Project to strengthen institutional infrastructure on standards and regulations to support business and industry in Middle East and North Africa (MENA STAR)  
Funded by Sida

Summary of activities during the second quarter of 2015 (April – June)

1. First JCC Meeting on 31 March – 1 April 2015

The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) represented by ISO as its Chair and Secretariat, and comprised of the CEO’s of the NSBs from all project countries, the designated National Project Managers from each country, representatives of the ISO Academy and of SIDA, as well as observers from the regional standards organizations AIMD and GSO had participated in the project launching event held on 31 March – 1 April 2015 in Geneva.

The main objective of this first meeting was to launch the project as well as to:

a) present and discuss the baseline survey results and recommended action items.

b) reach consensus on the best implementation scenarios of the various project activities and provisional workplan.

c) discuss and agree on project implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting arrangements, and

d) discuss critical success factors that impact the achievement of the project objectives.
The needs assessment mission for the Institut Algérien de Normalisation (IANOR), the ISO member body for Algeria, was conducted on 7-11 June 2015. The ISO consultant, Mr. David Norris, has reviewed during this mission the national standards development processes and related activities of IANOR as well as conducting a set of meetings and interviews with the key staff of the NSB and their related stakeholders to ensure that the ISO technical assistance measures that follow this mission are appropriate and justified, and will result in an improvement in the NSB performance.

After the approval of the mission report and the related action plan by the beneficiary NSB, three missions are foreseen to implement the ISO INS Action plan for IANOR. The ISO interventions are clustered in categories that correspond to the result areas of the ISO MENA STAR project and have been derived from the mission recommendations.

The mission report and the related action plan could be obtained via the project national coordinator in the beneficiary country.
The needs assessment mission for the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO), the ISO member body for Jordan, was conducted on 7-11 June 2015. The ISO consultant, Mr. Martin Kellermann, has reviewed during this mission the national standards development processes and related activities of IANOR as well as conducting a set of meetings and interviews with the key staff of the NSB and their related stakeholders to ensure that the ISO technical assistance measures that follow this mission are appropriate and justified, and will result in an improvement in the NSB performance.

After the approval of the mission report and the related action plan by the beneficiary NSB, three missions are foreseen to implement the ISO INS Action plan for JSMO. The ISO interventions are clustered in categories that correspond to the result areas of the ISO MENA STAR project and have been derived from the mission recommendations.

The mission report and the related action plan could be obtained via the project national coordinator in the beneficiary country.