biochemistry, haematology, microbiology and serology, histopathology, immunology, molecular biology, pharmacology and nuclear medicine.

- **Accreditation of inspection bodies:** Organizations required to conduct various types of inspections for regulatory purposes are accredited under this scheme.
- **Accreditation of certification bodies:** Competence requirements for auditing and certification of environmental management systems; competence requirements for auditing and certification of quality management systems and food safety management systems; requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems; accreditation of product certification bodies.
- **Accreditation of greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies.**

SLAB has no accreditation services for proficiency test providers, nor for certified reference materials producers.

SLAB is a full member and is a signatory to the MRA of Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). It has also gained full membership status with Pacific Accreditation Cooperation and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

The scope of the SLAB IAF Multilateral Recognition Agreement is:

- Management system (MS) certification – ISO/IEC 17021-1
 - Sub-scopes:
 - Level 4 MS: ISO/TS 22003
 - Level 5 MS: ISO 9001
 - MS: ISO 14001
 - MS: ISO 22000
- Product certification – ISO/IEC 17065

The scope of the SLAB ILAC MRA is:

- Calibration: ISO/IEC 17025
- Testing: ISO/IEC 17025
- Medical testing: ISO 15189
- Inspection: ISO/IEC 17020

There is still a lot of room for improvement for SLAB, both in new services and in a greater number of accredited CABs.



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CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

Certification and testing are carried out by many CABs in the areas of products, processes, services, MSs and personnel. These organizations belong to public or private institutions. Most of the product certification is done through the SLS Mark system and handled by SLSI. This product certification scheme, which is popularly known as the 'SLS Marks Scheme', is a scheme that gives a third party guarantee on quality of a product. It enables SLSI to grant permits to local and overseas manufacturers that produce goods conforming to Sri Lankan Standards to carry the 'SLS' mark on their products. The SLSI Act No.6 of 1984, and the regulations made therein, empower SLSI to issue such permits to manufacturers. Nonetheless, SLSI is not yet accredited by SLAB to provide product certification (ISO/IEC 17065). Only one CAB is accredited for product certification by SLAB. Organic food certification is provided in 98% of cases by a foreign multinational company, accredited not by SLAB but by a foreign accreditation body.

Similar to product certification, personnel certification is very weak in Sri Lanka. Currently there is only one such body – the National Certification Body for Non-destructive Testing – which is accredited. Three CABs are accredited by SLAB for systems certification. A complete list of accredited CABs can be found in appendix 2.

Inspection is mostly performed by State organizations but their accreditation is weak. There is only one accredited inspection body in Sri Lanka. None of the market surveillance bodies perform accredited inspections. They neither use external accredited inspection bodies nor are their internal inspection systems accredited. Without a central directive

to the contrary, regulatory bodies tend to feel that they do not need to demonstrate their competence to an independent third party because their mandate to inspect is already provided in their enabling legislation. Post-market surveillance of compliance with technical requirements is weak, with regulatory bodies concentrating largely on pre-market approval of products.

The NQI in Sri Lanka has been developing progressively for many years and it has established all of its key functions. However, not all functions operate at the same level of effectiveness. The overall NQI coordination and governance indicated by the NQP is also not yet operationalized.

INSTITUTIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE NQI FUNCTION

Trade and investment support institutions have a bearing on the performance of the NQI function. An assessment of trade and investment support institutions along three key dimensions – coordination and influence, human capital and financial capacity, and influence on NQI development – was completed through the consultative process in order to identify areas of institutional upgrading required for successful Strategy implementation. The assessment shown in table 4 was conducted based on stakeholders' evaluation of trade and investment support institutions from the perspective of how well they operate according to the three criteria mentioned.

Table 4: Assessment of NQI institutions

Name of institution	Description of trade and investment support institutions in line with trade support functions	Coordination of interventions	Human and financial capacity	Influence on NQI development
		High, medium or low	High, medium or low	High, medium or low
SLSI (under MoSTR)	National standards body of Sri Lanka, established under the Bureau of Ceylon Standards Act No. 38 of 1964. The SLSI Act No. 6 of 1984 established SLSI. Its major role is standardization, although it has been accumulating other functions.	High	Medium	High
MUSSD [under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC)]	This is the NMI in Sri Lanka, established under the MUSSD Act No 35 of 1995. The role of MUSSD is solely related to metrology.	Low (only legal metrology)	Very low	Low
SLAB (under MoSTR)	SLAB is the national accreditation authority for Sri Lanka, established under the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment Act. No. 32 of 2005. SLAB's role is solely related to accreditation.	High	Low	High
CAA (under MIC)	CAA was created by the CAA Act No. 9 of 2003, which also covers previous related Acts such as the Consumer Protection Act No. 1 of 1979. The role of CAA is to protect and safeguard the rights of consumers and traders.	High	Low	High
National Plant Quarantine Service (NQPS) (under DoA/MoA)	NPQS is responsible for implementing the Plant Protection Act No. 35 of 1999. The regulations under the Plant Protection Ordinance (1924) are still in operation to prevent introduction of dangerous pests through import and to promote healthy plants and plant products in export.	High	Low	High
Animal Quarantine Inspection Services (under the Department of Animal Production and Health (DAPH))	The Animal Diseases Act No. 59 of 1992 is implemented by DAPH to ensure that diseases are not introduced into or by Sri Lanka by way of import and export of livestock and livestock products.	High	Medium	High
Central Environment Authority (under the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment)	The Central Environment Authority, established under the Environment Act No. 47 of 1980 as amended by Act No. 56 of 1988 and Act No. 53 of 2000, is responsible for implementing all national environmental regulations.	High	Medium	High
Directorate of Environmental and Occupational Health (under MoHNIM)	The Food Act No. 26 of 1980, as amended by the Food (amendment) Act No. 20 of the 1991, regulates and controls the manufacture, importation, sale and distribution of food. It is one of the major actors in food safety.	High	Low	High
National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (under the Ministry of Labour, Trade Union Relations and Sabaragamuwa Development)	The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health is responsible for ensuring implementation of safety, health and welfare standards in the workplace.	High	Low	High
Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB – under MIC)	EDB was established under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act No. of 40 of 1979. It is the national export promotion agency and as such (<i>inter alia</i>) provides support to exporters by providing access to trade information, including information related to technical requirements for exports as well as international standards.	High	Low (for quality)	High

Name of institution	Description of trade and investment support institutions in line with trade support functions	Coordination of interventions	Human and financial capacity	Influence on NQI development
		High, medium or low	High, medium or low	High, medium or low
CDA	Under the CDA Act No. 46 of 1971, amendment to Act No. 40 of 1987 and the extraordinary Gazette Notification No. 69/4 of 31/12/1978, the CDA has been vested with power to provide governance, guidelines and technology to the industry. The CDA has an important role to play in relation to varieties imported, as well as the quarantine regulations related to the industry.	High	Medium	High
Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (under the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development (MoFARD))	The Fisheries Act No. 2 of 1996 declares related fisheries management practices in line with regional and international conventions and regulations. The Fisheries Ordinance of 1940 enabled the creation of the Fisheries Department to increase production for both local and export markets. The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources plays an important role in food safety measures related to the fisheries industry.	Medium	Medium	Very high
National Aquaculture Development Authority (under MoFARD)	The National Aquaculture Development Authority is governed by the National Aquaculture Development Authority Act No. 53 of 1998, and formulates relevant regulations under its mandate to manage aquaculture and inland fisheries to ensure food safety and improve quality.	High	Low	High
Department of Export Agriculture (under the Ministry of Primary Industries (MoPI))	The Department of Export Agriculture is responsible for research and development of a group of perennial export agriculture crops. It has a major role in quarantine and import regulations.	High	Low	High
IECD	The Imports and Exports (Control) Act No. 1 of 1969 provides for the control of the import and export of goods to be implemented by IECD, and thus quality assurance.	High	Medium	High
Sri Lanka Customs (under the Ministry of Finance and Mass Media)	Sri Lanka Customs was established in 1806 and is governed by the Customs Ordinance, under which regulations are enacted to enforce revenue and facilitate trade. It has an obvious role in import quality assurance.	High	High	High

Coordination among public and private stakeholders is difficult if you consider the high number of institutions covering similar products. One illustrative example is food items, where at least seven institutions cover similar aspects of the value chain. A food processor for the domestic market or export would have to navigate between all these institutions to ensure compliance with regulations, and thus lose on efficiency in a competitive international market. Further, a start-up facility will find this situation a legal impediment to function and survive. When looking at the list of institutions, this situation is confirmed by an obvious lack of any coordination body or function among these institutions. In addition, not all key NQI bodies report to the same ministries, which misaligns planning and resourcing. The glaring coordination

challenge is the first to be addressed by the present Strategy and has been already recommended by the NQP through the setting up of an NQC. However, as mentioned, this process has taken more time than foreseen.

The human capital and financial capacity of most organizations need to be developed in order to meet new challenges and advancing trends in the market. The NQI institutions, apart from CABs, are State-owned and managed, which means recruitment of human resources is time- and procedure-intensive. Remuneration is also less attractive at these institutions than in the private sector. The financial capacity of the institution depends on the budgetary allocation by the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL). Table 4 illustrates the



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low financial capacity of NQI institutions. This challenge is worsened by the above-mentioned coordination problem, since financial planning and resourcing cannot be done in a coordinated manner due to the absence of an overarching coordinating body. Here again, the different lead ministries among NQI institutions pose an additional challenge.

Quality of service has also been lacking in some particular areas of the NQI, such as metrology and conformity assessment. This is illustrated by the results in table 4. One of the important points regarding the quality services industry (especially conformity assessment) is that investment,

financial support and policy orientation are geared to foster public institutions, leaving little room for the development of private service providers. Even with strong and capable public institutions, the analysis suggest that it is strategic to gradually shift support initiatives from the supply side (institutions) to the demand side (users) giving room for the market to operate.

NQI DIAGNOSTIC

The following NQI diagnostic is based on the 2017 WB *Sri Lanka NQI Gap Assessment*, public and private stakeholders' consultations held for the NES and NQI design framework, and bilateral meetings with lead institutions of the NQI. The inclusive and consultative process allowed for the consolidation, review and comprehensive evaluation of issues identified, and complementing of core NQI gaps with other quality-related issues faced by exporters involved in NES priority sectors. The issues presented are grouped in three categories:

- General aspects including the legal framework, technical regulations and monitoring of the NQI
- Capacity of NQI institutions, indicating gaps and weaknesses of the services provided in Sri Lanka related to quality
- Limitation of the use of and the scarce demand for quality-related services.

Policy and legal framework issues

The legislation supporting the NQI is outdated and incomplete. While the basic legislation is in place to mandate the key NQI institutions to perform their functions, there are important gaps in the legislation which need to be addressed. For instance, there are no provisions in regulations compelling regulators to use the services of NQI institutions, including CABs or accreditation. Implementation of the legislation may not be strict due to resource limitations in relevant NQI organizations and regulatory bodies. Preparing an umbrella law defining the whole NQI, including conformity assessment as well as coordination of the NQI, would be a first step towards resolving the issue.

Initially, the Strategy foresees a stocktaking of the existing NQI legal framework. This assessment should identify the adjustments needed to extend to currently uncovered areas and make services more efficient, avoiding duplication of efforts. At least two areas need to have an institutional adjustment: metrology services and standardization.

- MUSSD must obtain independence and autonomy from MIC. It is considered that an independent metrology institution could avoid possible conflicts of interest between legal metrology and industrial metrology. The Strategy thus suggests that MUSSD be allowed to operate autonomously and perform its essential function in the NQI.
- SLSI is also perceived to require strategic restructuring to avoid conflicts of interest and be more efficient in the development and application of standards. Additionally, the SLS Mark should be transformed from a mandatory certification to a voluntary quality mark. This national quality mark should be issued by any accredited CABs in Sri Lanka that possesses international recognition for ISO 17065.

As a second step, the Strategy will initiate the development of an umbrella legal framework for the NQI. Although this activity is a long-term and labour-intensive initiative, the Strategy will aim to kick-start the effort in this direction. The development of a comprehensive legal framework for the NQI is a necessary step to ensure clarity of mandates and interactions among NQI institutions.

The issues are addressed through PoA activities: 1.2.1., 1.2.3, 2.2.3, 2.5.1.

Technical regulations, current situation and challenges

Technical regulations determine what is mandatory versus voluntary. Additionally, technical regulations determine the volume of the NQI market as well as the level of impact of service provision on production and export. Since regulatory bodies are the 'creators and owners' of the conformity assessment market, they also have a disciplinary role in 'regulating' the service providers by providing valuable feedback to their clients – NQI service providers.

There is no single authority in charge of the coordination or supervision of regulatory bodies, including keeping track of technical regulators or technical regulations. Regulation and regulatory enforcement in Sri Lanka are administered by several institutions, including MoHNM, MoA,

DoA, the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, CAA, NQPS, DAPH, the Central Environmental Authority and the Medical Research Institute, among others. Technical regulations on import inspection schemes are handled by SLSI. The definition of technical regulations is indistinct and often confused with standards or business regulations in Sri Lanka.

As part of this issue, food safety control was identified as one of the weak functions by private sector operators, as it is currently scattered among a number of institutions. The Strategy will thus aim to establish a better coordination mechanism among the regulatory bodies as well as in the food safety function. The Strategy will set up an NQI coordination mechanism (described further) and coordinate existing responsible food safety control institutions in a national food authority (NFA), which will coordinate food safety control and develop new tests required by industry operators that are not currently available. This NFA will also integrate the sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) enquiry point.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 2.5.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2.

The NQI should be the primary tool to demonstrate compliance with these technical requirements. Sri Lanka, as a WTO member, has so far only notified 48 TBT measures in 15 Harmonized System (HS) codes and 39 SPS measures in 21 HS codes.¹⁰ The EU, with 598 general¹¹ SPS measures and 1,071 TBT measures; the United States of America, with 2,913 SPS measures and 1,482 TBT measures; and many other international markets have strong technical regulatory requirements on compliance for imported goods, usually based on international standards. Thus, expanding the market size of conformity assessment services can be achieved either by widening internal markets through new regulations or by opening up to external markets by means of export of services.

There is no systemic RIA to assess the positive effects, costs and counter-effects of regulatory measures, including technical regulations. The implementation of RIA will help to ensure that regulations are efficient and effective, that responsibilities are allocated (including enforcement) and that proper training and communication are administered.

The Strategy integrates an initiative to elaborate and carry out a plan of RIA for existing and new technical regulations. In Sri Lanka there are some regulations (see appendices 4 and 5) that are based on technical requirements.

10.– Other SAARC countries have also notified measures (SPS, TBT), such as Afghanistan (3, 2), India (164, 102), Nepal (24, 4) and Pakistan (1, 112). The corresponding lists of Sri Lankan measures can be found in appendices 4 and 5.

11.– Europe in total has 1,339 SPS measures and 4,125 TBT measures, including in-country measures and general measures.

Furthermore, a considerable set of products are mandatory to be certified with the SLS mark. The requisites, the mark, and the control, surveillance, enforcement and procedures can all be substantially improved. Using a RIA approach with existing and future regulations will increase the capacity of GoSL to protect national interests while Sri Lanka's businesses gain more efficient procedures to demonstrate compliance with regulations.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 1.2.2., 2.5.3.

Limited coordination, planning, oversight and monitoring of NQI institutions

This issue stems from an outdated legal base in the first place, which does not establish clear demarcation of mandates and does not define the nature of interactions between the main functional institutions. In addition, assignment of the NQI institutions to different ministries makes coordination unclear and weak. Having limited planning, oversight and monitoring of the NQI as a whole has led the system to grow in a disproportionate manner, with some highly capable institutions and others lagging behind. Weak coordination can also produce unnecessary duplicated capacity and can affect the private sector, which has to deal with several institutions or authorities covering similar issues or requesting different requirements or procedures for the same product or service.

Moreover, overall institutional development of NQI organizations is not strong. There are number of organizational developments, capacity-building of staff and physical improvements of facilities envisaged. Without this development, success depends on the individuals in charge of the organizations. Such systems frequently fail and are not sustainable in the long run. To prevent a potential failure, relevant areas of the NQI organizations should be improved in a well-planned and coordinated way. Further, adequate budget needs to be provided for these institutions to upgrade human, technical and infrastructural capacities, and for better coordination among different institutions. This is a long-term process and will take several years to complete.

The Strategy will thus support the operationalization of the NQC and set up a dynamic collaboration prior to the official establishment of the NQC. The Strategy will also focus on establishing an online platform managed by a coordination unit or a single agency guided directly by the NQC. This quality unit will mentor SMEs in deciphering the technical regulations/standards and commercial aspects of branding and marketing by presenting and explaining all available NQI services.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.3.1, 1.3.4.

Box 2: National quality council as the apex body of the NQI

The NQP proposes the establishment of an NQC. The establishment of such a coordination and oversight body for all NQI institutions in Sri Lanka will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of existing NQI entities. As it stands, there are no coordination or monitoring bodies for the NQI. Activities that are currently lacking or carried out on a limited basis and that need to be addressed are:

- Formulation of long-term investment plans based on the NQI Strategy
- Provision of a one-stop information centre (or database) for enterprises
- Assessment and monitoring of the performance of NQI institutions

- Coordination of donor activities
- Minimization of overlap (duplication) and maximization of complementarities (synergies)
- Establishment of alliances and partnerships with relevant international bodies.

The NQC should have real authority, with proper governance and adequate financial and human resources. It should be headed by a senior official and have high-level representation from relevant ministries, NQI bodies and the private sector. This oversight responsibility cannot lie with existing NQI institutions given the inherent conflict of interest.

Supply-side issues: capacity of Sri Lanka's NQI

There is also a problem with the availability of technical staff with recognized competence operating in various NQI institutions. The expertise pool in the accreditation area is particularly limited and assessment audits are often conducted by assessors involved with multiple institutions; this poses challenges to SLAB in that it makes it difficult to serve the growing need and to manage the risk to impartiality posed by assessors being overused. More generally, across the NQI, there is a lack of long-term external consultants with proper knowledge who would bring in new and fresh NQI processes to the existing system. In addition, a formal system of identifying, managing and verifying the technical competency requirements for practitioners (such as auditors, laboratory analysts, inspectors and assessors) is important for the delivery of quality in the institutions to be developed. Such quality-related activities to develop and increase the capacity of human resources, and a career planning system to attract better staff and to retain existing staff, are either non-existent or very weak in most of these institutions. Knowledge management and transfer, organizational development and project MSs are weak or non-existent across the NQI and these skills, too, need to be developed.

The functional leadership of the NQI institutions is for the most part not competent in technical matters related to business and management skills. Institutions with the relevant ministerial departments have chosen technical people instead of people with administrative competencies and managerial skills to lead these institutions. Having a technical team led by a non-administrative top management team poses some difficulties in terms of leading the technical

strategies needed for organizations to address challenges, and also makes it difficult for organizations to respond rapidly to emerging challenges in the market.

The Strategy will resolve those issues by reinforcing the exposure of NQI staff to well-performing NQIs in other countries through study tours and establishing more contacts with other NQI organizations, especially with trading partners of Sri Lanka, and through know-how transfer programmes. In particular, the Strategy foresees the participation of SLSI in key international and regional technical committees for standardization, especially in those areas required by national industry operators, and establishing mirror national committees, as well as the participation of: SLAB in APLAC, IAF and ILAC; MUSSD in APMP, BIPM and the International Organization of Legal Metrology; and Sri Lanka's Department of Commerce (DoC) in the SPS/TBT committee of the WTO.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 1.3.1. to 1.3.4., 2.2.2 to 2.2.4, 2.2.6, 2.3.1., 2.3.2, 2.4.2.

Long-term planning for the NQI budgetary requirements in view of the estimated development of the economy is limited. There is little continuous monitoring of the needs of the private sector with respect to quality, standards, measurement and conformity assessment needs at a global scale. Most NQI institutions do their own needs assessments to address the perceived needs in their fields of activity; however, these are not coordinated between institutions and budget needs are not necessarily agreed by GoSL because the global need is not always apparent. A system to measure the impact of the operations of core NQI service providers

on the economy and society is lacking. Investment planning, public–private partnership models and a prioritization system in order to use the limited available resources more effectively are weak.

This issue is addressed through PoA activity: 2.5.2.

MUSSD operations are currently under-resourced, which hampers the effectiveness of metrology in Sri Lanka. The ability of the scientific metrology centre (MUSSD), three main industrial metrology centres (MUSSD, SLSI and ITI) and legal metrology centres (MUSSD and regional legal metrology centres) to provide traceability to industry, trade and end users is not sufficient, both for current needs and for the needs of a more complex, growing economy. In addition, the CMCs of MUSSD are not recognized internationally. In many cases, calibration services are sourced from outside the country, which increases costs.

MUSSD needs to become a stronger and more effective organization, avoiding limitations in procurement and hiring, and having performance-based promotion, firing, salary, travel and other human resources provisions. MUSSD must be able to hire and train dozens of new staff, and have enough funding for and be capable of receiving technical cooperation with sufficient technical and administrative staff. Hence, more resources and autonomy should be granted to MUSSD for corporate operation, enhanced infrastructure, which will allow new investments.

Although this is a long-term and ongoing effort, the Strategy will focus on pursuing and targeting initiatives towards alignment of the NQI with international best practices. This particularly encompasses the inclusion of MUSSD CMCs in the KCDB, the expansion of the international recognition of SLAB's accreditation services and the adjustment of national technical regulations to exclusively cover national interests (environmental and health and safety requirements, consumer protection, and justice).

In addition, funding the metrology function is a very common challenge in developed and developing countries alike and Sri Lanka is not an exception. Therefore, the Strategy will focus efforts to attract investments for MUSSD to improve its premises and equipment, as well as to broaden its services.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 2.2.1. to 2.2.4., 2.2.6., 2.4.1.

Conformity assessment is not fully capacitated. While several test laboratories operate in the country, the capacities of these are still limited. SLSI and ITI offer a wide range of testing services between them, and private institutions provide some services in niche areas. The medical testing laboratories sector is growing in Sri Lanka. Not all laboratories are accredited against ISO/IEC 17025 yet, and in many cases

laboratories are not in a position to demonstrate their competence or traceability of measurements because staff capacities, facilities and instruments are insufficient or there are no domestically available measures – such as suitable inter-laboratory comparisons, proficiency testing schemes, or certified reference materials – against which to test their competence. The calibration capacity required to support all the testing laboratories is also insufficient. Very few CABs are accredited.¹²

With conformity assessment being the second weak area in the NQI, the Strategy will concentrate on attracting investment (public and private) to multiply laboratories in Sri Lanka and to broaden their accreditation. Furthermore, the services should be marketed and linked to the productive sector through a quality promotion unit.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 2.1.1. to 2.1.4., 1.1.3.

Demand-side issues: Use of NQI services by the private sector, regulatory agencies, authorities and the general public

There is limited transparency and visibility on conformity assessment possibilities in Sri Lanka, as well as their accreditation status. A list of required conformity assessment processes for different product groups does not exist and people do not know where to find such information. Producers have to spend a lot of time to get this information, which often leads to missed opportunities or obtaining services internationally at a higher cost. Collective organizations, such as a CAB association,¹³ could spend time promoting the services of its members. SLAB should not only make available a list of accredited facilities (as required by MRA requirements) but should actively promote the use of accredited services and the acceptance of certificates issued by accredited bodies.

This issue is addressed through PoA activity: 1.1.2.

Standardization committees do not cover all sectors, especially some of the key export sectors, and the committees do not address all of the standardization needs in the sectors for which they have been established. The tourism sector, for instance, was only recently included. Standards are developed based on the need for a given standard identified by one or more interested parties (such as industry). The request needs to be initiated by the industry

12.– To understand in depth the situation of Sri Lankan conformity assessment services, a complete list of CABs accredited to date by SLAB is in appendix 3.

13.– The only national CAB association is the Sri Lanka Association of Testing Laboratories (SLATL).

and directed to the Directorate-General of SLSI (response time depends on the type of standard and if it is available in ISO). Once the proposal is supported, the responsibility to develop the standard is given to a technical committee (Sectoral Advisory Committee) to process through the procedure outlined in SLS 0.

SLSI does not make use of the practice currently used by ISO, IEC and several other national standards bodies of developing technical committee business plans. This process would allow the committees to:

- Describe and understand their scope of activity;
- Identify the standardization needs in the marketplace;
- Put in place a programme of work to address these needs;
- Identify the stakeholders who should form part of the technical debate in order to invite or encourage them to participate;
- Understand what standardization activity is taking place regionally and internationally, and decide on how best to track or contribute to this in line with market expectations; and
- Monitor the progress of standards development projects and the implementation of published standards.

In an attempt to shorten the procedure times, SLSI makes requests to Chambers to nominate knowledgeable people in the required areas to contribute to the standardization process.

The economy of Sri Lanka has been evolving over the past 10 years and new sectors have emerged, further prioritized by Government policies. These new sectors require a solid quality assurance framework, which is currently not in place. The Strategy orients standardization activities into these new areas, among which are services and products related to traditional medicine tourism, Good Agricultural Practices and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), information and communications technology-related areas and electronics.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 3.2.1. 3.2.2.

The national standards are too restrictive compared with international standards, in many areas. The national standards published by SLSI remain voluntary (SLS); however, the Standards Act allows these standards to be referred to in technical regulations developed by regulatory authorities; and, while SLSI takes care to align most of its published standards with international standards, certain technical regulations require that products should not only conform to the provisions of the national standard but must also adhere to mandatory certification requirements. From the perspective of international trade, less and less mandatory certification of products is needed. Emphasis is shifting to conformity to voluntary standards and leaving suppliers with options as to

how to demonstrate conformity to technical requirements. A clear example of this is the mandatory use of the SLS Mark, where producers may be forced to comply with not only the provisions of the national standard but also the rules of the SLS Mark Scheme, thus increasing the cost of the products, producing a possibly uneven barrier to the import of products, and reducing the competitiveness of domestically produced products.

This issue is addressed through PoA activity: 2.5.1.

There is a general lack of awareness about NQI-related issues within institutions, the private sector and society as a whole. On the institutional side, lack of stakeholder awareness and lack of exposure to international best practices for most staff seem to be common in all organizations. There is also a gap in the perception and awareness as well as expectations of firms regarding NQI in Sri Lanka. This is a serious problem and needs to be corrected as soon as possible. For example, the meaning of technical regulations is not very clear in Sri Lanka; they are often confused with standards or business regulations. There is also a frequent confusion between voluntary standards and technical requirements on the side of the industry. There is a general public awareness problem in Sri Lanka regarding what an NQI is and how it operates.

As such, one of the key activities under the Strategy is to integrate the concept of quality at each stage of the country's functioning, from the early education level to vocational and university levels, as well as in the workplace. The actions will promote the existing offer and complement it with relevant courses and training for target key staff of organizations to increase their understanding of quality requirements in target markets.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 2.2.5, 3.3.1.,3.3.3, 3.3.4.

The capacities of NQI services are underused by innovators, entrepreneurs and high value added producers. The capacity of testing, assessment and measuring services can easily help the research and development of new products, processes and services. Innovation can be brought directly to Sri Lanka with the technical detailed information available in international standards. Furthermore, high value added products can use NQI services to include, present and promote the characteristics of their products by including quality-related information (e.g. testing, measurements, certifications) in traceability systems. This type of initiative can be highly appreciated in systems where traceability is required, such as organic certification and Geographical Indications.

This issue is addressed through PoA activity: 1.1.3.

International buyers are requesting more private certification schemes, which are both expensive and difficult to access for Sri Lankan SMEs.

There is increasing emphasis in international consumer markets on social, ethical and environmental compliance. There are numerous private and voluntary certification schemes available globally to fulfil ethics and sustainability requirements. Example of such private standards include Fairtrade, EcoVadis,¹⁴ Rainforest Alliance, UTZ, the Marine Stewardship Council, the Forest Stewardship Council, ETB and many others. Each certification has unique evaluation criteria, leading to high costs if aiming for multiple certifications. Additionally, private standards do not recognize each other's certification, despite often being based on very similar criteria.

Larger businesses can overcome the situation by spending the money needed to fulfil the requirements for voluntary certification. For SMEs, however, this is a complex and prohibitive exercise. The complexity and cost of the exercise makes it cumbersome for an entrepreneur to build their own brand by demonstrating compliance with many similar private standards. Similarly, with the exception of certain certification bodies such as UTZ and Rainforest Alliance, many do virtually nothing to enhance the ability of the company seeking certification. Online platforms¹⁵ impose high costs to collect information as a prerequisite for dealing with several major operators, without having a real or on-site assessment of the level of conformity. The consequence is that industries face a large barrier to sell their final products with high value addition and branding; therefore, they opt to sell unbranded products, raw materials or in bulk form to intermediaries and to less sophisticated markets, where demands for ethical and environmental compliance do not exist.

In this context, in spite of the complicated process of securing international recognition, Sri Lanka could establish a comprehensive and open standard and certification scheme incorporating ethics and environmental sustainability. Most of the ethical requirements are already assured by law, hence adjustments required by most businesses to comply with international standards are likely to be nominal but important. Such a robust standard would need to involve international agencies¹⁶ in cooperation with ITI/SLSI and internationally recognized institutions. With this standard/certification scheme, exporters and the relevant State agencies would have a strong possibility of convincing prospective

14.– More 'eco labels' are listed in: Ecolabel Index (2017). All ecolabels. Available from www.ecolabelindex.com/ecolabels/?st=subject.

15.– Ecovadis, as an example, requires extensive documentation to evidence policies on matters ranging from bribery policy to supplier evaluation and product quality, although no validation of these policies is done and the process is entirely online, with a cost of several thousand euros per year. Ecovadis (2017). Website. Available from www.ecovadis.com/.

16.– Such as DNV, Det Norske Veritas, which is a quality assurance and risk management company originating in Norway.



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customers to adopt the alternative proposed, if it meets with the level of robustness needed to assure genuine environmental, safety and ethical social compliance requirements.

This issue is addressed through PoA activities: 2.1.1, 2.4.1.,3.2.2.

The absence of centralized NQI services (i.e. a help desk) leads to difficulty and high costs for SMEs to identify quality-related services – compliance, certification and market requirements. When an SME wants to venture into a foreign market, it has to face a challenging process of understanding how foreign regulations work and what foreign buyers' requirements are in terms of quality and certifications. Exporters also face the challenge of certifying and demonstrating their product compliance. Each existing or potential exporter faces the same requirements and challenges to understand compliance processes and stay attuned to evolutions in destination markets' regulations.

Having a single information portal or service to provide quality-related market requirements (technical requirements and administrative procedures) will facilitate this process. A simple and relatively affordable market information service (e.g. Euromonitor/Datamonitor), mentorship on commercial aspects and guidance on technical aspects will have a potent impact on the ability of entrepreneurs to deliver genuine value addition. In the next stage, the role of this unit could be to translate to simple language the multitude of protocols that exist relating to different product categories and varying from market to market.

This centralized help desk should support SMEs in deciphering the technical and commercial requirements of destination markets and consumers. In collaboration with EDB, the help desk could provide targeted mentorship and commercial advice.¹⁷

This issue is addressed through PoA activity: 1.1.3.

17.– CORFO is an example in Chile. There are many others, including Spring Singapore.

THE WAY FORWARD: MAKING SRI LANKA'S NQI SUPPORTIVE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

The development of the NQI in Sri Lanka requires key upgrading to ensure it efficiently protects national consumers and enables exporters to comply with international market requirements. Although the policy framework and the functions required in a contemporary NQI for economic development are in place and in compliance with the basic requirements of trade agreements, some precise points continue to impede businesses and exporters in their operations. Furthermore, the institutional set-up of the NQI and the way it is coordinated, budgeted and controlled need to be updated in a planned, coordinated and integrated way. Likewise, implementation of the NQP and establishment of the NQC¹⁸ are needed for effective functioning of the NQI.

This NQI Strategy document has been developed based on the NQP, with the purpose of providing a clear way to implement and develop the NQI for the benefit of Sri Lankan society and especially the productive sector. The benefit will be perceived as having more and better standards, with simple access to internationally recognized conformity assessment services.

18.– Alternatively, an interim body to oversee coordination of NQI structures in the absence of the NQC appointed by His Excellency the President – as provided for by the NQP.

The Strategy will also guide the necessary changes through improving institutional coordination, budgetary planning and the regulations supporting the NQI, including the creation of a dedicated NFA; strengthening conformity assessment through accreditation; more public and private testing laboratories; expanding MRAs and international recognition; strengthening the metrology function; and revising technical regulations using RIA and limiting regulation only to areas related to health, safety, the environment, consumer protection and judicial affairs.

The Strategy is directed by a vision and organized through strategic objectives, strategic intervention areas and the PoA. The strategic objectives determine three plans of interventions: national strengthening, international recognition and support orientation. The areas indicate the beneficiaries and institutions involved, and the regulations and the budget required for the intervention. The PoA establishes the main actions needed to be carried out to achieve the strategic objectives. In essence, the Strategy includes a PoA that specifies the steps and activities that must be performed well for the Strategy to succeed

THE VISION

The following is a delineation of the vision and strategic approach in this direction. This vision statement was agreed upon by all stakeholders of the NQI support function in Sri Lanka and established clear desired stages in the future.

“ A national quality infrastructure at the service of socioeconomic development in Sri Lanka ”

Looking into the future:

In 2020, Sri Lanka will have all NQI services accessible to priority sectors with international recognition.

In 2023, Sri Lanka's NQI will be operating with a higher level of inter-agency coordination led by the NQC, more active institutional participation in international and regional forums, regulations following RIA, and conformity assessment services used by the public and private sectors and academia, including research, development and innovation.

In the years following the implementation of this Strategy, Sri Lanka will be the leader of quality in SAARC; NQI will have a strong planning, coordinating, and monitoring NQC leading a quality promotion agency; NQI institutions will participate and play key roles in international forums; and all conformity assessment schemes/services will be internationally recognized and widely used by SAARC countries and other Asian countries.

To achieve the vision of the NQI, a comprehensive strategic framework has been developed, including strategic objectives followed by strategic intervention areas and the action framework. The basis for the definition of the strategic objectives and intervention areas was the *Sri Lanka NQI Gap Assessment (WB 2017)*, the NQP and the project document *EU–Sri Lanka Trade Related Assistance*, while the action framework was defined through an open, consultative and consensus-based process where all stakeholders provided their input. Finally, the action framework was completed with a detailed the PoA for the following five years.

THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

To respond to the established vision by addressing the sector's constraints and leveraging opportunities, particular efforts will be made along the following strategic objectives.

The vision and strategic objectives constitute the rationale and implementation framework of the NQI Strategy.

Strategic objective 1:
Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI.

- The first strategic objective concentrates on the implementation of the NQP and institutional and coordination strengthening in the NQI. This is the first area of intervention because it will improve the capacity of key institutions to foster a quality culture.

Strategic objective 2:
Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system.

- The second strategic objective focuses on the alignment of the Sri Lankan NQI with international benchmarks. Full international recognition of NQI institutions will generate trust among Sri Lankan nationals, and users of the services of NQI institutions will gain benefits such as access to given markets for their products by the removal of TBTs.

Strategic objective 3:
Improve provision of NQI services to all Sri Lankans and foster a national

- The third strategic objective emphasizes the capacity of the NQI to deliver services to Sri Lankan society. The specific needs of society will be addressed by responding to its specific standardization requirements, conformity assessment necessities and service delivery gaps. Measurable benefits to society will be generated by the NQI.

MOVING TO ACTION

THE STRATEGIC ACTION FRAMEWORK

The strategic objectives define the main thrusts that will guide Strategy implementation in order to achieve the vision laid out. Additionally, the detailed and prioritized PoA responds to this vision by systematically addressing the constraints influencing the performance of the NQI. To this end, particular efforts will be made along the following strategic orientations.

Figure 2: Strategic and operational framework



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: IMPLEMENT THE NQP AND STRENGTHEN THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE NQI

Institutional strengthening and coordination appeared as the main area of intervention required to improve the effectiveness of the NQI. In order to do this, the first strategic objective aims to establish the NQC as an operational arm to plan, organize, guide, coordinate, monitor and promote all NQP activities. As most of the institutions are dispersed across various ministries, it is important that the NQC be established at the highest political level, ideally under the office of the President. This new governance will contribute to managing many of the activities outlined in this Strategy. Under this strategic objective, a full review (stocktaking) of the existing legislative and regulatory framework is also foreseen, as well as capacity-building within NQI institutions.

- Reinforce institutional coordination in the NQI, implement the NQC, create an interactive platform and establish a unit to facilitate quality-related services.
- Stocktake and revise (as appropriate) the legal framework supporting the NQI and the regulatory framework, adopting RIA.
- Strengthen capacities within NQI institutions and reinforce organizational capacities to ensure quality principles within the respective organizations.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: ACHIEVE WIDER INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR SRI LANKA'S NQI SYSTEM

Full international recognition of NQI institutions will provide confidence in the conformity assessment services offered in Sri Lanka and will remove barriers for industry. As such, the second strategic objective aims to equip CABs in Sri Lanka to attain accreditations, and to support MUSSD to conclude the MRAs with partner countries representing key markets for private sector operators.

- Strengthen accredited conformity assessment services offered to the public and private sectors.
- Strengthen MUSSD and conclude required activities to have their CMCs internationally recognized (MRAs).
- Strengthen standardization activity in prioritized sectors (e.g. NES sectors) by participating in international technical committees while discussing the text in mirror committees within the country.
- Support the participation of Sri Lanka and NQI institutions in international (ISO, IEC, International Telecommunication Union, ILAC, IAF, BIPM, the International Organization of Legal Metrology, Codex, WTO-SPS and others) and regional forums (APLAC, APMP, South Asian Regional Standards Organization, the Pacific Area Standards Congress and others).



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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: IMPROVE PROVISION OF NQI SERVICES TO ALL SRI LANKANS AND FOSTER A NATIONAL QUALITY CULTURE

The NQI should have technical capabilities to compare and ascertain characteristics of products and services. It is a cross-cutting technical infrastructure on which all socio-economic activities can relay, especially production-related activities and trade.

The specific needs of the NES priority sectors¹⁹ will be addressed by responding to their specific standardization and conformity assessment requirements and institutional gaps. In particular this strategic objective will ensure support to the development of priority sectors.

- Assemble existing food safety units into a dedicated NFA.
- Adjust quarantine regulations for import.
- Use of technical regulations should be limited and should be based on clear risks to the environment, and/or health and safety of the people, fauna and flora of Sri Lanka.
- Increase knowledge, skills and qualifications in technical and quality aspects for the industry and institutions.

19.– The six priority sectors of the NES are: information technology–business process management, wellness tourism, boating industry, electric and electronic components, spices, and food and beverages.

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

The upgrading of the NQI function of Sri Lanka has been demarcated in a five-year endeavour through a consultative process between public and private sector stakeholders. Achieving the expected results depends heavily on the ability of stakeholders to implement the activities defined in this Strategy.

Managing for results

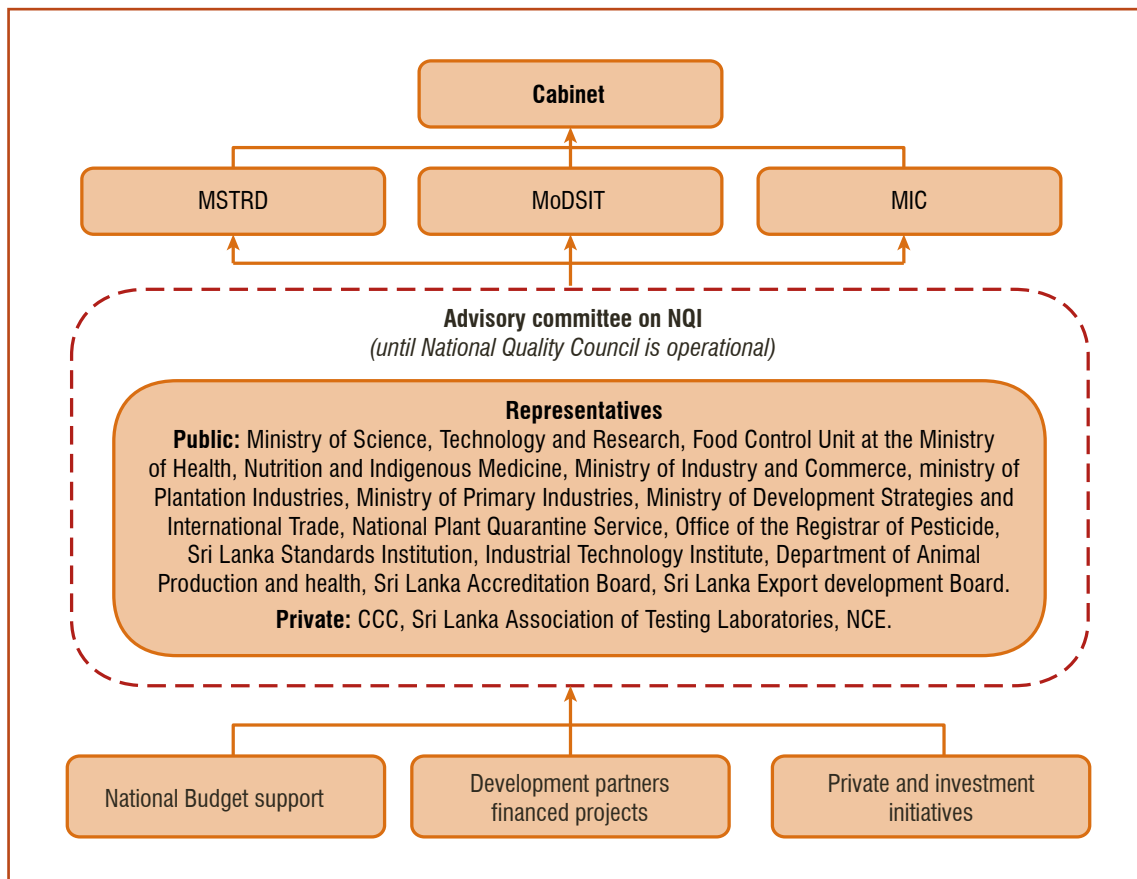
It is the translation of priorities into implementable projects that will achieve the substantial increase in export competitiveness and export earnings envisaged by the Strategy. These goals will be achieved by optimizing institutional support and strengthening capacities to respond to demands. The allocation of human, financial and technical resources is required to efficiently coordinate and implement, and monitor overall implementation.

Successful execution of activities will depend on the ability of stakeholders to plan and coordinate actions in a tactical manner. Diverse activities must be synchronized across public and private sector institutions to create sustainable results. Hence, it is necessary to foster an adequate environment and create an appropriate framework for Strategy implementation.

Establish and operationalize a public and private coordinating body and executive secretariat

A key success criterion for the Strategy is the ability to coordinate activities, monitor progress and mobilize resources for its implementation. Until the NQC is established, an interim advisory committee was established by the Minister MODSIT and enabled by the EDB to effectively coordinate and plan the implementation of the National Quality Strategy.

Figure 3: Institutional framework for implementing the NQI Strategy



The advisory committee on NQI is responsible for overall coordination, the provision of policy guidance and the monitoring of Strategy implementation until the NQC is established. The advisory committee could continue as a technical commission of the NQC.

The advisory committee is composed of:

Public sector:

- Ministry of Science, Technology and Research,
- Food Control Unit at the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine,
- Ministry of Industry and Commerce,
- Ministry of Plantation Industries,
- Ministry of Primary Industries,
- Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade,
- National Plant Quarantine Service,
- Office of the Registrar of Pesticide,
- Sri Lanka Standards Institution,
- Industrial Technology Institute,
- Department of Animal Production and Health,
- Sri Lanka Accreditation Board,
- Sri Lanka Export development Board

Private sector:

- Private companies,
- Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Under normal circumstances, the committee would meet quarterly. Once the NQC is set up, the roles of the advisory committee will be smoothly transferred to the NQC. Overall, it is proposed that the advisory committee on NQI be responsible for the following responsibilities related to Strategy implementation:

- Spur the formal operationalization of the NQC;
- Create a shared understanding of key challenges and opportunities facing the NQI function;
- Set goals and targets that, if achieved, will strengthen NQI provision and enhance Sri Lanka's overall capacity to protect consumers and meet the changing demands of international markets;
- Propose key policy changes to be undertaken and promote these policy changes among national decision makers;
- Support the coordination, implementation and monitoring of NQI activities by the Government, private sector, institutions or international organizations to ensure alignment to goals and targets; and, as required, contribute to resource identification and alignment;
- Establish alliances and partnerships with relevant international bodies.

The general key performance indicators for the NQC related to the strategic objective are shown in box 3.

Box 3: Key performance indicators for the strategic objectives to be followed by the NQC

Strategic objectives	Key performance indicators (target)
1: Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI	NQC established and empowered Legal and institutional framework revised and strengthened
2: Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system	NQI services with full international recognition NQI institutions actively participate in international forums and bilateral cooperation
3: Improve provision of NQI services to all Sri Lankans and foster a national quality culture	NFA in place 100 new or revised standards in key sectors

Key success factors for effective implementation

Capacities for managing the implementation

The presence of the strategic advisory committee on NQI (and later the NQC) to oversee the implementation of the Strategy is a key success factor but it is not sufficient to effectively fulfil its assigned functions. It is important that its secretariat has sufficient capacities and skills to ensure effective management of Strategy implementation. The secretariat should have knowledge of best practices in monitoring, programming, mobilizing resources and communicating results. It is important to ensure that the secretariat is adequately resourced and capacitated to effectively assume these responsibilities.

Private sector support and participation

As the primary beneficiary of Strategy implementation – through improved productive capacities, reduced costs of doing business, facilitated administrative procedures, enhanced access to finance, etc. – the private sector will need to be directly involved. The private sector clearly expressed during the Strategy design process its willingness to contribute, directly or in partnership with public institutions, to the implementation of the Strategy. Their implementation efforts can range from providing business intelligence to institutions to contributing to development projects, establishing processing and transformation units, advocacy, etc. In brief, the private sector's practical knowledge of business operations is essential to ensuring that the activities of the Strategy are effectively implemented and targeted.

Proactive networking and communication

The key implementing institutions detailed in the PoA need to be informed of the content of the Strategy and the implications for their 2018–2022 programming. This networking and communication is essential to build further ownership and provide institutions with the opportunity to confirm which activities they can implement in the short-to-long term. Communication and outreach to sector stakeholders is equally important to create momentum and support for the recommendations of the Strategy. This active communication normally serves to speed up implementation through larger engagement of all parties.

Resources for implementation

The advisory committee on NQI (and later the NQC), together with the authorities, will need to capitalize on the momentum gained during the Strategy design process to leverage additional support for efficient implementation. Resource mobilization is crucial and indispensable in supporting Strategy implementation. Resource mobilization involves



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identification of priority activities from the Strategy and proactive networking with various resource providers ranging from the Ministry of Finance to development partners, as well as national and foreign investors.

For effective implementation of the Strategy, the Government should define a minimum annual budget to be directed towards Strategy implementation. This commitment will demonstrate the Government's engagement towards strengthening the NQI and encourage partners to support its development.

In addition to National Budget support, resource mobilization will also target development partners and foreign investors to support key areas of the Strategy PoA. Because the Strategy has been developed with political endorsement, private sector buy-in and collaboration between national institutions, it provides an adequate framework for development partners to plan interventions based on the Strategy PoA.

Investment flows to Sri Lanka should also be considered a valuable driver of Strategy implementation and overall economic development. The relevant authorities of Sri Lanka, in partnership with the private sector, should target priority investment as detailed in the 'way forward' section of the Strategy.

The various implementation modalities detailed will determine the success of Strategy implementation. However, high-level support from the Government, in collaboration with strong championship by the private sector, will be the real driver of successful Strategy implementation.

BENEFITS TO THE SRI LANKAN ECONOMY AND CONSUMERS

In order to take strategic and informed decisions, this section presents a general analysis of the possible benefits of an improved NQI function to the Sri Lankan economy.

NQI and its contribution to GDP and GDP growth

NQI-related activities in an economy account for 3%–16% of GDP and affect more than 75% of GDP (WB 2016, p.47). The contribution of the NQI is mainly due to conformity assessment services, up to 50% is due to value generated by contributing to new or improved products or services, 3%–15%

due to taxes along the value chain, and 2%–5% due to direct revenues generated by NQI institutions. Following the WB 2016 gap analysis, we consider a 3% direct contribution of the NQI on GDP and potential for an overall 20%, including indirect contributions and spillover effects.

Considering a moderate incremental growth path of 0.2% annual increment of the contribution of GDP due to the implementation of the NQI Strategy, the projections of the increments of GDP are shown in table 5.

Table 5: Estimated increment of GDP growth due to NQI Strategy implementation, 2018–2022, USD million

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Increment of GDP (0.2% per year)	162.64	325.61	488.91	652.53	816.48

Box 4: World Bank estimated return on investment of NQI contribution to GDP

Based on global analyses by WB, NQI-related activities in an economy account for an estimated 3% to 16% of GDP and affect more than 75% of GDP. This calculation is based on an assessment of the value generated by the NQI function, namely the contribution of NQI conformity assessment services, contribution of NQI to new or improved products or services, value added taxes along the value chain and the direct revenues generated by NQI institutions.

Based on the WB NQI gap analysis, it is considered that the NQI has a 3% direct contribution to GDP. Thus, if GDP is taken as USD 81.322 billion in 2016, the 3% direct contribution of the NQI to GDP is USD 2.44 billion. Sri Lanka has the potential of having an overall 20% contribution to GDP by indirect contributions and spill over effects.

This projected contribution of NQI activities to GDP growth would be USD 816.48 million, or approximately an additional LKR 122.5 billion by the fifth year of implementation.

Return on investment

The PoA includes a detailed description of the estimated financial requirement to implement each action. Table 6 consolidates the figures by strategic and operational objectives. The total estimated budget of the implementation for the five years is USD 15,5 million.

From the National Budget perspective, if we consider that the taxation scheme can capture a low estimate of 3% of the additional GDP growth, the additional tax revenue will be USD 4.88 million during the first year of implementation. In order to make an analysis, we assume that the revenue coming from additional GDP growth will be 3% during the following five years of implementation of the NQI Strategy.

Thus, multiplying table 5 by 3% and considering the initial investment as the total budget for NQI Strategy implementation, the result is an internal rate of return of 62,84 %. This rate is equivalent to the annual return of investment as a result of the implementation of the NQI Strategy. Table 7 shows more details of the calculations.



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Table 6: Estimated budget (investment) to implement the NQI Strategy

Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Indicative Investment 2018–2022 (USD)	Subtotal (USD)
1: Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI	1.1 Reinforce institutional coordination in the NQI by implementing the NQC, an interactive information platform and a quality unit (or agency) to promote and facilitate quality-related services	2,065,000	3,915,000
	1.2 Revise the legal framework supporting the NQI and enable RIA	360,000	
	1.3 Strengthen managerial and planning capacities in NQI institutions	1,490,000	
2: Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system	2.1 Strengthen CABs' service provision	3,700,000	8,625,000
	2.2 Strengthen MUSSD to have its CMCs internationally recognized	2,650,000	
	2.3 Strengthen NQI institutions and support participation in international forums	410,000	
	2.4 SLAB to expand the scope of accreditation services and increase international recognition	550,000	
	2.5. Review national technical regulations to cover exclusively national interests: environmental and health and safety requirements, consumer protection, and justice.	1,315,000	
3: Improve provision of NQI services to all Sri Lankans and foster a national quality culture	3.1 Assemble existing food safety units into a dedicated NFA	1,850,000	3,200,000
	3.2 Establish standardization committees and standardization units for key sectors	1,000,000	
	3.3. Increase the knowledge, skills and qualifications in technical and quality aspects within the industry, non-NQI institutions and general public.	350,000	
		Total	15,570,000

Table 7: Return on investment of implementation of the NQI Strategy, 2018–2022, USD million

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
NQI Strategy investment	Additional tax revenue (3% of the GDP increment as fiscal income)				
15,5	4.88	9.77	14.67	19.58	24.49
Internal rate of return					62,84%

Protecting the domestic market, consumers, the environment, safety and health in Sri Lanka

Strengthened and well-delivered NQI services will ensure the protection of the domestic market and thereby Sri Lankan consumers, their health and safety, and the environment, which results in socioeconomic development. Strengthened NQI services ensure that products and manufacturing processes meet international quality requirements and ensure that only safe products reach domestic consumers. Improved NQI services will assist the provision of cleaner water and safer food and products for Sri Lanka. There will be accurate diagnostics by health care services and less accidents due to unsafe products. Improved services and competition in the provision of these services will reduce costs of compliance in production processes and create a quality culture. The risk of fraudulent products not meeting the standard requirements in the domestic market will be minimized, thereby creating trust in trade practices among consumers.

A State with better capacities to assess risks and enforce regulation

Institutional and legal framework improvement will ensure that Sri Lanka has efficient surveillance and monitoring systems. Adopting RIA and drafting an umbrella law to define the whole NQI, its institutions and interactions will help create effective, transparent and implementable regulations. This will give Sri Lanka more capacity to enforce regulations under one coherent institutional framework and encourage industries to comply easily with standards. National quality institutes will enhance institutional coordination and thereby be enabled to respond quickly to emerging demands and correctly enforce regulations. The State can prioritize higher risk categories and focus its resources in those areas so the general public can benefit from the regulatory mechanism.

Business in Sri Lanka to have a level playing field

Private sector investment in national quality services is paramount for the NQI to develop. SMEs which have the potential to increase the export capacity of Sri Lanka need the services of CABs, which are mainly supported by the private sector. Developing the capacity and international recognition of private CABs through accreditation and assistance, from tax concessions or subsidies to demand, will support SMEs to access NQI services at a reasonable price. On a levelled playing field, private CABs will have confidence to invest in developing their capacities and SMEs will have increased availability of services.

Export performance increased

NQI development will not only protect the domestic market but will also lead to higher export performance. Exporters will be enabled to provide quality-compliant products and services at an affordable cost. This will contribute to Sri Lankan exporters responding to increasingly stringent market requirements. Obtaining internationally recognized certification for organic products and Geographical Indication for authentic Sri Lankan products such as cinnamon and Ceylon tea will increase value addition by Sri Lankan exporters.

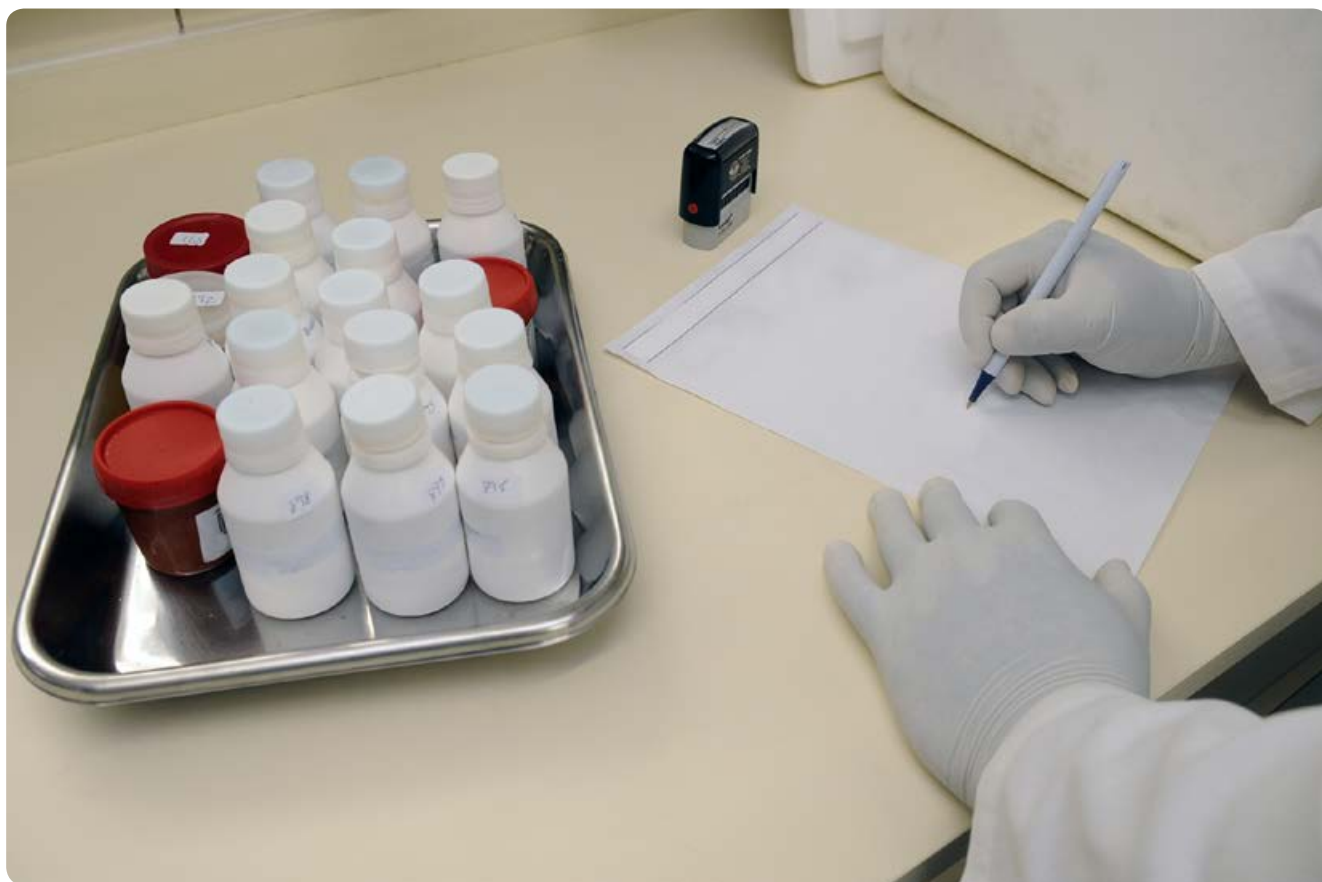


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PoA

To achieve the vision and strategic objectives that have been discussed, a robust, actionable and realistic strategic PoA is required. The action plan will support the achievement of the strategic and operational objectives of this Strategy.

The present Strategy was initiated as part of the NES design of Sri Lanka. However, considering Sri Lanka's need to develop a stand-alone NQI Strategy under the provisions of the NQP, the present NQI Strategy was carried forward as an individual initiative. However, the Strategy benefited from the highly consultative and inclusive design process conducted in the framework of the NES. Four stakeholder consultations led to the definition of the strategic orientations and activities under the NQI Strategy. These consultations involved all key NQI institutions, the private sector, all relevant Government institutions and civil society (representatives from universities and technical and vocational education and training institutions). A detailed list of stakeholders can be found in appendix 1.

The PoA is structured along the three strategic objectives and operational objectives described above. For each of these objectives, it outlines detailed activities and their implementation modalities, which include:

- **Priority level:** priority 1 being the highest and 3 the lowest.
- **Start/end dates:** the desired time frame of the activity.
- **Targets:** quantifiable targets which enable monitoring the completion of the activity during implementation.
- **Leading implementer:** one single accountable lead institution per activity (the institution can also have a technical role or can solely have an oversight and coordination role).
- **Supporting implementing partners:** any institution that should be involved at any stage of the activity's implementation.
- **Indicative Costs (USD):** an estimate of the activity's cost for the period of implementation.



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PLAN OF ACTION 2018–2022

Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Activity	Priority	Start date	End date	Targets	Leading implementing partners	Supporting implementing partners	Estimated costs (USD)
1: Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI	1.1: Reinforce institutional coordination in the NQI by implementing the National Quality Council, an interactive information platform and a Quality Unit (or Agency) to promote and facilitate quality-related services	<p>1.1.1 Establish the National Quality Council (NQC), with strong political backing, monitoring capabilities and decision-making power. Elaborate TOR, Constitution, and Budget allocated as indicated in NQP. The NQC should have real authority with proper governance and adequate financial and human resources. The NQC should have the following functions and attribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Planning • Investment planning • Coordination among institutions • Monitoring/oversight • Regulatory Impact Analysis • Technical Regulation Inventory • Ensure international recognition • Facilitate information compatibility and comparability between NQI institutions and service providers 	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2018	NQC in place with high-level functions and strong operational capacity.	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Plantation Industries; Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Arthur C Clarke Centre for Modern Technologies (ACCMT); National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE); Department of Commerce; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Import and Export Control Department (IECD); Consumer Affairs Authority	2,000,000
		1.1.2 Create an interactive information platform for supporting partners to present their activities, and services regarding quality (in coordination with trade information portal and export promotion portal) (related to 1.1.3, 2.1.3 and 3.3.3)	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2018	Information platform in place	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Plantation Industries; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC); National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE); Department of Commerce; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Import and Export Control Department (IECD); Consumer Affairs Authority	15,000
		1.1.3 Establish a help desk that would combine market/quality knowledge (technical requirements and administrative procedures) with mentorship on commercial aspects. This help desk to support SMEs, entrepreneurs and innovators in finding in one place the complete list of quality related services and in deciphering the technical regulation/standards and commercial aspects of branding and marketing, involving the industry to offer the necessary mentorship and commercial advice. Link to 1.1.1 and 1.1.2.	1.1.3 Establish a help desk that would combine market/quality knowledge (technical requirements and administrative procedures) with mentorship on commercial aspects. This help desk to support SMEs, entrepreneurs and innovators in finding in one place the complete list of quality related services and in deciphering the technical regulation/standards and commercial aspects of branding and marketing, involving the industry to offer the necessary mentorship and commercial advice. Link to 1.1.1 and 1.1.2.	2	01/01/2019	31/12/2022	Help desk in place and serving as an agent for all quality related services 6 target market profiles developed per year indicating quality requirements/procedures	Export Development Board	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Plantation Industries; Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC); National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE); Department of Commerce; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Import and Export Control Department (IECD); Consumer Affairs Authority
	1.2: Revise the legal framework supporting the NQI and enable Regulatory Impact Analysis	1.2.1 Conduct an assessment of the existing legal and institutional framework of NQI in order to extend to areas not covered and have more efficient services avoiding duplication of efforts (e.g. metrology institutions and services). Legal stocktaking to be done.	2	01/04/2018	01/10/2018	Assessment report completed	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Ministry of Science, Technology and Research; Import and Export Control Department (IECD); Consumer Affairs Authority	100,000

Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Activity	Priority	Start date	End date	Targets	Leading implementing partners	Supporting implementing partners	Estimated costs (USD)
1: Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI	1.2: Revise the legal framework supporting the NQI and enable Regulatory Impact Analysis	1.2.2 Build-up capabilities to carry-out Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) for the existing and new technical regulations. Develop a training program to implement RIA in regulatory authorities. NQC will lead implementation, once established.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	RIA is legally adopted to revise and issue technical regulations	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Plantation Industries; Export Development Board; Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC); Department of Commerce; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Import and Export Control Department (IECD); Consumer Affairs Authority	160,000
		1.2.3 Draft an umbrella law defining the whole NQI, institutions and interactions, including conformity assessment; the mandate for the NQC, including how it is funded and if it has any oversight or influence over the resources of the NQI bodies; the platform for a regulatory best practice model to be adopted by all regulators in Sri Lanka; and re-affirm the GoSL commitment to improving quality and innovation in Sri Lanka. NQC will lead implementation once established. (This is a long-term activity as the laws span a very long period.)	3	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	Umbrella law drafted and gazetted	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Plantation Industries; Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC); Central Province Chamber of Commerce; Department of Commerce; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Import and Export Control Department (IECD); Consumer Affairs Authority	100,000
	1.3: Strengthen managerial and planning capacities in NQI institutions	1.3.1 Assess Human Resources requirements, including administrative and managerial, and implement a HR development and know-how transfer program for the staff of core NQI organizations. Working in cooperation with peer institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, this program should include recruitment, proper appointment of directive and administrative staff, study stays, bilateral comparisons, peer reviews, and technical training.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human resources requirements and assessment (by institution) completed Human resources and know-how transfer programme carried out 	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Ministry of Industry and Commerce; Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Consumer Affairs Authority	640,000
		1.3.2 Conduct study stays and tours (training in foreign countries) to well-performing countries in the region in order to observe how NQIs and elements of NQI in market economies work. Establish contacts with other NQI organizations especially in trading partners of Sri Lanka and conduct a gap analysis, in order to harmonize operations. Japan / Germany : high level ("ideal" operations – long run) South Korea / Thailand / Malaysia: Accessible level – countries which developed the NQI from low base.	2	01/10/2018	31/12/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yearly study tours organized (7 people) Connection established in top five well-performing countries, and Gap analysis completed 	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Consumer Affairs Authority	50,000
		1.3.3 Establish, through international bilateral cooperation agreements, strong technical cooperation among domestic NQI institutions and international / foreign NQI institutions in well-performing countries (e.g. Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia).	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2020	Sri Lanka NQI is connected with the NQI of one well-performing country per-year	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	100,000

Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Activity	Priority	Start date	End date	Targets	Leading implementing partners	Supporting implementing partners	Estimated costs (USD)
1: Implement the NQP and strengthen the institutional framework of the NQI	1.3: Strengthen managerial and planning capacities in NQI institutions	1.3.4 Speed up the implementation of performance-based management (including key performance indicators) at NQI institutions to improve planning and management capacities and enhance functionality and effectiveness in management and administrative operations. Create a harmonized monitoring system for all NQI institutions.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2020	Annual performance management reports and monitoring system established	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	700,000
		2.1: Strengthen CABs' service provision	2	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	30 new CAB accredited services per year (financial assistance to CABs to accredit + technical training)	Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Arthur C Clarke Centre for Modern Technologies (ACCMT); Central Province Chamber of Commerce; Department of Commerce; Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Department of Agriculture; Sri Lanka Association of Testing Laboratories (SLATL)	3,000,000
2: Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system		2.1.1 Facilitate establishment and use public and mainly private CABs (laboratory testing, inspection and certification services), with technical support programmes and support demand schemes in accordance with national requirements, (e.g. conformity assessment for packaging and products, SPS, testing pesticide residues and product composition). Support accreditation of third party private CABs, ensuring mutual recognition.	2	01/04/2018	31/12/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New proficiency testing available Participation on interlaboratory comparisons by key laboratories Financial and technical support provided 	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Sri Lanka Association of Testing Laboratories (SLATL)	200,000
		2.1.2 Facilitate and support the establishment and accreditation of proficiency testing scheme providers and inter-laboratory comparisons to support laboratory accreditation. Provide financial and technical support for the participation of laboratories and appropriate CABs in proficiency testing in order for them to demonstrate technical competency and facilitate recognition.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	National database in place and available	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB)	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Sri Lanka Association of Testing Laboratories (SLATL)	50,000
		2.1.3 Establish a national database of existing conformity assessment capabilities that exist in all accredited measurement laboratories and non-accredited third party CABs, universities, other research and development organizations, the military and specialized organizations such as Customs and food safety. This database should ensure information comparability and compatibility to be used in product traceability systems (related to 1.1.2).	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	Incentives and stimulus program for quality approved	Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Export Development Board; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Ministry of Science, Technology and Research; Department of Fiscal Policy (Ministry of Finance)	450,000
	2.2: Strengthen the MUSSD to have their CMCs internationally recognized	2.2.1 Build the capacity of MUSSD to fulfil all requirements to include their Calibration and Measurement Capabilities (CMCs) in the Key Comparison Database (KCDB) (as part of the International Committee for Weights and Measures Mutual Recognition Agreement.)	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	Ten CMCs, per year, are included in the KCDB	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	300,000

Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Activity	Priority	Start date	End date	Targets	Leading implementing partners	Supporting implementing partners	Estimated costs (USD)	
2: Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system	2.2: Strengthen the MUSSD to have their CMCs internationally recognized	2.2.2 Sri Lanka's NMI (MUSSD) to participate more actively in the General Conference on Weights and Measures, CIPM, APMP, international technical and consultative committees and to become Member State of BIPM (Mètre Convention).	3	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in a minimum of 2 international forums State Membership of BIPM 	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	200,000	
		2.2.3 Provide MUSSD the autonomy, the staff and the funds to overcome difficulties in recruitment and promotion of technical staff, and to fund necessary investments in premises and equipment for the scientific and industrial metrology centres.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	Administrative independence given, staff recruited, and investments in metrology carried out.	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	300,000	
		2.2.4 Broaden the scope of the measurements and calibration services provided by MUSSD and other institutions to uncovered areas (such as Chemical metrology, Photometry, Humidity and Moisture Measurements, Force Measurements, etc.) and improve their quality, in order to increase traceability.	2	01/04/2019	31/12/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scope of MUSSD broadened Technical assistance and support provided 	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	1,500,000	
		2.2.5 Support MUSSD, SLSI and ITI to increase training capacity in quality concepts for all stakeholders. The trainings should focus on the difference between calibration and verification, differences between national and international standards, etc.) Support trainings through a guidance document regarding concepts in NQI. Disseminate Vocabulary in Metrology.	3	01/04/2019	31/12/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four 5 days training for 30 people completed annually Guidance documents and Vocabulary in Metrology disseminated 	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	100,000	
		2.2.6 Arrange extensive participation of MUSSD in international calibration comparisons (key and supplementary comparisons in the BIPM framework) and provide entries to CMC tables in order to ensure recognition of metrology in Sri Lanka.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MUSSD participates in two comparisons per year Ten CMCs published in KCDB 	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	250,000	
		2.3: Strengthen NQI institutions and support participation in international fora	2.3.1 Ensure SLSI is participating in international technical committees for standardization (and establishing mirror committees) plus regional technical committees (e.g. South Asian Regional Standards Organization).	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	Participation in at least 25 additional committees per year	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	250,000
		2.3.2 SPS – MoH/NM, DoA, DAPH (SPS reps) – and TBT committee (DoC) to participate actively in the WTO Committee for SPS Measures and relevant international forums to present Sri Lanka's position and to facilitate knowledge transfer to the country.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	Sri Lanka participates in five committees per year (two people per committee)	Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine	Ministry of Agriculture; Department of Commerce; Department of Animal Production and health	160,000	
		2.4: SLAB to expand the scope of accreditation services and increase the international recognition	2.4.1 Define and provide new accreditation services (e.g. certification of persons – ISO/IEC17024; providers of proficiency testing schemes – ISO/IEC 17043; products, processes and services certification – ISO/IEC 17065; reference material producers – ISO 17034). Accredited institutions under the newly developed services.	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One new accreditation service per year Technical person hired to support SLAB 	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB)	Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	500,000

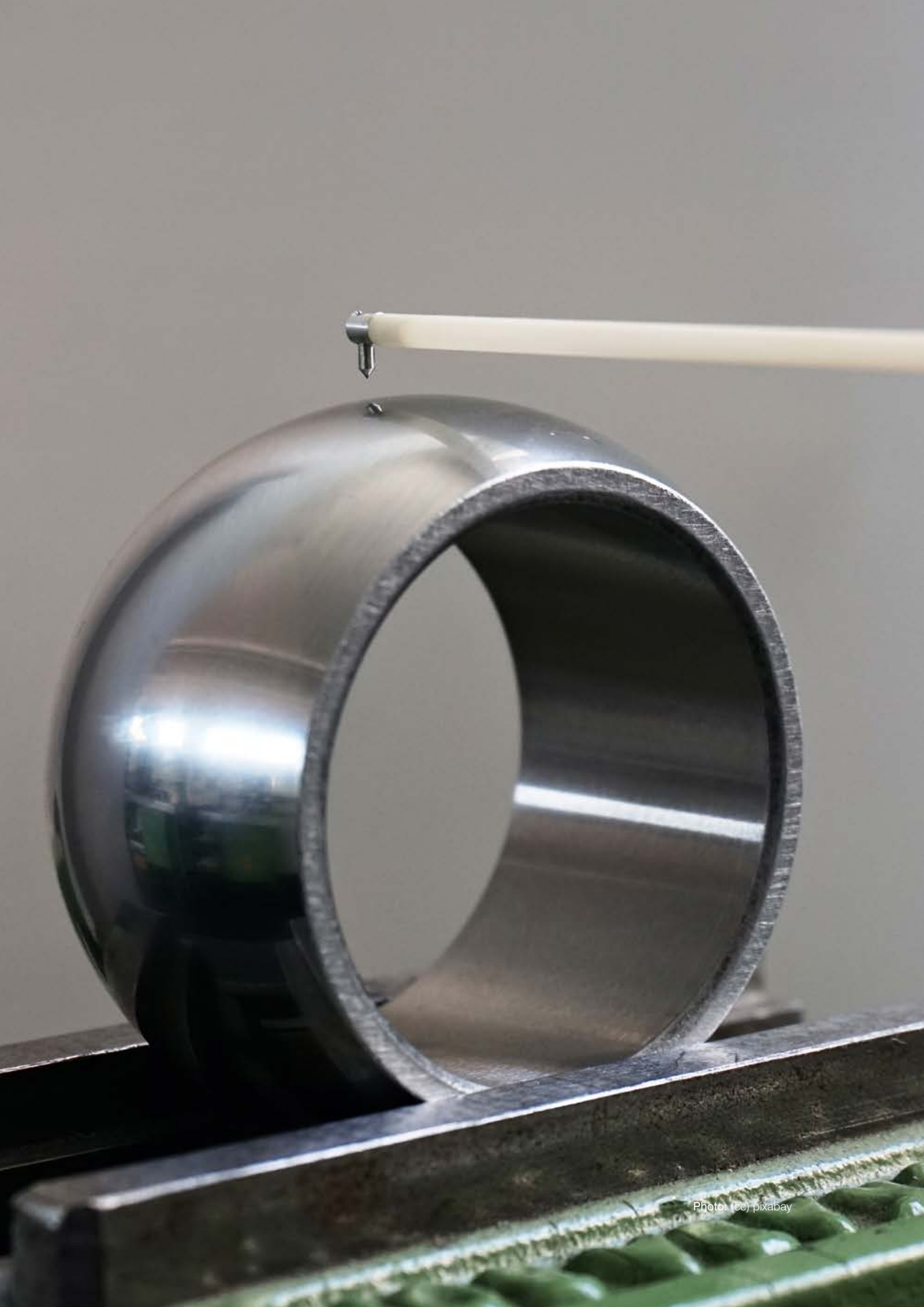
Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Activity	Priority	Start date	End date	Targets	Leading implementing partners	Supporting implementing partners	Estimated costs (USD)
2: Achieve wider international recognition of Sri Lanka's NQI system	2.4: SLAB to expand the scope of accreditation services and increase the international recognition	2.4.2 Review the accreditation of accreditation services through international peer review to obtain recognition. Participation of SLAB in regional and international accreditation fora.	2	01/04/2019	31/12/2022	Have one peer review every four years	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB)	Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	50,000
	2.5: Review national technical regulations to cover exclusively areas national interests: environmental, health and safety requirements, consumer protection, and justice.	2.5.1 Achieve alignment of technical regulations with international technical standards as far as possible. Particularly restrict technical regulations only to the environment, health and safety, and consumer protection. The rest to be transferred to voluntary standards. 2.5.2 Compliance with technical regulations to be demonstrated by accredited CABs (especially accepting reports from accredited private CABs). Market surveillance for products and services under technical regulations can also be supported by services offered by accredited CABs. 2.5.3 Elaborate and carry out a plan of RIA to revise existing technical regulations. The plan must begin with new and upcoming regulations and with the revision of the oldest regulations. All the regulations must be revised every five years. 2.5.4 Ensure judiciary procedures (e.g. forensic science) that involve testing techniques to be based on technical standards by obtaining accreditation.	2	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	Five standards reviewed Five technical regulations reviewed	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Export Development Board; Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	100,000
			2	01/01/2019	31/12/2022	Four new conformity assessment services for regulations per year	Consumer Affairs Authority	Ministry of Industry and Commerce; Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Import and Export Control Department (IECD)	150,000
			2	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	One regulation impact analysis per year	Consumer Affairs Authority	Ministry of Industry and Commerce; Import and Export Control Department (IECD)	1,000,000
			3	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	One new forensic field accredited per year	To be finalised by Government Analysts' Department	Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs	65,000

Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Activity	Priority	Start date	End date	Targets	Leading implementing partners	Supporting implementing partners	Estimated costs (USD)
3: Strengthen the NQI framework to support general socio-economic development	3.1: Assemble existing food safety units into a dedicated National Food Authority (NFA)	<p>3.1.1 Consolidate in a NFA the functions of food safety. The NFA should regulate market surveillance, inspection and food testing, and accept conformity assessment done by accredited testing laboratories.</p> <p>3.1.2 NFA with technical capabilities and resources to integrate fully functional national enquiry points and notification authorities for all SPS areas (food safety, animal health and plant protection) and complete use of NQI services.</p>	1	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	NFA established as the SPS enquiry point and regulatory body for food	Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC); Department of Commerce; Department of Agriculture; Department of Export Agriculture	650,000
	3.2: Establish standardization committees and standardization units for key sectors	<p>3.2.1 Establish a new standardization committees as required (e.g. on Ayurveda and traditional medicine). Develop national standards on the following sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized personnel qualification Medicinal herbs and plants, as well as manufactured medication (including on imports) Ayurveda and traditional medicine. Ayurveda-specialized establishments without accommodation CSR, environmental practices, ethical practices. Herbal food supplements Herbal Spas and spice gardens Cosmetics and personal care products Global GAP and GMP for spices Spice mixtures Food and beverages labelling and packaging –Boat building, including repairing and re fuelling ICT (IoT, Robotics, etc.) Electronics, including electronics testing standards <p>Work with Advisory committees to define new standards needs.</p>	2	01/01/2019	31/12/2022	National enquiry points and notification authorities integrated and fully functional	Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Department of Commerce; Department of Agriculture; Department of Export Agriculture	1,200,000
				2	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	10 new technical standards projects, per year, are under way	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	Ministry of Primary Industries; Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Department of Commerce; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Department of Ayurveda; Consumer Affairs Authority; Department of Agriculture; Coconut Research Institute (CRI)

Strategic objectives	Operational objectives	Activity	Priority	Start date	End date	Targets	Leading implementing partners	Supporting implementing partners	Estimated costs (USD)
3: Strengthen the NQI framework to support general socio-economic development	3.2: Establish standardization committees and standardization units for key sectors	3.2.2 Establish a regular standards update mechanism to align with international standards updates. Support SLSI standardization committees and standardization units outside SLSI to cater to the needs of key sectors, including a comprehensive standard for social, environmental and ethical practices. NQC will lead implementation once established.	2	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	- 10 technical standards revised per year, in key sectors	To be finalized by Ministry of Science, Technology and Research	Ministry of Plantation Industries; Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Export Development Board; Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Department of Commerce; Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine; Department of Agriculture; Coconut Research Institute (CRI)	500,000
	3.3: Increase knowledge, skills and qualifications in technical and quality aspects for the industry, non-NQI institutions and the general public.	3.3.1 Promote existing training programmes related to quality and technical aspects of export regulations (e.g. health, safety, environment, food safety, phytosanitary and animal quarantine) among public officers and the private sector. Strengthen existing vocational training institutes by implementing a training of trainers programme. 3.3.2 Create and conduct new training programmes relevant to market needs, to provide access to private standards (e.g. organic farming, kosher, halal, Good Agricultural Practices and GMP). 3.3.3 In line with the recommendation of the NQP an awareness-raising campaign on the importance of quality is conducted by NQI institutions for Sri Lankan enterprises, the public sector and academia. 3.3.4 Include relevant aspects of quality (e.g. standards, technical regulations, conformity assessment, metrology) in academic curricula (schools, universities and vocational institutions). 3.3.5 Provide support for relevant technical staff in the public sector to participate into technical training (e.g. on testing labs etc.)	2	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	- Six training programmes promoted per year - One vocational training institute strengthened per year	Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD); Department of Agriculture	100,000
			2	01/04/2018	31/12/2022	4 training programmes created per year	Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)	100,000
			2	01/04/2019	31/12/2022	- Public awareness-raising campaign carried out	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	Ministry of Industry and Commerce; Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC); National Chamber of Exporters of Sri Lanka (NCE); Consumer Affairs Authority	50,000
			3	01/04/2020	31/12/2022	- Two academic curricula per year will include new relevant aspects of quality - Professors trained on new curricula	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Higher Education and Highways; Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training; Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB); Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI); Industrial Technology Institute (ITI); Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)	50,000
		2	01/04/2019	31/12/2022	- 100 people per year trained	Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI)	Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)	50,000	

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APPENDIX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS AND BILATERAL MEETINGS

No.	Name	Designation	Name of Institution
1	Mr. S.A. Welikala	Senior Deputy Director (Industrialization)	Arthur C Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies [ACCIMT]
2	Mr. Keerthi Bandara	CFO/Executive Director	Camsco Loadstar (Pvt) Ltd
3	Mr. Anslem Perera	Chairman	Colombo Tea Traders' Association
4	Ms. Chandrika Thilakarathne	Director - Consumer Affairs & Information	Consumer Affairs Authority
5	Dr. P.V. Sriyalatha	Chief Animal Quarantine Officer	Department of Animal Production & Health
6	Dr. U.S.Gunarathna	Animal Quarantine Officer	Department of Animal Production & Health
7	Dr. J. Malathy	Animal Quarantine Officer	Department of Animal Production & Health
8	Dr. I.D.V.L. Dharmawardhana	Animal Quarantine Officer	Department of Animal Production & Health
9	Mr. Hasitha Wijesundara	Advisor	GIZ - SME Development Programme
10	Mrs. N. Nimalka Dias	Past Controller General	Import and Export Control Department (IECD)
11	Ms. Iresha Weerasekara	Controller	Import Export Control Department (IECD)
12	Dr. H.P.P. Sudaththa Somasiri	Senior Deputy Director	Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)
13	Dr. Dayaratna Silva	National Project Coordinator	ITC
14	Mr. Tuli Cooray	Secretary General	Joint Apparel Association Forum (JAAF)
15	Mr. E.W.A.S. Erathna	Exports and Compliance Officer	Maliban Biscuit Manufactories (Pvt) Ltd
16	Mr. S.D.I. Dias	Assistant Director	Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department (MUSSD)
17	Mr. B.Wijayarathna	Secretary	Ministry of Agriculture
18	Mr. K. Hettiarachchi	Add. Secretary	Ministry of Agriculture
19	Dr. Ravi Ratnayake	Member- National Trade Negotiation Committee	Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade (MODSIT)
20	Dr. Ananda Jayalal	Director Food Control Unit	Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine
21	Dr. Kumudini Gunasekara	Agri Business Specialist	Ministry of Primary Industries
22	Mr. Ramal Jasinghe	President	National Chamber of Exporters
23	Mr. Lakshman Wijewardena	Director	National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
24	Mrs. I.K. Warshamana	Deputy Director	National Plant Quarantine Service
25	Ms. W.Jayani Nimanthika	Assistant Director	National Plant Quarantine Service
26	Mr. Kapila Sumanapala	Director Administration	Neil Fernando and Company (Pvt) Ltd
27	Mr. Fazil Nayeem	General Manager - Operations	Oceanpick (Pvt) Ltd
28	Mr. Irfan Thassim	Managing Director	Oceanpick (Pvt) Ltd
29	Mrs. Amitha Bentota	Director-Rice Research and Development	Rice Research and Development Institute
30	Dr. Susantha Siriwardena	Deputy Director	Rubber Research Board [RRI]
31	Mr. Suresh A. Silva	Managing Director/ Group Chief Executive	S A Silva & Sons Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd.
32	Ms. Ruvini Ranasinghe	Manager-Business Development	SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.
33	Mr. L.H.D. Bandusoma	Deputy Director	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB)

No.	Name	Designation	Name of Institution
34	Ms. Chanditha Ediriweera	Deputy Director	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board (SLAB)
35	Mr. Manisha H. Wickramasinghe	Assistant Director (Accreditation)	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment (SLAB)
36	Mr. Nimal S. Perera	President	Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Quality and Productivity (SLAAQP)
37	Dr. K. Ranjith W. Abeywickrama	President	Sri Lanka Association of Testing Laboratory
38	Mr. S. Mahesan	Director (Exports)	Sri Lanka Customs
39	Mr. Gamini Dharmawardena	Director General	Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI)
40	Mr L.PL. Chitrage	Director (Laboratory Services)	Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI)
41	Mr. M.S.S. Fernando	Director (Eng)	Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI)
42	Mr. L.W. Gunawardana	Senior Deputy Director	Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI)
43	Mr. Ranjith Abeykoon	Secretary General	Tea Exporters' Association
44	Mr. Merrick Gooneratne	Executive Director	TOS Lanka Co. (Pvt) Ltd
45	Ms. Janitha Danthanarayana	Operation Manager	TOS Lanka Co. (Pvt) Ltd
46	Mr. M.Z.M. Farhad	National Sector Specialist	UNIDO EU/ITC/UNIDO Project Sri Lanka
47	Ms. Sumathy. L. Rajasingham	National Quality Expert	UNIDO
48	Ms. Rifa Musthapha	Past Chairperson	Women's Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Sri Lanka (WCIC)
49	Ms. Chathuri P Ranasinghe	Chairperson	Women's Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Sri Lanka (WCIC)
50	Dr. Vinod K. Goel	Senior Consultant	World Bank Group
51	Ms.Katarina	Consultant	World Bank Group
52	Mr. Kavitha Ariyabandu	Analysist	World Bank Group
53	Mr. S.R.P. Indrakeerthi	Director	Export Development Board
54	Ms. Malani Baddegamage	Director	Export Development Board

APPENDIX 2: LIST OF CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT BODIES ACCREDITED BY SLAB

EXTRACTED FROM SLAB WEBSITE AS OF 2017 DECEMBER

TESTING AND CALIBRATION LABORATORIES (ISO/IEC 17025)

ISO/IEC 17025 – chemical testing

Organization	Scope in brief
National Building Research Organization	Performing chemical testing on water and wastewater based on APHA methods.
Analytical Laboratory of the Office of the Registrar of Pesticides	Performing chemical testing on pesticides formulation and residue analysis
Environmental Laboratory & Consultancy Services	Performing chemical tests on raw water / potable water, wastewater and wastewater sampling as per APHA methods
Central Quality Control Laboratory	Performing chemical tests on industrial gloves as per British Standard (BS) European Norm (EN) methods
Government Analyst's Department	Performing chemical tests on food and water, liquor, narcotics and psychotropic substances, and forensic toxicology and forensic tests on forensic serology and DNA, ballistics and firearms, explosives and fire investigations, examination of questioned documents and forensic miscellaneous
Water Resources Board	Performing chemical testing on potable water as per APHA methods
Spice of Life (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on food and agricultural products (spices: black pepper, clove, nutmeg with and without shell, mace and cinnamon)
National Engineering Research and Development Centre	Performing chemical tests on wastewater as per APHA methods
SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing of cosmetics, food and agricultural products, fertilizer, water and pesticide residues
Censura Laboratory Services	Performing chemical testing on water and wastewater
National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency	Performing chemical testing (histamine) in the field of food and agricultural products (fish products: fresh, chilled, frozen, canned and dried fish)
A Baur & Company (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on fertilizers as per SLS methods
Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on food and agriculture products, water, cosmetics and textile Performing chemical tests on fertilizer based on SLS methods, and fish and shrimps based on FD-MTHD-043 method
National Water Supply & Drainage Board	Performing chemical testing on pH, conductivity, turbidity and sampling of water as per APHA methods
International Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on black tea and green tea as per ISO and SLS test methods
Sri Lanka Tea Board	Performing chemical testing on the product group of food and agricultural products (tea)
Jafferjee Brothers Group of Companies	Performing chemical testing on the product group of food and agricultural products (tea)
CIC Agri Businesses (Private) Ltd	Performing chemical tests on soil
Ceylon Fertilizer Company (Ltd)	Performing chemical testing on fertilizer and sampling of fertilizers
CDA	Performing chemical testing of food and agricultural products (coconut products)
Intertek Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on food and agricultural products (black tea) and fertilizer
Finlays Colombo Limited	Performing chemical testing on the product group of food and agricultural products (tea) as per ISO methods
Trade Solutions Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on food and agricultural products (tea)

Organization	Scope in brief
Fonterra Brands Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on the product group of food and agricultural products (milk products – milk powder)
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, University of Peradeniya	Performing chemical testing on product category of food and agricultural products
Bamber & Bruce (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical testing on food, water, fertilizer and cosmetics
Lindel Industrial Laboratories Limited	Performing chemical testing on categories of petroleum products (fuel oil, furnace oil and diesel), water (potable water, wastewater, sewage and effluent)
SLSI	Performing chemical testing on product categories of water, fertilizer and porcelain tableware based on APHA, ISO, SLS and laboratory test methods Performing chemical testing on product category of food and agricultural products (milk and milk products, edible oils and fat, sugar and sugar products and tea)
Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board	Performing nuclear analytical testing on solid/sediment, water, milk powder, samples of plant origin (tea, coconut and plant seeds) and other matrices (fish, processed food items, pharmaceutical and mineral sands)
MJF Holdings (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical tests on product categories of food and agricultural products (black and green tea)
ATG Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical tests on industrial gloves as per BS EN methods
UltraTech Cement Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing chemical tests on cement (ordinary Portland cement, Portland Pozzolana cement)
Astron Ltd	Performing chemical testing on pharmaceutical tablet preparations as per British Pharmacopoeia, United States Pharmacopoeia, Indian Pharmacopoeia and in-house methods
SGS Lanka (Pvt) Limited	Performing chemical testing on textiles (phthalate in childcare items and toys, allergenic and carcinogenic dyestuff in textile materials, AP/APEO, chlorinated organic carriers in textile commodity)
Dipped Products PLC	Performing chemical testing on rubber products
ITI	Performing chemical testing on ceramic and porcelain wares
Tokyo Cement Company (Lanka) PLC	Performing chemical testing on cement (ordinary Portland cement and Portland Pozzolana cement)
Sri Lanka Institute of Textile & Apparel Testing Laboratory	Performing chemical testing on textiles and related products – (textiles and garments)

ISO/IEC 17025 – mechanical testing

Organization	Scope in brief
Sunpower Constructions (Pvt) Ltd Laboratory	Performing mechanical testing on aggregate, soil and concrete based on BS, BS EN and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials methods
Ansell Textile Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing mechanical tests on textiles, coated fabric and rubber gloves
ATG Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing mechanical tests on industrial gloves as per BS EN methods
UltraTech Cement Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing mechanical tests on cement (ordinary Portland cement, Portland Pozzolana cement and concrete)
National Engineering Research and Development Centre	Performing mechanical tests on noise as per BS 4142:1997 method
Astron Ltd	Performing mechanical testing on pharmaceutical tablet preparations as per British Pharmacopoeia methods
National Building Research Organization	Performing mechanical testing on concrete cubes and steel bars as per ISO and SLS methods.
SGS Lanka (Pvt) Limited	Performing mechanical testing on fabrics, garments, toys, accessories and plastic films
Tokyo Cement Company (Lanka) PLC	Performing mechanical testing on aggregate, fresh concrete and hardened concrete as per BS EN and ASTM standard test methods
Engineering & Laboratory Service (Pvt) Ltd	Performing mechanical tests on soil (water content) as per ASTM and BS EN methods and compressive strength of concrete tube as per BS EN test methods
Dipped Products PLC	Performing mechanical testing on rubber products

Organization	Scope in brief
IGBU QC Laboratory Ansell Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing mechanical testing on rubber and textile gloves as per EN 388:2003 standard Performing mechanical testing (cut resistance on rubber and textiles related products (gloves)) as per ISO 13997:1999 Performing mechanical testing (abrasion resistance, blade cut resistance, tear resistance and puncture resistance on rubber and textiles related products (gloves)) as per EN 388: 2016 and determination of resistance to cutting by sharp objects (physical testing) on rubber and textile related products (gloves) as per ISO 13997:1999 (product standard EN 388: 2016)
Siam City Cement (Lanka) Limited	Performing physical testing of cement (compressive strength of cement mortar) as per ISO 679:2009 and BS EN 196-1:2005
ITI	Performing mechanical testing (sound and vibration measurements) Performing mechanical testing on rubber products and cement
Sri Lanka Institute of Textile & Apparel Testing Laboratory	Performing mechanical testing on textile and related products – (textiles and garments)
Industrial Clothings Ltd	Performing mechanical tests on rubber products (gloves)
Ceylon Tobacco Company	Performing mechanical testing on (cigarette blends and cigarettes)
Central Quality Control Laboratory	Performing mechanical tests on industrial gloves as per BS EN methods

ISO/IEC 17025 – biological testing

Organization	Scope in brief
Bureau Veritas Consumer Products Services Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing biological testing on food and agriculture products, water, cosmetics, sampling for microbiological analysis of water and food as per ISO, SLS, AOAC and APHA methods
CDA	Performing biological testing on food and agricultural products (desiccated coconut)
Intertek Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing biological testing on food and agricultural products and water
Sri Lanka Tea Board	Performing biological testing on the product group of food and agricultural products (tea)
National Aquatic Resources Research & Development Agency	Performing microbiology testing on product categories of fish and crustaceans – frozen and chilled (tuna, swordfish, shrimps, crabs and oyster), water (seawater/coastal water, potable water, fresh water and ice)
MJF Holdings (Pvt) Ltd	Performing microbiological tests on product categories of food and agricultural products (tea, herbs, spices and condiments) and drinking water
SLSI	Performing microbiology testing on products categories of food and agricultural products, and water and ice, based on ISO and SLS test methods
MicroChem Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd	Performing microbiology testing on product category of water, food and agricultural products as per SLS/ISO test methods. Performing microbiology testing on product category of water (legionella) as per ISO 11731:1998
SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing microbiological testing on food and agricultural products, water, and sampling of food and water
Bamber & Bruce (Pvt) Ltd	Performing microbiology testing on product categories of water, food and agricultural products
ITI	Performing microbiological testing on product categories of food and agricultural products (fish/shrimp, seafood, spices, green and black tea), water/ice, bottled drinking water, cosmetics and sampling of water. Performing microbiological testing on products categories of food and agricultural products (herbal products, coconut products, meat products, milk products, ice cream, wheat-based products, carbonated and non-carbonated beverages, ready to serve drinks), surface and river water, swimming pool water and toothpaste
Astron Ltd	Performing microbiology testing on pharmaceutical liquid preparations Performing microbiology testing on water, milk and soya based nutritional supplements based on SLS test methods

ISO/IEC 17025 – other testing

Organization	Scope in brief
Government Analyst's Department	Performing chemical tests on food and water, liquor, narcotics and psychotropic substances and forensic toxicology and forensic tests on forensic serology and DNA, ballistics and firearms, explosives and fire investigations, examination of questioned documents and forensic miscellaneous
Atomic Energy Board	Performing radiation measurements (estimation of effective dose of whole body from external radiation sources)

ISO/IEC 17025 – calibration laboratories

Organization	Scope in brief
Electrumets International (Pvt) Ltd	Performing mechanical calibration (mass and length) and thermal calibration
Lanka Calibration Services (Pvt) Ltd	Performing electrical (multimeter, clamp meter, insulation testers), frequency (tachometers), mechanical (pressure) and thermal (digital thermometers) calibration
ITI	Mechanical (dimension and mass), electrical, thermal and volumetric calibrations
SGS Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing mechanical calibration (length, mass, volume), thermal calibration
SLSI	Performing mechanical calibration (mass and force, length and pressure) and thermal calibration

ISO/IEC 17025 – electrical testing

Organization	Scope in brief
ANTE LECO Metering Company (Pvt) Limited	Performing electrical testing of single phase class 2 electromechanical energy meters
Photometry Laboratory, Regional Centre for Lighting, Ceylon Electricity Board	Performing electrical and photometric tests on self-ballasted compact fluorescent lamps

Medical /clinical laboratories (ISO 15189)

Organization	Scope in brief
Medicheks Colombo (Pvt) Limited	Performing medical tests under the field of clinical biochemistry
Blue Cross Medical Centre (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry, clinical pathology, haematology and serology
National Diabetes Centre	Performing medical/clinical testing under the fields of clinical biochemistry
Health Watch Medical Diagnostic Centre (Pvt) Ltd.	Performing medical/clinical testing under the fields of chemical pathology/ clinical biochemistry, clinical pathology, haematology and serology
The Medispot (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry, clinical pathology, haematology and serology
Wayamba Diagnostic Medical Laboratory (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry/ chemical pathology, clinical pathology, haematology and microbiology
Ceymed Healthcare Services (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry/ chemical pathology, haematology and serology
Ohlums Clinic & Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry/ chemical pathology, haematology and serology
Nawaloka Metropolis Laboratories Nawaloka Hospital (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry/ chemical pathology, clinical pathology, microbiology/serology and haematology
The Durdans Hospital Laboratory Services Durdans Hospital	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry/ chemical pathology, clinical pathology haematology, microbiology/ serology and immunology
Medilab Lanka (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests on clinical biochemistry, clinical pathology and serology
Hemas Hospitals Laboratory Services	Performing medical/clinical testing under the fields of clinical biochemistry/chemical pathology, haematology, microbiology and serology
Genetech Molecular Diagnostics	Performing medical tests on molecular biology (infectious disease diagnostics, cancer markers, histocompatibility testing and DNA typing)
National Blood Centre National Blood Transfusion Service Sri Lanka	Performing medical tests under the fields of haematology and immunohaematology

Organization	Scope in brief
The Asiri Hospital Laboratory Asiri Hospitals PLC	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry/ chemical pathology, haematology and clinical pathology
International Meditrust (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical/clinical testing under the fields of clinical biochemistry, clinical pathology and haematology
Lanka Hospitals Diagnostic (Pvt) Ltd	Performing medical tests under the fields of clinical biochemistry/chemical pathology, clinical pathology, haematology, microbiology/serology and histopathology

Inspection bodies (ISO/ IEC 17020)

Organization	Scope in brief
CleanCo Lanka Limited	Inspection of vehicles for emissions

System certification bodies (ISO/IEC 17021 and ISO/TS 22003)

Organization	Scope in brief
Ind-Expo Certification Ltd	Quality MSs against ISO 9001:2008
Ind-Expo Certification Ltd	Environmental MSs against ISO 14001:2004
Ind-Expo Certification Ltd	Occupational health and safety MSs against Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series 18001:2007
SLSI	Quality MSs against ISO 9001:2008
SLSI	Environmental MSs against ISO 14001:2004
Control Union Inspections (Pvt) Ltd	Environmental MSs against ISO 14001:2004
Control Union Inspections (Pvt) Ltd	Energy MSs against ISO 50001:2011

Product certification bodies (ISO/IEC 17065)

Organization	Scope in brief
Control Union Inspections (Pvt) Ltd - Sri Lanka	Product certification against ISO/IEC 17065:2012 for non-food fibre/raw materials to finished products including textiles, apparel and footwear

Personnel certification bodies (ISO/IEC 17024)

Organization	Scope in brief
National Centre for Non-Destructive Testing, Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board	Qualification and certification of non-destructive testing personnel as per ISO 9712: 2012

Greenhouse gas validation/verification bodies (ISO 14065, ISO 14066)

Organization	Scope in brief
Sustainable Future Group (Pvt) Ltd	Greenhouse gas validation and verification against ISO 14064-1: 2006 and ISO 14064-2:2006

APPENDIX 3: LIST OF SRI LANKA'S TBT MEASURES NOTIFIED TO WTO

Measure description	Product description
SLS specification for circuit breakers for overcurrent protection for household and similar uses SLS 1175. This standard is an adoption of IEC 60898.	Circuit breakers for overcurrent protection for household and similar uses
SLS specification for ballasts for tubular fluorescent lamps SLS 1150. Part 1:1997 General and Safety Requirements (=IEC 60920), Part 2:1997 Performance Requirements (=IEC 60921).	Ballasts for tubular fluorescent lamps
SLS specification for residual current operated circuit breakers without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses SLS 1099. Part 1:1995 General Requirements (General Rules) (=IEC 61008/1); Part 2-1:1995 Applicability of the general requirements to residual current operated circuit breakers without integral overcurrent protection functionally independent of line voltage (=IEC 61008/2.1); Part 2-2:1995 Applicability of the general requirements to residual current operated circuit breakers without integral overcurrent protection functionally dependent of line voltage (=IEC 61008/2.2).	Residual current operated circuit breakers without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses
SLS specification for residual current operated circuit breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses. Part 1:1994 General Requirements (General Rules) (=IEC 61009/1); Part 2-1:1995 Applicability of the general requirements to residual current operated circuit breakers with integral overcurrent protection functionally independent of line voltage (=IEC 61009/2.1); Part 2-2:1995 Applicability of the general requirements to residual current operated circuit breakers with integral overcurrent protection functionally dependent of line voltage (=IEC 61009/2.2).	Residual current operated circuit breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses
SLS specification for mosquito mats SLS 930 (11 pages). This specification prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for mosquito mats to be used with an electrical vaporizer to vaporize the active ingredient.	Mosquito mats
SLS specification for milk added drinks SLS 917 (eight pages). This specification prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for milk added drinks.	Milk added drinks
SLS specification for bottled drinking water SLS 894 (seven pages). This specification prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for packaged (bottled) drinking water.	Bottled drinking water
SLS specification for rice noodles (rice vermicelli) SLS 858 (11 pages). This specification prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for rice noodles (rice vermicelli).	Rice noodles (rice vermicelli)
SLS specification for pasta products SLS 420 (17 pages). This specification prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for noodles, instant noodles, macaroni, spaghetti and vermicelli.	Pasta products
SLS specification for safety matches in boxes SLS 11 (19 pages). This specification prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for safety matches in boxes.	Safety matches in boxes
SLS specification for bottled natural mineral water SLS 1038 (16 pages). This specification prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for bottled natural mineral water.	Bottled natural mineral water
SLS specification for glow starters for tubular fluorescent lamps SLS 882 (19 pages). This specification covers the requirements, methods of sampling and methods of testing for starters for tubular fluorescent lamps for general lighting service which are operated on AC supplies of voltage 230 V at 50 Hz.	Glow starters for tubular fluorescent lamps
SLS specification for electric fans and regulators SLS 814. Part 1:1988 Performance requirements (16 pages); Part 2: 1988 Safety Requirements (38 pages). Part 1 of this specification covers the performance requirements for ceiling, pedestal and table type fans, oscillating or non-oscillating type, and their associated regulators, intended for use on single phase AC or DC circuits at voltages not exceeding 250 V, suitable for normal household and similar uses. Part 2 of this specification covers the safety requirements for ceiling, pedestal and table type fans, oscillating or non-oscillating type, and their associated regulators, intended for use on single phase AC or DC circuits at voltages not exceeding 250 V, suitable for normal household and similar uses.	Electric fans and regulators

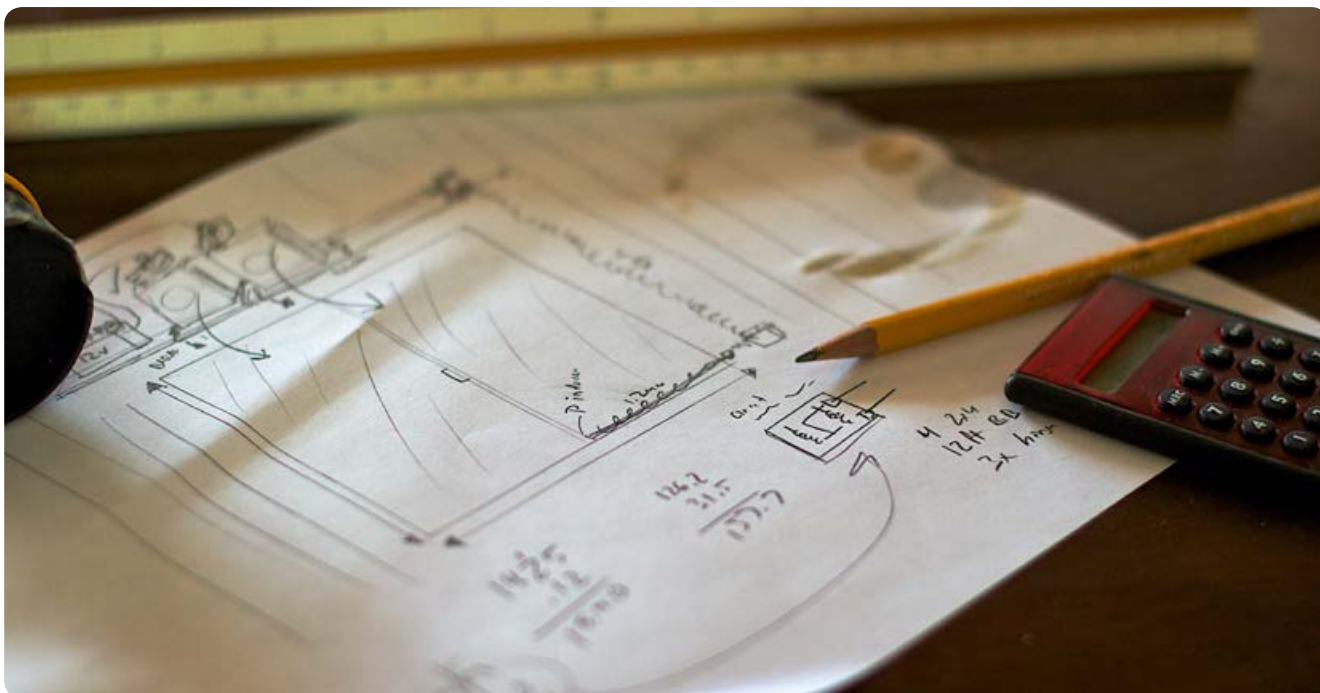


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Measure description	Product description
SLS specification for electric kettles SLS 630 (13 pages). This specification applies to electric kettles, jugs and other similar appliances for boiling water, having a capacity not exceeding five litres. This specification does not apply to electrode type heating appliances, to dry or steam pressure stabilizers, to coffee percolators, to portable immersion heaters, to instantaneous water heaters or to storage water heaters.	Electric kettles
SLS specification for conduits for electrical insulations SLS 993. Part 1:1993 General Requirements (=IEC 60614/1); Part 2:1994 rigid plain conduits of insulating material (=IEC 60614/2); Part 3:1993 pliable conduits of insulating material (=IEC 60614/3).	Conduits for electrical insulations
SLS specification for electric immersion water heaters SLS 1193. This specification is an adoption of IEC 60335/2.74.	Electric immersion water heaters
Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 1323/2 Food (Labelling and Advertising) Regulations (8 pages, in English). Food (labelling and advertising) regulations.	Food (labelling and advertising)
Specification for white sugar SLS 191:1989 (38 pages, in English). Prescribes requirements and methods of sampling and testing for white sugar.	White sugar HS Code: 17.01.99
SLS 639:1984 specification for leaf springs for automobile suspensions (22 pages, in English). This specification (SLS 639) covers general requirements for leaf spring assemblies and individual spring leaves, for automobile suspensions.	Leaf springs for automobile suspensions HS Code: 87.08.00
SLS 740:1986 specification for automotive radiator cores (nine pages, in English). This specification (SLS 740) covers the dimensions, general requirements and methods of testing for automatic radiator cores for use on motor cars, trucks, tractors and other machinery.	Automotive radiator cores HS Code: 87.08.91
SLS 829:1988 specification for galvanized steel pipes and fittings (20 pages, in English). Specifies the dimensional and mechanical properties, and testing requirements of hot-dip zinc-coated; light, medium and heavy duty; screwed steel pipes and sockets for general engineering applications.	Galvanized steel pipes and fittings HS Code: 73.07.00
Specification for cement concrete tiles SLS 863: 1989. Part 1: Specification for manufacture; Part 2: Test methods specification for cement concrete tiles. Part 1: Specification for manufacture This specification covers requirements for cement concrete floor tiles and wall tiles made with cement and aggregate commonly referred to as pressed cement tiles, but excludes terrazzo tiles. Part 2: Test methods. Specifies the tests to be conducted on cement concrete floor and wall tiles.	Cement tiles HS Code: 69.08.10
SLS 890:1990 Specification for diagonal-ply motorcycle and scooter tyres (17 pages, in English). This specification (SLS 890) prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for diagonal-ply motorcycle and scooter tyres. Does not cover on-road performance requirements.	Diagonal-ply motorcycle and scooter tyres HS Code: 40.11.40

Measure description	Product description
Specification for sanitary towels (13 pages, in English). This specification (SLS 111) prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for sanitary towels.	Sanitary towels HS Code: 56.01.10
SLS 1207:2001 Umbrellas. Part 1: Non-folding umbrella (8 pages, in English); Part 2: Folding umbrella (10 pages, in English). This specification (SLS 1207: Part 1) prescribes the requirements for non-folding umbrella. It does not cover toy hat and garden umbrellas. This specification (SLS 1207: Part 2) prescribes the requirements for folding umbrellas.	Umbrellas HS Code: 66.01.00
Specification for porcelain tableware SLS 1222:2001. Part 1: Requirements (13 pages, in English); Part 2: Test methods (16 pages, in English). Part 1 of the specification prescribes requirements for porcelain tableware. Part 2 of the specification prescribes testing methods for porcelain tableware.	Porcelain tableware HS Code: 69.11.00
Specification for self-ballasted lamps for general lighting services – SLS 1231:2002. Part 1: Performance Requirements; Part 2: Safety Requirements (18 pages, in English). Part 1 of the standard specifies the performance requirements and methods of tests for tubular fluorescent and other gas-discharge lamps with integrated means for controlling, starting and stable operation (self-ballasted lamps) intended for domestic and similar general lighting services having: (a) a rated wattage up to 60 W; (b) a rated voltage of 100 V to 250 V; and (c) Edison screw or bayonet caps. Part 2 of the standard specifies the safety and interchangeability requirements together with the test methods and conditions required to show compliance of tubular fluorescent and other gas-discharge lamps with integrated means for controlling, starting and stable operation (self-ballasted lamps) intended for domestic and similar general lighting services having a rated wattage up to 60 W, a rated voltage of 100 V to 250 V and Edison screw or bayonet caps. The requirements of this Standard relate only to type testing.	Self-ballasted lamps (Integral type compact fluorescent lamps) for general lighting services HS Code: 85.04.10
Specification for blended hydraulic cements – SLS 1247:2003 (27 pages, in English). This SLS for blended hydraulic cements covers the requirements for composition, manufacture, chemical and physical properties, and packaging and marking. This specification pertains to one strength class of blended hydraulic cements using natural or artificial Pozzolan material or slag with ordinary Portland cement clinker.	Blended hydraulic cements HS Code: 25.23.90
Specification for Portland limestone cement – SLS 1253:2003 (44 pages, in English). SLS for Portland limestone cement covers the requirements for composition; manufacture; chemical, physical and mechanical properties; and packaging and marking. This specification pertains to one strength class of Portland limestone cement.	Portland limestone cement HS Code: 25.23.29
Specification for ceramic floor and wall tiles SLS 1181. Part.1: Requirements (19 pages, English); Part.2: Test Methods (61 pages, English). Part.1: Requirements – gives definitions, classification, characteristics, defects and marking requirements for ceramic tiles generally used as floor and wall surfaces. Part.2: Test Methods – specifies testing methods for dust-pressed ceramic tiles/	Ceramic floor and wall tiles HS Code: 69.07.10
Imports (Standardization and Quality Control) Regulations 2006 – Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 1447/28 dated 1 June 2006 (10 pages, in English). Under the Compulsory Import Inspection Scheme of Sri Lanka, 84 items are currently in operation. Eighteen more items have been identified and published in the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 1447/28 dated 1 June 2006. According to the regulation, importers are not permitted to import these items to Sri Lanka unless they conform to the relevant SLS.	HS Codes are given in the Gazette Notification No. 1447/28
Imports (Standardization and Quality Control) Regulations 2006 – Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 1627/3 dated 9 November 2009 (one page, English). Under the Compulsory Import Inspection Scheme of Sri Lanka, 102 items are currently in operation. Toothbrushes have been identified and published in the Government Gazette Extraordinary No. 1627/3 dated 9 November 2009. Importers are not permitted to import these items to Sri Lanka unless they conform to the relevant Sri Lanka Standard, SLS 276.	HS Code: 9603.21
Imports (Standardization and Quality Control) Regulations 2013 – Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 1844/49 dated 08 January 2014 (11 pages, in English). Schedule I of the Imports (Standardization and Quality Control) Regulations 2006, published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1447/28 of June 1, 2006 as amended by the regulations published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1627/3 of November 9, 2009, is hereby repealed. WTO Notifications G/TBT/N/LKA/31 of 31 July 2006 and G/TBT/N/LKA/32 of 21 January 2010 will be repealed and replaced by this notification.	Products covered and HS Codes are given in the Gazette Notification No. 1844/49
Imports (Standardization and Quality Control) Regulations 2016 – Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 1953/27 dated 11 February 2016 (four pages, in English).	Products covered and HS Codes are given in the Gazette Notification No. 1953/27

APPENDIX 4: LIST OF SRI LANKA'S SPS MEASURES NOTIFIED TO WTO

Measure description	Product description
Animal Diseases Act No. 59 of 1992. DAPH, and Food Control Administration Unit, MoHNIM, with immediate effect. Complete ban of pet bird imports. Restriction and issue of import permits for live poultry, poultry-related products from the World Organization for Animal Health reported or Asian highly pathogenic avian influenza-affected countries. Restriction and issue of permits for the items related to animal feed, utensils that we consider risky after risk analysis.	Live domestic and wild birds, hatching eggs, table eggs, meat and meat products of domestic and wild birds including products intended for animal feed and for agricultural and industrial use and feathers.
Contamination of milk powder with dicyandiamide. A provisional measure to ensure that all consignments of milk powder are accompanied with an analytical report issued by an accredited laboratory on the level of dicyandiamide measured by a test method with a level of quantification at 0.05 mg/kg (protocol/method – J. Chromatography Mc Mahon et al. 2012).	Milk powder
Directive No.14/2014 – Ensure the absence of genetically modified organisms/ materials in imported milk powder. A provisional measure ensuring the absence of genetically modified organisms/materials in imported milk powder issuing following instructions. All consignments of milk powder imported to the country should be accompanied with a certificate issued by the competent authority of the exporting country to the effect that: 1. Milk powder: » Does not contain any genetically modified organisms or material derived from genetically modified organisms. » Is not manufactured from milk obtained from genetically modified cows. 2. Milk powder is not made from the milk of cows fed on feed containing genetically modified materials.	Imported milk powder
SPS: Foods derived from DNA recombinant technology: soya beans whole, soya flour, defatted soya flour, soya nuggets/textured vegetable proteins, soya milk, soy sauce, other products that contain soya bean or its derivatives as one of their ingredients, corn/maize, cornflour/maize flour, other products containing corn/maize, tomato - fresh, tomato puree, tomato paste, tomato ketchup, tomato sauce, other tomato-based food products, cheese, potatoes and products containing potatoes, baker's yeast and brewer's yeast, beet sugar, microbiological starter cultures used in foods.	Foods derived from DNA recombinant technology: soya beans whole, soya flour, defatted soya flour, soya nuggets/textured vegetable proteins, soya milk, soy sauce, other products that contain soya bean or its derivatives
Food (Iodization of Salt) Regulations – 2005. The document is in three languages, English, Sinhala and Tamil – 14 pages (total) These regulations cover: the standard of iodized salt; the sale of iodized salt, the iodine content limited to 15 – 30 mg/kg; permit system for the use of non-iodized salt for industry, including import.	Iodized salt
Food (Bottled or Packaged Water) Regulations – 2005. The document is in three languages: Sinhala, Tamil and English – 29 pages (total). These regulations stipulate that: bottled (packaged) drinking water/ bottled (packaged) natural mineral water processing premises be registered with the Chief Food Authority. Premises referred to in (1) above shall not be granted registration unless they are in compliance with conditions and standards prescribed in these regulations. The standards relating to final products are applicable to imported bottled or packaged drinking water and bottled or packaged natural mineral water and product by brand names be registered with the Chief Food Authority.	Bottled or packaged drinking water
Food (Irradiation) Regulations – 2005. (Available in Sinhala, Tamil and English, 21 pages). These regulations have seven parts, which cover the following: Part I – General provisions; Part II – Treatment of food by ionizing radiation; Part III – Control of irradiation of foods; Part IV – Authorization for food irradiation and good irradiation practices; Part V – Labelling; Part VI – Re-irradiation; Part VII – Importation and exportation of irradiated foods. Schedule of foods permitted for irradiation – maximum and minimum levels.	Irradiated foods
Food (Control of Import, Labelling and Sale of Genetically Modified Foods) Regulations – 2006 (available in Sinhala, Tamil and English – 13 pages (total)). These regulations cover: control of import, labelling and sale of genetically modified foods; and pre-import approval system for the importation of genetically modified foods/foods containing genetically modified ingredients.	Food (Control of Import, Labelling and Sale of Genetically Modified Foods) Regulations – 2006

Measure description	Product description
Food (Colouring Substances) Regulations – 2006 (available in Sinhala, Tamil and English – 14 pages in total). These regulations cover the control of import, labelling and sale of food colours permitted by the country and the use of these colours in food.	Food (Colouring Substances)
Food (Vinegar Standards) Regulations – 2007. These regulations cover the control of import, labelling and sale of vinegar permitted by the country and use of these vinegar standards in food.	Food (Vinegar Standards) Regulations – 2007
Draft regulations of Plant Protection Act No. 35 of 1999. These draft regulations have regulations 1–156 and following schedules (I–IX).	Plants, plant products, organisms, soil and other culture media
Proposed Food (Milk and Milk Products) Regulations – 2007. These regulations prescribe chemical and microbiological parameters (Standards) for milk and milk products.	Milk and milk products
The draft Food (Packaging Materials and Articles) Regulations – 2007. These regulations cover the standards for packaging materials of food products, labelling requirements and testing methods.	Food packaging materials and articles
The draft Food (Meat and Meat Products) Regulations – 2007. These regulations prescribe chemicals and microbiological parameters (Standards) of meat and meat products and the labelling requirements of such products in packaged forms.	Meat and meat products
The draft Food (Tea, Coffee, Cocoa and their Products) Regulations – 2007. These regulations prescribe chemical parameters (Standards) for their products.	Tea, coffee, cocoa and their products
The draft regulation to be made under the Plant Protection Act No. 35 of 1999 concerning the wood packaging materials draft regulations to be implemented by Sri Lanka on the export and import of wood packaging material. Powers are given to register the producers and treatment providers of wood packaging material exported from the country, to grant the official mark as per the International Standards For Phytosanitary Measures No.15, to audit the procedures and the treatment providers, etc.	Wood packaging material
The draft Food (Shelf Life of Imported Foods) Regulations 2009. These regulations describe the shelf life of imported foods.	Imported foods
The draft Food (Formaldehyde in Fish) regulations 2009. These regulations cover: the limit of formaldehyde in fish: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health certificate issued by National Authority of exporting countries. 	Formaldehyde in fish
The draft Food (Melamine in Food Products) Regulations 2009. These regulations cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The control of import, manufacture, transport, distribution, sale, offer or keep for sale of any milk or milk-based products; • The limit of melamine; • Prior approval certificate should be issued by the national authority of the exporting country. 	Melamine in food products
The Food (Adoption of Standards) Regulations 2008. These regulations cover 158 food items published by SLSI.	115. National standards (SLS) for food products
The draft Food (Packaging Materials and Articles) Regulations 2010. These regulations cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of import, manufacture, transport, advertise for sale, expose for sale, sell, package, store, use and distribute any food packaging article and material. • A certificate issued by the manufacturer to the effect that the raw material used for the manufacture of the material meets the required quality or grade in compliance with international standards. 	Food packaging materials and articles
The draft Food (Preservatives) Regulations 2010. These regulations cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of manufacture, import, sell, expose for sale, store, transport, distribute, use or advertise any food which has in or upon it any preservatives other than those permitted; • List of permitted preservatives; and • Maximum permitted level of preservatives. 	Food preservatives
The draft Food (Additives – General) Regulations 2010. These regulations cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of import, manufacture, offer for sale, advertise for sale, transport, distribute, store or introduce into or on any food. • The following shall be written in the label on a package containing a food additive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The chemical name of the food additive, INS number (or E number) and the class of the food additive as permitted; and » A statement giving directions for its storage. 	Food additives – general



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Measure description	Product description
<p>Food (Packaging Materials and Articles) Regulations 2010. These regulations cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of import, manufacture, transport, advertise for sale, exposition for sale, sale, package, store, use and distribution of any food packaging article and material. • Any material/article which is used for food packaging shall have printed the words: 'FOR FOOD USE'/any relevant words /the designated symbol. • Any material/article used for food packaging shall be certified by the manufacturer that the raw material used for the manufacture of the material meets the required quality or grade in compliance with international standards. 	Food packaging materials and articles
<p>The draft Food (Flavouring Substances and Flavour Enhancers) Regulations 2010. These regulations cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of import, manufacture, store, transport, sale or offer for sale, distribute, use or advertise any flavouring substances or flavour enhancers for use in food. • Any flavouring substances or flavour enhancer which is safe and suitable for use in food shall be certified by the relevant authority in the country of origin of manufacture. • List of flavouring substances prohibited to be used in food. • List of permitted solvents to be used in flavouring substances. • List of foods in which flavour enhancers are prohibited. 	Food flavouring substances and flavour enhancers
<p>Amendment to the Food (Bread Standards) Regulations 1994. Allowing rice flour use as an optional ingredient for making white bread.</p>	Food – bread standards
<p>Amendment to the Food (Standards) Regulations 1989. Regarding pasta products (macaroni, spaghetti, vermicelli, noodles), including the words 'rice flour' after the words manioc flour.</p>	Food standards
<p>Food (Shelf Life of Imported Food Items) Regulations 2011. These regulations cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minimum period of unexpired shelf life; • Shall not be enforced in respect of imported fresh fruits and vegetables and potatoes which have not been peeled or cut; • The expression 'end of shelf life' must use the words 'date of expiry', 'best before', 'use by', or 'use before' or similar words which convey the meaning. 	Shelf life of imported foods

Measure description	Product description
<p>Food (Antioxidants) Regulations – 2009. These regulations cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The control of manufacture, import, sale, offer for sale, storage, distribution, transport, use or advertisement; • The use of permitted antioxidants only; • The food intended for infants and young children should not contain the following: INS No: 310, 311, 312, 320, 319. 	Food (Antioxidants) Regulations – 2009
<p>Draft Revision of the SLS 183 specification for carbonated beverages. This draft Standard covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbonated beverages; • Formulated caffeinated beverages; • The limit of caffeine in carbonated beverages and formulated caffeinated beverages; • Ingredients, requirements, packaging, marking and/or labelling, sampling, methods of test, criteria for conformity. 	Carbonated beverages and formulated caffeinated beverages
<p>Draft Food (Irradiation) Regulations 2012. These Regulations have eight parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part I - General Provisions • Part II – Treatment of Food by Ionizing Radiation • Part III – Control of Irradiation of Foods • Part IV – Authorization for Food Irradiation and Good Irradiation Practices • Part V – Labelling • Part VI – Re-Irradiation • Part VII – Importation and Exportation of Irradiated Food and Packaging Materials • Part VIII – Interpretation <p>and the following schedules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule I – Advisory Technological Minimum and Maximum Doses for Various Food Classes • Schedule II – The Maximum Tolerable Doses for Primary Packaging Material. 	Food irradiation
<p>Food (Hygiene) Regulations – 2011. These regulations apply to all establishments dealing with the processing, storage, transport, sale of food, distribution, any other matters related to food establishment and handling with regard to food hygiene practices.</p>	Food (Hygiene) Regulations
<p>Food (Registration of Food Products) Regulation – 2012. This draft regulation covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The control of import, manufacture, pack, repack, storage, sale, offer for sale, keep for sale, transport or advertisement of above food products; • Prior registration under the Chief Food Authority is required for the above food products. 	<p>Registration of the following food products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full cream milk powder • Partly skimmed or low fat milk powder • Skimmed milk powder or non-fat milk powder • Infant formulas and follow-on formulas • Any other fortified or formulated milk powder
<p>Draft Food (Iodization of Salt) 2013. This draft regulation covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The standards of iodized salt; • The sale of iodized salt - the iodine content is limited to 15 mg/kg to 30 mg/kg; • The manufacturing level of iodized salt – the iodine content limit is not less than 20 mg/kg of the salt and not more than 30 mg/kg of the salt; • The permit system (for three years) for the use of non-iodized salt for industry, including purchase, import, transport and storage; • The prior registration of imports, which is required for the importation of iodized salt and non-iodized salt; • The certificate of conformity, which is required from the health authority of the exporting country in respect of importation of salt. 	Iodized salt

Measure description	Product description
<p>The Food (Flavouring Substances and Flavour Enhancers) Regulations 2013 cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of import, manufacture, storage, transport, sale or offer for sale, distribution, use or advertisement of any flavouring substances or flavour enhancers for use in food; • Flavouring substances that are allowed or prohibited; • Solvents permitted to be used in flavouring substances; • Flavour enhancers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » May be added to foods subject in observance of GMP and where the label clearly carries a declaration as to the particular substance or substances used; » Shall not be added to any food for infants or young children below three years of age. <p>It also includes the following schedules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule I – List of flavouring substances prohibited to be used in food • Schedule II – List of permitted solvents to be used in flavouring substances • Schedule III – List of foods in which flavour enhancers are prohibited. 	<p>Food flavouring substances and flavour enhancers</p>
<p>Draft (Food Labelling and Advertising) Regulations 2015. These draft regulations set out several requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any food contained in a package or container should be labelled in accordance with these regulations, otherwise no person can transport, distribute, store, sell, offer for sale, expose or keep for sale or advertise for sale. • The main panel of the package or container should indicate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The common name in any two of the three languages; b. The brand name or trade name; c. The net contents of the package or container. • Any panel should include in any one or more of the three languages the following information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> d. A complete list of ingredients. e. The name and address of the manufacturer/distributor. f. In the case of imported food products: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Name and address of the importer ii. Name and address of the packer or distributor in Sri Lanka. g. The batch number or code number. h. The date of manufacture. i. In the case of food imported in bulk and repacked: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The date of manufacture ii. The date of repacking. j. The country of origin, in the case of imported foods. k. Consumer warnings, if any; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The international symbol for ionizing radiation should be indicated in green, in close proximity to the common name. The label on the food which has been treated with ionizing radiation should also carry a written statement indicating the type of treatment and this statement should be in close proximity to the common name of the food. ii. A valid certificate from an accredited agency or competent authority must be produced in order to label food as organic. iii. Prior written approval from the Chief Food Authority is required in order to have a label or advertisement which contains a health claim or nutrient function claim relating to any food. 	<p>Food</p>
<p>Food (Colour Coding for Sugar Levels) Regulations 2016. These regulations cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No person can sell, offer for sale, distribute or advertise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Carbonated beverages » Ready to serve beverages other than milk-based products » Fruit nectar » Fruit juices <p>unless the container or the package is labelled with the following mandatory requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » A numerical description of the sugar content » A description of the relative sugar level » A colour code displayed in Schedule II » The diameter of the inner circle in the logo specifying the colour relating to a particular sugar level should not be less than 1 cm. 	<p>Sugar levels in carbonated beverages, ready to serve beverages other than milk-based products, fruit nectar and fruit juices</p>



Ministry of Development Strategies
and International Trade



International
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Measurement Units Standards
and Services Department



Sri Lanka Accreditation Board



Sri Lanka Export Development Board



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Sri Lanka Standards Institution



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