

Period of Performance: October 1 – December 31, 2016

INTRODUCTION

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 fourth 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.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This period of performance was dedicated primarily to implementation of activities described in the country-specific work plans in Indonesia and Vietnam; as well as the finalization of the Trade Africa expansion and the coordination of the associated country work plans. 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. This also included the addition of a West Africa page reflecting the Trade Africa expansion. Also through regular email correspondence, ANSI updated its members and U.S. government stakeholders.

- *Presentation of Standards Alliance successes at the WTO TBT Committee*

In November 2016, ANSI joined USTR and the U.S. delegation at the WTO TBT Committee meeting in Geneva and presented two presentations highlighting Standards Alliance successes. First, during the thematic session on technical assistance, ANSI co-presented with Indonesia on the activities of the Standards Alliance and measures of success related to TBT implementation. Second, during the 8th Special Meeting on

Procedures for Information Exchange, ANSI presented on U.S. technical assistance to TBT enquiry points and notification authorities in Africa. While in Geneva, a Standards Alliance networking reception was attended by approximately 40 representatives of 7 of our partner economies.

Peru

- *Planning for Peru Medical Device Workshop*

A follow-on workshop in Peru is planned, following the successful event on medical device standards in regulation held in November 2015. In collaboration with FDA and ASTM International, the Standards Alliance worked to identify and solidify high-level U.S. private and public sector experts to participate in the workshop, originally planned for November 2016. All interested stakeholders, especially INACAL in Peru, stressed the importance and benefit of FDA representation in-person. ANSI successfully identified an interested FDA speaker, but the workshop was postponed to January 24-25, 2017 in order to leverage available travel funding for the FDA speaker. ANSI continues to work with FDA and private sector speakers to finalize the agenda.

Colombia and Mexico

- *ANDEAN and Mexican Delegation Visit on Automotive Standards and Regulation in the United States*

On Dec 4-10, 2016, the Standards Alliance hosted an ANDEAN/Mexican delegation visit to the U.S. in coordination with AAPC and Department of Commerce. 7 government representatives from Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico attended meetings and technical visits with experts from across the government, including National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), as well as industry including AAPC members, Toyota, NAVISTAR, Ford, Caterpillar, and Daimler to name a few. The group had an opportunity to visit a Caterpillar remanufacturing facility and learn about regulatory compliance from the remanufacturing perspective as well as core inspection, advanced additive manufacturing technologies, assembly operations, and testing and verification operations.

The week long delegation visit was a follow-up to the one-day Automotive Standards and Regulations in the Americas workshop that Standards Alliance, DoC and AAPC conducted in Guayaquil, Ecuador on April 22, 2016 with over 70 participants representing over 20 countries. As a result of the one-day workshop and other bilateral dialogue Ecuador has agreed to accept the use of the “Blue Ribbon Letter” program to verify Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) certification of compliance for vehicles in Ecuador. This new certification option provides U.S. automakers with means to certify

vehicles (safety requirements) to Ecuadorian authorities without incurring costs not born by products built to competing regulatory certification regimes.

East African Community (EAC)

- *Strategic coordination on rollout of an electronic SPS/TBT notification system in East Africa*

ANSI coordinated with USTR, NIST and the USAID East African Trade and Investment Hub to craft a strategy for deploying the electronic notification system developed by UNDESA and supported by the WTO and ITC known as e-Ping. In late October, the EATIH supported the adoption of e-Ping in Rwanda and hosted a related training. Rwanda is the second country in East Africa to adopt ePing. The EATIH is planning for similar adoptions and trainings in Tanzania before the end of the year.

- *Ethanol Fuel Capacity Building Workshop*

ANSI, in collaboration with POET, CLASP, and the Uganda Bureau of National Standards, organized a one-day workshop to provide capacity building and technical support to stakeholders on Uganda on international standards that can be beneficial to the Ugandan market. This workshop was held on November 15, 2016, in Kampala, Uganda and focused on the technical aspects of ASTM Standards E3050. As a result of the workshop, in January 2017 UNBS released a draft for comment of a national standard for denatured ethanol for use as cooking and appliance fuel, which is based on the ASTM standard.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

- *NEP/NNA Support - Public-Private Stakeholder Workshop*

In December, Diane Thompson of Thompson Consulting, led trainings in Zambia on TBT Agreement requirements, especially those related to transparency and notification.

- *Planning for training programs in Zambia and Mozambique on Good Regulatory Practices*

In support of the first activities in ANSI's work plan for Zambia and Mozambique, ANSI worked with its partners ZABS and INNOQ, and the relevant USAID Missions to secure agreement on the dates and concepts for 2 training programs on elements of good regulatory practices. In Zambia, the training will focus on regulatory impact assessment (RIA) and will also include participation from U.S. and Zambian industry groups and the newly established Zambia Business Regulatory Review Authority (BRRA). In Mozambique, the training will focus on public consultation and participation of the private sector in standards development and rulemaking. The Zambia program is

scheduled to take place March 1-2, and the Mozambique program likely to take place later, possibly in April.

West Africa (Cote D’Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal)

- *Textiles and Apparel Delegation Visit from Ghana*

In December, the Standards Alliance supported standards-related programming for a delegation of Ghanaian textile and apparel producers visiting Washington, DC as part of the Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program. This engagement included a day and a half of programming emphasizing market opportunities, international trade agreements, and the U.S. standards, conformity assessment, and regulations related to textiles and apparel. In addition to ANSI, the delegation met with USTR, DoC/International Trade Administration, CPSC, Sandler Trade LLC, FTC, NFPA, ASTM International, Bureau Veritas, American Apparel and Footwear Association, Fair Trade America, and Fair Trade Federation.

- *Planning and finalization of Dates for West Africa Roadshow with for Cote D’Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal*

In support of the first activities in ANSI’s work plan for Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana and Senegal, ANSI worked with its partners in each country and relevant USAID Missions to secure agreement on the dates and concepts for a series of workshops on “Standards to support U.S. trade and investment: Focus on the physical infrastructure, energy and water sectors”. The workshop series is planned for mid-late March 2017.

- *Coordination of Country Work Plans with ASSESS for Cote D’Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal*

As part of the Standards Alliance expansion to support the five new Trade Africa countries, ANSI engaged the ASSESS program to divide responsibilities for the West Africa work plans for Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal in December 2016.

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	United States	Completed modification to Standards Alliance agreement to support Trade Africa expansion	No

4	United States	Presentation at WTO TBT Committee on Standards Alliance successes	No
5	Peru	Planning and recruitment for Medical Devices Workshop	Yes
6	Colombia/Mexico	Delegation visit on automotive standards and regulation	Yes
7	EAC	Ethanol fuel capacity building workshop	Yes
8	SADC	NEP/NNA support through public-private stakeholder workshop	Yes
9	SADC	Planning for GRP training programs in Zambia and Mozambique	Yes
10	West Africa	Textiles and apparel delegation visit from Ghana	No
11	West Africa	Planning for workshops in Ghana, Senegal and Cote d'Ivoire in Q2 2016	Yes

This period of performance included a combination of execution and the planning of future activities, many of which will take place in Q1 of 2017. The outcomes witnessed were positive and represent the continued success of the Standards Alliance.

In particular, activities carried out in Uganda proved to be extremely beneficial in opening dialogue, facilitating information sharing and fostering cooperation in the Uganda. The workshops boasted a record high for the Standards Alliance in terms of private sector contributions to the agenda, and the outcomes suggest that the work stream may continue in future years. Continued capacity building activities during the ANDEAN/ Mexican delegation visit in December will be instrumental in addressing additional trade concerns in the Americas. In particular, activities on remanufacturing will target Colombia's implementation of Resolution 3752 and 3753 which require UNECE-only standards for public transport.

CONCLUSION

This period of performance achieved important milestones for the Standards Alliance such as the finalization of the Trade Africa expansion and the coordination and approval of country work plans for the five new Trade Africa countries: Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal, and Zambia. 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.