A Quality Programme for the Cosmetic Sector
Safe+ A Quality Programme for the Cosmetic Sector

Safe + is an international development project that provides technical assistance to the Colombian cosmetic sector, whose stakeholders seek to overcome technical barriers to trade hindering access to international markets. The programme was initiated in 2015 and aims, over the course of the next four years, to strengthen the national quality infrastructure, improve the trade capacity of the Colombian cosmetic sector, and to achieve international recognition of cosmetics manufactured using natural ingredients. This, in turn, will stimulate the growth of the sector and generate employment for Colombians.
How did this initiative develop?

Under the Productive Transformation Programme (PTP), the cosmetics industry has been identified as a world-class sector with high growth and high export potential. By 2032, Colombia seeks to be recognized as a world leader in the production and export of cosmetics manufactured using natural ingredients. However, in order to export to other markets, the sector needs to meet the technical requirements in terms of quality throughout the entire value chain.

In order for Colombian cosmetics to make their way to the international market, they must meet requirements and standards of quality. Closing this gap is the objective of Safe+.
The project’s aim is that Colombian enterprises as well as their products meet the requirements of the countries to which they wish to export. To achieve this, the project will involve growers, harvesters and processors of natural ingredients.

Safe+ also seeks to ensure that the capacity to assess compliance with these requirements – in a way that is reliable and competitive – exists within the country. To this end, the project will work with testing laboratories, calibration laboratories, inspection organizations, certification organizations, suppliers of reference materials and proficiency testing providers.
Another aim of the programme is that assessments are recognized internationally through Colombian institutions that form the national quality infrastructure. To achieve this goal, the project will work with ONAC - National Accreditation Body, INM - National Metrology Institute, INVIMA - National Institute for Food and Drug Surveillance, and ICONTEC – the National Standards Body.
How will we succeed?

- By strengthening capacity to provide services among the institutions of the national quality infrastructure, i.e. by providing training and coaching for staff in these institutions.

- By supporting the country as it adopts the evaluation system for Good Laboratory Practices for chemicals.

- By providing technical support to at least three laboratories that render services to the industry and its value chain, e.g. by assisting in pilot testing for natural ingredients in the cosmetics industry.

- By training and rating experts and consultants to provide technical advice to the stakeholders along the value chain in regard to quality and market requirements.

- By providing pilot technical support and training for entrepreneurs in SMEs to comply with technical standards and market requirements in regard to their natural ingredients production activities for the cosmetics industry.
Building confidence, compliance, and international recognition for a world-class cosmetic sector.

This is Safe+. 
A cooperation programme of

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