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Standards Alliance: Phase 2

Quarterly Report

Q2 April 1st- June 30th 2025

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GOR Name: Ryan Dudek

Submitted by: Leslie McDermott
American National Standards Institute
1899 L Street NW, 11th Floor, Washington, DC 20036
Tel: 202-331-3626
Email: lmcdermott@ansi.org

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I. PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

Program Name:	Standards Alliance: Phase 2
Activity Start Date and End Date:	July 12, 2019 – July 11, 2026
Name of Prime Implementing Partner:	American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
Agreement Number:	#7200AA19CA00012
Name of Subcontractors/Subawardees:	NSF, IAPMO
Geographic Coverage (cities and or countries)	Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Mexico, West Africa (regional), Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Senegal, Indonesia, Indo-Pacific (regional)
Reporting Period:	Q2 April 1 st - June 30 th 2025

I.I Program Description/Introduction

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) engages 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 U.S. companies succeed globally by increasing their market access through more predictable and transparent avenues for their trade and investment in partner markets/regions, thus also helping the U.S trade balance with these partners.

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 supporting U.S leadership around Critical and Emerging Technologies, including Critical Minerals

Beginning in 2024, the SA2 activities have directly supported the USG objectives to advance U.S. leadership around CET and critical mineral standards to ensure national and economic security. This work underlines the commitment to the rules-based and private sector-led approach to standards development, leveraging the innovative power of the private sector with strategic government support via economic policies, public engagements, and investments in CET. The activities focus on emerging economies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and supports greater U.S. influence in related international standards activities. Implementation aims at counteracting potential unilateral standards imposition, and promoting integrity and transparency in the international standards system, ensuring that the U.S private sector plays a key role in the development of those standards, ensuring U.S. exports facilitation. It also addresses goals such as improving capacity of countries to develop and implement standards, opening new markets and strengthening U.S. supply chains, and improving readiness to take part in digital transformation and adopt emerging technologies.

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Progress Narrative

The SA2 resumed implementation during the second quarter of 2025, following a suspension of activities pursuant to the Executive Order on [reevaluating and realigning the United States foreign aid](#) of January 20, 2025. All program activities and outreach ceased between February 26, 2025, when ANSI received a termination notice, and May 20, 2025, when ANSI received a Termination Recission. A contract modification allowing for activities to resume was also sent on June 6, 2025.

Upon reception of the aforementioned contract modification, ANSI developed a revised Work Plan for Year 7 of the SA2 (2025-2026) and shared this with USAID on June 12, 2025. The SA2 was subsequently transferred to the State Department for administration on July 10, 2025. Due to the pause in activities and transition to the State Department, no quarterly report for Q1 (January 1 – March 31, 2025) was submitted, and this report includes relevant developments since the June 6 contract modification.

2.2 Non-COVID-19 Related Activities Activity Implementation Progress

GLOBAL

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

Activity #13 – Support for critical minerals standardization coordination

With the contract modification restarting the SA2 program received under Q2, 2025 ANSI was able to resume supporting the U.S. TAGs to ISO TC 345 and TC 82/SC 7 to bolster U.S. influence and promote a level playing field in international critical mineral standardization. As such, the U.S. resumed participating (P) membership in TC 345, and assumed P membership in TC 82/SC 7.

Under Q2 2025 the main objectives of this activity were reaffirmed under the revised Annual Work Plan for SA2 (June 12, 2025). The Work Plan notably mentioned:

- Working with the U.S. mirror committees (TAGs) to further bolster U.S. input and/or leadership in ISO TC 345, ISO TC 82/SC 7, and any other relevant committees, expanding the stakeholder group that participates as needed, thereby influencing outputs at the international level.
- Training or awareness-building activities that would enable allied developing countries to participate in standards development for critical minerals.
- Coordinate within the U.S. stakeholder group including U.S. government agencies to align future work within ISO with U.S. strategy on critical minerals.

Activity #17 – Promoting international standards for Management Systems for UN Sustainable development goals through U.S. leadership

Activity discontinued in June 2025 in alignment with strategic priorities.

AFRICA

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

Activity #16 - Improving Point-of-Care Ultrasound Access (IPOCUSA): Better Maternal Outcomes through Ultrasound Education, Workforce Development, Policy Advocacy and Certification

Partner country: Kenya

Implementing Partner: The Inteleos Foundation

Activity discontinued in June 2025 in alignment with strategic priorities.

Activity #18– BW+ (Bottled Water Plus) - Bottled Water Certification Scheme for Senegal

Partner country: Senegal

Implementing Partner: NSF International

Activity #18.1 - ISO 17065 Needs assessment/baseline – gap analysis

NSF has reengaged its efforts to continue the ISO 17065 gap analysis and process mapping of ASN's certification process.

Activity #18.2 - ECOSTAND 022 review by NSF Laboratories, Auditing Staff and Standards team

In Q4 2024, NSF's Beverage Quality and Laboratory team members initiated a comprehensive review of ECOSTAND 022 (in English), as well as additional standards referenced in ECOSTAND 022: ECOSTAND 17, ECOSTAND 50, ECOSTAND 52, and CAC/GL 50 – 2004. NSF is beginning to develop an audit checklist, client-facing documents, and any other documents deemed necessary for successful certification implementation. This work has been reopened in Q2 2025 and progress will be made in Q3 2025.

Activity #18.3 - Review, development, and translation of training materials for ISO 17065

In Q4 2024, NSF's Beverage Quality/Food team began an in-depth review of the documents to develop training materials. NSF has reengaged to continue this work in Q3 2025.

INDO-PACIFIC

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

Activity #7 – Increase the Flow of WASH Services

Partner country: Indonesia

Implementing Partner: IAPMO

Activity #7.1 – Initiate development of new Indonesian national standard related to water faucets, based on existing international standards.

IAPMO has started to reengage to continue to support the mandatory adoption of SNI I22: 2022. As previously reported, the Ministry of Industry determined that it cannot make SNI I22:2022 mandatory and IAPMO cannot proceed with developing the RIA until the standard has been normalized with Indonesian manufacturers.

2.3 CET Related Activities Implementation Progress

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

Activity #19 – Support U.S. leadership in Standards for Critical and Emerging Technologies

With the contract modification restarting the SA2 program received under Q2, 2025 ANSI was able to resume supporting this activity aiming at promoting a U.S. private sector led approach for international standards development and assist professionals from allied under-represented regions by providing training and support to participate effectively in global standards-setting activities. These include support to NSBs in Africa, Latin America, South and Southeast Asia, as well as engagements with Mexico on AI. Additionally, the work plan includes activities partnering with organizations such as ITC, JTC1, AdvaMed, and with higher learning institutes in Africa.

Implementation of CET activities began in Q4 2024 with hosting two events that contributed towards:

- Shedding light on the Standards Alliance Phase 2.0 CET scope and the stakeholders' engagement process
- Presenting case studies on success stories of countries and private sector engagement with the standards alliance projects.
- Engaging a broader audience by presenting at World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barrier to Trade (TBT) meeting at the WTO headquarters in Geneva

Under Q2 2025 the main objective of this activity were reaffirmed under the revised Annual Work Plan for SA2 shared June 12, 2025 with the USG.

2.4 Implementation Challenges

Q2 2025 saw the resumption of the program following its temporary pause. Due to the length of the pause, several activities saw shifts to timelines and estimated outcomes. With the resumption of the program, the ANSI team committed to reinitialize the remaining programs to best achieve their outcomes within the shortened remaining contract period.

3. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

As the contract modification restarting the implementation period of SA2 occurred on June 6, 2025 there are no updates to report under this section for the Q2 2025 report.

Activity #	Sub activity #	Country	Meeting/ Event	Date	

4. RESULTS ACHIEVED

As the contract modification restarting the implementation period of SA2 occurred on June 6, 2025 there are no updates to report under this section for the Q2 2025 report.

5. LESSONS LEARNED

As the contract modification restarting the implementation period of SA2 occurred on June 6, 2025 there are no updates to report under this section for the Q2 2025 report.

6. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER, INCLUDING UPCOMING EVENTS

Under Q3 2025 the SA2 expects to initiate planning for activity #19, including preparations for at least one training to take place before the end of 2025.

Additionally, under activity #13 during Q3 2025 the SA2 will support the US TAG participation to the ISO TC 345 meeting.

7. CONTRACTUAL & ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

ANSI received a contract modification on June 6, 2025 which allowed for the program to restart implementation. As a result of this suspension and termination notices, no QI report was shared with USAID.

Additionally, on June 13, 2025 Activity #16 - Improving Point-of-Care Ultrasound Access (IPOCUS): Better Maternal Outcomes through Ultrasound Education, Workforce Development, Policy Advocacy and Certification was also discontinued after the Inteleos Foundation (the implementing subawardee) decided on June 10, 2025 to terminate before the end of the period of performance the subaward agreement for this activity without additional cost.