

STANDARD TWINNING PROJECT FICHE

1. Basic Information

- 1.1 **Programme:** Support to the Implementation of the Action Plan Programme IV - ENPI/2013/24-775 (EC)
- 1.2 **Twinning Number:** JO/13/ENPI/TR/01/17 (JO/30)
- 1.3 **Title:** Support the preparation for the negotiation of the Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA)"
- 1.4 **Sector:** Trade and Industry
- 1.5 **Beneficiary country:** The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

2. Objectives

2.1 Overall Objective:

To support Jordan's commitment in the framework of the EU-Jordan Association Agreement, to fulfill the conditions leading to the establishment of a deep and comprehensive free trade area between Jordan and the European Union.

2.2 Project purpose:

To assist JSMO to further fulfill all requirements in preparation for the negotiation and signature of the ACAA Agreement, i.e. the approximation of horizontal legislation relevant to the enhancement of the quality infrastructure components, namely market surveillance, conformity assessment and accreditation, as well as vertical legislation relevant to the ACAA scope: electrical appliances, toys and gas appliances, and to establish mechanisms to ensure the future sustainability of the Project's results so that there would be no diversion between the Jordanian and the EU systems and legislation relevant to the ACAA scope afterwards.

2.3 Contribution to National Development Plan /Cooperation agreement/ Association Agreement /Action Plan/ Partnership Priorities

The project will contribute to Jordan's National Vision and Strategy 2025 and in specific to the initiatives relevant to trade and competitiveness. This later aims at increasing the competitiveness of the Jordanian production so to access new markets, and facilitate economic growth.

This project is also relevant to Article 68 of the EU-Jordan Association Agreement, which states that: Cooperation in this field will be aimed in particular at:

- Increasing the application of community rules in the field of standardization, metrology, quality standards, and recognition of conformity;
- Upgrading the level of Jordanian conformity assessment bodies with a view to the establishment, in due time and to the extent feasible, of agreements of mutual recognition of conformity assessment;
- Developing structures and bodies for the protection of intellectual, industrial and commercial property, for standardization and for setting quality standards.

Therefore, the project will contribute to the facilitation of bilateral trade between Jordan and EU and improving the trade balance through the approximation and enforcement of EU horizontal and vertical legislation as well as the EC regulatory framework in the fields of conformity assessment, market surveillance and accreditation, in the context of the European Neighbourhood Policy and Palermo Action Plan for the Free Movement of Industrial Products, which will result in the conclusion of the Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA) in priority sectors of electrical appliances, toys and gas appliances.

3. Description

3.1 Background and justification:

The implementation of the EU Jordan Association Agreement requires the adoption of several measures to enhance trade facilitation between the two trading partners. This is done through the approximation and enforcement of EU horizontal and vertical legislative and regulatory framework as well as the application of international and European practices in the fields of conformity assessment procedures, accreditation and market surveillance, in accordance to the Palermo Action Plan for the Free Movement of Industrial Products leading to the Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA) in priority sectors which is part of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area between Jordan and the EU.

During the twinning project entitled the “Implementation of the Roadmap for the Conclusion of the Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA)” which was implemented from October 2011 till May 2013, and was funded under the Support to the Implementation of the EU-Jordan Association Agreement Programme (SAAP) in order to prepare Jordan for the signature of the ACAA, JSMO was assisted to approximate the identified EC legislation as Jordanian legislation in priority sectors namely toys, electrical equipment and gas appliance and to operate proactive market surveillance activities on priority products to ensure that only safe products are placed on the Jordanian market. Thus, assure the protection of consumers' health and safety and prevent the circulation of dangerous products between Jordan and the EU. After this project, JSMO endorsed 26 technical regulations approximating EU vertical legislation and amended 15 draft technical regulations and horizontal Instructions based on the European Commission’s comments. In addition, JSMO adopted most of the relevant harmonized European standards in the priority sectors (please refer to the Annex 2 which provide an overview of the status of advancement. With this Twinning the JSMO will further strengthen the capacities to implement relevant regulations and update legislation if and when necessary to maintain a satisfactory level of alignment with the EU regulations.

Moreover, in order to enforce the approximated Jordanian legislation and be able to operate the market surveillance activities, JSMO has also been granted test equipment that are not available in the country, so as to test samples taken from the market when JSMO inspectors have doubt that products do not comply with the essential requirements stated in the transposed Jordanian technical regulations and the adopted harmonized EN standards.

The Standards and Labeling Program for Jordan which was funded by the World Bank Group assisted JSMO in performing a gap analysis of the current energy efficiency technical regulations and standards on eight selected electrical appliances with latest EU Directives and standards and to develop the policy framework for energy efficiency for water pumps. The Project ended in 2016 and did not cover full approximation of all electrical products under the scope of the ACAA.

The new project is required to update the endorsed legislation according to the current EU legislation relevant to priority sectors of the ACAA, in addition to enhancing the competence of JSMO laboratories to perform tests to detect heavy metals and banned and restricted chemical substances in toys, electrical equipment, material in contact with food, and textiles, and to test the safety of gas appliances as well as energy efficiency of lamps. JSMO should also transpose other vertical EU legislation relevant to the scope of the ACAA, e.g. the Radio Equipment Directive (RED) relevant to the electrical equipment and the Pressure Equipment Directive relevant to some products of gas appliance such as water boilers based on the European Commission comments on the Transposed Jordanian legislation. To be up to date with implementation of EU legislation, after the alignment Jordan could join the expert/working groups and/or informal ADCO (Administrative Cooperation) groups relevant to EU legislation under the scope of ACAA as an observer, so as to gain experience from EU Member States regulatory and market surveillance authorities on the implementation and enforcement of the different legislation. Jordan could also subscribe to the European Commission CIRCA to access shared resources and documents. Moreover, in order to have competent conformity assessment bodies in Jordan relevant to the current priority sectors of the ACAA, the Accreditation Unit should expand the scope of accreditation to include product and system certification and inspection relevant to EU legislation in the current and future scope of ACAA.

3.2 Linked activities (other international and national initiatives):

The twinning project entitled “Strengthening of the Jordan Institution for Standards and Metrology (JSMO) for its compliance with the EU-Jordan Association Agreement” that was implemented from September 2005 till December 2007 had assisted in developing the quality infrastructure and the technical capacities in the fields of standards, metrology, conformity assessment and accreditation. In addition, the EU funded complementary Technical Assistance Project for the Approximation of the EC legislation in Priority Sectors that started in October 2008 and ended by August 2009, resulted in the approval of the ACAA Roadmap that was implemented under the twinning project entitled the “Implementation of the Roadmap for the Conclusion of the Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA)” which was implemented from October

2011 till May 2013 for the approximation of the identified EU legislation in priority sectors: toys, electrical equipment and gas appliance and to operate a proactive market surveillance activities, in addition to qualifying potential notified bodies and the Jordanian Accreditation Body on the relevant EU legislation.

Other EU funded projects granted to the Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) to promote Jordanian exports should be linked to the technical difficulties that the industry might encounter in the implementation of the approximated EU legislation and the referenced harmonized standards. EU funded renewable energy and energy efficiency projects will help with raising awareness and fulfilling requirement by economic operators relevant to energy efficient products according to the approximated EU legislation.

3.3 Mandatory Results (Components):

Component 1: Approximated legislation and standards in the scope of ACAA are updated according to the current and valid EU legislation and standards.

Result 1.1: Market studies are undertaken and good regulatory practices relevant to the enforcement of EC regulations are conducted and shared

Indicators:

1. Market studies and regulatory impact assessments on EU legislation to be approximated are conducted.
2. Public consultation sessions, awareness seminars and product oriented training sessions to industry and traders are conducted.

Result 1.2: Building capacity of related institutions on identified EU legislation.

Indicators:

1. 30 of JSMO and regulatory authorities' staff are trained on all identified EU legislation.

Result 1.3: Strategy to identify products and relevant legislation that are the most crucial to continue with the approximation of legislation is formulated and implemented.

Indicators:

1. The strategy to identify products and relevant legislation that are the most crucial is documented and announced.
2. Final drafts of approximated Jordanian legislation and draft amendments of conflicting legislation are ready for issuance and endorsement.
3. All EN harmonized standards relevant to priority sectors are identified and developed for adoption as national standards.

Component 2: JSMO laboratories are competent in performing tests relevant to banned and restricted chemical substances, gas appliances and lighting.

Result 2.1: Analysts on European test methods relevant to detection of heavy metals and banned and restricted chemical substances in toys, electrical equipment, material in contact with food, and textiles, in addition to test methods on safety of gas appliances and test methods of energy efficiency of lamps are trained.

Indicators:

1. 15 training courses on identified test methods and standards are conducted

Result 2.2: Analysts are trained on technical aspects to perform those technical aspects, such as validation of test methods, measurement of uncertainty, use of calibration results, use of reference materials and participation in PT schemes relevant to the test methods.

Indicators:

1. 9 training courses on technical aspects relevant to the chemical testing of toys and safety of gas appliances and energy efficiency of lights are conducted.

Result 2.3: The application to extend scope of accreditation so as to include the above mentioned test methods is prepared

Indicators:

1. Application is sent to the Jordanian Accreditation Unit to extend the scope.

Component 3: Accreditation scope is extended to include accreditation of inspection bodies and product and system certification bodies.

Result 3.1: accreditation policies and procedures for accreditation of inspection and system certification, in addition to new scopes of product certification according to the updated European legislation and standards are developed.

Indicators:

1. Rules, instructions and procedures on accreditation of inspection and system certification, in addition to new scopes of product certification according to the updated European legislation are issued and implemented.

Result 3.2: Assessors and accreditation staff on relevant international and EN standards are trained.

Indicators:

1. 5 training courses on international and EN standards, i.e. ISO/IEC 17020 and ISO/IEC 17021 are conducted.
2. 5 training courses on international and EN standards, i.e. ISO/IEC 17065 and updated EU legislation are conducted.
3. 10 training courses on identified EC legislation and standards are conducted in the field of LPG pipes, elevators, buildings and cranes, etc.
4. 5 hand-on trainings on assessment techniques and procedures.

Result 3.3: assessments on accreditation applicants from product and system certification bodies, and inspection bodies are conducted.

Indicators:

1. Initial assessments are conducted on product and system certification bodies, and inspection bodies.

Result 3.4: applications to request peer evaluation so as to sign MLA with IAF in the accreditation scope of inspection, and product and system certification are prepared.

Indicators:

1. Conditions for the acceptance by ARAC of the accreditation system are fulfilled.

Component 4: Proactive market surveillance activities are operational on updated legislation and standards on priority sectors.

Result 4.1: necessary products checklists, as per the updated and new legislation and standards are established.

Indicators:

1. Products checklists are prepared and used by market surveillance inspectors.

Result 4.2: inspectors are trained on updated and new EU legislation in the scope of ACCA and on conduction of market surveillance inspections, detection of deviations, risk assessment, decision making and follow-up activities.

Indicators:

1. 20 training courses on updated EU legislation and standards are conducted.
2. 10 hand-on trainings on market surveillance and inspections are conducted

Result 4.3: Supervised market surveillance on products under the scope of the updated and new legislation and standards are conducted.

Indicators:

1. 10 joint market surveillance inspections are conducted in Jordan under the supervision of the Project's experts

Result 4.4: inspections on safety of LPG pipe distribution systems according to European standards are performed.

Indicators:

1. 5 inspections are conducted in Jordan on LPG pipe distribution systems according to European standards.

3.4 Activities:

Member State(s) is kindly requested to develop activities in the submitted proposal which are needed in order to achieve the results stipulated in the fiche.

Minimum two study visits to Member State(s) are envisioned to be incorporated within proposed activities, in order to support the implementation. This is in addition to a minimum two visibility events that shall be organised: launching event at the start of the implementation and the final event at the end of the implementation of the project activities.

Means/ Input from the MS Partner Administration:

3.4.1 Profile and tasks of the Project Leader

This project requires a Project Leader who will be responsible for the overall coordination of the project activities. She/he should be capable of a high political dialogue. The project leader is expected to closely work with the Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA) as well as with the counterpart of the beneficiary institution(s).

Profile of the Project Leader:

- A high-ranking official from an EU MS regulatory body, market surveillance authority or a notified body with experience in a leading position in the enforcement and implementation of the EC Regulations and decisions relevant to marketing of products, product safety, market surveillance, accreditation, conformity assessment and notification requirements.
 - Holding a university degree.
 - A minimum of 5 years of professional experience working on capacity building in approximation and enforcement of EU horizontal and vertical legislation (EC regulatory framework) in the fields of conformity assessment, market surveillance and accreditation.
 - Working knowledge of written and spoken English, with excellent organizational and communication skills.
 - Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body, as defined under the Twinning Manual 5.4.5.

Tasks of the Project Leader are:

- Coordinating and managing the overall implementation of the project in cooperation with the BC Project Leader;
- Ensuring sound implementation of the envisaged activities;
- Monitoring and evaluating the needs and priorities in the respective sector, project risks, progress against the project budget, benchmarks, and outputs, and taking any necessary remedial actions if needed;
- Coordinating MS experts' work;
- Providing efficient leadership of the project;
- Ensuring backstopping and financial management of the project in the MS.

- Participation in Steering Committee meetings;
- Project reporting.

3.4.2 Profile and tasks of the RTA

Profile of the Resident Twinning Advisor:

- A University Degree preferably in engineering, science or equivalent qualifications, and professional experience of 8 years in a regulatory body, market surveillance authority or a notified body of a Member State;
- At least 3 years of professional experience in the field of approximation and enforcement of the EC horizontal and vertical legislation;
- Excellent knowledge of EC vertical and horizontal legislation, market surveillance activities as well as on the operation of notified bodies;
- Experience in project and/or team management;
- Good command of written and spoken English and computer literacy;
- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body, as defined under Twinning Manual 5.4.5

Tasks of the Resident Twinning Advisor:

- Support and coordination of all activities in the BC;
- Day to day management of the project in the beneficiary institution;
- Coordination and facilitation of the Short Term experts missions and work;
- Coordination of the project implementation and proposing corrective actions, if required;
- Organization of visibility events (launching and final event);
- Organization and participation in Steering Committee meetings;
- Providing technical advice on EU best practices to the JSMO and to the Project during implementation;
- Liaise with Project Leader and assist in reporting.

The duration of the RTA secondment is 18 months.

3.4.3 Profile and tasks of the short-term experts

Indicative Requirements:

- University level education and professional experience of 5 years in the fields covered by the project such as EC horizontal and vertical legislation, market surveillance, accreditation of system certification and inspection bodies;
- Good working level of English language;
- Computer literacy;

Tasks of the Short-term experts:

- Close cooperation with the Jordanian experts in undertaking all activities;
- Advanced preparation and familiarization with relevant documentation;
- Participating in relevant activities under the scope of the project in cooperation with other experts.
- Proven contractual relation to public administration or mandated body, as defined under Twinning Manual 5.4.5.

4. Institutional Framework

The main beneficiary institution is the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization and its relevant departments such as the Standardization Department, Inspection and Surveillance Department, the Accreditation Unit, the Metrology Department and the Laboratories Unit. The organizational Structure of the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization is annexed in Annex III.

Other regulatory bodies and market surveillance authorities might be involved in the project depending on their mandate and scope of responsibilities regarding the selected priority sectors. However, JSMO will ensure coordination with those authorities within the National Market Surveillance Committee.

The implementation of the project requires full commitment and participation of the senior management and staff within JSMO. They must be fully involved in the development and implementation of the laws, regulations, policies, instructions and procedures delivered as the project results. Senior management of all other relevant authorities must also ensure that appropriate staff is made available to work with

JSMO. They will also make sure that all legislation and other regulations necessary for the implementation of the project are made available.

5. Budget

The overall budget available for this twinning is 1.000.000,00 Euro.

6. Implementation Arrangements

6.1 The Programme Administration Office (PAO) is in charge of the coordination of all the activities and the administrative management of the Support to Implementation of the Action Plan Programme. The PAO will be the responsible institution for the management of this twinning project.

Contact details of PAO responsible of the contract:

Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation

Mr. Marwan Al-Refai

Programme Administration Office

Support to the implementation of the EU-Jordan Association Agreement and Action Plan Programme

P.O. Box 555 Amman, 11118 Jordan

Fax: 00 962 6 4611669

Mail: Marwan.Al-Refai@mop.gov.jo

6.2 Main counterpart in the BC, including contact person and contact details. Also include RTA counterpart and the BC Project leader

Project Leader counterpart

Ms. Rula Madanat

RTA Counterpart

1. The counterpart for Approximation of Legislation:

Dr. Ruba AlThawabeyieh

2. The counterpart for Market Surveillance:

Mrs. Wafa Momani

3. The counterpart for Accreditation:
Mrs. Lana Marashdeh

4. The counterpart for Testing:
Mrs. Hind Shaikat

6.3 Contracts

It is envisaged that the project will be implemented through one twinning contract with the maximum amount of 1.000.000 €.

7. Implementation Schedule (indicative)

7.1 Launching of the call for proposals: Q1 2017

7.2 Start of project activities: Q3 2017

7.3 Project completion: Q1 2019

7.4 Duration of the execution period (implementation period + 3 months): 21 months

8. Sustainability

The achieved results of the Project will be sustained through the issuance and enforcement of new and amended legislation including approximated technical regulations and instructions and their enforcement. Another important aspect of sustainability is accession to EU forums and groups which provide continuous mechanisms to access information, documentation and experience on European legislation and enforcement on a continuous basis.

Moreover, national committees such as technical committees and the National Market Surveillance Committee will sustain the continuous updating of approximated legislation and their enforcement. Furthermore, the established links and memberships with European organizations and groups relevant to standardization, accreditation, market surveillance in addition to the use of electronic systems will guarantee that Jordanian authorities and organizations is kept updated with

information on the latest valid EC legislation and practices, and will ensure transfer of know-how on their enforcement and implementation.

9. Crosscutting issues (equal opportunity, environment, etc...)

JSMO will ensure equal opportunities between male and female in the management and implementation of the Project, including equal opportunities in training, site visits and participation in all of the Projects' missions and events.

Moreover, JSMO need the support and full cooperation of all relevant stakeholders involved in this project e.g. industry and traders in addition to regulatory bodies, market surveillance authorities, and the accreditation body to ensure the successful implementation of the project's activities and to achieve its results and objectives.

JSMO will also ensure adequate support and basic equipment for the work of the full team of experts. This includes office space, phone and fax, and access to Internet (when necessary).

10. Conditionality and sequencing

The activities of the project of the different components should be performed in parallel to achieve successful results in the duration of the project, as all components are interlinked. For instance, the drafts of EC legislation need to be prepared before their endorsement, while inspectors are being trained on their requirements so that market surveillance activities will be performed upon the legislation entry in force. Meanwhile, the testing laboratories need be qualified and assessed to perform testing according to the approximated legislation and standards upon their enforcement

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

Logical framework matrix in standard format