



Period of Performance: January 1 – March 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 (Q4) of 2015.

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 Mexico, Indonesia and the East Africa region; as well as planning for a busy second quarter. 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.

Colombia

- *Planning for a COPANT workshop on Automotive Standards and Regulation in the Americas*

In collaboration with the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT), the Standards Alliance will host a workshop during the COPANT General Assembly in Guayaquil, Ecuador on April 22, 2016. ANSI worked with the U.S. Department of Commerce and American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC) during this period to prepare invitations to speakers from Colombia, Mexico, and Ecuador; secure U.S. industry support and participation; send invitations to Ministry of Transportation experts in key COPANT member countries; and coordinate with the COPANT Secretariat and host organization in Ecuador, INEN. The workshop was first discussed following the visit of the Colombian delegation to Washington, DC organized by the Standards Alliance in December 2015.

East African Community (EAC)

- *U.S.-EAC Public-Private Workshop on WTO Transparency Requirements and Procedures on TBT and SPS Measures*

On March 21-22, 2016 the East African Community (EAC), the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), the USAID East African Trade and Investment Hub and the Standards Alliance collaborated to hold the “U.S.-EAC Public-Private Sector Workshop on World Trade Organization (WTO) Transparency Requirements and Procedures on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)” in Nairobi, Kenya.

The event was attended by more than 60 participants from the EAC and the U.S. public and private sectors. Four of the five EAC member states, including Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, were represented by their trade ministries, national standards bodies and private sector organizations. Several U.S. experts traveled to Nairobi to participate in the event, including representatives from UL, Thompson Consulting, ANSI, P&G, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR).

The event addressed key issues related to both the SPS and TBT Agreements, including:

- An introduction to both agreements and their requirements;
- Good regulatory practices;
- The EAC’s TBT and SPS Framework;
- TBT and SPS enquiry points (EP) and national notification authorities (NNAs);
- Electronic TBT notification systems; and
- Stakeholder outreach and organization.

The workshop follows the February 2015 signing of the U.S. - EAC Cooperation Agreement addressing SPS, TBT and trade facilitation. A key outcome of the workshop was the development, by participating EAC countries, of capacity-building action plans

for their EPs and NNAs in accordance with the agreement. These action plans build on the work Diane Thompson of Thompson Consulting is already carrying out in the EAC.

- *Focused EP/NNA Capacity Building*

In March 2016 Ms. Thompson traveled to Kenya to implement an action plan to improve the effectiveness of the Enquiry Point and Notification Authority. Ms. Thompson met with staff of the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) to discuss the three tasks of the action plan: improving the WTO TBT Enquiry Point and Notification Authority, communication with stakeholders, and promotion. The visit included a discussion and demonstration of Notify Kenya TBT, an electronic notification system launched in July 2014 by KEBS. The system was developed with assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) East Africa Trade Hub and support of the Standards Alliance.

Indonesia

- *Laboratory research and development*

The first quarter of 2016 has been very productive with the majority of IAPMO's focus continuing to be on developing the lab and its testing capabilities. Related to laboratory development, the following activities were carried out:

- Officially opened the necessary bank accounts to operate the facility.
- Finalized hiring of the initial staffing for the facility. An Office Manager and two Test Engineers started on March 1, 2016. Orientation and initial training was provided to these new employees along with the set expectations.
- Renovation of the facility was mostly completed during the first quarter, which allows the testing equipment set up to take place during the second quarter.
- Meetings with several test equipment vendors to discuss the design and needs for the testing equipment. Design of testing equipment is scheduled to be finalized by early April 2016 and will go to installation immediately after the design is finalized.
- Finalized employee handbook following local government labor law and requirements along with IAPMO requirements.
- Based on the assessment during the recent trip by staff K. Wijaya and S. Dewi on the week of March 7, 2016, we continue to be on schedule for May 2016 opening of testing laboratory and certification office.
- The planning and preparation for two major events to commemorate the facility opening begins during this quarter.
 - May 17th, 2016 will be the private gathering at the new facility, which will be attended by a few local government officials, such as BSN and Ministry of Public Works. This private gathering will give them the first look of the new facility.
 - May 18th, 2016 will be the third annual Water for Indonesia Now event, which will include a half-day seminar to continue spread the awareness of the importance of SNI 8153:2015, hence good plumbing systems. This event will also include the official grand opening ceremony of PT IAPMO Group Indonesia. The event will be held at the same venue in Jakarta as

previous year's event. This event is supported by BSN. Among the confirmed sponsors are Green Building Council Indonesia, PT Tri Sinar Purnama, PT Lucky Top Metals, Viega, and Ayooklik.com.

- *Education and training*

Recognizing the importance to train government workers and continue to spread awareness of the need to train workers to the SNI and eventually to specific plumbing certifications, IAPMO has offered a Training of Trainers (TOT) session to Dinas Cipta Karya dan Tata Ruang Jawa Tengah, Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province, to be held during the 2nd quarter of 2016. Staff K. Wijaya and S.Dewi met with the agency during March 2016 trip to discuss the offer in more detail. The offer has been accepted and currently in the stage of planning.

- *Central Java pilot project*

The pilot project in Central Java, in partnership with the Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province is moving ahead at full speed. This project is the result of the mutual desire of the Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province (DINAS CIPTA KARYA DAN TATA RUANG JAWA TENGAH) and IAPMO to highlight the needs of the Indonesian sanitation industry, and aid in the development of Indonesia's national standards for health, safety, and the environment. The location chosen for this pilot project is a public park called Park Tlogosari. This pilot project is scheduled to be completed in May 2016. Staff K.Wijaya and S.Dewi visited the location during March 2016 trip to monitor progress.

MENA (Jordan)

- *Development of scope of work for IAPMO-JSMO collaboration*

Last quarter, IAPMO had productive meetings with the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO), the Royal Scientific Society, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing and the Water Authority of Jordan to discuss in detail the challenges Jordan is facing in delivering sustainable water and sanitation services. This quarter was spent working internally and with JSMO officials to set out a framework for potential project activities. IAPMO team members will be traveling to Amman the first week of May to finalize the scope of the project. Tentatively, the project's scope is focusing on three specific areas. These areas include:

1. Develop a process to regularly update the Unified Code to Provide Buildings With Water and Sanitation (UCBWS) – The current UCBWS is based on the 2009 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC). With new editions of the UPC developed every 3 years – the most current edition being the 2015 UPC, JSMO and RSS would like to update the UCBWS as new versions of the UPC are published.

2. Develop a personnel training scheme to ensure that the UCBWS is properly enforced
3. Certification of Plumbing Products – Manufacturers and importers must test and certify their products meet Jordanian standards before being sold. JSMO also offers a Jordan Quality Mark for Jordanian Manufacturers to ensure the quality of domestically produced plumbing products. IAPMO will work with JSMO and RSS to add the UPC certification as a requirement to assure that plumbing products entering into commerce in Jordan are tested and certified.

Mexico

- *High Level Symposium to Enhance Regulator Expertise on the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade*

The High Level Symposium to Enhance Regulator Expertise on the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade took place on February 9-10, 2016 in Mexico City, Mexico (rescheduled from its original dates in December 2015). The audience included over 70 high-level representatives from Mexican regulatory agencies. The purpose of the workshop was to highlight the tools of the TBT Agreement for experienced regulators, especially in areas that support U.S.-Mexican trade and cooperation.

The two-day symposium featured perspectives from high-level officials from both the U.S. and Mexico. U.S. government speakers and moderators represented agencies such as the Department of Commerce, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). In addition, ANSI members UL, the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) and Intertek also participated. The Mexican regulators included representatives from Federal Commission for Regulatory Improvement (COFEMER), Secretariat of Economy of Mexico (SE), and Dirección General de Normas (DGN). The World Trade Organization (WTO) also participated heavily in the two-day discussions. Key topics covered during the presentations included:

- Relevance of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade
- Regulatory Impact Assessment and Cost-Benefit Risk Analysis
- Technical Regulations – How to Develop, Adopt and Implement Qualitative, Necessary and Effective Regulations?”
- The WTO Jurisprudence on TBT Disciplines Regarding Technical Regulations and Standards
- Different Approaches to Conformity Assessment – How to Ensure That We Choose the Best Conformity Assessment Procedures Available, Given our Options
- Advancing Implementation TBT and Regulatory Coherence in Trade Agreements and the Work of the WTO TBT Committee
- Regulatory Cooperation: When and How to Use It?

- The Private Sector Perspective Regarding the Elaboration, Adoption and Implementation of Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures

Feedback provided by U.S. participants and ANSI members was extremely positive, with several speakers noting that the discussions over the two days were exactly the right kind of collaborative exchange that is needed to further industry opportunities. During his keynote remarks, Jeff Weiss of the Office of the Secretary at U.S. Department of Commerce noted that this high level symposium was extremely timely and comes at an exciting time for regulatory cooperation. Weiss identified several advancements and strategic opportunities including those in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) in which both Mexico and the U.S. participate.

The agenda, presentations, and photos from the event can be found on the Standards Alliance website [here](#).

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

- *Focused enquiry point training*

In March 2016 Ms. Diane Thompson traveled to Malawi to implement an action plan to improve the effectiveness of the Enquiry Point and Notification Authority. Ms. Thompson met with staff of the Malawi Bureau of Standards and the Ministry of Industry and Trade to discuss the three tasks of the action plan for Malawi: improving the WTO TBT Enquiry Point and Notification Authority, communication with stakeholders, and promotion. On-site training requested by the participants focused on the following topics: TBT notifications, online resources, database of enquiries, inventory, procedures, internal awareness, electronic notification systems, capacity building, and the WTO TBT Committee.

- *Needs assessment in-country consultations in Zambia and Mozambique (to support future Trade Africa engagement)*

Trade Africa is a partnership between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa to increase internal and regional trade within Africa, and expand trade and economic ties among Africa, the United States, and other global markets. In 2015, the United States announced it would expand the initiative beyond the East African Community to include five more countries - Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal, and Zambia. The Memoranda of Understanding signed between the U.S. and each of the five countries commits both parties to engagement to improve compliance with WTO rules on technical barriers to trade. In support of the Administration's goals of accomplishing this engagement, the Standards Alliance plans to support TBT-related engagement with the new Trade Africa partner countries.

As a first step, on March 7-11, ANSI traveled to Maputo, Mozambique and Lusaka, Zambia to conduct in-country assessment consultations leading towards the development of a work plan for Standards Alliance activities under Trade Africa. In Mozambique, ANSI met with the USAID Mission and U.S. Embassy staff, the national standards body (INNOQ), the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Confederation of Mozambican Industry Associations (CTA), Association of Commerce, Industry and Services (ACIS), UNIDO, a GIZ-funded project, and a representative of the EU Delegation to Mozambique. In Zambia, ANSI met with the USAID Mission and U.S. Embassy staff, the Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS), a World Bank-funded project, AmCham Zambia, and the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry. The primary objectives of the meetings in Maputo and Lusaka included:

1. Identify a primary point of contact that will agree to the work plan and coordinate local input to ANSI
2. Refine proposed activities based on actual goals and desired outcomes
3. Introduce known U.S. priorities and discuss potential additional activities
4. Collect information about participants' background and their current roles and responsibilities within their respective agencies
5. Identify challenges or problem areas within the Standards Alliance initiative that are important to participants and could potentially be addressed through collaboration
6. Identify knowledge gaps
7. Identify potential stakeholders or partners not yet engaged
8. Assess factors that would influence willingness to actively participate, and determine interest in assuming a leadership role or other responsibilities
9. Assess preferences for format and frequency of periodic meetings and on-going collaboration
10. Begin to identify preliminary timeline for engagement

All of these objectives were met, and ANSI conducted similar meetings with stakeholders in the U.S. including government agencies such as USTR and the Department of Commerce. In addition, private sector organizations from ANSI's membership and beyond have been consulted to identify specific priorities for U.S. industry. Potential areas for future programming include:

- Good regulatory practice and regulatory impact assessment – in both countries, active government initiatives are in place to promote or solidify the use of these practices, and there was great interest in training
- ISO national mirror committee training – further work will be done to determine specific committees of interest, with the goal of increasing both countries' participation in ISO
- Training on management system certification schemes – includes international standards for food safety management; energy management; quality management; and others

- Training on standards to support bilateral trade and investment – would be focused on sectors identified as Zambia/Mozambique priorities under AGOA or other export strategies.

Based on the above consultations, ANSI is preparing a draft work plan that will be shared with the individual counterparts in member states in May 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	EAC	Conducted US-EAC workshop on TBT and SPS principles	Yes
4	EAC	Conducted focused enquiry point training with Kenya	Yes
5	Indonesia	Completed preliminary requirements to launch laboratory facilities to support implementation of the SNI in 2016	Yes
6	Indonesia	Conducted “train-the-trainer” events to enable further education and training on the implementation of the plumbing code in Indonesia	Yes
7	MENA (Jordan)	Developed preliminary scope of work for IAPMO-JSMO collaboration project	Yes
8	Mexico	Conducted the High-Level Symposium to Enhance Regulator Expertise on TBT	Yes
9	SADC	Conducted focused enquiry point training with Malawi	Yes
10	SADC	Conducted needs assessment meetings in Mozambique and Zambia	Yes

This period of performance included a combination of execution and the planning of future activities, many of which will take place in Q2 of 2016. The outcomes witnessed were quite positive and represent continued success of the Standards Alliance. For example, the high level symposium conducted with Mexican regulators in February showcased the strength and expertise of the Standards Alliance in recruiting top-of-their-field speakers in areas such as good regulatory practice, regulatory cooperation, and engagement of the private sector.

Of particular significance are the culmination of focused enquiry point assistance provided by Thompson Consulting and the launch of Standards Alliance engagement to support the Trade Africa initiative. Since 2014, Diane Thompson has provided training and assistance to the national enquiry points and national notification authorities of all 5 African countries under the

Standards Alliance. Her work has focused on development and implementation of action plans to build the institutional capacity of the countries to fulfill their transparency obligations under the WTO TBT Agreement. The action plans have been implemented in all five countries, and already positive results such as first-time notifications from Rwanda and Zambia have been witnessed.

The needs assessment trip to Mozambique and Zambia marked the first tangible step toward Standards Alliance engagement under the Trade Africa initiative, and will result in dedicated work plans for these two countries, building off of previous work in the SADC region. In the next quarter, ANSI will complete needs assessments for the remaining three Trade Africa countries and looks forward to implementation of the work plans.