

Indo-German QI-Days

Driving innovation, trade and sustainable economic development together

Thursday 7 July and Friday 8 July 2022, Hybrid event

Quality infrastructure (QI) is a system that covers everything needed to ensure safe, high-quality products and services: from standardisation, conformity assessment, accreditation to metrology and market surveillance. A robust QI system plays a vital role in **protecting people, health and the environment**. It is also the foundation for **business, innovation, and trade**.

Product quality and safety do not stop at national borders. In a world of global trade, cross-border value chains and e-commerce, QI systems can only be **effective when they are harmonised internationally**. This makes international cooperation on this topic crucial. Internationally harmonised QI systems **reduce barriers to trade**. For example, if legal and technical requirements that companies must fulfil do not differ from country to country. If standards are developed and accepted at the international level and with that create a common language for trade. Or if internationally recognised accreditation increases trust in conformity assessment making it easier for products to be traded across borders.

The **Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure** was established by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) and the Indian Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution (MoCAF&PD) in 2013. It serves as a joint platform to improve the mutual understanding of policies and regulations, and to **jointly develop positions and solutions for international technical harmonisation**.

Within the framework of this collaboration, the **Indo-German QI-Days** take place from **7 to 8 July 2022**. They comprise a comprehensive programme of **four different workshops**. The interactive sessions will include Indian and German government representatives, regulators, QI-bodies, and the private sector. All sessions will be held in a hybrid format, virtually and on-site at The Lalit hotel in Delhi.

Programme Overview Indo-German QI-Days

Day 1: Thursday, 7 July 2022

11:00 – 13:00 IST 07:30 – 09:30 CEST	Expert Exchange on Market Surveillance
14:00 – 14:45 IST 10:30 – 11:15 CEST	High-Level Address: Quality and Safety beyond Borders – The Importance of Indo-German Cooperation on QI
15:00 – 17:30 IST 11:30 – 14:00 CEST	1 st Indo-German Forum on Technical Regulation & Conformity Assessment

Day 2: Friday, 8 July 2022

11:30 – 13:30 IST 08:00 – 10:00 CEST	3 rd Indo-German Standardisation Forum
14:30 – 17:00 IST 11:00 – 13:30 CEST	Expert Exchange on Circular Economy

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Indo-German Exchange on Market Surveillance

Thursday, 7 July 2022: 11:00 - 13:00 IST / 07:30 - 09:30 CEST

Hybrid event

A well-functioning system of market surveillance is essential to successfully monitor whether products comply with all applicable legal requirements, and to take swift corrective action when the safety of consumers or workers is at stake. **Market surveillance is essential for the enforcement of product legislation**, and therefore, a crucial part of a modern regulatory system. At the same time, it also creates a **level-playing field for economic operators** and **protects them against unfair competition**.

India is currently in the process of strengthening its market surveillance system. In doing so, the Department of Consumer Affairs is coordinating the overall approach towards market surveillance. A risk-based approach and use of market intelligence combined with long-term experience are key to targeting market surveillance activities effectively in the EU. Thereby, the European system relies on the implementation of market surveillance by its member states. The market surveillance system in the EU has recently been adapted to meet new realities, such as increasing e-commerce. Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 established a new regulatory framework for market surveillance and compliance of products. It has fully entered into force in July 2021. At national level, it resulted in a new Market Surveillance Act and an adaptation of the Product Safety Act in Germany.

Germany and India cooperate on better **understanding each other's approaches to market surveillance** and **sharing of good practices** within the Working Group on Quality Infrastructure.



Topics of discussion include:

- The European system of risk-based post-market surveillance with a focus on recent changes to the regulatory framework and its implementation
- Implementation of market surveillance in Germany with a focus on the impact of the new EU regulation, as well as coordination instruments such as the German Market Surveillance Forum
- Close interlinkages between standardisation, conformity assessment and market surveillance in the European / German system of product safety
- Priorities for further strengthening market surveillance in India
- Opportunities for Indo-German collaboration in this field

Indo-German Exchange on Market Surveillance

Thursday, 7 July 2022: 11:00 - 13:00 IST / 07:30 - 09:30 CEST

Hybrid event

Agenda

11:00 – 11:15 IST 07:30 – 07:45 CEST	Inaugural Session
	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Julian Willms, Global Project Quality Infrastructure in India, GIZ <p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr Ole Janssen, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) - Ms Nidhi Khare, Department of Consumer Affairs, Indian Ministry for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAF&PD)
11:15 – 11:55 IST 07:45 – 08:25 CEST	Market surveillance in the EU and its implementation in Germany: Insights into recent regulatory changes and current practices
	<p>Mr Boris Böhme, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key aspects of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 - Implementation of market surveillance in Germany and new Market Surveillance Act - Coordination of market surveillance within Germany and at European level (e.g. German Market Surveillance Forum) <p>Mr Hans-Georg Niedermeyer, Trade Supervisory Board, State Government of Swabia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Linkage between harmonised standards, conformity assessment and market surveillance and its practical implementation in EU / Germany - Main aspects of risk-based market surveillance programmes - Application of tools by market surveillance authorities (based on EU RAPEX guidelines) - Roles and responsibilities of Federal and State authorities
11:55 – 12:10 IST 08:25 – 08:40 CEST	Current priorities and reforms of market surveillance in India
	<p>Mohit Janoiya, Scientist C, Bureau of Indian Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Market Surveillance activities for products under BIS certification - Risk-based approach to market surveillance
12:10 – 12:50 IST 08:40 – 09:20 CEST	Moderated discussion: Opportunities for Indo-German collaboration
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stakeholder inputs on current challenges for market surveillance and opportunities for Indo-German collaboration <p>Moderator: Global Project Quality Infrastructure in India, GIZ</p>
12:50 – 13:00 IST 09:20 – 09:30 CEST	Wrap-up and closing remarks

On behalf of



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High-Level Address: Quality and Safety beyond Borders – The Importance of Indo-German Cooperation on QI

Thursday, 7 July 2022: 14:00 – 14:45 IST / 10:30 – 11:15 CEST

Hybrid event

More than 1.800 German companies are currently active in India. They have invested in India due to strategic reasons such as: a large market, high growth potential and a proven capacity for innovation. At the same time, Germany is India's most important trading partner in the EU and its sixth most important trading partner worldwide.

During the 6th German-Indian Inter-Governmental Consultations in May 2022, Federal Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi stressed their interest in further deepening the close political and economic cooperation between both countries. Germany and India underlined the importance of rule-based, open, inclusive, free, and fair trade. At the same time, they also acknowledged the importance of sustainable development and the digital transformation as key drivers for technological, economic and societal change.

Against this background and in light of economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic, collaboration on QI is today more important than ever.



Topics of discussion include:

- Relevance of QI for fair, efficient, and sustainable trade and economic development
- Importance of international technical harmonisation and Indo-German collaboration in this field
- Opportunities for stakeholders, especially private sector, to get involved in the collaboration within the Indo-German Working Group on QI

High-Level Address: Quality and Safety beyond Borders – The Importance of Indo-German Cooperation on QI

Thursday, 7 July 2022: 14:00 – 14:45 IST / 10:30 – 11:15 CEST

Hybrid event

Agenda

14:00 – 14:05 IST 10:30 – 10:35 CEST	Welcome Remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr Julian Willms Global Project Quality Infrastructure in India, GIZ
14:05 – 14:45 IST 10:35 – 11:15 CEST	High-level address: Quality and safety without borders – the importance of Indo-German cooperation on QI
	<p><i>Speeches by</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dr Ole Janssen German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK)- Mr Pramod Kumar Tiwari Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)- Dr Steffen Koch German Embassy in Delhi- Mr Rohit Kumar Singh Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAF&PD) <p><i>Followed by a moderated conversation with Deputy Director General Dr Janssen and Secretary Mr Singh.</i></p>

1st Indo-German Forum on Technical Regulation and Conformity Assessment

Thursday, 7 July 2022: 15:00 – 17:30 IST / 11:30 – 14:00 CEST

Hybrid event

Technical regulation is crucial to improve the safety of products, consumers, workers, and the environment. At the same time, it can affect the **ease of doing business** and may pose significant costs and business uncertainty for companies. Such **technical barriers to trade** can include costs for information or technical expertise to understand and implement new regulations, or costs for adjustment of production processes to comply with new requirements. In addition, there might be the need to prove that the product meets the foreign regulations in form of mandatory testing and certification.

Against this background, **technical and regulatory harmonisation and orientation at international good regulatory practices is crucial**. It ensures the safety and quality of products while also ensuring ease of doing business and preventing technical barriers to trade.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) and the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have therefore agreed to establish a **strategic Indo-German dialogue on technical regulation and conformity assessment** within the Indo-German Working Group on QI. The dialogue intends to **improve the preparedness of the industry** through exchange and early information on upcoming regulatory changes and clarifications regarding their implementation. It also intends to **enhance the effectiveness of regulations** through the exchange on approaches to technical regulation in Germany and India as well as good regulatory practices. Moreover, it will allow both countries to **explore joint approaches**, for example related to digitalisation.

The first Forum on Technical Regulation and Conformity Assessment presents the kick-off event for this dialogue.



Topics of discussion include:

- Why is the strategic Indo-German dialogue on technical regulation and conformity assessment important and how can it support trade, innovation, and sustainable economic development
- What are the approaches to technical regulation and product certification in Germany/EU and India
- What are opportunities and challenges for the new strategic dialogue on technical regulation and conformity assessment from stakeholder perspective
- How are technical regulation and conformity assessment related to other QI elements such as standardisation, and market surveillance

1st Indo-German Forum on Technical Regulation and Conformity Assessment

Thursday, 7 July 2022: 15:00 – 17:30 IST / 11:30 – 14:00 CEST

Agenda

15:00 – 15:15 IST 11:30 – 11:45 CEST	Inaugural Session
	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Julian Willms, Global Project Quality Infrastructure in India, GIZ <p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr Ole Janssen, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) - Mr Anil Agrawal, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (DPIIT)
15:15 – 16:05 IST 11:45 – 12:35 CEST	Technical regulation and product certification in Germany/Europe and India
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ease of doing business reforms in India Dr Ashish Kumar, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (DPIIT) - Product legislation in the EU/Germany: a business-friendly approach that protects public interests Mr Volkmar Stein, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) - Product certification and accreditation in Germany and related opportunities for mutual recognition of test results Ms Susanne Kuch, German Accreditation Body (DAkKS) - Recent reforms in BIS product certification schemes and processes Mr HJS Pasricha, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
16:05 – 16:35 IST 12:35 – 13:05 CEST	Opportunities and challenges for Indo-German collaboration from stakeholder perspective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NABCB: Exploring opportunities between India & Germany in the areas of accreditation and certification - TÜV Rheinland: Relevance of reducing regulatory fragmentation - VDA: Cooperation on homologation and certification in the automotive sector
16:35 – 17:20 IST 13:05 – 13:50 CEST	Panel Discussion: Relevance of ease of doing business for trade and innovation and priorities for Indo-German collaboration
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Anupam Kaul, CII Institute of Quality - Nadine Petermann, German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE) - Ms Sonia Prashar, Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (IGCC) - Mr Jayant Singh, Invest India - Fishbowl seat: Participants from the audience <p><i>Guiding questions: How can India and Germany work together to improve the ease of doing business? What are good practices from the German/EU QI-system on striking a balance between product legislation, innovation, and business friendliness? How should the private sector be involved in technical regulation?</i></p>
17:20 – 17:30 IST 13:50 – 14:00 CEST	Next Steps and Closing Remarks

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3rd Indo-German Standardisation Forum

Friday, 8 July 2022: 11:30 - 13:30 IST / 8:00 - 10:00 CEST

Hybrid event

Standardisation is increasingly important for strengthening the global competitiveness of the industry. Standards ensure the interoperability of products and services, reduce costs, improve safety, and foster innovation. They help to reduce technical barriers to trade, facilitate market access and thereby promote global trade and innovation.

An increasingly competitive global context, rapid innovation paces and the need for the green and digital transformation of our economies offer both opportunities and challenges for standardisation. To address the fast-paced needs of the stakeholders, standardisation must be agile and efficient. The recently released European Standardization Strategy highlights important topics such as the relevance of better coordination towards international standardisation, inclusive and fair standards setting, better corporation of research into standardisation or also the need for user-friendly digital standards (machine readable formats). At the same time, in the standardisation forum a dialogue on approaches for joint viewpoints on standardisation for emerging topics shall be engaged, such as smart farming and circular economy. Such coordination can ideally support discussions for regulatory needs and the implementation of emerging technologies.

The dialogue on standardisation within the framework of the **Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure** enables both countries to collaborate on issues that are relevant for the standard bodies, industry as well as the consumers. As part of the dialogue, the Indo-German Standardisation Forum was established in 2019 and the second edition took place in September 2021. It provides an interactive platform for bilateral exchange between ministries, standards bodies, and the industry on various standardisation topics.



Topics of discussion include:

- What are the key aspects of the European Standardization Strategy?
- How can the standards development processes be more efficient and inclusive?
- How can research and standardisation collaborate for successful technology transfer?
- How does standardisation support the digital and green transformation as well as innovation processes?
- What common viewpoints can India and Germany develop on standardisation at international level?

3rd Indo-German Standardisation Forum

Friday, 8 July 2022: 11:30 - 13:30 IST / 8:00 - 10:00 CEST

Agenda

11:30 – 11:45 IST 08:00 – 08:15 CEST	Inaugural Session
	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Julian Willms, Global Project Quality Infrastructure in India, GIZ <p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Gerhild Roth, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) - Ms Nidhi Khare, Department of Consumer Affairs, Indian Ministry for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MoCAF&PD)
11:45 – 12:45 IST 08:15 – 09:15 CEST	Approaches for Effective and Inclusive Standards Development
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of European Standardization Strategy and standards development practices in Germany Ms Gerhild Roth, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) Dr. Jörg Seifarth, German Institute for Standardization (DIN) • Importance of standardisation for digital transformation and innovation Ms Nadine Petermann, German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE) • Overview of BIS standards development processes and priorities Mr Sanjay Pant, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) • Expectations from standard bodies to meet industry needs Mr Manoj Belgaonkar, Siemens
12:45 – 13:20 IST 09:15 – 09:50 CEST	Panel Discussion: Approach for Standardisation in Emerging Areas - Perspectives from Stakeholders
	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Rajeev Sharma, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) - Dr. Jörg Seifarth, German Institute for Standardization (DIN) - Ms Nadine Petermann, German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE) - Ms. Anandi Iyer, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) (tbc) - Fishbowl seat: Participants from the audience <p>Moderator: Global Project Quality Infrastructure in India, GIZ</p> <p><i>Guiding questions: What should be the approach and criteria for standardisation in the field of emerging topics (e.g. Artificial Intelligence, electromobility, smart agriculture, circular economy, hydrogen)? What role do standardisation roadmaps play and how can research be integrated in standard development? What are the opportunities for Indo-German Cooperation?</i></p>
13:20 – 13:30 IST 09:50 – 10:00 CEST	Next Steps and Closing Remarks

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Relevance of Quality Infrastructure (QI) for Circular Economy

Friday, 8 July 2022: 14:30 - 17:00 IST / 11:00 - 13:30 CEST

Hybrid event

Environmental pollution, climate change and scarcity of natural resources are some of the greatest challenges of our time. Our societies and especially our economies need to adapt and have to go through major transformations. With its approach of sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing and recycling existing materials and products for as long as possible, **circular economy is a departure from the traditional, linear economic model**. It aims to increase resource efficiency along the entire value chain, especially regarding finite material resources. **Domestic circular economy policies, as well as the various components of quality infrastructure (QI)** – standardisation, accreditation and conformity assessment, metrology and market surveillance, **play a key role in supporting the circular economy transition**. For example, in the development of new technologies, in promoting the adoption of circular products, processes and materials, and in ensuring their safety and quality.

Germany and India actively address the economywide circular economy transition, both from a policy and QI-perspective. The expert exchange on 8 July 2022 aims to kick-off Indo-German QI-collaboration on circular economy by discussing **the role of QI in enabling and supporting the ecological transformation of our economies** and, exploring opportunities to **strengthen coordination on circular economy within the framework of the Indo-German Working Group**.



Topics of discussion include:

- What are recent developments in circular economy policies on both sides and what are current priorities?
- How can QI support and promote the implementation of circular economy?
- Which aspects should be focused on for standardisation in circular economy considering standards development in DIN/DKE and BIS, as well as at ISO/TC 323?
- What are the challenges for product safety in circular economy and which opportunities does the introduction of digital product passports offer in this regard?
- How do regulatory needs for the transition to a circular economy differ across different sectors?
- Which use cases and/or sectors with standardisation or regulatory needs in the field of circular economy should be addressed in the framework of Indo-German cooperation?

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Relevance of Quality Infrastructure (QI) for Circular Economy

Friday, 8 July 2022: 14:30 - 17:00 IST / 11:00 - 13:30 CEST

Agenda

14:30 – 14:45 IST 11:00 – 11:15 CEST	Inaugural Session Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Julian Willms, Global Project Quality Infrastructure in India, GIZ Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Christoph Mönnigmann, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) - Dr Satyendra Kumar, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)
14:45 – 15:15 IST 11:15 – 11:45 CEST	Recent Developments in Circular Economy Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Sustainable Products Initiative (SPI) and Digital Product Passports in the European Union Dr Floris Akkerman, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (BAM) - Sectoral action plans on circular economy in India Mr Shri Sudhir Kumar, National Institute for Transforming India (NITI Aayog)
15:15 – 16:00 IST 11:45 – 12:30 CEST	Relevance of Quality Infrastructure for Circular Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - German Roadmap on Standardisation for Circular Economy Mr Benjamin Hein, German Institute for Standardization (DIN) Mr Uwe Junglas, German Institute for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies (DKE) - Insights into approaches of circular economy standardisation in India Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) - Sustainability certification as an important tool for promoting circular products Ms Susanne Kuch, German Accreditation Body (DAkkS)
16:00 – 16:50 IST 12:30 – 13:20 CEST	Panel Discussion: No One Size Fits All: What, How and Where Towards Circularity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) - German Institute for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies (DKE) - Member of BIS Technical Committee, CHD 34 - <i>Fishbowl seat: Participants from the audience</i> <p><i>Guiding questions for discussion: What role can standards and certification play for the adoption of circular products and secondary raw materials in different sectors? Which aspects of quality infrastructure are most relevant to support the circular economy transition? What could be the priority sector or use-case for Indo-German cooperation?</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mr Rajesh Nath, VDMA India</p>
16:50 – 17:00 IST 13:20 – 13:30 CEST	Wrap-up and Closing: Next Steps for Indo-German Cooperation