



*Standards Alliance: Phase 2*

# Quarterly Report

Q3 July 1<sup>st</sup> - September 30<sup>th</sup> 2022

**Submission Date: November 7, 2022**  
**Version 2**

Agreement Number: 7200AA19CA00012  
Activity Start Date and End Date: July 12, 2019 to July 11, 2026  
AOR Name: Daniel Vasquez

Submitted by: Leslie McDermott  
**American National Standards Institute**  
1899 L Street NW, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202-331-3626  
Email: [lmcdermott@ansi.org](mailto:lmcdermott@ansi.org)

This document was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

# Table of Contents

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY.....	2
2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS.....	3
3. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT.....	19
4. RESULTS ACHIEVED.....	21
5. LESSONS LEARNED.....	24
6. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER, INCLUDING UPCOMING EVENTS.....	26

# I. PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

<b>Program Name:</b>	Standards Alliance: Phase 2
<b>Activity Start Date and End Date:</b>	July 12, 2019 – July 11, 2026
<b>Name of Prime Implementing Partner:</b>	American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
<b>Agreement Number:</b>	#7200AA19CA00012
<b>Name of Subcontractors/Subawardees:</b>	Ethical Apparel Africa, AdvaMed, ASTM International, NSF, AWWA, ACI, CWSC, IAPMO
<b>Geographic Coverage (cities and or countries)</b>	Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Mexico, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Zambia, West Africa (regional), Indo-Pacific (regional)
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	Q3 2022 – July 1 <sup>st</sup> to September 30 <sup>th</sup> 2022

## I.1 Program Description/Introduction

Standards form the foundation of world trade and the efforts of the Standards Alliance help to create fertile ground for reciprocal trade with the U.S. Through increased adherence and understanding of standards and conformity assessment principles, participating nations will become more competitive in the global market, be more prepared for bilateral trade agreements, and be more capable of protecting their citizens from hazardous goods.

The Standards Alliance Phase 2 (SA2) will engage target populations including, but not limited to, foreign government officials and ministries responsible for standards, trade and consumer protection; foreign private sector; industry groups; civil society; consumer interest groups; business professionals; trade policy experts; and academia. The objective of this initiative is to build on the past successes, lessons learned and impact measured to-date of the first iteration of the Standards Alliance to support the capacity of developing countries in the areas of legal and regulatory framework, standards development, conformity assessment procedures, and private sector engagement. Achieving these goals also helps companies succeed globally by increasing market access for U.S. companies through more predictable and transparent avenues for trade and investment in partner markets/regions.

The implementing partner for this cooperative agreement is the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). ANSI is a private, non-profit organization that administers and coordinates the U.S. voluntary standards and conformity assessment system. ANSI's mission is to enhance U.S. global competitiveness and the American quality of life by promoting, facilitating, and safeguarding the integrity of the voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. Because of ANSI's unique role as a coordinating body and a bridge between the private and public sectors, the Institute can build partnerships and foster collaborative solutions for national and global priorities. And ANSI is a membership organization, providing

members with the broadest access to up-to-date standards policy information and opportunities for participation, leadership, and influence. Finally, ANSI also promotes the use of U.S. standards internationally, advocates U.S. policy and technical positions in international and regional standards organizations, and encourages the adoption of international standards as national standards where they meet the needs of the user community.

The Standards Alliance Phase 2 will include activities in markets representing a variety of geographical regions and levels of economic development, subject to the agreement of USAID. In consultation with USAID Missions, U.S. government, and private sector experts, ANSI will select the countries/regions based on demonstrated commitment and readiness for assistance, as well as U.S. private sector interest and development impact. ANSI expects to engage on both a national and regional level when appropriate, and to engage partners in the Latin America, Africa, Middle East/North Africa, and Indo-Pacific regions.

### **SA2 Focus on Medical Devices to Support COVID-19 Response**

In June 2020, USAID further recognized the critical role of standards and conformity assessment in supporting public health and safety through an obligation of \$3.5 million to the SA2, which is part of the more than \$1 billion the agency has committed to aid the global COVID-19 pandemic response. This SA2 project will promote regulatory convergence in the context of COVID-19, good regulatory practice (GRP), and the adherence and adoption of medical device international standards. These objectives will also establish an efficient medical device regulatory environment and framework that will facilitate the COVID-19 response and diminish technical barriers to trade—thus promoting the exportation of quality U.S. medical devices. AdvaMed—a U.S. based trade association and ANSI member—will be the primary private sector partner of the project, and there will be select partner countries in Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia, with overflowing impacts within those regions.

## **2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS**

### **2.1 Progress Narrative**

The third quarter of 2022 continued with the implementation of all activities under the approved subawards. The MDRC program in particular continued to make significant progress this quarter via several webinars, outreach with key stakeholders, critical meetings, and the signing of MoUs with key government stakeholders in the partner countries, such as in Kenya. This formalization of the partnership with local government bodies helps solidify the implementation of GRP for the Medical Devices sector, helping increase safety and health in the partner countries. Additionally, good progress was also made towards petroleum standards harmonization in West Africa with several key workshops held in the region, helping the promotion of a more ecofriendly energy consumption via the harmonization of standards in this sector. Finally, ANSI continued to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic throughout Q3 and is adjusting in person training plans for a better activity implementation, as restrictions appear to be easing up.

### **2.2 Non-COVID-19 Related Activities Activity Implementation Progress**

## AFRICA

### Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure

#### Activity #1 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Clean Renewable Fuels Workshops

Partner countries: West Africa

As a follow-up from the two workshops that have been carried out in The Gambia and Togo earlier in 2022, a virtual 2-day bioethanol standardization workshop was planned and implemented in Mali on September 13-14, 2022. This workshop was open to local stakeholders including government ministries, clean cooking associations, standards organizations, development organizations, local businesses, etc. and was used as an introduction to bioethanol, adjacent sector impacts, the importance of smart policy and standards, implementation of bioethanol businesses, and a look at next steps. Expert speakers presented on each topic, and there were question and answer sessions after each presentation. The ties between local stakeholders and some of the speakers, including ANSI, USGC, and ASTM are continuing to grow with workshops continuing to be rolled out; which helps ensure stronger buy in for the partner countries facilitating the discussion around bioethanol standardization.

The objective behind continuing to pursue these capacity building efforts in the region is to prepare for the adoption of the international ethanol standard for household energy based on ASTM 3050 so that the region may be more closely aligned with international standards and trade facilitated as a result.

Pertaining to the webinars started with ARSO under the last reporting quarter, they focused during this current quarter on bioethanol as an alternative to toxic fuels like wood and charcoal that are commonly used for cooking on the African continent. The use of these fuels results in Household Air Pollution (HAP), which causes major health problems from breathing in toxins and contributes to damaging environmental, economic, and climate impacts. These issues have become a grave international concern and are linked to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Transitioning to clean cooking with bioethanol specifically targets six SDGs: No Poverty (1), Good Health and Well-Being (3), Gender Equality (5), Affordable and Clean Energy (7), Decent Work and Economic Growth (8), and Life on Land (15).

Working with ARSO presents an immediate opportunity to expedite benefits of transitioning to clean fuels by providing a platform to discuss problems related to solid fuels, solutions presented by bioethanol, and engaging local stakeholders to inform on target geographies. This collaboration will ensure countries are informed, prepared, and supportive of bioethanol while creating an enabling environment for an emerging commodity. As demonstrated in other markets, harmonized regional standards improve market predictability and transparency, which will support U.S. – Africa bilateral cooperation and trade.

## **Activity #2 – Support for African Organization for Standardization (ARSO)**

Partner countries: Continent Wide

During this quarter Personal Care Product Council (PCPC) and ANSI worked on preparing another webinar that will take place in Q4 2022 on Good Manufacturing Practices for Cosmetics; which follows the last webinar in May 2022. For this webinar, experts from PCPC will continue to underline the importance of Good Manufacturing Practices for cosmetics in ensuring consistent quality. Speakers expanded upon the ISO standard for cosmetics GMP and provided top-level insight into aspects of practical implementation. The objective of the overall series is to ensure higher level of safety and quality of products so that the African continent may gain more competitiveness in this sector and thus be able to more fully participate in the global value chain for cosmetic products.

## **Activity #3 – Research on WASH-related product standards and their reference in law, regulation, and policy**

Partner countries: Ghana, Uganda, Zambia

Activity #3.1 – Conduct deskwork to gather information about relevant laws, regulations, policies and standards in target countries from online sources and CWSC's network of contacts

The team continued to review the desk research. As part of that review, the CWSC started to develop an outline for the write-up of the deskwork that will inform the fieldwork and make up part of the country report. The team will be able to strengthen the stakeholder lists with the additional reach out to colleagues and partners who work in the sector and in Ghana, Uganda, and Zambia.

Following are CWSC's stakeholder lists for Ghana, Uganda, and Zambia:

### **Ghana**

<b><u>Stakeholder</u></b>	<b><u>Position in Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Name of point of contact</u></b>
<a href="#"><u>Ghana Water Company</u></a>	Managing Director	Ing. Dr. Clifford A. Braimah
<a href="#"><u>Ghana Water Company</u></a>	Chief Manager, Water Quality Assurance	Mrs. Margaret N. Macauley
<a href="#"><u>Community Water and Sanitation Agency</u></a>	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Ing. Worlanyo Kwadjo Siabi
<a href="#"><u>Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources</u></a>	Minister	Hon Mrs. Cecilia Abena Dapaah
<a href="#"><u>Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, Directorate for Sanitation</u></a>	Director of Sanitation	Anthony Mensah
<a href="#"><u>Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, Directorate for Water</u></a>	Director of Water	Donnan Kobla Tay

<u>Water Resources Commission</u>	Executive Secretary	Mr. Ben Yaw Ampomah
<u>Ghana Standards Authority</u>	Director General	Alex DoDoo
<u>Environmental Protection Agency</u>	Executive Director	Hon. Dr. Henry Kwabena Kokofu
<u>US Embassy, Ghana</u>	Deputy Chief of Mission	Nicole Ann Chulick
<a href="#">WASH Alliance Ghana</a>	Country Coordinator	Mahama N. Ziblim
<a href="#">UNICEF-Ghana</a>	Chief - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	Ramesh Bhusal
<u>CONIWAS: Coalition of NGOs in the Water and Sanitation Sector</u>	Executive Secretary	Ms. Basilia Nanbigne
<u>World Vision - Ghana</u>	National Director	Dickens Thunde
<a href="#">World Vision - Ghana</a>	WASH Technical Programme Manager	Robel Lambisso Wamisho
<u>WaterAid - Ghana</u>	Regional Director, WaterAid West Africa (former Ghana Country Director)	Abdul-Nashiru Mohammed
<u>WaterAid - Ghana</u>	Head of Policy	George Yorke
<a href="#">IRC - Ghana</a>	Country Director	Vida Duti
<u>CARE - Ghana</u>	Country Director	Rose Tchwenko
<a href="#">CRS - Ghana</a>	Country Representative	Daniel Mumuni
<u>World Bank</u>	Country Director: Ghana, Liberia & Sierra Leone	Pierre Laporte
<u>Ghana Watsan Journalists Network (GWJN)</u>		General email
<a href="#">Resource Centre Network Ghana</a>		General email

## Uganda

<b><u>Stakeholder</u></b>	<b><u>Position in Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Name of point of contact</u></b>
<u>Ministry of Water and Environment</u>	Director of Water Resources Management	Dr Florence Grace Adongo
<u>Ministry of Water and Environment</u>	Commissioner, Water Resource Planning and Regulation	Dr. Callist Tindimugaya
<u>Ministry of Water and Environment</u>	Minister of State for Water	Hon. Aisha Sekindi
<u>National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC)</u>	<a href="#">Managing Director</a>	Dr. Eng. Silver Mugisha

<u>National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC)</u>	General Manager Kampala Water	Eng. Mahmood Lutaaya
<u>Uganda National Bureau of Standards</u>	<a href="#">Executive Director</a>	Mr. David Livingstone Ebiru
<u>Uganda National Bureau of Standards</u>	Deputy Director	Mrs. Patricia Bageine Ejalu
<u>Uganda National Bureau of Standards</u>	Manager, Standards Department	David Eboku
<u>US Embassy</u>	Political/Economic Section Chief	Jamal Jafari
<u>US Embassy</u>	Deputy Chief of Mission	William Bent
<u>UNICEF</u>	<a href="#">UNICEF Representative to Uganda</a>	Dr. Mohamed El Munir A. Safieldin (Munir Safieldin)
<u>WaterAid Uganda</u>	Country Director	Jane Sembuche
<u>IRC</u>	<a href="#">Country Director</a>	Jane Nabuunya Mulumba
<u>SNV</u>	<a href="#">Country Director</a>	Phomolo Maphosa
<u>SNV</u>	WASH Sector Leader	Kumbulani Ndlovu
<u>Lifewater International</u>	Country Director	Spera Atuhairwe
<a href="#">UWASNET</a>	Executive Director	Yunia Musaazi
<u>University of Makerere, School of Law</u>	Professor	J. Oloka-Onyango
<u>University of Makerere, School of Law</u>	Professor of Environmental Law	Emmanuel Kasimbazi

## Zambia

\*\*Because CWSC has conducted fieldwork in Zambia recently, their focus will be meeting people specifically focused on Standards. CWSC may also meet again with other contacts with whom they met in 2019 for other related efforts prior to the SA2.

<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Position in Organization</u>	<u>Name of point of contact</u>
<u>US Embassy</u>	Deputy Chief of Mission	Linnisa Wahid
<u>Zambia Compulsory Standards Agency</u>	CEO	Peggy Kaunda
<u>Zambia Bureau of Standards</u>	Acting ED	Mrs. Margaret Lwenje Lungu
<u>NWASCO</u>	Staff	Chola Mbilima
<u>NWASCO</u>	Chief Inspector	Peter Mutale



<u>Zambia Bureau of Standards</u>	Former ED	Mr. Manuel Mutale
<u>Water and Sanitation Association of Zambia (WASAZA)</u>	Representative to NWASCO	Ms. Malama G. Kasalwe

Activity #3.2 – Conduct in-person or virtual interviews with Ministries, regulators, National Standards Bodies, utilities, private sector partners and civil society organizations

During Q3 the CWSC reviewed and revised our list of stakeholders to be interviewed, based on additional research. As part of that, prepared and carried out outreach for virtual meetings. CWSC also started to review and revise the interview questions that CWSC will ask stakeholders.

Because the focus during this quarter was more tailored towards the development of the stakeholders list, which was facilitated by the reintroduction of in person meetings, the actual interviews process was delayed to the next quarter of operations.

**Activity #8 – Utility Management Standards Training for water sector utilities (Also appears in Indo-Pacific section)**

Partner countries: Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia

Activity #8.2 – Develop training materials and agenda by AWWA staff and subject matter experts (SMEs)

Activity is on schedule with one update. The order in which the different AWWA standards are addressed in the workshops will be slightly adjusted for the Africa workshops from that which took place for the India workshops, and additional interactivity will be included.

Activity #8.3 – Conduct training with participants from Zambia, Malawi, and Lesotho water utilities

For the Africa phase of the project, 35 individuals representing 17 organizations in Lesotho, Malawi, and Zambia are officially registered as participants in the workshop series. The first virtual workshop for the Africa trainings was held on September 7th and 8th for 3 hours each day. Over 40 individuals from Africa participated in the first workshop.

AWWA’s planned activities for the next quarter in Africa include delivering two monthly check-in calls on October 12th and in mid-November and planning for the second virtual workshop which will be held in January.

**Development Objective #2: Private sector actively participates in countries' national quality infrastructure**

**Activity #5 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Harmonization of Petroleum Standards**

Partner countries: West Africa

Activity #5.3 - Maintain regular consulting meetings to raise public and private sector awareness and understanding of relevant international standards

On September 20, the project leader met with the Director of the Senegalese Standards Body (ASN) on the margins of the ISO meetings in Abu Dhabi to discuss the progress of the project and plan for the next Africa Workshop to be held in Senegal in early 2023.

Attendance at the meetings of the ISO Annual Meeting September 19-22, 2022 in Abu Dhabi, UAE (although unplanned under the Standards Alliance project) proved to be beneficial as it provided the opportunity to meet with the Director General of the focal point national standards body in Senegal who continues to be supportive of the program and endorsed its objectives.

One particular conversation on the sidelines of the ISO meetings with Senegal's Director General included discussion of the next planned face-to-face Workshop in Senegal in early 2023. This is relevant to underline since it directly will help achieve the implementation of new standards activities in the country, thus helping with the intermediate result of assisting countries in leveraging their national quality infrastructure to ultimately help in the long-term development of the country by having a more conducive business environment.

#### Activity #5.6 – Conduct regular web conferences with working groups.

During this reporting quarter the team also continued to touch base frequently with key stakeholders on the ground to keep buy in as this is a fundamental determinant to ensure that the development objectives of the programs are met. It also facilitates the organization of the future capacity building events, which rely on the presence of the key identified local experts and their participation to further the petroleum harmonization objective in the EOCWAS region.

#### Activity #5.7 – Host an exhibition booth and hold a two-day working group meeting in conjunction with the well-attended exhibition and conference, the Nigerian Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition (NOG).

During Q3, the second face-to-face engagement took place in Lagos, Nigeria July 4-7, 2022. The 4-day Workshop in Nigeria included two days of classroom study at the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) in Lagos and two days of private sector laboratory tours. The 4-day Workshop was convened in Lagos, Nigeria July 4-7. Classroom training was conducted at the Standards Organization of Nigeria (SON) on July 4 and 7 respectively. Laboratory tours took place at the OVH laboratory on July 5 and the SGS laboratory on July 6.

### **Activity #6 – Africa Concrete and Building Code Adoption Initiative**

Partner countries: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, (Nigeria awaiting confirmation)

#### Activity #6.2 – Begin outreach and consulting meetings with interested parties including government and ministry representatives, standards organizations, engineering associations, and/or educational institutions to introduce ACI, ACI codes/standards.

As part of ACI's strategy to re-assess interest within Africa, a half-day webinar that was open to all eligible USAID countries in Africa was successfully held on August 24, 2022 with a very good attendance, as more than 120 participants connected to the virtual presentation. Analysis of the event attendance and the post-webinar survey, indicated a strong interest in Nigeria, so ACI has decided to develop a proposal to amend the agreement with the Standards Alliance shifting resources and adding Nigeria to the list of targeted

countries. The team is currently awaiting the decision from the Standards Alliance, as to whether or not the proposed amendment was approved.

## INDO-PACIFIC

### Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure

#### **Activity #7 – Increase the Flow of WASH Services (Also appears in Middle East North Africa section)**

Partner countries: Indonesia, Philippines (TBC)

Activity #7.1 – Initiate development of new Indonesian national standard related to water faucets, based on existing international standards.

IAMPO’s project in Indonesia reached a significant milestone in Q3 2022. SNI 122:2022 (APPENDIX 1) was officially recognized by the National Standardization of Agency of Indonesia (BSN) by Head of BSN Decree No. 213/KEP/BSN/7/2022 dated 18 July 2022 (APPENDIX 2). This standard officially references several international standards as the foundation for its technical requirements. These standards include: ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1, ASTM B117, ASTM B571, ASTM D3359 and ASTM D968. The new standard covers 15 product categories of fitting supply and replaces the old standard which was SNI 0122. The last time the old standard was updated was in 1991.

IAMPO’s work will continue to support lab development. A summary of IAMPO’s workplan and schedule follows:

No.	Activities	Output	STATUS
I	SNI Formulation for Water Faucets and Plastic Pipes		
I.0	Convene Technical Committee – Q3 2021	Cmte. Established	COMPLETE
I.1	Prepare draft SNI (RSNI) Standards – Q4 2021	RSNI 1	COMPLETE
I.2	Technical Committee Meetings - Q1 2022	RSNI 2	COMPLETE
I.3	Develop a Consensus Draft – Q3 2022	RSNI 3	COMPLETE
I.4	Release RSNI for public comments and inquiry – Q4 2022	Public Input	COMPLETE
I.5	Technical Committee meetings on RSNI 3 and public comments – Q4 2022	RSNI 4	COMPLETE
I.6	Technical Committee meetings on RSNI4 and public comments	RSNI 5	N/A

	- Q1 2023		
1.7	Finalization of RSNI 5 – Q2 2023	RASNI	COMPLETE
1.8	Adoption by BSN – Q2 2023	SNI	ADOPTED 7/18/2022
	IAPMO LAB DEVELOPMENT – YEAR 4		UNDERWAY
2	Implementation of Mandatory SNI – YEAR 5		
2.1	Preparation of Risk Impact Analysis (RIA) – Q3 2023	RIA	
2.2	Meeting on RIA with Ministry of Industry – Q3 2023		
2.3	Proposal on the implementation of mandatory SNI to Minister of Industry and BSN – Q4 2023	Proposal	
2.4	Drafting of certification scheme – Q2 2024	SK Menteri Perindustrian	
2.5	WTO Notification – Q2 2024	Notice	
2.6	Establishment of SK Pemberlakuan and Penunjukkan LSPro and Lab – Q4 2024	SK Pemberlakuan	

**Activity #7.2 – Conduct review of National Building Code of the Philippines (NBCP), Philippine Green Building Code (PGBC) and current technical regulations related to water efficiency**

In Q3 2022, the SA2 received congressional notified funds for the Philippines which will allow execution in the country. IAPMO will restart conversations on this activity in Q4 2022.

**Activity #7.3 - Develop a Standards Action Plan identifying international product standards that will establish baseline and “reach” efficiency standards for plumbing products in the Philippines technical regulations**

In Q3 2022, the SA2 received congressional notified funds for the Philippines which will allow execution in the country. IAPMO will restart conversations on this activity in Q4 2022.

**Activity #7.4 – Conduct review of the Philippines legal requirements for the import and conformity assessment of plumbing products**

In Q3 2022, the SA2 received congressional notified funds for the Philippines which will allow execution in the country. IAPMO will restart conversations on this activity in Q4 2022.

**Activity #8 – Utility Management Standards Training for water sector utilities (Also appears in Africa section)**

Partner country: India

Activity #8.3 – Conduct training with participants from 15+ Indian water utilities in Mumbai and Hyderabad

This quarter AWWA completed delivery of the second workshop in India which was held virtually on July 20-21. The virtual workshop lasted approximately 3-1/2 hours on each of the two days, and was attended by participants from 8 utilities, and included 19 individual participants from Indian water and wastewater utilities. All attendees were provided with pdf versions of the next two ANSI/AWWA Standards to be covered in the workshop series (ANSI/AWWA G100 – Water Treatment Plant Operation and Management and G520 – Wastewater Collection System Operation and Management). Follow-up monthly check-in calls with the Indian participants were held on August 17 and September 22. Each of the check-in calls lasted approximately 1- 1/2 hours and provided participants an opportunity to have their homework items checked and to have any questions answered. The third virtual workshop in India has been set for October 19 with 32 hours scheduled.

Additionally, the in-person fourth workshop for India has been moved up a week from Dec. 12-13 to Dec. 5-6 and moved from Hyderabad to Varanasi. This workshop remains co-located with the AWWA India Annual Conference, which is anticipated to be a driver in encouraging attendance by cohort participants. The workshop will take place as a separate track during the first day of the two-day conference, and a graduation and recognition event will be held on the second day of the conference as a lunch meeting. Workshop attendees will be able to participate in the conference social activities. AWWA plans to meet before the conference with attendees that have already arrived in Varanasi. USAID India Water and Sanitation Project Management Specialist, R K Srinivasan has been invited and the team received a preliminary confirmation that he will attend.

## **LATIN AMERICA**

Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure

Activity #9 – Community Water Systems – Standards for safety and risk management (Also appears in Middle East North Africa section)

Partner country: Brazil

Activity #9.2 – Conduct regulatory and governmental outreach and relationship building and strengthening to facilitate discussions on the benefits of NSF/ANSI/CAN drinking water standards

During this reporting period NSF's team in Brazil continued to receive and respond to the questions generated by the NSF/ANSI/CAN 61 webinar. Questions are mainly being received from water treatment companies (Utilities Plants).

Activity #9.3 – Hold trainings to address barriers to trade and awareness of other issues

The NSF/ANSI Standard 60 training was pre-recorded in Portuguese on September 27, 2022 using

platform ON24 (<https://www.on24.com/>). This pre- recording will be played live on October 25, 2022 from 13:00 – 14:15 BRT (São Paulo local time) and included a live Question and Answer period, also conducted in Portuguese.

Registration for the training will be open and free of charge to all interested in attending. Awareness of the training, as an invitation with registration link, will be sent to a list of stakeholders with whom NSF had identified and broadly advertised on NSF's media the week of October 3.

The link to the webinar's registration page is <https://www2.nsf.org/1129231/2022-09-29/3rcc8k>

## **MIDDLE EAST NORTH AFRICA**

### **Development Objective #1: Countries have developed their national quality infrastructure**

#### **Activity #9 – Community Water Systems – Standards for safety and risk management**

Partner country: Morocco

#### **Activity #9.2 – Conduct regulatory and governmental outreach and relationship building and strengthening to facilitate discussions on the benefits of NSF/ANSI/CAN drinking water standards**

Late August, Wessam Jihad (NSF lead for Morocco) and Jerome Logie (NSF, providing translation) of NSF met with the Ministry of Health's Mr. Wahabi Rachid. During this meeting, the Morocco Ministry of Health expressed strong interest in the project and the potential to tie it to the Morocco National Water Committee's efforts.

NSF provided a requested letter to the MoH signed by NSF and ANSI indicating their formal invitation to engage as a partner on the SA2 project in Morocco.

The Moroccan MoH offered that training be held with all stakeholder organizations concurrently (not individually by organization) over a two (2) day period offering to support the training by:

- Providing stakeholders outreach and invitation (specially members of the Moroccan National Water Committee)
- Providing a venue (meeting room) within the ministry of health for the trainings to take place
- Promoting standards alliance project and the importance of developing a local standard addressing the health effects of products, materials and chemicals used in the water sector

#### **Activity #9.3 – Convene stakeholders and host two training events to increase awareness of the value of the program, including addressing barriers to trade**

In coordination with the Moroccan MoH, NSF is planning to provide in-person training 18 – 19 October 2022 at the Moroccan MoH office location in Rabat (Monsieur le Ministre Ministère de la Santé et de la Protection Sociale 355, Avenue Mohamed V RABAT – Maroc). NSF's Wessam Jihad and Jerome Logie shall be on-site in Morocco to deliver the training and a technical member of NSF's Water Program (yet

to be identified) shall be joining virtually to assist with any technical questions, as needed. The training will cover introduction of the presenters, USAID, ANSI, Standards Alliance: Phase 2, and NSF International followed by the standards development process and value and NSF/ANSI Standard 60 and NSF/ANSI Standard 61.

At the MoH's request, the training shall be held with all stakeholder organizations concurrently (not individually by organization as previously reported in Q2 2022). To ease the burden of those from farther distances, the MoH requested financial support from NSF for the overnight lodging of approximately five (5) invited participants who do not live near the training venue; NSF agreed to this request.

## **2.3 COVID-19 Related Activities Implementation Progress** **AFRICA**

### **Development Objective #4: Countries have COVID-19 plans that leverage their NQI in a trade-facilitating manner**

#### **Activity #11 – COVID-19: Surgical Mask Production Project**

Partner country: Ghana

Implementation of this activity continues to face delays because Ethical Apparel failed to pass the pre-qualification testing for the surgical face masks they are trying to produce in Ghana. The results for both bacterial filtration efficiency (BFE) and submicron particulate filtration efficiency were fine but the submicron particulate efficiency results were too low by up to 4% from the targeted 98%. This will make for a difficult adjustment in materials because in order to try to improve differential pressure by going to a slightly lower weight material meltblown layer or other layers, filtration efficiency may be sacrificed, which needs a higher boost in performance.

The feedback and test results have required Ethical Apparel to resource the mask fabric options again. The new round of sampling did take place in August 2022. The new stated objective continues to be for the start of training activities to take place under the Q4 of 2022. Despite delays with production of surgical masks, Ethical Apparel has been able to produce a large quantity of general use masks which they are currently selling with Ghana – currently they are able to produce one million general use masks per month.

## **GLOBAL**

### **Development Objective #4: Countries have COVID-19 plans that leverage their NQI in a trade-facilitating manner**

#### **Activity #12 – COVID-19 Medical Device Regulatory Convergence Project (MDRC)** **Global**

Partner countries: Brazil, Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Vietnam

Activity #12.1 – The Inter-American Coalition for Regulatory Convergence for the Medical Technology Sector (the Coalition) will lead in implementing and managing a dedicated COVID-19 Medical Device work

stream at the global level on behalf of the Global Medical Technology Alliance (GMTA) and Global Diagnostics Alliance (GDA) working in conjunction with the IMDRF.

The Coalition continued advancing MDRC objectives in its leadership of an International Center for Emergency Regulatory Response (ICERR) in the form of a dedicated COVID-19 Medical Device workstream of the GMTA/GDA. This workstream was approved in principle in 2020-2021 and formally constituted by the GMTA Regulatory Committee in September 2021. The Coalition continued efforts to support GMTA in the:

- Development of COVID-19 recommendations to IMDRF, WHO, G/AHWP regarding appropriate international benchmarks;
- Coordination towards an MDRC-related training to address pandemic/emergency elements; and
- Eventual inclusion of links to the MDRC project website and any related resources on the GMTA website.

As part of these efforts, AdvaMed staffs the GMTA Regulatory Working Group, driving MDRC objectives alongside partners from the Coalition, AdvaMed, MedTech Europe, Mecomed, private companies, and standard developing organizations.

Activity #12.2 – The Coalition will promote, ensure, measure, and report the engagement of women throughout the implementation of the project in all geographies.

In all project activities, including trainings, MDRC tracks the participants and their gender identification, when reported. Under this reporting period the team was able to successfully implement four different trainings on GRPs across the different partner regions. Offering training and increasing the capacity for women experts on the field was a priority for the team during this quarter. Successfully, the buy in from female participants was extremely strong amounting to close to 70 percent of all participants. The team is confident that by training women in the medical device sector it can offer more opportunities for them to participate more in the development of the economy in a sector that is also key for the safety and health of their population.

## **Africa**

Activity #12.5 – Tier One and Two Local Meetings/Trainings

The team led local project efforts in Q3 2022. An overview of the major developments is listed below:

### **Ghana**

Two formal meetings were held with regional Tier One and Two stakeholders, not including regular correspondence, informal conversations, or collaboration in resource development. As a result of this coordination, MDRC submitted two MOUs, one for each Tier, to the respective government stakeholders in Ghana. Those MOUs remain under consideration by the Ghana Ministry of Trade and Industry and the FDA in the United States.

### **Kenya**

In Q3, MDRC concluded an MOU with Kenya Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB). This MOU formalizes the project's partnership with the NRA and enables formal workstream development.



Moreover, the team held follow up meetings with PPB to develop options for executing capacity building programming in October 2022 alongside the MedTech Conference. The objective of the meetings is to develop a timeline of virtual trainings in Q4 2022 that compliment an in-person workshop in Nairobi in Q1 2023, so that the objective of GRP harmonization between the US and Kenya in the medical device sector may continue to be implemented.

As the MoU with PPB relevant language to PQM+ the team will coordinate upcoming trainings to ensure proper alignment. Given that PQM+ secured additional USAID funding to support in-country COVID-19 vaccines development and related elements – with a particular focus on working towards WHO GBT Maturity level 3 cooperation in implementing both programs will be key to ensure that there is no duplication of efforts nor contradictory messaging to the partner country.

### **South Africa**

The team in cooperation with the South Africa Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) also held a workshop on GRP implementation in the medtech sector, held on 10-11 August, on GRP implementation in the medical device sector. These sessions were intended to promote the utilization of GRP and use of international standards through trainings on GRP. The first session convened 19 representatives from NRAs and 119 from the private sector. The second session convened 16 representatives from NRAs and 124 from the private sector.

Next steps to further the quality of training for future capacity building events are currently being discussed with SAHPRA. Namely for instance including using SAHPRA social media channels to increase awareness, and how to make future workshop Q&A sessions more productive.

During this quarter the team has also been increasing its coordination with the USAID mission in South Africa to facilitate coordination among the three projects providing technical assistance in South Africa: MDRC, PQM+, and the BCG project with USTDA. The team is stressing that coordination among these projects is key to emphasize the proper differentiation between pharmaceuticals and medtech.

### **Indo-Pacific**

#### **Activity #12.9 – Tier Two Local Meetings/Trainings**

The team led local project efforts in Q3 2022. An overview of the major developments is listed below:

#### **Vietnam**

The team coordinated extensively with local Tier Two stakeholders to initiate a formal workstream in the project country under DMEC. However, Vietnam was unable to officially confirm its participation in the MDRC. This is a challenge that the team has been reporting to USAID already and is covered further later in the report.

#### **Indonesia**

In Q3, the team rapidly upscaled its workstream implementation in Indonesia, hosting the project's second and third trainings in the project country. These capacity building events begin the process of training local public and private sector stakeholders on GRP implementation in the Tier Two context.

The first webinar on GRP and medical device regulation to report under this period (second overall) was executed in collaboration with the Indonesian Ministry of Health and the University of Gadjah Mada. The training covered topics such as convergence in medical device quality management systems and post-market surveillance. At its peak, the webinar convened 112 participants, with a majority from the private sector. The Ministry of Health issued attendance lists, indicating the webinar convened 62 participants, 45 from the private sector and 17 from government agencies. However, in future webinars, MDRC will issue its own attendance/registration links to more accurately capture participation information. The other training to report to place at the end of this quarter focused on International Medical Device Standards and Guidance. The event was attended by Indonesian Ministry of Health regulators as well as relevant industry representatives in Bogor, Indonesia. The event convened 83 participants, 13 of which were from the public sector.

Finally, of relevance to highlight under this reporting period was the participation of the MDRC in a Panel on Regulatory Sandbox for Health Technologies in Indonesia, organized by USTDA and the Ministry of Health. The team addressed the relevance of GRP as a critical element to be included in the development of a Regulatory Sandbox, as well as the role of the MDRC project in developing such capacities so as to keep pushing for stronger alignment and harmonization around GRP in this sector to not only facilitate trade between the US private sector and Indonesia in this case; but also to ensure that in health crisis situations all countries may be more closely aligned on the framework regulating this sector so that their ability to combat a crisis may be heightened.

#### Activity #12.10 – Tier Two Regional Meetings/Trainings

The team has been collaborating with the ITA to coordinate the future execution of a Tier Two regional training. The workshop would be hosted alongside or in consultation with the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) and/or the ASEAN Medical Device Committee (AMDC) under the ACCSQ. MDRC worked to update a concept note as per AMDC's comments and ITA's guidance.

### **Latin America**

#### Activity #12.11 – The Coalition will lead regional MDRC project efforts, convene stakeholders for meetings/trainings, and provide capacity-building resources.

In the final week of September 2022, the Inter-American Coalition for Regulatory Convergence in the MedTech Sector (the Coalition) operated in its capacity as lead MDRC global implementer of Tier One and Two workstreams by organizing project engagements with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and WHO in Geneva. These engagements facilitated a series of key outcomes. Notably, increasing global awareness of the importance of compliance with international obligations in resolving technical barriers to trade (TBT), regulatory bottlenecks, and related challenges to the medtech sector – especially in the context of COVID-19. The engagements highlighted the critical role health authorities have in implementing international trade obligations and served to educate critical project partner NRAs. Importantly the team also agreed with the WTO to work on identifying bottlenecks for trade in medical devices and foster deeper collaboration between the WTO and the WHO. Finally, the Coalition participated in a WTO Panel on Improving Lives and Livelihoods Through Trade in Medical Technologies. This session convened public and private stakeholders to explore how enhanced trade cooperation at the WTO can help deliver more sustainable and resilient medical technology supply chains, and thereby improve lives and livelihoods worldwide as part of an inclusive economic recovery.

## **2.4 Implementation Challenges**

### **Activity #1 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Clean Renewable Fuels Workshops**

The virtual workshop in Mali was successful, though there were a few technical issues on the first day. They didn't seem to impact the overall workshop, but just something to note - virtual workshops can present more of these issues as developing countries hosting the event may not have stable and consistent internet connection. Additionally, there was some confusion as to whether ECREEE could support the workshop since Mali was under sanctions until July. They initially had committed support, but a month before the workshop said they could not actually attend. They allowed the continued use of their name and logo during the event.

### **Activity #5 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Harmonization of Petroleum Standards**

Holding the Workshop in Lagos, Nigeria came with several challenges regarding logistics. Despite the encounters with regards to traffic in the city and a delay in the project leader's arrival due to Visa issues, the Workshop was able to be held in its entirety.

### **Activity #6 – Africa Concrete and Building Code Adoption Initiative**

The team is still facing a challenge researching organizations, universities and government ministries for contacts /stakeholders to ensure a stronger buy in in the partner countries. The main issue, which has been underlined in previous reports already, however continues to be present. Indeed, the team is working to overcome historical, colonial bias to the use of European-based codes and standards.

### **Activity #11 – COVID-19: Surgical Mask Production Project**

Extreme delays in obtaining the certification for the surgical masks, which in turn prevent the beginning of the trainings with GSA which constitute the main implementation component of this activity.

### **Activity #12 – COVID-19 Medical Device Regulatory Convergence Project (MDRC)**

#### **Government Mobilization**

#### **Vietnam**

Since outreach began in Vietnam, MDRC experienced long periods between government stakeholder responses to project outreach. However, those stakeholders remained extremely interested in partnering with the project. MDRC continued its efforts to formalize a workstream with those stakeholders, despite their slower engagement. As indicated in the Q2 2022 Report, MDRC began to reevaluate its allocation of resources to the project country, understanding that if a workstream could not be formalized in Vietnam those resources would be more effectively utilized elsewhere. MDRC communicated with those stakeholders, setting a deadline of 31 July for workstream approval.

Vietnam was unable to officially confirm its participation in the MDRC and did not respond to MDRC's repeated queries on additional procedural processes for engagement. MDRC understands this is likely due to the government's limited resources and personnel as well as other competing priorities. MDRC made

the decision to redirect attention and resources from Vietnam to Indonesia, where there has been more intensive engagement. However, MDRC remains open to collaborating with Vietnamese stakeholders on an ad hoc basis for medical device-related regulatory consultations and/or trainings (resource permitting). MDRC relayed this decision to Vietnam through FCS Hanoi and fully briefed the local USAID Mission.

**Ghana**

Please see Q2 2022 Report for a full timeline of engagement with Ghana. As a result of MDRC’s partnership with local stakeholders (i.e. U.S. Embassy Officials in Accra) to conduct outreach with Ghana’s Tier One and Two agencies, MDRC contacted Ghana’s Ministry of Trade and Industry and Food and Drug Administration. MDRC was able to renew conversations with the Government of Ghana and draft two MOUs to guide workstream implementation at Tiers One and Two. MDRC expects these MOUs to be fully signed in Q4 2022. Given the late timeframe for fully developing workstreams in the country, MDRC is exploring how to best include those government stakeholders in regional and local trainings as appropriate.

**WHO MedTech Guidance**

As noted in Q2 2022 report, MDRC continues to include the WHO and its international benchmark guidance for Medical Device National Regulatory Authorities (MD NRAs) in programming with project country NRAs. However, MDRC believes that a number of systemic WHO practices work at cross-purposes with both MDRC’s efforts to build NRA capacity as well as guidance developed by the IMDRF, FDA/CDRH, WTO and the WHO. The team already alluded in more detailed the specific challenges it faces around the guidance in the last quarterly report.

**Coordination on Aid for MD NRA Capacity Building**

From the project’s inception, MDRC has worked to coordinate with USAID, FDA/CDRH and other USAID project teams to ensure an aligned and non-duplicative approach to capacity building. Through the establishment of a coordination team, all parties have worked to share information and ensure proper differentiation between medtech and medicines in their project workstreams. MDRC believes that improving the information sharing mechanisms between all parties will be critical to future successful capacity building. These efforts should extend beyond USAID projects and to all relevant capacity building projects. In South Africa, for example, MDRC has coordinated with USTDA and USAID to structure MDRC programming to be supportive of and complementary to USTDA’s new project to provide capacity building to SAHPRA.

### 3. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

Activity #	Sub activity #	Country	Meeting/ Event	Date	Participants
1	N/A	ARSO	ARSO Webinars on Bioethanol	August/	

				September 2022	
1	N/A	West Africa	Renewable Fuel Workshop hosted by Mali	September 13-14 2022	26 participants
5	5.7	West Africa	Workshop on harmonization of petroleum standards	July 2022	27 participants
6	6.2	Africa	Webinar in Africa Concrete and Building Code initiative	August 24, 2022	126 participants
8	8.3	India	Workshop 2 on water utility management standard in India	July, 20-21, 2022	26 participants (all government officials)
8	8.3	Africa	Workshop 1 on water utility management standards in Africa	September 7-8, 2022	39 participants (17 government organizations in Lesotho, Malawi, and Zambia)
12	12.5	South Africa	Training on GRP Implementation in the Medical Device Sector	10-11 August, 2022	<p>Session I:</p> <p>138 attendees</p> <p>106 female, 28 male, 4 no declaration</p> <p>(119 private sector)</p> <p>Session II:</p> <p>140 attendees</p> <p>107 female, 30 male, 3 no declaration</p> <p>(124 private sector)</p>
12	12.9	Indonesia	Training on GRP and Medical Device Regulation	22 July, 2022	62 attendees (45 private sector)
12	12.9	Indonesia	International Medical device Standards and Guidance	8-9 September	83 attendees

					48 female, 35 male (70 private sector)
12	12.16	Mexico	Workshop on Conformity Assessment of MDs and SaMD	29 August	578 participants 49 in-person, 529 virtual 416 female, 154 male, 8 no declaration (418 private sector)

## 4. RESULTS ACHIEVED

### **Performance Indicator #2: Number of trainings conducted about the value of using their national quality infrastructure**

Under this reporting period for this performance indicator there are a total of **12** trainings to report which exceeds the total number of training targeted set at **10**. A breakdown of the different workshops is presented below by activity.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Activity #1 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Clean Renewable Fuels Workshops**

Under this activity there were **2** webinars that were targeted by the subawards to take place under this reporting period to continue to advance the implementation of the project. For this quarter the team was able to implement **4** thereby exceeding the target. This is due to the new agreement between ANSI and ARSO to organize a webinar series on bioethanol as a result of the strong buy in in the region to gain more expertise on Renewable Fuels overall. See below the breakdown of the workshops:

- 3 monthly ARSO webinars on bioethanol
- 1 Renewable Fuel Workshop in Mali, on September 2022

For the upcoming quarter the team has set a target of **1**.

#### **Activity #2 – Support for African Organization for Standardization (ARSO)**

As mentioned during this quarter no webinar took place as one did last quarter and the team used the time after that to prepare a more targeted capacity building event. In that sense the target for this quarter was **0** and for Q4 it will be **1**.

#### **Activity #3 – Research on WASH-related product standards and their reference in law, regulation, and policy**

---

<sup>1</sup> Activities not mentioned under this section did not select it for their implementation.

As stated during the narrative progress section of this report, during this quarter the team continue to focus on identifying the key stakeholders for the successful implementation of this activity. It has now developed a key list for all partner countries of contact points in water and sanitation and expects to be able to carry out trainings once the country needs assessment for those stakeholders is done.

Ensuring that the team has a clear picture of the needs and contact points that buy into the capacity building project will ensure that harmonization of standards in this sector can happen more smoothly, thus helping increase the health and safety of the local population and bolstering their participation into global trade and development.

Therefore the team had set targets for both Q3 and Q4 of 2022 as 0 but is still on track to impact policy changes in the partner countries.

### **Activity #5 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Harmonization of Petroleum Standards**

The target for this activity was to hold 3 trainings event during this reporting quarter. This target was met, since the team held key capacity building events in parallel to the Nigerian Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition (NOG).

Given the fact that the team intend to organize a training to key stakeholders in December 2022 during the ASTM annual conference, the target for the upcoming quarter would be 1.

### **Activity #6 – Africa Concrete and Building Code Adoption Initiative**

Under this activity there was 1 webinar that were targeted by the subawards to take place under this reporting period to continue to advance the implementation of the project. For this quarter the team was able to indeed met the target by hosting a continent-wide workshop on Concrete and ACI's Building Code held in August of 2022.

For the upcoming quarter the team has set a target of 0 as the project continues to prepare to expand its scope to a more continental approach to train stakeholders on the ACI Building Codes.

### **Activity #7 – Increase the Flow of WASH Services**

There were no expected workshops for Q3 and therefore IAPMO achieved its target of 0 workshops for Q3 2022.

IAMPO is not expecting workshops in Q4 and therefore the target is 0.

### **Activity #8 – Utility Management Standards Training for water sector utilities**

In Q3 2022, AWWA set a target of 0 for Africa and 1 for India. The target was achieved.

For the upcoming quarter, AWWA sets a target of 2 for India and 0 for Africa.

## **Activity #12 – COVID-19 Medical Device Regulatory Convergence Project (MDRC)**

In Q3 2022, MDRC conducted **4** trainings on the value of using NQI with an emphasis on the importance of GRP in the medical device sector to ensure easier access to critical equipment to facilitate improving health and safety standards in the partner countries. Those include:

- Indonesia: 2 trainings
- Mexico: 1 training
- South Africa: 1 training

For Q4 2022, MDRC sets a target of **2** workshops under this indicator.

## **Performance Indicator #9: Number of workshop/reserve trade mission participants (Related to Technical Barriers to Trade awareness)**

Under this reporting period for this performance indicator there were a total of **12** workshop to report cumulating to a total of **1247 participants**, which exceeds number of targeted participants set at **195**. Which demonstrates a strong buy in during the capacity building events. A breakdown of the different participants in said workshops is presented below by activity.<sup>2</sup>

## **Activity #1 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Clean Renewable Fuels Workshops**

Under this activity the target was to reach a minimum of **40** participants in the trainings to raise awareness around TBT principles. This target was reached as the Renewable Fuel Workshop in Mali counted **26** participants and the Webinars have an average of **70** attendees per event.

For the upcoming quarter the team has set a target of **20**.

## **Activity #5 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Harmonization of Petroleum Standards**

The target under this indicator was set at **45** for this quarter. Given that the team while in Nigeria for the NOG focused on delivering trainings to key experts amongst the ECOWAS partner countries the capacity building exercise turned out to be more limited in scope and around **27** high level experts in the participated in the three sessions offered in Nigeria by the team on the Harmonization of Petroleum Standards.

As the next workshop will take place at ASTM's offices and the team is invited only two representatives from each of the participating countries in the ECOWAS region. The team thus sets the target for Q4 2022 at **8**.

## **Activity #7 – Increase the Flow of WASH Services**

---

<sup>2</sup> *Idem*



There were no expected workshops for Q3 and therefore IAPMO achieved its target of 0 participants for Q3 2022.

IAMPO is not expecting workshops in Q4 and therefore the target participants is 0.

### **Activity #8 – Utility Management Standards Training for water sector utilities**

In Q3 2022, AWWA set a target of 0 for Africa and 25 for India. The target was surpassed for Africa as AWWA was able to host their first workshop; therefore, the target reached was 36. For India, the target was close to as expected with 26 participants joining the second online workshop.

For the upcoming quarter, AWWA sets a target of 16 for India (10 for the first event on October 18, and 6 for the second event on Dec 5-6) and 0 for Africa.

### **Activity #9 – Community Water Systems – Standards for safety and risk management**

For both Brazil and Morocco, NSF set a target of 0 for this performance indicator as there were no planned events in Q3 2022.

For the upcoming quarter, NSF sets a target of 35 for Brazil and 20 for Morocco.

### **Activity #12 – COVID-19 Medical Device Regulatory Convergence Project (MDRC)**

MDRC executed 4 trainings on GRP with Tier One and Two stakeholders, and had set a target of 75 participants across all trainings. As these trainings convened approximately 1001 participants the team can successfully demonstrate strong buy in and impact to raise awareness around TBT principles in partner countries. Indeed, these trainings are essential to building good regulatory capacities and addressing barriers to trade by:

- Delivering high-level presentations on GRP policy implementation at both Tiers One and Two;
- Emphasizing the role of GRP in both recovery from COVID-19 and reducing barriers to trade;
- Participating in in-depth examinations of workstreams to implement GRPs, including timelines and plans for future implementation;
- Exploring efforts to document GRP implementation within pilot project regulatory agencies; and
- Facilitating long-term GRP collaboration among the project countries.

For Q4 2022, MDRC sets a target of 500 participants under this indicator.

## **5. LESSONS LEARNED**

### **Activity #5 – Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Harmonization of Petroleum Standards**

Given that for the upcoming reporting quarter the team has started to undertaken the visa administrative requirements that the USG mandates to invite stakeholders here in the United States, the team feels

confident that it be able to replicate having trainings here as well if needed provided that there is sufficient time to organize said event.

### **Activity #6 – Africa Concrete and Building Code Adoption Initiative**

By successfully organizing an event that was open to a larger number of stakeholders the team has learned that it may be more efficient to conduct larger virtual seminars rather than smaller meetings done multiple times. In that sense the activity may need to identify what is not being said or the lack of responses to better gauge the interest level from stakeholders. In addition, it needs to be flexible to adjust the plan and strategy to meet the current situation.

### **Activity #7 – Increase the Flow of WASH Services**

Development of the new SNI was successful thanks to the active participation by government officials from BSN and other ministries as well as the important role the private sector played. Their collective involvement ultimately resulted in the development of a new SNI based on international safety and performance requirements, and it allowed for the quick adoption of the draft standard by BSN.

### **Activity #8 – Utility Management Standards Training for water sector utilities**

The first two India workshops have been insightful for learning to provide the training in a virtual workshop. Additional opportunities for feedback and interaction will be included at more frequent intervals in future workshops. It was also learned that more technical details were desired immediately in the training with less emphasis on administrative issues. The remaining India and Africa workshops will be adjusted accordingly.

### **Activity #9 – Community Water Systems – Standards for safety and risk management**

For Morocco, NSF learned the strength of interest from MoH for the project and their eagerness and ability to integrate NSF's project plans into the Morocco National Water Committee's. It is NSF's belief that this support and collaboration with the Moroccan Ministry of Health will encourage strong participation from in-country stakeholders and best set up the project for continued conversations in-country and sustainability.

### **Activity #12 – COVID-19 Medical Device Regulatory Convergence Project (MDRC)**

In geographies where MDRC experienced limited government stakeholder engagement, the project team found it effective to convene relevant industry and U.S. government stakeholders to seek their support raising MDRC with relevant local contacts.

In Ghana, heightened coordination with U.S. government actors in particular (see Section 2.1 – Progress Narrative, Section 2.2 – Implementation Status) has worked to increase alignment in U.S. government capacity building and extend outreach to government agencies. These efforts resulted in renewed talks with Ghanaian government stakeholders at both Tiers One and Two. MDRC expects to conclude MOUs with those stakeholders that formalize Tier One and Two workstreams in Q4 2022.

The project team continues to incorporate lessons learned on hybrid in-person/virtual engagements with

stakeholders. Learning from the execution of the events alongside the Summit of the Americas, MDRC organized additional hybrid in-person trainings in both Latin America and Southeast Asia. For in-person attendees, MDRC continues to learn how to effectively navigate COVID-19 protocols in addition to international travel restrictions/regulations.

## 6. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER, INCLUDING UPCOMING EVENTS

Activity #	Sub activity #	Country	Publications/ Reports	Meeting/ Event	Date	Location	USAID participation
1	N/A	West Africa	N/A	Workshop on Clean Renewable Fuel	Q4 2022	Online	TBD
1	N/A	West Africa	N/A	Workshop on Clean Renewable Fuel	2023	Mozambique, South Africa, and Senegal	TBD
2	N/A	Africa	N/A	Webinar on Cosmetic products	Q4 2022	Online	TBD
5	5.5	West Africa	N/A	Study Tour in the USA around Committee meetings of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products	December 2022	Orlando	TBD
6	6.2	Africa	N/A	Webinar in Africa Concrete and Building Code initiative	2023	TBD	TBD
8	8.3	India	N/A	Workshop 3 on water utility management standard in India	October 19, 2022	Online	TBD
8	8.3	India	N/A	Workshop 4 on water utility management standard India in conjunction with AWWA India Annual Conference	December 5-6, 2022	Varanasi	TBD
9	9.3	Brazil	N/A	NSF/ANSI/CAN Standard 60 Workshop	October 25, 2022	Online	No
9	9.3	Morocco	N/A	Workshop on NSF/ANSI/CAN Standard 60 and 61	October 18-19, 2022	Rabat	No

12	12.1	Global	N/A	MDRC programming in Boston, MA alongside the MedTech Conference	October 2022	Boston	Yes
12	12.5	Africa	N/A	Tier One Regional Forum: relevant stakeholders from Ghana, Kenya, and South Africa (and broader region, as appropriate)	TBD November/ December	Virtual	Yes