



Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS)
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise (MAFSE)

ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT 2024-2025



1. Main Achievements of the Belize Bureau of Standards

The Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS) is the national standards body of Belize, mandated to develop, adopt, and promote national standards in various sectors. BBS ensures accuracy and fairness in commercial transactions through its legal metrology services, including the verification of weighing and measuring instruments. The BBS is also tasked with the provision of industrial metrology services refer to the application of measurement science in manufacturing, production, and industrial settings to ensure the accuracy, reliability, and traceability of measurements used in daily operations. These services are critical for maintaining product quality, process control, and compliance with international standards. The mandate of the BBS is carried out within its three (3) technical units: the Standards Unit, the Industrial Metrology Unit, and the Consumer Protection Unit (Compliance Activities and Legal Metrology Services).

The following are the main achievements of the Belize Bureau of Standards for FY 2024-25.

1.1 National Quality Council (NQC)

A significant achievement during this reporting period is the Government of Belize's formal endorsement of the establishment of the Belize National Quality Council (NQC) in November 2024. This endorsement represents a major milestone in the country's ongoing efforts to embed a culture of quality across all sectors of national development. The NQC is poised to serve as a central governance body, providing strategic oversight and direction for the effective implementation of Belize's National Quality Policy (NQP). Through this Council, Belize will ensure that its quality infrastructure is not only aligned with national development goals but also harmonized with international standards, thereby enhancing the credibility and competitiveness of Belize's products and services.

The establishment of the NQC, coupled with the ongoing advancements in standards development, reflects the BBS's strong commitment to strengthening Belize quality infrastructure. This commitment is especially critical to the agricultural sector, which remains a cornerstone of the national economy. In support of Plan Belize 2.0, quality standards are essential for supporting the diversification of non-traditional crops, strengthening traditional industries, improving value-added processing, and facilitating the growth of agribusiness. The NQC will play a pivotal role in guiding the development and implementation of agricultural standards that improve product quality, increase access to international markets, and ensure compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary requirements.

By institutionalizing quality governance and promoting standards in agriculture, Belize is taking concrete steps to elevate its global trade capacity, enhance food security, and foster

sustainable rural development. These efforts will not only support the successful implementation of trade agreements but will also contribute to long-term economic resilience and an improved quality of life for Belizeans, particularly those whose livelihoods depend on the agricultural sector.

1.2 National Standards Development

Belize has made remarkable strides in the development of national standards, reflecting its commitment to fostering a robust quality infrastructure. During the reporting period, the country successfully published one compulsory Belize National Standard and finalized five draft standards that are intended to be adopted as compulsory. Additionally, the current standards work program encompasses the development of several standards for agricultural commodities.

The advancement of standards directly contributes to national development by delivering tangible economic, governmental, and social benefits. Economically, standards help to facilitate trade, enhance competitiveness, and support innovation. From a governmental perspective, they contribute to improving the regulatory framework, enhancing public safety, and boosting economic performance. Socially, the development and implementation of standards lead to an improved quality of life for citizens and greater environmental protection. These cumulative benefits reinforce the value of standards as a critical driver of national progress and sustainability.

Below are the National Standards Projects for the fiscal year 2024/2025:

National Standards Projects FY 2024/25			
#	STANDARDS PROJECTS	STAGE	STATUS/COMMENT(S)
1	Draft Specification for Marking and Labelling of Gas Cylinders (DBZS 6:202X)	50	Final draft standard submitted to the Standards Advisory Council (SAC) for voting. The TC recommended that these standards be established as compulsory .
	Working Draft (WD) Specification for Filling, Handling, Storage, Transportation, and Location of LPG Cylinders.	20	A working draft prepared to initiate revision by the TC for LPG.

National Standards Projects FY 2024/25			
2	Draft Specification for Compressed Air (DBZS 27:202X); Draft Specification for Carbon Dioxide (DBZS28:202X) and Draft Specification for Nitrous Oxide (DBZS 29: 202X)	50	Final draft standard submitted to the Standards Advisory Council (SAC) for voting. The TC recommended that these standards be established as compulsory .
	Draft Code of Good Manufacturing Practices for Medical Gases (DBZ CP 7: 202X) and Draft Specification for Medical Gases – General Requirements (DBZS 30: 202X)	40	The public notice was published in the Gazette and Newspaper, with a deadline for comments on March 31, 2025. Sensitization sessions are scheduled for these standards.
3	Draft Specification for Energy Labelling and Requirements for Refrigerating Equipment (DBZS 34: 202X)	50	Draft standard under final review by the TC for Energy Efficiency to determine test control for supply voltage parameter ($115 \pm 10\% V$). Note that Belize has aligned with updated Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) from Central America and Mexico (NOM-015-ENER-2018) and not the 2012 version to which CRS 57 is aligned with.
	Draft Specification for Energy Labelling and Requirements for Air Conditioners (DBZS 35: 202X)	50	Draft standard under final review by the TC for Energy Efficiency to determine test control for supply voltage parameter ($110 \pm 10\% V$ and $220 \pm 10\% V$).
4	Draft Specification for Labelling Part 3: Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (DBZS1: Part 3: 202X ((Revised)))	50	Final draft standard submitted to the Standards Advisory Council (SAC) for voting.
	WD Nutritional Labelling	20	The working draft is being prepared to initiate the work of the TC.
5	Draft Belize Code of Practice for Recreational High Angle Activity Tours (Canopy, Canyoneering,	40	The High Angle Activity Standard remains pending due to a possible Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Association of

National Standards Projects FY 2024/25			
	Rappelling, and Zip Lining)		Challenge Course Technology (ACCT), USA and revision of national standard by ACCT experts.
6	WD Specification for Honey	20	Working draft under revision by the Honey Working Group.
	WD Specification for Potato		Working drafts for potato and onion currently under revision by the vegetables Technical Subcommittee.
	WD Specification for Onion		Preparation of working draft.
	WD Specification for Pineapple		Preparation of working draft.

1.3 Verification Services

The Compliance Unit continues to fulfill its critical mandate under the Metrology Act, Chapter 294 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, which centers on the verification, inspection, and stamping of weighing and measuring equipment used in commercial trade across the country. This mandate is not only integral to protecting the interests of consumers and businesses but also directly supports the economic goals outlined in Plan Belize 2.0, particularly the vision of "Expanding private enterprise profits." By ensuring the accuracy of measurement instruments used in trade, the Unit contributes meaningfully to building trust in commercial transactions, fostering fair competition, and enhancing the overall business environment.

To effectively execute its responsibilities and optimize the use of its limited resources, the Unit strategically prioritizes verification exercises at critical points of trade, specifically, where transactions occur directly between businesses and consumers or within industrial operations. This targeted approach allows the Unit to maximize its impact while ensuring that the standards of fairness and accuracy in trade are upheld.

During the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the Compliance Unit carried out five key types of verification exercises, each of which plays a pivotal role in safeguarding economic value at various levels of commerce. These included the verification of commercial scales used in retail trade, industrial scales utilized in large-scale operations, net content verification within commercial establishments to ensure proper product labeling and packaging, fuel pump verification to guarantee consumers receive the correct volume of fuel purchased, and the verification of flow meters at liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) depots to ensure accurate measurement during distribution.

These efforts have had a direct and measurable impact on both consumers and businesses. Consumers benefit from the confidence that they are receiving fair value for their money, while businesses are protected from financial losses that may arise from inaccurate measuring instruments. The Unit's ongoing work in this area not only strengthens consumer rights and business integrity but also contributes to the broader economic stability and credibility of Belize's trade ecosystem.

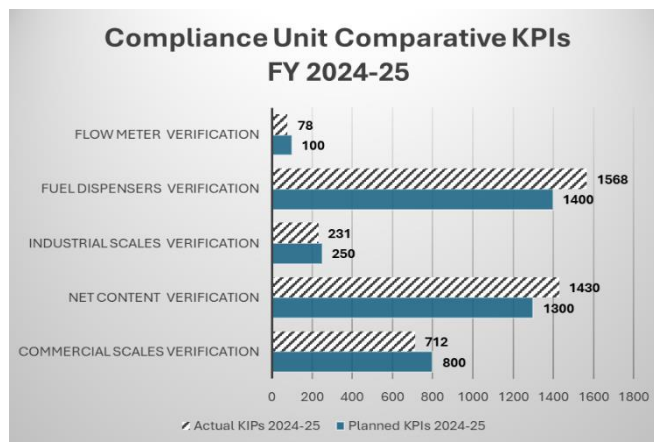


Figure 1: Compliance Unit FY 2024-2025 Comparative KPIs

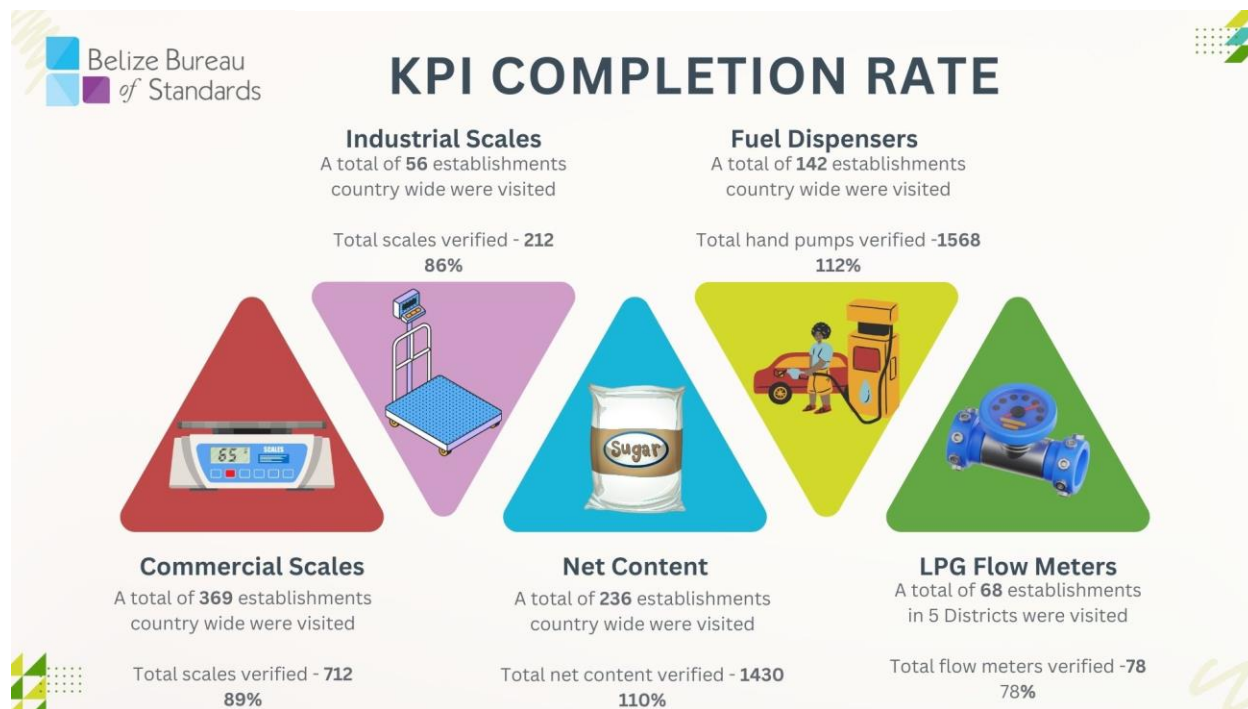


Figure 2: KPIs Completion Rate

1.4 Calibration Services

The primary function of the Industrial Metrology Unit (IMU) is the provision of traceable calibration services to industry and other key stakeholders. This core function encompasses both the calibration of BBS's internal measurement systems and the calibration of stakeholders' equipment, thereby playing a critical role in ensuring the reliability, accuracy, and international comparability of measurements used in trade and industry. During the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the IMU achieved four major milestones with the support of the Caribbean Development Bank, marking a significant advancement in Belize's metrological capacity and its broader Quality Infrastructure.

- I. The first achievement aligns with the guidelines of the International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) and Section 5 of Belize's National Metrology Act (Chapter 294). Funding was secured for the acquisition of five (5) 100 kg F2 mass standards and two (2) full sets of E1 mass standards ranging from 1 mg to 10 kg. These high-precision mass standards are essential for establishing and maintaining a robust national hierarchy of measurements in mass. Their acquisition significantly enhances Belize's ability to perform traceable and accurate calibrations, thereby strengthening national measurement capabilities and supporting the industrial and production sectors through improved quality assurance.
- II. The second major achievement represents a historic milestone for Belize, marking the country's first-ever participation in an Interlaboratory Comparison (ILC), a critical step in demonstrating international metrological competence. In late 2024, the Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS) engaged in a bilateral ILC with the Laboratorio Costarricense de Metrología (LCM) of Costa Rica, a recognized regional authority in metrology. This exercise focused on the calibration of OIML R111-1 Class F1 mass standards, and was aimed at evaluating the technical proficiency and procedural reliability of the BBS Fine Mass Laboratory. On January 24, 2025, the BBS received the official ILC report, which confirmed the positive comparability of results, a clear validation of the Bureau's capability to perform high-precision calibrations to international standards. This achievement is not only a significant step towards accreditation under ISO/IEC 17025:2017, but also elevates Belize's profile within the regional and international metrology community.
- III. The third achievement was the successful internal calibration of the climate station, a vital piece of equipment used to monitor environmental conditions within the Fine Mass Laboratory. Accurate climate monitoring is essential for maintaining the

integrity of precision measurements, especially in mass metrology, and is a key requirement for international accreditation.

- IV. The fourth major accomplishment focused on capacity building. With funding from the same program, twenty stakeholders, comprising both public and private sector representatives, including five BBS staff members, were trained as Assessors for the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard, which governs the competence of testing and calibration laboratories. This investment in human capital is instrumental in bolstering local expertise and readiness to meet international standards, reinforcing Belize's positioning within the global quality landscape.

Collectively, these milestones represent a strategic and substantial investment in Belize's Industrial Metrology capacity. By enabling the IMU to perform traceable calibrations directly linked to the International System of Units (SI), Belize is now closer than ever to offering metrology services that are globally recognized and accepted. This directly supports the objectives outlined in Plan Belize 2.0, particularly the goals of "Expanding private enterprise profits." This directly supports private sector growth by:

- Reducing the cost and time associated with sourcing metrology services from abroad.
- Enhancing product quality and process efficiency, which increases profitability.
- Protecting companies from losses due to inaccurate measurements, especially in sectors like agriculture and manufacturing.

The Government's efforts to invest in the BBS calibration capabilities creates an enabling environment for local businesses to thrive, remain competitive, and expand their operations.

To further consolidate these achievements, the BBS is actively pursuing international accreditation of the Fine Mass Laboratory for the calibration of mass standards and non-automatic weighing instruments. This initiative, funded under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), is scheduled for completion by June 2025. Achieving this accreditation will be a landmark achievement for Belize, symbolizing the country's entry into the global network of accredited metrology laboratories and upholding the principle of "One standard, one test, accepted worldwide." Such recognition will not only raise confidence in Belize's measurement capabilities but also reduce technical barriers to trade, improve competitiveness, and enhance trust in Belizean goods and services.

Importantly, investing in national metrology services delivers substantial cost savings for both public and private sector stakeholders. At present, many industries are forced to source calibration services from neighboring countries, incurring significant expenses and

delays. Industry partners such as the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA), National Forensic Science Service (NFSS), Citrus Products of Belize Limited (CPBL), BSI-ASR Group, Caribbean Chicken Limited, TexBel Farms Belize, Silkgrass Farms, and Travellers Liquors Ltd all rely on timely, accurate, and cost-effective calibration services to ensure the integrity of their operations.

The IMU continues to set annual calibration targets, and by the third quarter of FY 2024/25, exceeded its performance expectations. A notable example is the BSI-ASR Group, which regularly requires verification of its weighbridges—critical infrastructure directly linked to the accurate payment of sugarcane farmers. These verification exercises are conducted by the Compliance Unit, with full technical support from the IMU to ensure measurement traceability and fairness in trade.

These achievements not only boosts economic performance and trade readiness but also delivers meaningful benefits to consumers, businesses, and the broader society.

The following table highlights the performance of the IMU:

Calibration	Quantity	Sectors
Fine Mass (1 mg to 10 kg)	48	Public, Agro - Processing, Compliance, Forensics
Grand Mass (20 kg to 1000 kg)	24	Agro - Processing
Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments (NAWI)	32	Public, Agro - Processing, Distelleries
Volume	5	Public
Total:	109	Total Unique Sectors: 5

Set of E2 Masses on return from Trinidad and Tobago for calibration



Metrology Technicians conducting volumetric calibration in the Grand Mass Laboratory of the BBS of BBS's slide in provers used by the



Legal Metrology Unit for verification of fuel pumps in the.

Metrology Technician conducting Scale Calibrations, with assistance from factory personnel, for Texbel Farms in Silk Grass, Stann Creek



Metrology Technician conducting Scale Calibration at Caribbean Chicken in Blue Creek, OW



2 Lessons Learnt:

- Standards provide a foundation for consistency, safety, and quality in nearly every aspect of our daily lives. They help ensure that products and services meet certain criteria, making our lives safer, more efficient, and more enjoyable. Life without standards would be quite chaotic and unpredictable; without them, we would face greater risks, inefficiencies, and uncertainties in almost every aspect of life.

Recognizing the vital role standards play, the Belize Bureau of Standards has adopted a proactive approach to public awareness. By participating in cross-sector sensitization events and hosting quarterly educational sessions, the Bureau is not only raising awareness but also deepening public understanding of the indispensable need for standards. This outreach is designed to shift the perception of standards from being a regulatory function to being a societal necessity, empowering citizens to advocate for their rights to quality goods and services.

As depicted in the Quality Infrastructure (QI) model referenced in figure 3, this educational strategy is instrumental in shaping a quality-conscious society. When consumers are informed and engaged, they begin to demand compliance with standards in areas ranging from consumer products and food safety to environmental sustainability and technological advancement. This, in turn, pressures businesses to prioritize quality, seek certification, and request inspections to validate the integrity

of the goods and services they produce. Over time, such a shift fosters a culture where standards development becomes anticipatory rather than reactionary, driving continuous improvement, innovation, and excellence in all sectors of the economy.

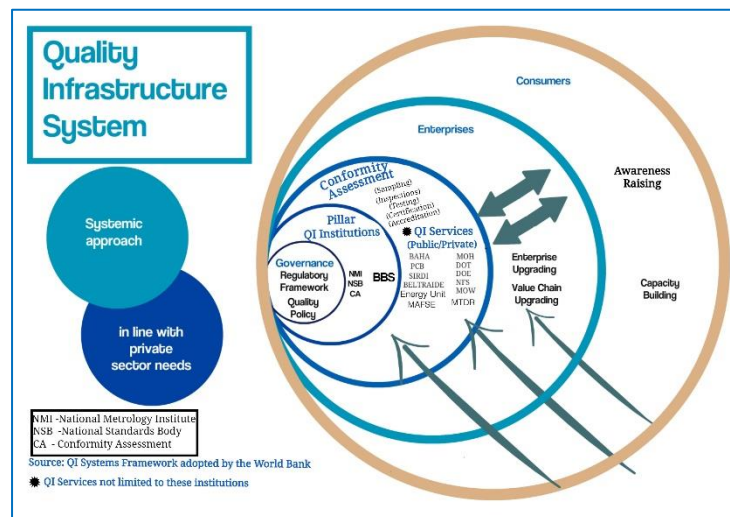


Figure 3: Quality Infrastructure System Model

- The successful execution of any strategic plan inevitably encounters challenges, and the Compliance Unit is no exception. During the FY 2024–2025, the Unit faced notable operational hurdles, most prominently a shortage of human resources and reliable transportation. With only three dedicated officers tasked with ensuring nationwide compliance in both Legal Metrology and monitoring of Compulsory Standards, the capacity to effectively cover the entire country has been severely strained. Despite these limitations, the Unit remained committed to the fulfilment of its mandate. However, as the Bureau seeks to expand its regulatory reach through initiatives such as the Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS) and the development of conformity assessment frameworks for compulsory standards, it has become increasingly clear that the current staffing level is unsustainable. To ensure the effective rollout and long-term success of such programs, there is an urgent and critical need to recruit additional personnel and invest in the upgrade of its transportation fleet. Strengthening the operational capacity of the Unit is essential for maintaining public trust, and protecting consumers.

3 Future Priorities and Plans:

- The BBS in alignment with Plan Belize 2.0 and its emphasis on private sector growth, trade facilitation, and economic development, continues to advance its mandate through strategic international partnerships. One such initiative is the British

Standards Institution (BSI) Standards Partnership Programme – Phase 2, funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO). This programme directly supports the implementation of Belize’s National Quality Policy (NQP) by strengthening key pillars of the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI), namely standards development, metrology, and conformity assessment.

In October 2024, BBS hosted a successful BSI mission in Belize, which brought together a wide range of stakeholders and included a national workshop to promote awareness of the roles and responsibilities within the NQI framework. Following the mission, a local consultant was engaged to collaborate with BBS and key industry stakeholders from the hot sauce, honey, and coconut product sectors. The data collected through this engagement will be used to populate the NQP implementation matrix, which is vital for identifying resource needs, existing gaps, and opportunities for targeted support. The ultimate objective of the programme is to foster a national culture of quality that empowers micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), strengthens large industries, and builds consumer confidence, thereby increasing Belize’s export readiness and global market competitiveness. Ongoing consultations are planned to ensure comprehensive and inclusive data collection, enabling more informed policy decisions and strategic investments. Through this initiative, BBS reaffirms its commitment to building a resilient and internationally recognized Quality Infrastructure System, one that not only protects consumers and ensures fair trade but also serves as a catalyst for sustainable economic growth and the leading investment destination.

- Traditionally, the Bureau provides five core verification services: commercial scales, industrial scales, net content, fuel pumps, and flow meters (used in LPG distribution). However, recognizing the evolving needs of the national economy and the growing demand for reliable measurement services across sectors, the BBS is taking proactive steps to modernize and expand its service offerings.

At the Strategic Planning Session held in September 2024, the Compliance and Metrology Units committed to conducting periodic demand surveys to stay informed on the country’s dynamic measurement needs. This initiative will ensure that verification services remain relevant, responsive, and aligned with national development goals, particularly those related to consumer protection, public health, energy efficiency, and private sector development.

As part of the new Strategic Planning Period (2025–2028), the Bureau will introduce additional targeted verification services, including the calibration of medical scales, verification of equipment used in food and beverage processing plants, and the application of energy efficiency labels to refrigerators and air conditioning units, in support of the Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS). These expanded services aim to support Belize’s sustainable development agenda by improving product reliability, enhancing consumer confidence, and promoting energy-efficient practices.



Figure 4: Outlook for FY 2025-2026

- The next few years will be pivotal for the Bureau as the Department work to expand and enhance its capabilities. One of the key priorities is to increase the scope of BBS accreditation to include critical areas such as Volume and Temperature Calibrations. The direction in which the Bureau develops its laboratories and the scale of these advancements will largely be driven by the needs and demands of the Belizean stakeholders. To ensure that these efforts align with national priorities, it is essential to conduct a comprehensive demand survey to guide the Bureau’s strategic direction for 2026 and beyond.

The pace at which these developments occur will depend on the optimal utilization of available resources, both human and financial. However, with the substantial progress already made in refining the Bureau’s quality management system, the

groundwork has been laid to facilitate an easier expansion of the Bureau's calibration scope. Additionally, the Department has undergone rigorous training in ISO 17025:2017 and ISO 9001:2015 lead auditor courses. This advanced training has equipped the team with the essential tools to not only meet the requirements of these standards but to approach them with a focus on continuous improvement and operational excellence.

4 Staffing and Financial Considerations:

4.1 Staffing Considerations

- **Increased Workload in Standards Unit:** The Standards Unit continues to experience a significant surge in workload due to rising demands for the development of new standards which requires technical committee coordination and stakeholder engagement to ensure transparency and openness in the standards development process. This increase necessitates the recruitment of additional Standards Officers to manage growing responsibilities effectively.
- **Compliance Unit Staffing Challenges:** The Compliance Unit operates with only three field officers, one of whom is set to retire in the second quarter of FY 2025-2026. The Unit's mandate is vast and technical, requiring highly trained personnel. New staff must undergo specialized training, which is currently unavailable in Belize and must be sourced internationally, posing both logistical and financial challenges.
- **Need for Local Technical Training:** Given the training gap, there is a critical opportunity to expand technical and vocational education under the *Education, Culture, Science and Technology* priority of Plan Belize 2.0. Establishing in-country metrology training would reduce future government expenses and ensure a sustainable talent pipeline for the Bureau.
- **Lack of Promotional Opportunities:** Despite continuous professional development and certification efforts by staff, there are currently no upward mobility or promotion pathways within the Department. This affects staff morale and long-term retention of trained personnel.

4.2 Financial Considerations:

- While provisions for the calibration and procurement of metrology equipment are included in the Bureau's annual budget, the allocation granted annually remains significantly below the operational needs of the department. This financial shortfall

directly impacts the Bureau's ability to perform timely and traceable calibrations, an essential requirement for providing internationally recognized services to industry stakeholders across critical sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, and health. Calibration is not a one-time expense but a continuous process required to maintain the accuracy, reliability, and international recognition of the Bureau's measurement standards. For example, specialized equipment such as Special Platinum Resistance Thermometers (SPRTs) and high-precision mass standards must be calibrated at internationally accredited laboratories, often at high cost. When budgets are limited, critical calibration activities are delayed or deferred, which compromises the Bureau's capacity to meet stakeholder needs, weakens trade assurance, and threatens the reliability of measurements used in commerce and regulatory enforcement.

In recent years, the Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS) has heavily depended on external funding from development partners such as the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the European Union (via the 11th EDF) to bridge this gap. Through these partnerships, the Bureau has been able to procure key equipment and reference standards critical to the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI). However, such project-based support is not always timely, predictable, or sustainable, creating operational bottlenecks when urgent needs arise.

To reduce reliance on external sources and enhance the Bureau's long-term capacity, it is essential to increase the national budget allocation for calibration and procurement of equipment. So doing, would:

- Ensure timely calibration of metrology instruments, supporting uninterrupted and internationally accepted traceability chains.
- Strengthen Belize's industrial competitiveness by ensuring local stakeholders have access to cost-effective and credible metrology services.
- Improve service delivery across sectors, especially in agriculture, where reliable measurements are tied to fair trade and farmer payments (e.g., weighbridge calibrations in sugar production).
- Support Plan Belize 2.0 goals of expanding private enterprise profits, facilitating trade, and reducing technical barriers to export.

An increased and dedicated budgetary allocation would also allow the BBS to proactively plan for future services, diversify into new areas such as temperature and

volume metrology, and build greater institutional resilience, ultimately positioning Belize as a regional leader in quality infrastructure.

5 Conclusions and Recommendations:

The Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS) continues to make vital progress in strengthening the country's National Quality Infrastructure (NQI), which serves as a foundational pillar for economic growth, consumer protection, and sustainable development. Through strategic investments in standards development, legal and industrial metrology, and the accreditation of its calibration laboratories, the BBS is ensuring that Belizean products and services meet internationally recognized benchmarks, enhancing the country's competitiveness in regional and international markets.

The work of the Compliance Unit, despite constraints in staffing and mobility, reflects a high level of commitment and adaptability. The introduction of new programs such as the Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS) and the expansion of verification services highlights the urgency for additional resources to ensure effective implementation of both core and emerging mandates.

Similarly, the pursuit and delivery of accredited metrology services necessitate a sustained commitment to supporting the Belize Bureau of Standards (BBS) in fulfilling its mandate. This support must be demonstrated through the continuous allocation of adequate resources (both financial and human) to ensure the effective maintenance, calibration, and servicing of existing high-precision equipment. Moreover, as the BBS expands its scope of calibration capabilities to meet growing national and regional demands, strategic investments will be required to operationalize new calibration services in key areas such as temperature, volume, pressure, and energy efficiency.

Such investment is critical not only for achieving and maintaining international accreditation under ISO/IEC 17025:2017, but also for strengthening Belize's NQI and enhancing national competitiveness. A well-resourced metrology system underpins industrial development, facilitates trade, supports regulatory compliance, and promotes innovation. As Belize continues to align its systems with international best practices, the consistent provision of support to the BBS is essential in enabling it to deliver reliable, traceable, and world-class calibration services across priority sectors.

Recommendations:

1. **Increase Budget Allocation for QI Development:** The Government should increase the financial support to the BBS to cover the rising costs of the procurement of equipment, calibration and maintenance. This will ensure that Belize not only maintains a traceable and internationally recognized measurement system but ensure that adequate funding is available to meet the growing demand for standards and quality and to also accelerate the development of sector-relevant and internationally aligned standards, thereby supporting innovation, consumer protection, and market access.
2. **Expand Human Resource Capacity:** In the 2022 report by Job Classification & Compensation Unit whereby an exercise on organizational development was conducted for the BBS several recommendations were made. This includes the creation of several additional posts to support the effective execution of the BBS mandate. It is recommended, that while the creation of these posts is not budget for, that the Ministry liaise with the Ministries of Public Service and Finance to ensure that in short priority that additional staff is sourced for the Standards and Compliance Units.
3. **Support In-Country Technical Training:** In line with Plan Belize 2.0's emphasis on Education and Science, the Ministry should explore opportunities for establishing or supporting in-country training programs in metrology and conformity assessment. This will reduce dependence on costly external training and create a sustainable pipeline of qualified professionals.
4. **Continue Supporting MSMEs and Trade Facilitation:** The BBS should be supported in its efforts to extend standards and metrology services to MSMEs. This will contribute to improvement in the quality of the products we produce, increase access to international markets, and facilitate more equitable economic participation.

Through sustained investment and strategic coordination, the BBS can continue to drive national development by embedding a culture of quality and reinforcing Belize's standing as a trusted trading partner in the region and beyond.