



DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE
MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY COOPERATIVES AND MARKETING

National Mirror Committees

PRESENTED BY
Department of Standards and Quality Assurance

Overview

- The Department of Standards and Quality Assurance (DSQA)
- Standards work in Lesotho
- National Mirror Committees
- Challenges
- Future Goals

The Department of Standards and Quality Assurance

- A Department within the Ministry of Trade
- Responsible for policy and development of national quality infrastructure
- Currently undertaking standards work while preparations are made to set up the National Standards Body

Standards work in Lesotho

- Formally commenced in 2011
- Involving stakeholders across all sectors
- Focusing on issues identified to be priority in the National Strategic Development Plan such as Agro-processing, Tourism, Water bottling

National Mirror Committees

- The aim of Lesotho's Standards work was to mirror ISO system where appropriate
- There are three active Technical Committees:
 - TC 176 with 25 members
 - TC 207 with about 27 members
 - TC 34 with about 20 members

Participation in the TCs comprises members from private sector, government, NGOs and academia

Challenges

- Identifying and engaging relevant experts to participate in technical work
- Standards work is not yet well understood
- The demand for standards is low and often for just a handful of companies

Future Goals

- Priority is to ensure that standards development responds to industry's needs
- Participation in key ISO committees is secured
- Increase demand of standards for SMEs

Thank you

Contact us

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