



**Period of Performance:** April 1 – June 30, 2016

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## INTRODUCTION

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The following report contains a summary of the major activities completed and outcomes achieved of the Standards Alliance, a public-private partnership between the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The enclosed report contains a summary of all activities completed in the second quarter of 2016.

The [Standards Alliance](#) was announced by USAID in November 2012 as a new funding facility designed to provide capacity building assistance to developing countries, specifically related to implementation of the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement. In May 2013, USAID and ANSI entered into a public-private partnership which will coordinate subject matter experts from throughout the private sector-led U.S. standardization system in the delivery of training and other technical assistance to interested Standards Alliance countries.

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## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

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This period of performance was dedicated primarily to implementation of activities described in the country-specific work plans in Peru, Indonesia, and the East and West Africa region; as well as with COPANT. A general summary of these activities, according to their country or region is listed below.

### General Program Management/Promotion

- *Outreach to engage partner agencies, organizations, and countries*

ANSI updated the Standards Alliance website including the dates and locations of project activities and trainings conducted in partnership with other agencies and organizations; as well as materials from past events. Also through regular email correspondence, ANSI updated its members and U.S. government stakeholders.

### Colombia

- *COPANT workshop on Automotive Standards and Regulation in the Americas*

In collaboration with the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT), the U.S. Department of Commerce (DoC) and the American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC), the Standards Alliance hosted a workshop during the COPANT annual meeting in Guayaquil, Ecuador on April 22, 2016. The event was attended by over 70 participants

from over 20 different countries, representing COPANT members, international and regional organizations, and the U.S. public and private sectors. Topics addressed during the workshop related to public safety and the environment, technological advances for the prevention of accidents, cybersecurity, and electrical and autonomous vehicles in the automotive sector. Representatives of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the governments of Colombia and Mexico, and of industry sectors gave feature presentations. Marcus Jadotte, Assistant Secretary, Industry and Analysis, U.S. DoC gave opening and closing remarks while Governor Matt Blunt, President, American Automotive Policy Council gave a featured remark during a break session.

The workshop provided an opportunity to:

- Share information on the automotive sector, which is a concern for the Americas region as a whole
- Discuss common issues and priorities related to public safety and the environment
- Share ideas on how to reduce any negative concerns and ensure countries are able to meet their legitimate regulatory and standards-related goals in the least trade-restrictive way

To help foster a cooperative and integrated discussion, representatives from both the Colombian and Mexican government presented an overview on their regulatory process and discussed some of the chief automotive safety and emissions challenges being faced, as well as, the regulatory/standards options being considered to address them. The Department of Commerce and American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC) recognize a need for additional follow-up to the Automotive Standards and Regulations in the Americas workshop and have proposed an ANDEAN/Mexican delegation visit to the U.S. during the week of August 29-September 3, 2016.

■ *Training on Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)*

During the November 2015 Colombian delegation visit to the U.S., Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) was identified by Colombia as a priority for future training. The Standards Alliance, in collaboration with USAID Facilitando Comercio, the Ministry of Trade Industry and Tourism (MinCIT) and the National Department of Planning (DNP) brought together more than 20 regulatory agencies and representatives of the private sector in Bogota, Colombia to provide training and understanding on good regulatory practice, the fundamentals of the Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA), and to address the challenges associated with the normative evaluation in Colombia. Aaron Szabo of OMB OIRA and Nathan Frey, former OMB-OIRA representative and now consultant of the Regulatory Strategies and Solutions Group (RSS) conducted the one day training on May 16, 2016.

The following observations were made by the participants on good practices of RIA in the Colombian context:

- The need for trained personnel and adequate resources to perform RIA
- The need to improve inter-agency coordination to define technical regulations
- Avoid the transfer of costs from one sector to another, by the entry into force of a regulation
- Include public consultations since the beginning of the process of issuing a regulation. Currently, in Colombia, the regulations are the main instrument to correct market failures (it is estimated that during the first half of 2015 a decree was issued every 1.3 days) - Source National Department of Planning (DNP).

Follow-up workshops are in the process of being discussed with the Ministry of Trade Industry and Tourism (MinCIT) on either cost benefit analysis or an in-country training to help further develop the RIA resources within Colombia.

## Peru

### ■ *Workshop on Textiles Standards and Regulation*

On June 27-28, 2016, the Standards Alliance in collaboration with Instituto Nacional de Calidad (INACAL) and ASTM, Latin America organized a textiles workshop in Lima, Peru. The two-day workshop focused on the components of successful textiles trade and production and textile standards including marking and labeling requirements, mandatory safety requirements for apparel and children's clothes, sustainability, as well as flammability and strength requirements. Representatives from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and ASTM International shared U.S. perspectives.

The event was attended by 76 Peruvian participants including manufacturers, regulators and government organizations and over 25 remote participants via live streaming from Colombia and Ecuador. This is the first Standards Alliance program in which live streaming proved successful and allowed for active participation from other countries on such a large scale and duration of time. Feedback on the event was extremely positive and prompted further discussion and planning for follow up workshops. Discussions are currently underway with FTC to consider translating helpful guides such as FTC's, "Threading Your Way Through the Labeling Requirements Under the Textile and Wool Acts." ANSI is also considering a subsequent training with ASTM on children's sleepwear later this year focusing more on regulation as opposed to the method.

■ *Training on ASTM Test Methods in Peru (Virtual)*

Following the positive feedback from the medical devices workshop in November 2015, ASTM International in collaboration with the Standards Alliance held two trainings on ASTM test methods. These trainings were requested by the technical committees that wanted additional follow up on ASTM test methods.

- On March 3, 2016, ASTM presented a two hour training on Medical Device Terminology.
- On April 12, 2016, ASTM presented a three and half hour webinar on Sterile Barrier Packaging for Medical Devices with particular focus on ASTM F1980. The training provides information for developing accelerated aging protocols to establish shelf life.

ASTM plans to hold another training webinar on Osteosynthesis on August 8, 2016 and will focus on ASTM F543 and parts of F2502. ASTM F543 is a test standard used by the medical device industry to perform quality conformity assessments on the manufacturing and handling process of metallic bone screws. F2502 focuses on absorbable implants and devices. On-going planning will continue with these technical committees following the webinars and Phase 2 of the Medical devices workshop will take place in November 29-30, 2016.

East African Community (EAC)

■ *African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) – Training on Conformity Assessment*

On June 20-24, 2016, the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) held its 22nd general assembly, hosted by the government of Tanzania through the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), in Arusha, Tanzania. As part of the event, the Standards Alliance and PTB (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt) of Germany worked with ARSO to host a training session focusing on conformity assessment and its connection to trade facilitation on June 21, 2016. The event was attended by 25 of 36 ARSO member states and the U.S. public and private sectors.

The event addressed the following key issues:

- Technical regulations: good practices for the preparation and the enforcement of technical regulations, including effective market surveillance
- ISO's conformity assessment portfolio
- Developing a risk-based conformity assessment system
- Conformity assessment in regulatory processes

Several ANSI members, including ASTM International, IAPMO Group, Intertek, and UL, sent experts to share best practices on conformance procedures that bolster confidence, protect consumers, and confirm product compliance without hindering trade.

## Indonesia

### ■ *Laboratory research and development*

The second quarter of 2016 has been very productive with the majority of IAPMO's focus continuing to be on lab and testing development. Laboratory research and development was completed this quarter, and the following activities were carried out:

- Legal documentation for the new company, PT IAPMO Group Indonesia, was finalized during Q2.
- Operations Manager was hired during Q2 with start date on May 1, 2016. The Operations Manager will be responsible for the day-to-day operation.
- Renovation of the facility was completed.
- Majority of the first phase of the testing equipment were acquired and installed. More testing equipment will be added moving forward depending on demands and needs.
- Grand opening of the lab was done according to plan in two phases:
  - Private tour of the facility took place on May 17, 2016. Attended by approximately 45 people representing BSN (Indonesian National Standards body), Ministry of Public Works, US Embassy, and local media.
  - Grand opening event along with 2016 World Plumbing Day celebration took place on May 18, 2016 in Jakarta. Attended by approximately 200 people from various Indonesian government agencies, US Embassy, associations, manufacturers, educators, and local media.

### ■ *Education and training*

IAPMO provided a Training of Trainers (TOT) session to Dinas Cipta Karya dan Tata Ruang Jawa Tengah, Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province, on May 23, 2016. The training was attended by 18 staff of Dinas Cipta Karya dan Tata Ruang Jawa Tengah. Ken Wijaya of IAPMO led the training and accompanied by two representatives of the Ministry of Public Works who were involved with the development of the SNI 8153:2015.

### ■ *Central Java pilot project*

The pilot project to build a public restroom that is in compliance with SNI 8153:2015 in Central Java, in partnership with the Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province was completed during Q2 with the official ceremony taking place on May 24, 2016. This project is the result of the mutual desire of the Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province (DINAS CIPTA KARYA DAN TATA RUANG JAWA TENGAH) and IAPMO to highlight the needs of the Indonesian sanitation industry, and aid in the development of Indonesia's national standards for health, safety,

and the environment. Officials from IAPMO and Dinas Kebersihan Dan Pertamanan Kota Semarang (Agency of Cleanliness and Parks for the City of Semarang) attended the ceremony. Shirley Dewi handed off the key to the public restroom and signed the “prasasti” stone on IAPMO’s behalf. Mr. Budi Prakosa, Head of City Park Divisions; Representatives from the Center of Research and Development of the Ministry of Public Works and Human Settlements; representatives from the local regional authorities; and local medias also attended the ceremony.

#### MENA (Jordan)

- *Meeting in Jordan to Finalize Action Plan on Water and Sanitation-LM*

During a trip to Amman, IAPMO staff met with officials from the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO), the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MPWH), the Jordanian Royal Scientific Society (RSS), and the Water Authority of Jordan on May 4 & 5. The purpose of this meeting was to finalize a roadmap and to set concrete plans for moving forward.

It was agreed during the meeting that Jordan would move forward with updating to the 2015 Uniform Plumbing Code. Additionally, ministry officials recognized that there are a number of product standards referenced in the code that will need to be officially recognized as part of this process as well. This effort is critical for Jordan’s ability to enforce plumbing products crossing across its borders and to stem the tide of unsafe and unreliable products that currently plague their market. It was agreed that the MPWH must request that the RSS update the code. The RSS will then respond with an official proposal that must be accepted by the MPWH prior to technical committees being established. It was agreed that this step should happen prior to the next meeting in the late summer/early fall in order to further discuss efforts related to personnel training and product certification. Jordan officials recognize that one of the biggest challenges they face is enforcing plumbing products and are anxious to work with IAPMO and have the UPC mark recognized as part of their conformity assessment activities.

IAPMO staff also met with the Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA). ACWUA has been leading in Jordan and in the region in creating water-related personnel training programs. They recently launched their utility-focused water operator-training program. Related to that effort, they are interested in hosting a plumbing supervisor-training program. As part of a series of meetings, ACWUA introduced IAPMO to the Director of the Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance (CAQA) under the Ministry of Labor. CAQA has the primary responsibility for establishing the personnel certification requirements and accrediting training organizations. Currently, CAQA has established credentialing criteria for 3 levels of plumbing officials: Assistant Plumber, Plumber, and General Plumber. They recognize that the

qualifications the associated training for each level needs to be bolstered. Like ACWUA, they are particularly anxious about creating a fourth level – a supervisor plumber. Professionals credentialed at this level would be trained to the Jordanian Plumbing Code and able to oversee that other plumbing professionals working on the project construct in accordance with the code and the design documents. All of the recent discussions have been geared toward signing an MOU that will outline each of the major deliverables, milestones, and timelines. The addition of ACWUA and CAQA into the discussion will play an important role in the development of a sustainable workforce.

## Mexico

- *Planning for COPANT Internship on Conformity Assessment*

Currently the COPANT Internship on Conformity Assessment is scheduled to take place on November 7-11, 2016 in Mexico City, Mexico at the Mexican Accreditation Entity (EMA) facilities. The workshop will include Mexico and invited COPANT members to participate in the 4-5 day workshop. The main goal of the program is train COPANT member professionals that participate in management systems audits. Both U.S. public and private sector participants are anticipated to participate in the training.

## Southern African Development Community (SADC)

- *Development of Work Plans for Zambia and Mozambique*

As part of the Standards Alliance expansion to support the five new Trade Africa countries, ANSI leveraged the needs assessment trips it took to Zambia and Mozambique in March 2015 to put together a draft work plan for both countries. Proposed activities address the following:

- Improved NEP/NNA functionality
- Regulatory impact assessment
- Standards to support trade and investment
- Public consultation in the regulatory process

## West Africa (Ghana, Senegal and Cote D'Ivoire)

- *Needs Assessments and Development of Work Plans for Ghana, Senegal and Cote D'Ivoire*

As part of the Standards Alliance expansion to support the five new Trade Africa countries, ANSI carried out needs assessment meetings in Senegal, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire during two trips in April and May, 2016. During these trips, ANSI met with a wide range of counterparts and partners, including U.S. Embassy staff, USAID mission/office

and project staff, the national standards body, the trade ministry, and relevant trade associations. ANSI used the knowledge gained on these trips to compile draft work plans for all three countries. Proposed activities address the following:

- Improved NEP/NNA functionality
- Stakeholder outreach for standards development activities
- Participation in international standards activities
- Risk-based consumer protection
- Standards to support trade and investment

■ *Participation in USAID West Africa Regional Meeting*

The USAID West Africa Mission hosted a meeting in Accra, Ghana on June 22-23 to discuss progress in each area of Trade Africa implementation (SPS, TBT, and Trade Facilitation). The objective of the meeting was to identify the key priority areas in each technical area at the bilateral level and the complementary regional actions that will support the Trade Africa initiative in Senegal, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire. ANSI staff participated to share the draft work plans prepared for TBT-related support under the Standards Alliance, and also to coordinate with the implementing partners for each of the other technical areas. ANSI identified opportunities for potential cooperation with the SPS and trade facilitation activities, particularly in areas such as enquiry point operations and risk-based import procedures.

### EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES

The primary outcomes for the period of performance are outlined in the table below.

#	Country	Definition	Required in Work Plan?
1	United States	Provided regular project updates and communication to government and private sector stakeholder groups outlined in the project plan	Yes
2	United States	Posted project news and activities to the Standards Alliance website	Yes
3	Colombia	COPANT Workshop on Automotive Standards and Regulations in the Americas	Yes
4	Colombia	Conducted training on Regulatory Impact Assessment in Colombia	Yes
	Peru	Conducted workshop on textiles standards and regulation in Peru	Yes
5	Indonesia	Completed lab development and opened laboratory	Yes
6	Indonesia	Completed Central Java pilot project and opened public restroom	Yes
7	MENA (Jordan)	Agreed with Jordanian officials on next steps to update the plumbing code	Yes



9	SADC	Developed Work Plans for Zambia and Mozambique	Yes
10	West Africa	Conducted needs assessment to support Trade Africa engagement in Ghana and Senegal	Yes
11	West Africa	Conducted needs assessment to support Trade Africa engagement in Cote D'Ivoire	Yes
12	West Africa	Developed of work plans for Ghana, Senegal and Cote D'Ivoire	Yes

This period of performance was dedicated mainly to implementation of activities and development of work plans for the newly added Trade Africa countries. The outcomes witnessed were quite positive and represent continued success of the Standards Alliance. In particular, activities carried out in Colombia and Peru proved to be extremely beneficial in advancing discussion, facilitating information sharing and fostering cooperation for key sectors in the Americas. Specifically, the automotive and clothing industries were highlighted as sectors with growing demand for increased technical assistance and guidance on good regulatory practice. Continued capacity building through the Standards Alliance program will be instrumental in providing expertise to address regulatory concerns and to improve safety and standards adoption in the region. The training on Regulatory Impact Assessment in Colombia was a timely introduction to the fundamentals of the Regulatory Impact Analysis. Following the revision of Decree 1595 of 2015, the development of a RIA has become a mandatory practice in the preparation and issuance of a technical regulation. Follow on workshops will focus on cost benefit analysis and in-country training to further develop the RIA resources within Colombia.

## CONCLUSION

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This period of performance achieved important milestones for the Standards Alliance such as the finalization of needs assessments and work plans in support of Trade Africa engagement in Ghana, Senegal and Cote D'Ivoire. Standards Alliance also witnessed significant progress toward completion of all of the 3rd year's activities. ANSI looks forward to building off of these successes in the next period and carrying out activities with Colombia, Mexico, Peru, SADC, West Africa, and other partners.