Standards Alliance

ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR 4: 2016-2017

Contents:

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The following report contains a summary of the major activities completed and outcomes achieved during the third year of implementation of the Standards Alliance, a public-private partnership between the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Additional information is provided through quarterly performance reports submitted to USAID by ANSI.

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 World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement. In May 2013, USAID and ANSI entered a public-private partnership, which coordinates subject matter experts from the private sector-led U.S. standardization system to deliver training and other technical assistance to interested Standards Alliance countries.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Standards Alliance engages more than 10 country/regions on a wide range of capacity-building activities, focusing on the improvement of participating countries' ability to fulfill World Trade Organization (WTO) obligations and enhancing practical knowledge of the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement. In year 4, the Standards Alliance completed 25 TBT-related trainings, workshops, and delegation visits, which included more than 1000 participants from over 50 countries.[1] These activities have advanced U.S. business interests in a variety of export categories, and have helped improve Standards Alliance countries' understanding and application of TBT-related mechanisms, as described further in this annual report.

Over the past four years, the Standards Alliance has made lasting progress aiding the development of quality infrastructure, or institutions that support strong TBT compliance, in partner countries. For example, Standards Alliance countries increased the total number of TBT notifications to the WTO by 203%, while decreasing the number of obstructive domestic policies over the past year.[2] This increased transparency not only signals improved understanding in the recipient country, but also adds predictability for U.S. companies and enhances their competitiveness.

Alongside progress at the national level, Standards Alliance countries have increased their participation in standards-related dialogue and fora at the global level. This growing participation at international forums

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[1] Includes participants in all of the above workshops and Indonesian standards development events.

[2] For more information on methodology used to develop statistics, see "Evaluation of project activities" section on p. 15

demonstrates increased fluency of TBT related issues and capacity for developing countries to contribute to ongoing discussions, thereby making global trade more inclusive. During the past three WTO TBT Committee meetings, member countries increased the number of specific trade concerns (STCs) raised on the meeting floor by 9.5% when compared with the same period in 2012.[3] The number of STCs raised against Standards Alliance countries in the past three TBT Committee Meetings decreased by 34% when compared with the same period in 2012.[4]

In year 4, the Standards Alliance expanded its reach by adding five African countries to the program, in support of the Trade Africa initiative. In September 2016, the Alliance welcomed the addition of Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal, and Zambia. Since September, the Alliance has organized a three-part standards roadshow in West Africa, a Regulatory Impact Assessment workshop in Zambia, and WTO notification authority and enquiry point trainings for each of the five participating countries.

During a series of workshops in West Africa, ASTM International signed Memorandums of Understanding with the national standards bodies (NSBs) of Cote d'Ivoire (CODINORM) and Senegal (ASN). ASTM's MoU program grants signees free access to the full collection of ASTM's standards library, of more than 12,000 standards, with permission to adopt; reference; consult; or use as the basis for national standards. In the first four years of programing, standards developing organizations (SDOs) like ASTM and IAPMO have signed a total of 18 informal agreements or MoUs between NSBs of participating countries and U.S.-based SDOs.[5] These agreements provide a foundation for long-term cooperation and technical exchange between U.S. SDOs and developing countries and provide developing nations with access to the technical knowledge and expertise for use in the adoption or development of national standards.

Highlights from the fourth year of the Standards Alliance include the successful engagement of newly added African nations; sector and product-specific results as confirmed through the ethanol workshop in Uganda; continued progress in Indonesia's sanitation sector; and the success of on-site TBT National Enquiry Point (NEP) and National Notification Authority (NNA) trainings. These achievements build on a robust foundation from past successes and provide positive momentum for future work.

In the coming year, the Standards Alliance will continue to support enduring outcomes to aid developing countries' participation and impact on global trade policy decisions. The Standards Alliance will further accentuate developing countries' utilization of transparency mechanisms to enhance their credibility and legitimacy while ensuring U.S. stakeholder market awareness and access. A continued emphasis on capacity building assistance rooted in U.S. business interests will help support lasting outcomes.

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[3] For more information on methodology used to develop statistics, see "Evaluation of project activities" section on p. 15

[4] For more information on methodology used to develop statistics, see "Evaluation of project activities" section on p. 15

[5] See Standards Alliance annual reports for year 1, year 2, and year 3 for complete lists of MoU's signed as a result of project activities.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT OUTPUTS

According to the "Standards Alliance Year 4 Plan" (August 2016), a set of activities were identified for execution. Additional activities beyond the Year 4 Plan were also carried out, when appropriate for the scope and resources of the project.

The primary outputs of the fourth year of the Standards Alliance included:

- Needs Assessment by IAPMO of Water sector in Jordan (July 2016 to March 2017)
- Virtual Training on ASTM Test Methods in Peru (August 2016)
- Workshop on Food Additives, A Global Perspective on Safety Evaluation and Use in Vietnam and Indonesia (September 2016)
- Completed Modification to the Standards Alliance agreement to support Trade Africa expansion (September 2016)
- Intensive 3-week training course on the role of standards, regulations, and conformance in enhancing energy resilience by IAPMO in Indonesia (September 2016)
- Strategic coordination on rollout of an electronic SPS/TBT notification system in East Africa (October 2016)
- Presentation of Standards Alliance Successes at World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Committee Meeting (November 2016)
- Ethanol Cooking and Appliance Fuel Capacity Building Workshop (November 2016)
- ANDEAN and Mexican Delegation Visit on Automotive Standards and Regulation in the United States (December 2016)
- Textiles and Apparel Delegation Visit from Ghana (December 2016)
- Training for National Enquiry Point/National Notification Authority Support – Public-private Stakeholder Workshop in Zambia (December 2016)
- Accreditation of product a testing certification laboratory in Indonesia (January 2017)
- Peru Workshop on Medical Device Regulation and Standards Phase II: Policy and Technical Aspects (January 2017)
- Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed) Regulatory Coherence, Good Regulatory Practices and Capacity Building Project in Latin America (Began in January 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Ghana by Thompson Consulting (January 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Cote d'Ivoire by Thompson Consulting (January 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Senegal by Thompson Consulting(January 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Ghana by Thompson Consulting (February 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Cote d'Ivoire by Thompson Consulting (February 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Senegal by Thompson Consulting (February 2017)
- Workshop on Key Aspects of Good Regulatory Practice: Tools to Effectively Achieve Policy Goals in Indonesia (March 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Uganda by Thompson Consulting (March 2017)
- Focused TBT NNA/NEP training for Mozambique by Thompson Consulting (March 2017)
- West Africa Roadshow with for Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal (March and April 2017)
- U.S.-Gulf Conference on Good Regulatory Practice and Regulatory Impact Assessment (April 2017)
- Improving regulatory framework related to water and sanitation (IAPMO) (April 2017)
- Zambia Workshop on Regulatory Impact Assessment (April 2017)
- 26th APEC Automotive Dialogue (May 2017)

All of the projected outputs described in the Year 4 Plan were completed or begun and/or rescheduled for Year 5. The most cited reason for postponed or rescheduled outputs in Year 4 were staff turnover at counterpart agencies or gaps in partner USAID project contracts. The 2016-2017 outputs are summarized by country/region in the table from the work plan.

ACTIVITY	PROPOSED COUNTERPART	OUTPUT	STATUS
Central America (CAFTA-DR)			
1. Development of StandardsPortal in Spanish language	COGUANOR, INTECO, OSN	Additions to www.StandardsPortal.org, a tool that provides information on standards systems	Ongoing – translation complete
Colombia			
2. Cost Benefit Analysis Training in follow-up to June RIA training	ICONTEC	Training	Cancelled with agreement from ICONTEC
3. Development of StandardsPortal in Spanish language (*In cooperation with Facilitando Comercio*)	ICONTEC	Additions to www.StandardsPortal.org	Ongoing – translation complete
East African Community (EAC)			
4. EAC delegation visit to the U.S.	Rwanda, Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, and Uganda	Capacity building and mentoring	Cancelled with agreement from USAID East Africa Trade Hub
5. Clean cooking fuel workshop in Uganda	Uganda	Workshop on standards to support trade for a specific industry	Completed, November 2016
Indonesia			
6. Development of a personnel certificate program for installers and code enforcement officials (*led by IAPMO*)	BSN, academic institutions	Curriculum and training program	Begun April 2015, ongoing
7. Development of a third-party testing and certification program for plumbing products sold in Indonesia (*led by IAPMO*)	BSN	Development of a testing and certification program that meets manufacturers' needs	Ongoing, laboratory accreditation achieved

Mexico			
8. Mexican Regulation development: labeling, IT, telecomm, commercial	EMA	Capacity building	Cancelled at request of EMA
9. Innovation Forum for Renewable Energy	COMENOR	Capacity building	Cancelled at request of COMENOR
Middle East/North Africa (Jordan and Morocco)			
10. U.S. – Gulf Conference on Good Regulatory Practice and Regulatory Impact Assessment	GSO and JSMO	Training for Jordan, conducted in partnership with Gulf experts	Completed, April 2017
Peru			
11. Workshop on standards and regulation for medical devices	INACAL	Workshop and capacity building for an advanced technology	Completed, January 2017
Southern African Development Community (SADC)			
12. ISO national mirror committee training with SADCSTAN	SADCSTAN	National mirror committee training	Completed, May 2017
13. Focused NNA/NEP training for Zambia and Mozambique by Thompson Consulting	ZABS, MCTI, INNOQ	Capacity Building for national enquiry point and national notification authority	Completed, December 2016
14. Two-day training on regulatory impact assessment	ZABS, BRRA, MCTI	Discussions on the implementation of Zambia's RIA and best practices for analytical rule-making	Completed, April 2017
15. Standards to Support U.S.-Zambia trade and investment	ZABS, relevant industry associations	Targeted training sessions on standards and conformity assessment for priority sectors and products	Postponed to Year 5
16. Standards to Support U.S.-Mozambique trade and investment	INNOQ, FCS, relevant industry associations	Targeted training sessions on standards and conformity assessment for priority sectors and products	Scheduled, August 2017
17. Training to support implementation of public participation law	MIC, INNOQ, SPEED Plus, relevant industry associations	Training and mentoring on public consultation in the regulatory process	Postponed to Year 5

Vietnam-ASEAN			
18. Standards Alliance and APEC Chemicals Dialogue: Sharing Best Practices in Chemical Regulation	APEC Chemicals Dialogue	Technical exchange amongst ASEAN and APEC participants of the Chemicals Dialogue	Scheduled, August 2017
19. Advanced TBT Course for APEC members	APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance	Support for ASEAN LDC members to attend TBT training in Vietnam	Scheduled, August 2017
West Africa			
20. Focused TBT NNA/NEP Training for Senegal, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire by Thompson Consulting	ASN, Senegal Department of External Trade, GSA, CODINORM, Cote d'Ivoire Ministry of Commerce	Capacity Building for national enquiry point and national notification authority	Completed, January and February 2017
21. Workshops to Sensitize Senegalese Stakeholders for Participation in the Standards Alliance	ASN, BMN	Capacity building for standards activity participation	Completed, April 2017
22. Capacity building for International Standards Participation in Senegal	ASN staff and committee secretaries	Mentoring on the formation and operation of ISO national mirror committees, and leading standards development	Ongoing, September 2016 – June 2018
23. Risk-based consumer protection orientation delegation visit by Senegal, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire	ASN, GSA, MOTI, CODINORM	Training on best practices for conducting risk-based analysis and trade-friendly consumer protection laws and policies	Scheduled, October 2017
24. Standards to support U.S.-Ghana trade and investment	GSA, relevant trade associations	Targeted training on standards and conformity assessment for priority sectors and products	Completed, March 2017
25. Standards to support U.S.-Cote d'Ivoire Trade and investment	CODINORM, APEX-CI	Targeted training on standards and conformity assessment for priority sectors and products	Completed, April 2017
26. Workshops with U.S. investors to sensitize stakeholders on international standards	CODINORM, APEX-CI, ADB	Workshops to raise awareness among Ivorian suppliers about relevant international standards	Postponed to Year 5

In addition to delivering progress on projected outputs for the fourth year of the initiative, the Standards Alliance recognized several key milestones and accomplishments that may be highlighted as indicative of future successes. This section includes examples of these accomplishments, most of which build of the major successes highlighted in the Year 3 report and quarterly reports for 2016-2017.

1. Sector-Specific Standards Achievements: Uganda

It is essential that the impact of the Standards Alliance extend beyond the general principles of good regulatory and standards practices to address specific standards needs in participating economies. Over the past year, many Standards Alliance nations demonstrated their regulatory comprehension by graduating from workshops covering good regulatory practices to sector- and product-specific trainings. Specifically, targeted standards workshops took place with Peru (medical devices); Ghana (textiles); Uganda (ethanol fuels); and with Ghana, Senegal, and Cote d'Ivoire (energy, water, transportation infrastructure).

The case of Uganda highlights in particular the successes possible in the short term. In Uganda, the Standards Alliance worked with ASTM International, CLASP, POET, and the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) to organize a one-day workshop discussing ASTM Standard E3050 for denatured ethanol for use as a clean cooking fuel and appliance. The workshop focused on standards-related solutions for inefficient and dangerous practices in home cooking in Uganda and East Africa.

In East Africa, the home cooking sector is the main consumer of solid biomass, representing the largest share of final energy consumption in the region. In Uganda, biomass fuels account for more than 91 percent of all energy use, and 97 percent of the population uses solid fuels for cooking. In 2012, an estimated 35 million Ugandans were affected by household air pollution from indoor smoke and airborne particles as a result of cooking with solid fuels. This exposure led to more than 13,000 premature deaths in Uganda alone.

Ethanol Workshop

Participants at the Ethanol Cooking and Appliance Fuels Workshop in Kampala, Uganda

Ethanol, however, is uniquely suited for household use. When used in a proper stove, ethanol burns cleanly and efficiently, cannot explode, and cooks meals faster than traditional biomass. Cleaner, more efficient cooking fuels are an essential component of regional efforts to reduce environmental impacts of deforestation and risks to human health, but also create an opportunity for smallholder farmers to diversify their incomes through access to a second market. In particular, Kakira Sugar, who participated in the workshop, recently opened East Africa's largest ethanol distillery in Uganda.

Recognizing that the benefits of ethanol is not possible without a sound technical and policy framework, UNBS and the government of Uganda adopted ASTM standard for ethanol as a cooking and appliance fuel. The adoption of ASTM Standard 3050 will support the production, sale and distribution of ethanol in Uganda, especially by U.S. producers like POET. In addition, this adoption will generate further discussions for additional measures to bolster an ethanol market in East Africa.

2. Standards Alliance in Africa Expansion: West Africa

In September 2016, the Standards Alliance extended its reach adding five African countries to the program: Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal, and Zambia. In its 4th year, the Alliance organized various activities in the newly added nations including a three-part standards roadshow in West Africa, a Regulatory Impact Assessment workshop in Zambia, and WTO notification authority and enquiry point trainings in all five countries.

Serving as the flagship activity in the expansion, the West Africa roadshow occurred from March 31 – April 5. The roadshow included three events across West

West Africa Roadshow

Workshop participants in Accra, Ghana

Africa including one-day workshops in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal. During each workshop, a group of U.S. private sector experts shared their expertise on standards-related topics relevant to three key sectors: transportation infrastructure, water, and energy.

The event provided an opportunity to share perspectives and increase engagement between U.S. and participating West African economies. Approximately 150 participants attended the workshops collectively, which featured presentations by U.S. speakers from the American Water Works Association (AWWA), ASTM International, and Western Transportation Institute (WTI), as well as the national standards bodies from each of the participating countries: Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation (ASN, Senegal), CODINORM (Cote d'Ivoire), and Ghana Standards Authority (GSA).

Broadening the scope of the events, ANSI collaborated with the USAID-funded Analytical Support Services and Evaluations for Sustainable Systems (ASSESS) project to include a small number of participants from

other West African countries. Regional participants included members of the national standards bodies from Benin, Guinea, Mali, Sudan, and Togo. During the workshop series, ASTM International signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with CODINORM and ASN. These agreements grant CODINORM and ASN free access to ATSM's full library of more than 12,000 standards with permission to adopt, reference, consult, or use as the basis of national standards. This agreement is particularly beneficial for ASN, which before signing the MoU maintained a standards library of approximately 2,000 standards. Free access to ASTM standards and consultation will allow ASN and its staff of less than 20, to decrease fiscal and temporal costs associated with the development of standards by benchmarking from existing ASTM models. Through benchmarking, ASN will also gain valuable technical expertise that may guide further standards activities.

3. Strengthening Sanitation Infrastructure: From National Adoption to Quality Assurance and Competency

IAPMO technical training for BSN

Standards Alliance engagement with Indonesia has addressed priorities related to regulatory and standards infrastructure, as well as critical public health issues such as access to clean water and sanitation. The third year of activity witnessed continued collaboration between the International Association for Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) and the National Standardization Agency of Indonesia (BSN) in the adoption, implementation, and enforcement of a uniform plumbing code (UPC) for Indonesia.

The first Indonesian National Standard for plumbing — SNI 8513:2015, Plumbing Systems for Buildings was finalized in March 2015 and is based on IAPMO's Uniform Plumbing Code. Following the successful launch of the standard in 2015, the past year provided significant progress in its implementation. Efforts throughout 2016 focused on education and personnel training, outreach to make the new standard mandatory, establishing a laboratory in Indonesia, and a pilot project building a public restroom following the standard. The Indonesian Ministry of Public Works continued work to mandate the newly developed UPC as an Indonesian National Standard (SNI), as all public health and safety standards are mandatory. The SNI was lauded by BSN Director Kukoh as a vehicle to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment while promoting the use of national products and enhancing the domestic market with international products.

In May 2016, IAPMO officially opened a state-of-the-art product testing and certification laboratory in Lippo Cikarang-Bekasi (Jakarta) and on January 20, 2017, IAPMO Group announced that its laboratory received ISO/IEC 17025 (product certification) and ISO/IEC 17065 (testing) accreditations from Komite Akreditasi Nasional (KAN), Indonesia's national accreditation body. The lab is capable of testing to more than 400 standards as well as providing special services such as Research and Development, training, quality assurance, failure analysis, and witness/field testing.

ISO/IEC 17025 is the single most important standard for calibration and testing laboratories around the world. Laboratories that are accredited to this international standard have demonstrated that they are technically competent and able to produce precise and accurate test and/or calibration data.
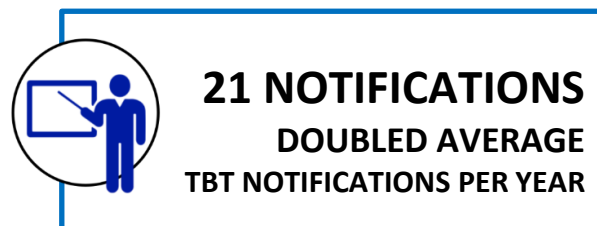
4. Increasing Transparency: WTO TBT Notification Successes

The notification of pending regulations is a cornerstone of the WTO TBT Agreement. As governments seek to regulate, a transparent process of notification to a central location helps avoid unnecessary obstacles to trade. The WTO TBT Agreement requires members to notify other members before adopting new measure that are likely to impact international trade and to provide an opportunity for comment. This process aids both the regulating government and bilateral trading partners by providing external perspectives before a regulation is finalized to ensure foreign businesses are not unfairly excluded from local markets.

Beginning in March 2014, the Standards Alliance commissioned Ms. Diane Thompson to serve as the Principle Standards Advisor for National Notification Authorities (NNA) and National Enquiry Points (NEP) capacity-building projects. Since that time, Ms. Thompson has worked with a variety of Standards Alliance members to improve the effectiveness of the NEPs and NNAs. Focused technical assistance has engaged the following 12 African nations: Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, and Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

During the fourth year of the Alliance, Ms. Thompson traveled to Africa three times to implement WTO TBT NEP/NNA capacity-building workshops and provide onsite technical assistance in six countries including Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana. Mozambique, Senegal, Uganda, and Zambia. These events provided on-site training to aid the submission of notifications using the WTO TBT Notification Submission System and provided detailed training on the implementation of the transparency requirements of the TBT Agreement. These events have greatly aided the expansion of notification across the Standards Alliance.

17 COUNTRIES
INCREASED
TBT NOTIFICATIONS

21 NOTIFICATIONS
DOUBLED AVERAGE
TBT NOTIFICATIONS PER YEAR

Between 2016-2017, 17 Standards Alliance member countries increased their total number of notifications when compared with the previous year, representing more than triple the number of countries reported in all previous years.[6] Even more impressive, the average number of notifications submitted by members over the past 12 months doubled, from 10 to nearly 21 annual notifications per member.[7] Increased transparency presents a positive signal to U.S. organizations that are either operating or investing in Standards Alliance countries.

EVALUATION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

During the fourth year of the Standards Alliance, ANSI tracked the major performance metrics that will establish progress towards the project objectives. According to the Year One Plan and project "Mission Statement", the following measures of success are applied:

1. Understanding of the WTO TBT measured through a comparison of knowledge assessments conducted before and after training sessions, communication frequency between inquiry points, and/or number of comments raised during bilateral or multilateral interaction.
2. Implementation of the Code of Good Practice (Annex 3 of the TBT Agreement) by central government and other standardizing bodies.
3. Transparency measured by the number and/or percentage of proposed technical regulations that are notified to the WTO Secretariat, and through comparison with baseline rates.
4. Increased engagement in international standardization measured by participation levels in organizations such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), and others.
5. Increased consultation with the private sector through workshops, stakeholder comments opportunities, responses to stakeholder questions, etc.
6. Progress in areas of trade concerns between the U.S. and partner governments, potentially including reduced compliance costs and/or greater market access for U.S. and domestic firms.

8.5% INCREASE IN ISO TCs/SCs

10% INCREASE IN WTO TBT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

34% DECREASE IN SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERNS

1039 PARTICIPANTS IN STANDARDS ALLIANCE EVENTS

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[6] Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Yemen, and Zambia all demonstrated increased annual notifications from 2016 to 2017. Source: http://tbtims.wto.org/

[7] NEP, NNA, and notification data for all 27 Standards Alliance members was retrieved from the WTO TBT and SPS online database at http://www.epingalert.org/en

The table below summarizes outcomes witnessed for these metrics in 2016-2017.

Indicator	Relates to Measure	Definition	Unit of Measurement	Result
1	2, 4, 5	Participants trained on elements of the TBT Agreement (including the Code of Good Practice)	Number of Workshop Attendees	553[8]
2	1, 3	Partner countries showing increase in WTO TBT notifications	Number of Countries	17[9]
3	4	Increase in ISO TCs/SCs in which partner countries participate	Percentage increase	8.5%[10]
4	5	Workshops held or other opportunities for partner country governments to engage with local private sector	Number of Workshops	9[11]
5	5	Public-private participation at Standards Alliance events	Total Number of Participants	1039[12]
6	1, 4, 6	Increased WTO TBT Committee participation by Standards Alliance members	Percentage Increase	9.5%[13]
7	1, 4, 6	Decrease in TBT specific trade concerns raised against Standards Alliance members since 2012	Percentage Decrease	34%[14]
9	2,4	MoU's or informal arrangements established between partner country standards bodies and U.S. based SDO's	Number of Agreements signed	2[15]

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[8] See complete list of activities on p. 5. Workshops for this indicator include Indonesia/Vietnam (September 2016); Uganda (November 2016); Peru (January 2017); Indonesia (March 2017); Ghana (March 2017); Cote d'Ivoire (April 2017); Senegal (April 2017); Gulf States (April 2017); and Zambia (April 2017).

[9] Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Yemen, and Zambia all demonstrated increased annual notifications from 2016 to 2017. Source: http://tbtims.wto.org/

[10] Total TC/SC participation was measured across the 25 countries included in the Standards Alliance who are also ISO members. Source: ISO.

[11] See complete list of activities on p. 5. Workshops for this indicator include Indonesia/Vietnam (September 2016); Uganda (November 2016); Peru (January 2017); Indonesia (March 2017); Ghana (March 2017); Cote d'Ivoire (April 2017); Senegal (April 2017); Gulf States (April 2017); and Zambia (April 2017).

[12] Includes participants in all of the above workshops and Indonesian standards development events.

[13] Increased WTO TBT Committee participation was measured across 25 Standards Alliance countries based on comments made during WTO TBT Committee meetings. This percentage was calculated by summing the number of STCs raised by member countries during the three TBT Committee meetings in 2012 compared with STCs raised during the three TBT Committee meetings in 2016. This information can be found on the WTO TBT web page, http://tbtims.wto.org/

[14] The decrease in STCs was measured across 27 Standards Alliance nations based on comments made at WTO TBT Committee Meetings. This percentage encompasses the total number of STCs raised against Standards Alliance countries during the three WTO TBT Committee meetings in 2012 compared with STCs raised against member countries during TBT Committee meetings in 2016. Minutes from WTO TBT Committee Meetings are available in the searchable WTO document database: docs.wto.org.

[15] ASTM International finalized two MoUs with CODINORM (Cote d'Ivoire) and ASN (Senegal) in 2017. At the time of this publication, IAPMO was maintaining a tentative MoU with JSMO (Jordan). ASTM International is in the process of finalizing an MoU with AMANORM (Mali) stemming from a standards workshop in Senegal.

Notable results captured in the above table include the positive increase in WTO TBT Committee meetings. Partner countries of the Standards Alliance raised 9.5% more specific trade concerns (STCs) on the WTO floor and decreased the number of STCs raised against their countries by 34% when compared with the same period in 2012. Guatemala, Mexico, Indonesia and the Dominican Republic raised the most concerns at the TBT committee. Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico had the biggest positive changes in participation.

CONCLUSION

The Standards Alliance continued to make substantial progress in 2016-2017, accomplishing a majority of its stated objectives and completing work plan deliverables, while continuing stakeholder outreach across more than ten country/regions and adding new partner countries in Africa. In addition to these successes, concrete trainings focused on both foundational principles and sectoral priorities maximized program impact.

Through the ongoing pursuit of robust capacity building assistance related to implementation of the WTO TBT Agreement, the Standards Alliance continues to support enduring and positive, standards-related changes in developing countries. In the coming year, the Standards Alliance will further accentuate the continued utilization of transparency mechanisms by developing nations to strengthen both their confidence and international legitimacy while ensuring U.S. stakeholder awareness and access. These principles will further support the development of participating nations by contributing to improved infrastructure, more effective consumer protection mechanisms, and expanded local industry.

Future success of the Standards Alliance will rely on continued engagement and support from a diverse stakeholder group in the U.S., including private and public sector experts. The outreach conducted and relationships established during the first four years forms an essential foundation for robust outcomes in future years. ANSI recognizes the contributions of all of the agencies and organizations that participated in the Standards Alliance this year, including the core strategic partner USTR, as well as the Department of Commerce, OMB-OIRA, FDA and other regulatory agencies, and ANSI members from the private sector that participated. We look forward to continuing to bring the expertise of the U.S. public-private partnership for standards, conformity assessment and technical regulations in implementing the Standards Alliance.