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 third quarter of 2015 (July – September)


The needs assessment mission for the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS), the ISO member body for Egypt, was conducted on 26-30 July 2015. The ISO consultant, Mr. Martin Kellermann and the ISO Project Manager, Ms. Nesreen Al-Khammash, have 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 EOS. 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 Lebanese Standards Institution (LIBNOR), the ISO member body for Lebanon, was conducted on 3-7 August 2015. The ISO consultant, Dr. Jochen Fornather, has reviewed during this mission the national standards development processes and related activities of LIBNOR 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 LIBNOR. 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 first Training of Trainers (TOT) for the English speaking countries organized under the Energy management and Energy Efficiency focus area of the MENA STAR project was held on 30 August - 3 September 2015 at the Hotel Marriott Amman, Jordan. It was hosted by the Jordan Standards & Metrology Organization (JSMO) with financial support of Swedish development cooperation. The event was attended by 15 participants from the following countries: Egypt (4), Iraq (4), Jordan (4) and Palestine (3).

The trainees actively participated increasing their knowledge on the ISO 50001-Energy Management Systems and ISO 50006-Measuring energy performance and related standards and were mentored by two international experts, Liam McLaughlin (Ireland) and Rainer Stifter (Austria). Features of the event included sharing of best practice on implementation, group discussions and practice of presentation skills, preparation of presentations and discussions on the planning of national events that will follow up this TOT. Another high point during the event was the visit to Al-Samra Water Treatment Plant on the last day, were participants visited the facilities were introduced to the system implemented by the manager of the plant, the person in charge of managing the management systems and performing a sort of an internal audit of the energy management system, making suggestions for possible improvements.

During 2016, the trainees in cooperation with the international experts should complete the following tasks:

- The trainees will start preparing the follow-up national events, which consist in a 1-day awareness seminar and a 2-day seminar per country. They will prepare the programme, allocate the presentations among themselves and prepare the material.
- Some organizations (at least two per country) will be identified for the implementation exercise, where trainees will help implement an energy management system.
- The international experts will be mentoring the trainees for the preparation of the national events and also for the implementation exercise, including individual and group online discussions.