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Standards Alliance: Phase 2

Annual Work Plan

Overview Year 2

July 12, 2020 to July 11, 2021

Contents

- 1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW 1
- 1.1 PROGRAM PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES 1
- 2. ACTIVITY PLAN..... 2
- 2.1 LIST OF ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR 2 (JULY 12, 2020 – JULY 11, 2021) – NON-COVID-19 RELATED 2
 - AFRICA..... 2
 - INDO-PACIFIC 5
 - LATIN AMERICA..... 6
 - MIDDLE EAST NORTH AFRICA 7
- 2.2 LIST OF ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR 2 (JULY 12, 2020 – JULY 11, 2021) – COVID-19 RELATED..... 7
 - AFRICA..... 8
 - GLOBAL..... 8

I. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

I.1 PROGRAM PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Standards form the foundation of world trade and the efforts of the Standards Alliance help to create fertile ground for reciprocal trade with the U.S. Through increased adherence and understanding of standards and conformity assessment principles, participating nations will become more competitive in the global market, be more prepared for bilateral trade agreements, and be more capable of protecting their citizens from hazardous goods.

The Standards Alliance Phase 2 (SA2) will engage target populations including, but not limited to, foreign government officials and ministries responsible for standards, trade and consumer protection; foreign private sector; industry groups; civil society; consumer interest groups; business professionals; trade policy experts; and academia. The objective of this initiative is to build on the past successes, lessons learned and impact measured to-date of the first iteration of the Standards Alliance to support the capacity of developing countries in the areas of legal and regulatory framework, standards development, conformity assessment procedures, and private sector engagement. Achieving these goals also helps companies succeed globally by increasing market access for companies through more predictable and transparent avenues for trade and investment in partner markets/regions.

The implementing partner for this cooperative agreement is the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). ANSI is a private, non-profit organization that administers and coordinates the U.S. voluntary standards and conformity assessment system. ANSI's mission is to enhance U.S. global competitiveness and the American quality of life by promoting, facilitating, and safeguarding the integrity of the voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. Because of ANSI's unique role as a coordinating body and a bridge between the private and public sectors, the Institute can build partnerships and foster collaborative solutions for national and global priorities. And ANSI is a membership organization, providing members with the broadest access to up-to-date standards policy information and opportunities for participation, leadership, and influence. Finally, ANSI also promotes the use of U.S. standards internationally, advocates U.S. policy and technical positions in international and regional standards organizations, and encourages the adoption of international standards as national standards where they meet the needs of the user community.

The Standards Alliance Phase 2 will include activities in markets representing a variety of geographical regions and levels of economic development, subject to the agreement of USAID. In consultation with USAID Missions, U.S. government, and private sector experts, ANSI will select the countries/regions based on demonstrated commitment and readiness for assistance, as well as U.S. private sector interest and development impact. ANSI expects to engage on both a national and regional level when appropriate, and to engage partners in the Latin America, Africa, Middle East/North Africa, and Indo-Pacific regions.

SA2 Focus on Medical Devices to Support COVID-19 Response

In June 2020, USAID further recognized the critical role of standards and conformity assessment in supporting public health and safety through an obligation of \$3.5 million to the SA2, which is part of the more than \$20 billion that the United States has committed in assistance for the global COVID-19 response. This SA2 project will promote regulatory convergence in the context of COVID-19, good regulatory practice (GRP), and the adherence and adoption of medical device international standards. These objectives will also establish an efficient medical device regulatory environment and framework that will facilitate the COVID-19 response and diminish technical barriers to trade—thus promoting trade of medical devices. AdvaMed—a U.S. based trade association and ANSI member—will be the primary private sector partner of the project, and there will be select partner countries in Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia, with overflowing impacts within those regions.

2. ACTIVITY PLAN

2.1 LIST OF ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR 2 (JULY 12, 2020 – JULY 11, 2021) – NON-COVID-19 RELATED

This section includes descriptions of the SA2 activities planned for Year 2 that are not supported by COVID-19 funds. Activities are organized by geographic region and then development objective.¹ (* indicates proposal for the activity in advanced stage)

AFRICA

Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure

Activity #1 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Clean Renewable Fuels Workshops

Private sector partner: Garner Advisors with support from POET, U.S. Grains Council, Growth Energy, Kristy Moore Consulting, ProExporter Network, Clean Cookstove Alliance, CLASP, Cornell University, Berkeley Air Monitoring, and Dalberg Advisors.

Partner countries for Year 2: West Africa (Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal)

Description: This project will support national and regional workshops to enhance the understanding and uptake of international standards for clean renewable fuels across West Africa. Garner Advisors and a group of private sector partners will coordinate with the

¹ For a full description of SA2 development objectives and the Results Framework, please consult the SA2 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (latest version dated: August 8, 2020)

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) to create momentum for clean fuel standards in order to galvanize further support for clean renewable fuels across the region. This event aims to provide a background on key clean fuel standards, particularly biofuels standards, which can be utilized locally and regionally to meet energy, climate, health, and economic goals.

Activity #2 – Support for African Organization for Standardization (ARSO)*

Private sector partner: To be Determined

Partner countries for Year 2: Africa (Continent-wide)

Description: The scope of this activity aims to provide targeted support to the African Organization of Standardization (ARSO) and its national members on an activity of mutual interest. Engagement will begin with Standards Alliance participation in the ARSO General Assembly, which is scheduled to occur in November 2020 in Kampala, Uganda². Following this event, the Standards Alliance, ARSO, and private sector partners will consider follow on activities to support ARSO's role as the coordinator of Annex 6: Technical Barriers to Trade of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

Activity #3 – Research on WASH-related product standards and their reference in law, regulation, and policy *

Private sector partner: Center for Water Security Cooperation (CWSC)

Partner countries for Year 2: Africa (Up to 4 African countries TBD by ANSI/CWSC)

Description: To improve NQI and support stated WASH industry needs, CWSC is proposing to conduct research on the adoption and use of international WASH-related product standards and their reference in law, regulation and policy in selected African countries. The research intends to analyze how existing laws create an enabling environment for NQI, how institutions have adopted/implemented standards policy and how WASH standards are referenced in law, regulation and policy. In addition, the research aims to understand how WASH standards are influenced by sector and non-sector laws, regulations and policies, identifying any potential roadblocks created by those laws that could hinder trade of quality WASH products. The proposed research will also briefly examine workforce development, including whether industry associations have been formed and whether a skilled workforce has been institutionalized through required certification processes. Following this analysis, CWSC will provide recommendations on potential ways forward to reform and strengthen the laws, regulations and institutions governing and influencing standards in order to improve NQI.

² Following publication of this work plan, the ARSO General Assembly was postponed until 2021. Adaptations for SA2 support to ARSO will be considered during the early stages of Year 2.

* Proposal in advanced design stage

Activity #4 Training in Good Regulatory Practices for Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) Teams in Government Ministries

Private sector partner: Regulatory Strategies and Solutions Group (RSSG), Kite, American Chamber of Commerce Zambia (TBD)

Partner countries for Year 2: Zambia

Description: The scope of this activity aims to facilitate the establishment of Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) teams in 23 Zambian government ministries through a training workshop, which will target the four key officials in each ministry who will be responsible for spearheading RIAs in coordination with the Business Regulatory Review Agency (BRRA). The training will promote good regulatory practice among the RIA Teams that are involved in the formulation of regulatory frameworks and laws in Zambia.

Development Objective #2: Private sector actively participates in countries' national quality infrastructure

Activity #5 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Harmonization of Petroleum Standards

Private sector partner: ASTM International and American Petroleum Institute (API)

Partner countries for Year 2: West Africa (Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal)

Description: The scope of this project aims to increase understanding and implementation of international petroleum standards and procedures, and to bolster harmonization of petroleum standards in the ECOWAS region. Together ASTM International and the American Petroleum Institute (API) will work with national standards bodies and technical experts in four West African countries (Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal) to assess petroleum standards and procedures capacity and understanding. Following initial assessments, ASTM and API will work with the four countries to identify regional priorities and develop trainings to review relevant international standards. Through these trainings and associated capacity building activities, ASTM and API will aid the West African nations in coordinating a regional standards committee through ECOWAS to harmonize regional petroleum standards and procedures.

In parallel to trainings to support regional and national understanding of targeted standards, ASTM and API will introduce locally appropriate standards and procedures to local technicians and vocational institutions through a series of workshops and course materials.

Activity #6 Africa Concrete and Building Code Adoption Initiative *

Private sector partner: American Concrete Institute (ACI)

Partner countries for Year 2: Africa (up to 3 pilot countries)

Description: The American Concrete Institute (ACI) proposes to utilize its expertise and standards adoption processes to build awareness on ACI codes and promote the use of ACI's 318 Building Code requirements for Structural Concrete and Commentary.

INDO-PACIFIC

Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure

Activity #7 – Increase the Flow of WASH Services (also appears in Middle East North Africa)*

Private sector partner: International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)

Partner countries for Year 2: Indonesia, Philippines

Description: Through the *Increase the Flow* project, IAPMO is proposing to work with the SA2 in focusing on three growing economies: Indonesia, the Philippines, and Jordan. This project builds off successful projects previously carried out by IAPMO in each country, which laid a critical foundation. For this new phase of work, IAPMO has worked with industry stakeholders to identify specific hurdles and to develop discrete solutions that will enable the industry to “increase the flow” of safe plumbing products in these markets with an eye to developing reliable supply chains and expanding WASH-related services. This tailored approach is designed to help the private sector through long-lasting changes that ease market access requirements, address non-tariff barriers, and encourage the adoption of international developed standards that are industry-developed, science-based and internationally recognized.

Activity #8 – Utility Management Standards Training for water sector utilities *

Private sector partner: American Water Works Association (AWWA)

Partner countries for Year 2: India

Description: AWWA proposes to utilize its series of 14 Utility Management Standards that focus on water utility management practices. The trainings will be tailored to stated participant needs/goals, with guidance provided for optimization of various aspects of management practices and operations. These standards 1) are applicable to utilities of all sizes and types, including potable water, wastewater and reclaimed water utilities, 2) can be implemented

without major capital investments and 3) are outcome-oriented, serving to enhance public health protection. AWWA intends to utilize existing WASH utility networks and subject matter experts built by its India office to strengthen WASH management practices in India. A major goal of the program is to promote awareness and implementation of standards, with workshop participants forming the core of a longer-term, sustainable effort to continue to expand the implementation of international standards in India.

LATIN AMERICA

Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure

Activity #9 – Community Water Systems – Standards for safety and risk management *

Private sector partner: NSF International

Partner countries for Year 2: Peru

Description: Through its Community Water Systems project, NSF International is proposing to work with the SA2 in Peru on sensitizing and training key stakeholders on the importance of adoption and application of NSF/ANSI drinking water standards, which nearly all U.S. states require (49/50). These standards work to improve public health by establishing minimum health effects and requirements for chemical contaminants and impurities that are directly imparted to drinking water from products, components and materials used in drinking water systems or chemicals used to treat drinking water. NSF International is aiming to engage the in-country regulator and other governmental stakeholders, manufacturers, water providers and user groups to sensitize and train on the value of how established ANSI/CAN standards seek to ensure safe wetted contact and performance for those products used in community water systems. The goal is to create a driver for manufacturer compliance to the standards via strengthening of regulation and as a procurement requirement for water providers. Product certification will not only advance public health regarding drinking water safety in Peru, but certification will greatly improve marketability for the manufacturers globally, with an emphasis on North America.

Development Objective #3: Countries have fewer TBT's

Activity #10 – Energy Efficiency Standards in Mexico

Private sector partner: the International Coding Council (ICC)

Partner countries for Year 2: Mexico

Description: Mexico City (DF) has developed an energy efficiency building code with support of the International Coding Council (ICC). The Mexican City government has mandated the adoption of the code. However, compliance has been lackluster due to industry and inspectors' lack of understanding and importance of technical building codes and standards. With the support of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, ICC and their active chapter in Mexico, SA2 will collaborate with ICC to help improve implementation, understanding, and enforcement of the updated energy efficiency code in Mexico City.

MIDDLE EAST NORTH AFRICA

Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure

Activity #7 – Increase the Flow of WASH Services (Also included above in Indo-Pacific section) *

Private sector partner: International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)

Partner countries for Year 2: Jordan

Description: Through the Increase the Flow project, IAPMO is proposing to work with the SA2 in focusing on three growing economies: Indonesia, the Philippines, and Jordan. This project builds off successful projects previously carried out by IAPMO in each country, which laid a critical foundation. For this new phase of work, IAPMO has worked with industry stakeholders to identify specific hurdles and to develop discrete solutions that will enable the industry to “increase the flow” of safe plumbing products in these markets with an eye to developing reliable supply chains and expanding WASH-related services. This tailored approach is designed to help the private sector through long-lasting changes that ease market access requirements, address non-tariff barriers to U.S. exports, and encourage the adoption of U.S. developed standards that are industry-developed, science-based and internationally recognized.

2.2 LIST OF ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR 2 (JULY 12, 2020 – JULY 11, 2021) – COVID-19 RELATED

Development Objective #4: Countries have COVID-19 plans that leverage their NQI in a trade-facilitating manner

AFRICA

Activity #11 - COVID-19: Surgical Mask Production Project

Private sector partner: Ethical Apparel Africa (EAA) with support from Maagrace Garment Institute Limited

Partner countries for Year 2: Ghana

Description: The primary scope of this activity is to support the government of Ghana's efforts to establish production for personal protective equipment (PPE), primarily, surgical grade PPE. This project aims to inform government officials and local producers on relevant international processes and procedures to meet US market requirements for PPE. Additionally, it will support the use of international standards for the production of high quality PPE to position local producers to transition manufacturing to meet the Ghanaian and broader West African need for high quality PPE.

Ethical Apparel Africa (EAA), in coordination with Maagrace Garment Industries Limited, have established a plan to produce surgical grade Level 2 masks and then other PPE, such as disposable gowns. This project will add technical expertise needed to ensure government agencies and local production processes and PPE is fully accredited, tested and certified to ASTM standards and for sale domestically and internationally.

In addition, this project aims to support government understanding of international best practices for the production of PPE to establish Ghana as a hub for PPE production by working with government agencies such as the Ghana FDA and the Ghana Standards Authority to institutionalize international best practice for PPE production. This project is planned to last from August 2020 through November 2020.

GLOBAL

Activity #12 - COVID-19 Medical Device Regulatory Convergence Project (also included in Indo-Pacific and Latin America sections)

Private sector partner: Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed)

Partner countries for Year 2: Kenya, South Africa, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Peru

Description: The primary scope of this activity is to provide private sector resources and expertise in support of international, regional, sub-regional and national governmental initiatives in Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia to implement medical device sector-specific regulatory convergence and foundational good regulatory practices (GRP). This scope has taken elevated importance amidst efforts to combat and support recovery from COVID-19. The Project Countries are: Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Kenya, South Africa, Ghana, Viet Nam, Thailand, and Indonesia, which through their importance within their respective regions and sub-regions will facilitate additional project benefits in the surrounding regions including with Nigeria, Tanzania, and Malaysia.