



Period of Performance: July 1 – September 30, 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 third 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.

- *Finalization of the Trade Africa Expansion*

In September, the Standards Alliance agreement modification to support the Trade Africa expansion was finalized to include five new countries: Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal, and Zambia. ANSI has been coordinating with national standards bodies, USAID mission and project staff, and other relevant parties to finalize country work plans and implementation strategies.

Indonesia

The third quarter of 2016 has primarily focused on preparing the newly opened facility for ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO/IEC 17065 accreditation by KAN. Efforts for education deliverables related to the plumber's certification program resumed during Q3. Efforts for continuing awareness of the importance of plumbing standardization continue through a 3-week-TMC program, collaboration with BSN and the Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Public Works. IAPMO continues to focus on the development of programs and methods that will create a sustainable framework positioned to increase standardization and certification of products within Indonesia.

- *Laboratory research and development*

Related to laboratory development, the following activities were carried out:

- Equipment Coordinator was hired during Q3 with start date on July 18, 2016. The Equipment Coordinator will be responsible for testing equipment setup, maintenance and purchases.
- Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 (testing) and ISO/IEC 17065 (product certification) by KAN (Indonesian national accreditation agency) in-progress. Target to receive accreditation in 2016 Q4.

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.

- *Training on ASTM Test Methods in Peru (Virtual)*

On August 8, 2016, ASTM hosted a virtual training on Osteosynthesis. The training was requested by INACAL's technical committee and was attended by 19 Peruvian participants. The workshop focused on ASTM F543 and test methods for Metallic Bone Screws. The technical presentation was led by Roger Kenyon from Zimmer- Biomet Co.

Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico

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

During the COPANT meetings in April, the Department of Commerce and American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC) recognized a need for additional follow-up to the Automotive Standards and Regulations in the Americas workshop that took place in April 2016 and proposed an ANDEAN/Mexican delegation visit to the U.S. In coordination with AAPC, Department of Commerce in DC and Bogota and State Department in Quito, the Standards Alliance has secured 5 government representatives from Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico for the visit. The group's visit will entail meetings and technical visits with U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), U.S. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Visit to Vehicle Manufacturer Testing Facility or NHTSA Vehicle Research and Test Center (VRTC), and a site visit to Caterpillar remanufacturer facility.

Importantly, and as a direct outcome of the April event, Ecuador has now agreed to accept both US Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and 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 automakers with an additional means to certify vehicles (safety requirements) by providing the Ecuadorian authorities with a higher level of comfort/assurance regarding the US Self-certification process. This success was a team effort, with Standards Alliance, U.S. industry, USTR, Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Embassy in Quito all playing instrumental roles.

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.

- *Planning for Ethanol Fuel Capacity Building Workshop*

ANSI, in collaboration with POET and the Uganda Bureau of National Standards, began planning 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 focuses on the technical aspects of ASTM Standards E3050. This workshop will occur on November 15, 2016, in Kampala, Uganda.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

- *Coordination of Country Work Plans for Zambia and Mozambique*

As part of the Standards Alliance expansion to support the five new Trade Africa countries, ANSI engaged national standards bodies and USAID mission and project staff to coordinate and finalize country work plans for Zambia and Mozambique in September 2016. ANSI further began to engage the SPEED Plus project in Mozambique to coordinate efforts on the implementation of Mozambique's work plan. The following activities were approved:

- Improved NEP/NNA functionality
- Regulatory impact assessment
- Standards to support trade and investment
- Public consultation in the regulatory process

Vietnam/ASEAN

- *Workshop on Food Additives, A Global Perspective on Safety Evaluation and Use in Vietnam and Indonesia*

On September 13 and 15, the Standards Alliance in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) organized two workshops on food additives in Hanoi, Vietnam and Jakarta. The workshops provided an informative look at Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) processes and the suitability of food additives with a focus on the natural versus artificial debate. Other topics of discussion included toxicological evaluations of food additives, flavor, color, sweetener and MSG regulations. In particular, the workshop on September 15 in Jakarta emphasized the principle of carry over, given Indonesia's unique requirement that all additives, whether direct or indirect need to be labeled in the final food product.

More than 75 attendees actively participated throughout the workshop in Jakarta and showed particular interest in the process of safety evaluation and how other jurisdictions addressed carry-over. Since the workshop, some B POM officials have expressed interest in future workshops/trainings on food ingredient regulations. In Hanoi, more than 90 participants from the Testing Management Division at the Vietnam Food Administration (VFA), Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), several Vietnamese trade associations and industry. Feedback on

the event was extremely positive and prompted further discussion and planning for follow-up workshops. Discussions are currently under way with USDA, on hosting a phase II workshop on advanced topics in the food sector and a regional phase I (Food additives 101) workshop that will capture more SE Asia countries during the 2017 APEC meetings in Vietnam.

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

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

As part of the Standards Alliance expansion to support the five new Trade Africa countries, ANSI engaged national standards bodies and USAID mission and project staff to coordinate and finalize country work plans for Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal in September 2016. ANSI further began to engage the ASSESS project to coordinate efforts regionally in the implementation of country work plans. Proposed activities address the following:

- Improved NEP/NNA functionality
- Stakeholder outreach for standards development activities
- Participation in international standards activities
- Risk-based consumer protection
- Standards to support trade and investment

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	Peru	Planning and recruitment for Medical Devices Workshop	No
5	Indonesia	Completed Workshop on Food Additives	Yes
6	Vietnam	Completed Workshop on Food Additives	Yes
7	SADC	Secured agreement on Work Plans for Zambia and Mozambique	Yes
8	West Africa	Secured agreement on work plans for Ghana, Senegal and Cote D’Ivoire	Yes

This period of performance included a combination of execution and the planning of future activities, many of which will take place in Q4 and Q1 of 2017. The outcomes witnessed were positive and represent the continued success of the Standards Alliance.

In particular, activities carried out in Indonesia and Vietnam proved to be extremely beneficial in opening dialogue, facilitating information sharing and fostering cooperation in the SE Asia food industry. 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. In addition, as a result of activities carried out in Ecuador during the COPANT meetings in April, the government of Ecuador recently agreed to accept US FMVSS safety standards and the use of the “Blue Ribbon Letter” program to verify OEM certification of compliance for vehicles in Ecuador. 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.