

EUROPEAN UNION FOR ARMENIA

Twinning Program

The Member States of the European Union have decided to link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.

The Twinning Program is one of the European Union's principal tools of institutional building assistance. It aims to help beneficiary countries in the development of modern and efficient administrations, by providing the framework for administrations and organizations in the beneficiary countries to work with their counterparts in the EU Member States.



Setting conditions for recognition of the Armenian Accreditation System by the European Co-operation for Accreditation

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Setting-conditions-for-recognition-of-the-Armenian-Accreditation-System

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Twinning Project

Setting conditions for recognition of the Armenian Accreditation System by the European Co-operation for Accreditation

The Twinning Project "Setting conditions for recognition of the Armenian Accreditation System by the European Co-operation for Accreditation" is funded by the European Union: EU for Armenia.



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Implemented in partnership of



Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy



Deutsche
Akkreditierungsstelle



ACCREDITATION RECOGNITION

The Twinning Project “Setting conditions for recognition of the Armenian Accreditation System by the European Co-operation for Accreditation” is headed by a German-Italian Consortium representing Public Institutions and National Accreditation Bodies of the EU Member States (MS): BMWi - Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and DAkkS - National Accreditation Body for the Federal Republic of Germany, for Germany, and ACCREDIA - Italian Accreditation Body, for Italy.

The activity started on 4th of June 2021 and the legal duration is 18 months, for a value of 700,000 euro.

Objective

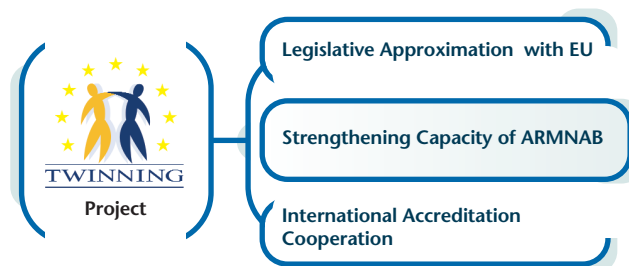
The objective of the project is to support implementation of the EU-Armenia CEPA (Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement) with regards to fostering internationally recognized accreditation and conformity assessment system in Armenia, as pillars of the National Quality Infrastructure.

Reducing differences between EU and Armenia with regards to accreditation and encouraging the use of internationally agreed quality instruments is a strategic step for promoting mutual trade and expanding export markets.

In particular, the capacity of ARMNAB, the Armenian National Accreditation Body, will be strengthened in order to fulfill conditions for associate membership at the European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA) achieving the signatory status of EA Bilateral Agreements (BLA).



PROJECT GOALS



Revision of the legal and procedural framework with respect to ISO/IEC 17011 and the relevant provisions of EU Regulation 765/2008/EC

The first project component will focus on reviewing and aligning the legal framework related to accreditation and conformity assessment with the specific requirements of the EU Regulation 765/2008/EC setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products. Moreover, ARMNAB will be supported in transition to international technical standard ISO/IEC 17011:2017, ensuring its continual associate membership to EA.

Enhanced institutional capacity of ARMNAB to provide accreditation in line with the EA rules

The activities under the second component will contribute towards improving the capacity of the staff of ARMNAB, the Department of Quality Infrastructures Development of the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia and other stakeholders, in carrying out their core functions. The emphasis will be put on updating the accreditation schemes for ISO/IEC 17025 (Testing and Calibration) and ISO/IEC 17065 (Product Certification), aligning them to the EA requirements.

Quality Infrastructure is not only the key to a country's economic development, but also essential to ensure safety of human life, health, property and environment

QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Accreditation is one of the pillars of the Quality Infrastructure together with standardisation, metrology and conformity assessment. An efficient and effective Quality Infrastructure is an essential ingredient for competitiveness, access to new markets, productivity improvement, innovation of new products, and environmental protection, as well as health and safety of populations.

COMPETITIVENESS



Accreditation bodies, acting in compliance with Regulation (EC) 765/2008 and technical standard ISO/IEC 17011, provide the attestation that conformity assessment bodies offering testing, calibration, certification, inspection and verification services have the technical competence and impartiality to check the conformity of products and services with the relevant national and international standards.

Accreditation provides

• Competence

Attesting that the staff of the conformity assessment body is technically and professionally qualified

• Public Confidence

Independent and impartial results of conformity assessment, verified and attested by the National Accreditation Body

• Facilitation of economic development

To create competitive market internally and support export diversification with a guarantee of higher quality and safety