

BELIZE BUREAU OF STANDARDS

“Belize’s TBT Enquiry Point: Experiences & Challenges of a Developing Country”



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OUTLINE

General trade information

About the Belize Bureau of Standards

Responding to technical enquiries

Experiences & Challenges

BBS Strategic Plan

Belize

Estimated Population (2010)	333,200
Total Area	8, 867 sq/mi (22, 966 km2)
GDP 2011 (growth)	US\$ 1.47 Bn (2%)
Estimated Exports 2011	US\$603.3 Mn
Estimated Imports 2011	US\$773.9 Mn
Major Exports (traditional)	sugar, bananas, citrus, fish & fishery products, crude oil, sawn wood (USA, CARICOM, UK, EU, C.A.)
Major Imports	Machinery & transport equipment, manufactured goods, fuels, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, beverages, tobacco (USA, Mexico, Cuba, Guatemala, China, CARICOM, other C.A.)
Trade Agreements	WTO, CARICOM (also CARICOM-EPA, proposed CARICOM-Canada), SICA, PSA-Guatemala, proposed PSA-Mexico, El Salvador and other bilateral agreements

The Bureau of Standards

- Bureau of Standards (BBS) is a Government Department that falls under the Ministry of Trade, Investment Promotion, Private Sector Development and Consumer Protection.
- BBS was established by the Standards Act of 1992 and continues to operate under the terms of the Standards act Revised Edition of 2000
- As the NSB, it is responsible for the preparation, promotion and implementation of standards in relation to goods, services and processes.
- BBS Organizational Structure: 11 technical & 3 administrative staff
- BBS Collaborating Partners.

Responding to technical enquiries

- TBT Manuals – responding to enquiries and acting on notifications;
- Monitoring of Notifications
 - Sorted according to fields of interest and trading partners (countries of interest);
 - Enquiries on fields of interest: documents disseminated & saved electronically;
- Primary information exchange tool – e-mail by sector listing

Belize TBT Enquiry Point (weaknesses)

INTERNAL	EXTERNAL
Limited resources (human, infrastructure & financial)	Poor private stakeholder involvement & participation
No recognized TBT Committee & structure	Poor collaboration linkages with trade promotion organizations/entities
No in-house capabilities to demonstrate compliance hence low credibility	Poor & adhoc use of standards in regulations to address legitimate issues
Limited public awareness and education outreach	Trade agreements are under-utilized: poor implementation

Belize Bureau of Standards 2015 – Strategy Map

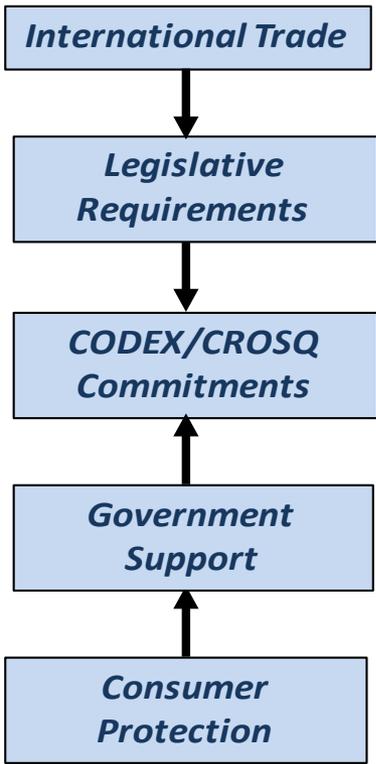
Performance →

External Pressures



Strategic Themes

Strategic Objectives



BBS Mission
Our Mission is to improve and enhance our national economy and the quality of life for all Belizeans by promoting the use of international standards and management systems.

Institutional Capability

1. Develop and implement a QMS
2. Identify and recruit technical resources
3. Provide technical and management training

Legislation Capability

1. Review, update and draft required legislation
2. Implement a strategy to meet requirements

Financial Stability

1. Identify opportunities for revenue
2. Implement a strategy for self sustainability

Infrastructure Improvement

1. Identify & acquire a new facility
2. Identify and acquire necessary equipment

Stakeholder Relations

1. Identify key stakeholders
2. Develop MOU's with key stakeholders
3. Establish positive relations with stakeholders

Public Awareness

1. Develop a communications plan & strategy
2. Provide public information sessions
3. Provide training sessions
4. Develop and provide a website
5. Develop marketing material

← *Feedback*



Thank You

Contact Information

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