



**Period of Performance:** July 1 – September 30, 2019

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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 third quarter of 2019.

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 the implementation of the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement. In May 2013, USAID and ANSI entered into a public-private partnership, to 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. In September 2016, the ANSI-USAID agreement was extended to five additional countries and the period of performance extended until September 2021.

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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 Cote d'Ivoire and Zambia; as well as planning for future 2019 activities in all five target countries. 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.

## Côte d'Ivoire

- *ISO 37101 Sustainable Cities Workshop in Côte d'Ivoire (Year 6 Annual Plan #2)*

On August 13, 2019, the Standards Alliance in coordination with CODINORM, held a one-day sensitization workshop on ISO 37101 - Management system for sustainable development in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. This event supported Côte d'Ivoire's goal to develop and implement better community management systems across the country.

The workshop which was attended by more than 60 participants from the public and private sector in Cote d'Ivoire, outlined the value of the city planning framework detailed in the ISO 37101 standard and provided an opportunity for Ivorian and U.S. experts to exchange information on efficient city planning strategies. Following the event, U.S. experts and ANSI met with the Ivorian Ministry of Interior to discuss potential next steps, including the selection of one to two communities to pilot sustainable city planning in Cote d'Ivoire. In this meeting, the Ministry assembled a search committee to identify potential municipalities to participate in a pilot planning program. In Q4, the Standards Alliance will continue to work with CODINORM to plan a follow-on ISO37101 activity.

- *Planning for ISO 37101 Pilot Programs in Cote d'Ivoire (Not included in Annual Plan)*

During Q3, ANSI received a proposal from the Director-General of Decentralization and Local Development (DGDDL), which aims to establish a formal framework in partnership with the Standards Alliance for the implementation of ISO 37101-2016 in local and regional authorities. ANSI and USAID are working with ISO 37101 experts to define a scope of work for a potential pilot project in Cote d'Ivoire.

- *Planning for Petroleum Standards Workshop in Côte d'Ivoire (Year 6 Annual Plan #15)*

The Standards Alliance in coordination with the National Standards Bodies (NSBs) of Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Senegal, and Nigeria continued planning a five-day training on international standards for petroleum products and management systems in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. This event will feature expert presentations from the American Petroleum Institute (API) and ASTM International and include approximately 30 West African participants. The Standards Alliance is working with the USAID-funded West African Analytical Support Services and Evaluations for Sustainable Systems (ASSESS) program to coordinate travel and participation for nine experts from Ghana, Senegal, and Nigeria. In addition, the Standards Alliance is working with the Ivorian Ministry of Petroleum, Energy, and Renewable Energy to invite relevant Ivorian participants. This event is scheduled to take place on November 18-22 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

## Ghana

- *Planning for Building Codes Workshop in Ghana (Year 6 Annual Plan #4)*

During the third quarter, ANSI continued to coordinate with the International Code Council (ICC) and Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) to assess Ghana's newly established Building Code for consistency with the ICC International Building Code. Based on ICC's initial assessment of the code, the Standards Alliance has delayed plans to organize a building code training to help effectively implement the Ghana Building Code due to potential inconsistencies in the code. As such, the ICC, GSA, and ANSI are working to find a third party organization to review the Ghana Building Code, which will provide all parties with a tracked version of the code, as well as recommendations on areas of weakness that can be used to help Ghana update the code. It is envisioned that the revised code will serve as a guidance document for any future trainings.

In Q4, ANSI will continue to coordinate with ICC and GSA to finalize plans for a third party assessment of the Ghana Building Code.

## Senegal

- *Solar Photovoltaic Training in Senegal (Year 6 Annual Plan #9)*

ANSI is working in collaboration with Outback Power, a U.S. based company and its partner organizations, to finalize arrangements for an initiative to train solar photovoltaic (PV) technicians in Senegal. In Q3, ANSI and Outback Power worked to refine the program work plan and to draft a cooperative agreement for project implementation as early as Q1 2020.

## Mozambique

- *Planning for Biofuel Standards for Household Cooking and Transportation Workshop (Year 6 Annual Plan #6)*

During the third quarter, the Standards Alliance continued to coordinate with Mozambique's national standards body (INNOQ), Garner Advisors, POET and ASTM International to organize a workshop on biofuels for household cooking and transportation.

This event builds on past successes with similar events in Uganda and Zambia and is scheduled to take place on November 14 in Maputo, Mozambique. The workshop is expected to attract approximately 50-75 participants from Mozambique's public and private sectors and aims to address health, environmental, economic issues related to

traditional fuels and also analyze biofuels as an effective alternative to traditional fuels. Additionally, this event plans to address a recent tariff issue that has resulted in a misclassification of ethanol-based fuels in Mozambique. In a bid to address this US industry concern, the Standards Alliance has invited members of the Mozambican Tax Authority, Ministry of Industry, and Customs Officers to the event to discuss the issue.

In Q4, ANSI will continue to coordinate with INNOQ, Garner Advisors, POET and ASTM International to execute the workshop and create an open dialogue on export related issues.

## Zambia

- *Workshop on Standards to Support SMEs (Year 6 Annual Plan #12)*

On August 21-22, 2019, the Standards Alliance, in conjunction with the Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS), conducted a two-day workshop on Standards to Support Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Lusaka, Zambia. Local SME food manufacturers and producers with an interest in accessing the U.S. market attended the event, which provided guidance and technical training on pertinent international export standards and compliance requirements for entry into the U.S. market under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

The workshop attracted more than 30 participants from export-ready SMEs to producers with products in the inchoate phases of the export process. Sessions gave an overview of the support services provided by the Southern African Trade & Investment Hub (SATIH), detailed the necessary AGOA export procedures and steps, and elaborated on other critical agricultural standards, including organic and Fairtrade standards.

Thirty-four professionals from more advanced SMEs attended the second day training that concentrated on certifications (i.e. FISMA), further delineated additional requirements including scientific, regulatory, management and business considerations when considering the U.S. market and presented a model for developing and operating a sustainable value chain specific to Zambian SME farmers.

- *Zambian E-registry and Public Notice and Comment Platform Planning Call (Follow-up from previous Annual Plan activities)*

Following meetings and discussions with the Zambian Business Regulatory Review Agency (BRRA), the Salvadorian Better Regulation Organisation (OMR), the Salvadorian Department of Commerce (DOC) and a U.S. regulatory impact assessment expert On July 10, 2019, the Standards Alliance organized a webinar discussion to discuss El Salvador's development of an online notice and comment portal and ways in which Zambia could improve their own e-registry platform. This discussion focused on best practices and

lessons learned from El Salvador's development of an online platform to guide Zambia's development of a similar platform that will augment regulatory transparency and provide increased opportunity for private sector participation.

- *High-Level Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Training (Added to Annual Plan during Q2)*

Building from the Standards Alliance's previous work to support Zambia's introduction of regulatory impact assessment (RIA) into the regulatory decision-making process, the Standards Alliance supported a high-level awareness building workshop series focused on key regulatory decision-makers and government officials. The four-part workshop series was attended by more than 140 participants and included trainings specifically targeting Parliamentarians, Permanent Secretaries of relevant Ministries, regulatory CEOs, and regulatory legal teams in Zambia. Together, this four-part series helped support Zambia's efforts to institutionalize a whole-of-government approach to the regulatory review process.

Together, this four-part series helped support Zambia's efforts to institutionalize a whole-of-government approach to the regulatory review process. Through these trainings, the Standards Alliance is supporting a more predictable and transparent business environment that will increase U.S. market access and improve regulatory decision-making processes. The series provided Zambia with more knowledge and political will to continue to be a leader for regulatory review on the African continent. More information on each training session is included below:

1. *Event 1: RIA Training for Regulatory CEOs; September 23-24, Livingstone, Zambia*
2. *Event 2: RIA Sensitization for the Zambian Parliament; September 26, Lusaka, Zambia*
3. *Event 3: RIA Sensitization for Regulatory Legal Terms; September 26, Lusaka, Zambia*
4. *Event 4: RIA Sensitization for Permanent Secretaries; September 27, Lusaka, Zambia*

- *Planning for Workshop on Energy Efficiency Standards (Year 6 Annual Plan #12)*

During this quarter, the Standards Alliance in collaboration with the Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS) worked to develop an agenda and recruit speakers for a workshop on energy-efficiency standards. The workshop will focus on testing and certification of energy products, energy systems, and home appliances. This workshop is intended to respond to the current energy deficit following a prolonged 2-year drought in Zambia and the increasing demand for renewable energy and energy-efficient systems.

The Standards Alliance has secured U.S. speakers from NEMA and UL and is working to recruit a speaker from the Department of Energy and possible another U.S. company. In Q4, the Standards Alliance will continue to coordinate with ZABS and other stakeholders for this event, which is planned to be rolled out in Q1 2020.

## EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES

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The primary outputs 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.	Cote d'Ivoire	ISO37101: Awareness Building for Sustainable Cities	Yes
4.	Zambia	Workshop on Standards to Support SMEs	Yes
5.	Zambia	High-level Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Training	No

This period of performance included a combination of execution and extensive planning for future activities in the fourth quarter of 2019. The outcomes witnessed in Q3 were positive and represent the continued success of the Standards Alliance program. In particular, the regulatory impact assessment training in Zambia, which was well received by both the private and public sector, has generated more attention and political will from regulatory agencies who are keen on learning more about the RIA process. Once fully implemented, this process will help ensure that regulations do not create unnecessary barriers to trade and investments in Zambia. In consultation with the Standards Alliance and the World Bank, BRRRA is also developing an e-registry notice and comment system, which will be used by regulatory agencies during the public consultation process.

## CONCLUSION

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This period of performance achieved important milestones for the Standards Alliance, such as progress noted above in Zambia and various developments in preparation for a busy Q4 and Q1 in 2020. ANSI looks forward to building on these successes in the next period and carrying out activities with Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Mozambique, Zambia, and other partners.