



# Reducing technical barriers to trade, enhancing product safety, strengthening consumer protection

With over 17,000 islands and a population of over 260 million people, Indonesia is the world 's largest archipelago and the fourth most populated country in the world. It ranks among the top 20 economies globally. Indonesia is one of 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Accounting for almost 40 per cent of regional GDP, Indonesia is host to the ASEAN Secretariat. In this context, Indonesia recently became a member of the world's largest free trade agreement in November 2020 – the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

As the largest economies in their respective regions, Germany and Indonesia both benefit from close trade relations at bilateral and interregional level.

Despite Indonesia's active engagement in the area of quality infrastructure (QI) and its participation in international QI organisations, there remains potential for further harmonisation. A concrete example of how the country is addressing this challenge is in its efforts to increase the number of adopted and implemented international standards and to achieve recognition of laboratory test results in various industry sectors of mutual interest.

Deviating standards and norms, unclear product approval and certification procedures and costly import controls often complicate trade. If you experience such problems as part of your import and export activities, the Global Project Quality Infrastructure (GPQI) of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) supports you with your concerns and interests.



Indonesia is facilitating innovation in the e-mobility sector (Photo: Artinun/AdobeStock)

# The project's objectives

Within the framework of the strategic partnership between Indonesia and Germany, GPQI has established a bilateral dialogue with relevant political and technical stakeholders, including the German and Indonesian partner ministries and industries.

Our aim is to reduce existing technical barriers to trade, promote market access, fair trading conditions and improve the quality and safety of traded products by:

- creating reliable framework conditions which promote consumer protection, enable innovation, enhance research and promote cooperation.
- supporting mutual acceptance of laboratories testing results for the benefit of consumers and industries in Germany and Indonesia.
- promoting a continuous and long-term exchange on regulatory and technical issues which prevents the creation of new technical barriers to trade.

## **GPQI** partner countries



GPQI partner countries: Brazil (Brasília), China (Beijing), India (Delhi), Indonesia (Jakarta) and Mexico (Mexico City); Head Quarter: Germany (Berlin)

We conduct bilateral, political and technical dialogues on quality infrastructure with important trading partners in the fields of standardisation, conformity assessment and accreditation, metrology and product safety. They serve as a platform for associations and companies to directly voice their concerns.

# Our approach

Since 2020, GPQI Indonesia brings together political decision–makers with business representatives and stakeholders from industry associations and specialist institutions. By organising political and technical exchanges and implementing jointly agreed measures, GPQI facilitates the development of a coherent quality infrastructure. This is an important prerequisite for fair and efficient trade and product safety. A coherent QI ensures compliance with all product requirements and thus increases product safety. It provides orientation for manufacturers and helps to develop innovative technologies.

Once a year, a high-level policy dialogue is held between BMWK and the Indonesian Ministry of Industry (Mol). Political decisions are implemented in technical working groups together with companies, associations, chambers of commerce and experts. Participation in the working groups is voluntary and open to all interested experts and organisations from the public and private sectors.

GPQI supports the implementation of a mutually agreed annual work plan of the working groups. The work plan reflects key areas of the economic relations between both countries.

### **About GPQI**

The Global Project Quality Infrastructure (GPQI) of the BMWK engages in technical and political dialogues with Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and Mexico to reduce technical barriers to trade, enhance product safety, and strengthen consumer protection.

GPQI serves as a platform to improve the mutual understanding of policies and regulations and to jointly develop positions and solutions for international technical harmonisation. Common bilateral interests are the basis for cooperation

on challenges and opportunities in the fields of standardisation, conformity assessment and accreditation, legal metrology and market surveillance with a wide range of stakeholders. These include ministries, regulators, public agencies, standards and accreditation bodies, industry experts, associations, companies, and technical and scientific institutions.

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