

## PTB in brief

A globalized international economy calls for globalized metrology. This is why the orientation and impact of PTB, the national metrology institute of Germany, is not restricted to the national borders.

PTB with its 2,000 staff members is rather a „global player“ in the world of metrology and faces the responsibility involved for society, economy and science.

The international tasks of PTB include cooperation in all kinds of metrological organizations (the Meter Convention being the most prominent example) and cooperation with national metrology institutes all over the world. Furthermore, the PTB International Technical Cooperation advises and supports the conceptual design and practical implementation in the establishment of the quality infrastructure in developing and transition countries.

The clients of the Technical Cooperation projects are above all the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, (BMZ), which finances the majority of projects with PTB participation, but also the European Union, the World Bank and other organizations. For the implementation of projects a network of strategic partners is available.

All in all, the global networking of PTB has one major objective: the international harmonization of quality infrastructure and its mutual acceptance.



## Project Data

Quality Infrastructure for Renewable Energy Sources and Energy Efficiency in Latin America and the Caribbean

### Source of finance

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

### Commission value

2 000 000 EUR

### Implementing agency

Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)  
National Metrology Institute, Germany

### Duration

2011 - 2015

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Quality Infrastructure for  
Renewable Energy Sources  
and Energy Efficiency in Latin  
America and the Caribbean

## Background

In Latin America and the Caribbean, efforts are made to participate in the global challenge to save energy and use renewable sources efficiently.

In order for governments, companies and consumers to invest into renewable energies and energy-efficient appliances, these technologies need to be reliable and of good quality. Measuring the energy output of technologies, testing their performance as well as assuring and certifying their quality are some of the many services that a Quality Infrastructure (QI) provides. A functioning QI with trustworthy and internationally recognized capabilities in metrology, testing, standardization, accreditation and certification is therefore an important prerequisite for the use of renewable energy sources and the implementation of energy efficiency programs.



## Project Objectives

The national accreditation bodies and institutes for metrology and for standardization in Latin America and the Caribbean are organized in regional umbrella organizations: the InterAmerican Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), the Sistema Interamericano de Metrología (SIM) and the Comisión Panamericana de Normas Técnicas (COPANT). This project aims to strengthen the capabilities of these regional QI organizations and of their national members in the fields of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency and to promote mutual coordination among them.

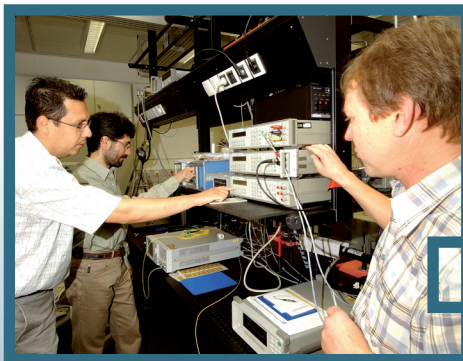
## Areas of support

The focus of the first project phase lies on the following topics, identified as priorities by the partners and experts during the preparation phase:

- Quality assurance for solar thermal equipment for water heating,
- Build capacities to reduce technical losses in electricity grids and to prepare the grids to absorb renewable energy,
- Reliable determination and documentation (e.g. labeling) of the energy efficiency of household appliances,
- Increase awareness for the significant role of quality infrastructure in the utilization and promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

The regional organizations for metrology, accreditation and standardization will receive support in building capacity in order to - for example - secure the regional traceability of energy-relevant measurements, to harmonize and implement standards and to establish accreditation programs that ensure technical competence of laboratories and conformity assessment bodies. Complementary to the technical activities, cooperation between the regional organizations will be strengthened to promote mutual coordination among them, and to raise awareness for the importance of Quality Infrastructure.

Modes of delivery for the support are the provision of short term experts for consultancies, as well as training measures, seminars, awareness raising events and exchange of experience for staff members of regional and national QI institutions in the fields of renewable energy and energy efficiency. The project will further cooperate with testing laboratories and conformity assessment bodies.



## Partners

The regional organizations for metrology, standardization and accreditation SIM, COPANT and IAAC serve as the project partners, implementing activities in cooperation with PTB. The leading political partner is the Organization of American States (OAS).

The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL) and the Association of Latin American Energy Ministries (OLADE) are involved as strategic partners and consultants with regard to energy policy issues.

