

Definitions and Acronyms

Accreditation is the third party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks.

Conformity Assessment (CA) demonstrates that specified requirements relating to a product, process, person, system or body, are fulfilled.

Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) perform CA services such as testing, inspection and certification.

CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) is the premier Knowledge Centre for the CARICOM Regional Quality Infrastructure (RQI) Development, Promotion and Performance.

National Accreditation Bodies (NABs) provide authoritative oversight and accreditation of conformity assessment bodies, such as testing, medical and calibration laboratories, inspection and certification bodies.


National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) were formed to provide a national link between potential clients (laboratories, inspection and certification bodies and users of conformity assessment services) and the NABs; provide technical support services and act as a channel of information on accreditation and related matters. The NAFPs have been established within the National Standards Bodies (NSBs).

Quality Infrastructure (QI) encompasses the fields of metrology, standardisation, conformity assessment, which includes certification, testing and inspection, and accreditation, which are necessary for products and services to be deemed internationally ready for trading.

For further information, please contact:

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 *This publication was paid for by funds provided from the European Union, under the 10th EDF-TBT programme. The content of this document does not reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Responsibility for the information and views expressed in the publication lies entirely with the author(s).*

Cover Photos: Brenda Biddulph/Monsoon Photography

The Caribbean Cooperation for Accreditation Scheme – Supporting Conformity Assessment Bodies



Accreditation is the highest level of impartial quality assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) that verifies competence to perform specific tasks to international standards thereby paving the way for improved market competitiveness of goods and services.

The Caribbean Cooperation for Accreditation (CCA) Scheme was developed to provide CABs with regional opportunities to access affordable and readily available accreditation and development assistance on their road to accreditation.

This CAB support Scheme is based on the principles of mutual cooperation and collaboration amongst participating Member States' National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs), the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and the regional National Accreditation Bodies (NABs).



Vision Statement

To be the Caribbean’s premier Scheme for supporting Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) in their pursuit of accreditation to international standards.

Mission Statement

The Caribbean Cooperation for Accreditation (CCA) Scheme facilitates the development of the Regional Quality Infrastructure (RQI) and advances the harmonisation of the National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) of Member States to enable intra and extra-regional trade by supporting Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) to achieve accreditation through coaching, training and other forms of technical assistance.

The CCA Scheme as managed by the CROSQ Secretariat supports the CABs in pursuit of their international accreditation status in three main ways:



1. Cooperative mechanism for CABs requiring coaching, training and technical assistance support from the regional network of NAFPs.
2. Resource mobilization and networking for NAFPs and NABs in their continuous quest of capacity development and market outreach to CABs.
3. Provision of a CCA branding mark that encourages end users and regional benefactors of CAB services to further recognise the value of the CABs’ accreditation and capabilities in the region.

The CCA Mark

The CCA Mark represents a Caribbean Scheme that uses innovative and creative accreditation development assistance programmes to promote the quality-competitiveness of goods and services produced or used in the region.



CCA Scheme - Process:

CABs desirous of being accredited can contact their NAFp, NAB or the CROSQ Secretariat. NAFPs assist in completion of the enrolment procedures in the programme and then building the capacity of the CAB. The CROSQ Secretariat provides all the stakeholders with the necessary support requirements and network of contacts. The Trinidad and Tobago Laboratory Accreditation Service (TTLABS) or the internationally recognised Jamaica National Agency for Accreditation (JANAAC) then provides the accreditation assessment to a CAB in any given Caribbean country at an affordable price.

