



# ANSI-USAID Standards Alliance Annual Report Year 2: 2014 – 2015

August 2015



**Period of Performance:** May 6, 2014 – May 5, 2015

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## INTRODUCTION

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The following report contains a summary of the major activities completed and outcomes achieved during the second year of implementation of the Standards Alliance, a public-private partnership between the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Additional information is provided through quarterly performance reports submitted to USAID by ANSI.

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 World Trade Organization (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.

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## SUMMARY OF PROJECT OUTPUTS

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According to the “Standards Alliance Year Two Plan” (September 2014), a set of activities was identified to be carried out. Additional activities beyond the Year Two Plan were also carried out, when appropriate for the scope and resources of the project.

The primary outputs of the second year of the Standards Alliance included:

- Issued public call for proposals for Standards Alliance activities
- “Electronic Notification Systems and Public Consultation” workshop held with EAC members, highlighting NotifyKenyaTBT, in conjunction with East African Trade Hub (August 2014)
- Training for Peruvian regulators on analytical tools for rule-making (October 2014)
- Participation in workshop on Building institutional capacity in the use of trade-related International Support Measures (ISMs), carried out by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and focused on electronic notification systems (November 2014)
- Training on conformity assessment for COPANT member countries (November 2014)
- North American Conference on Good Regulatory Practices (December 2014)

- Training on referencing standards in legislation for Zambia, in conjunction with the USAID Southern African Trade Hub (December 2014)
- “Food Additives: A Global Perspective on Safety Evaluation and Use” conference carried out in El Salvador with 8 Central American countries (January 2015)
- Publishing of a Uniform Plumbing Code specific to Indonesia (UPC-ID) through an open, consensus process (March 2015)
- Training on effective participation in ISO for Lesotho, Malawi and Zambia (March 2015)
- Workshop on “U.S. Automotive Standards and Technical Regulations” conducted with ASEAN countries on sidelines of APEC Automotive Dialogue (April 2015)
- Exchange on the WTO Code of Good Practice carried out in Colombia (May 2015)
- “Central American Conference on Textiles Standards and Customs Procedures” carried out in Guatemala with 5 Central American countries (June 2015)
- U.S.-SADC Exchange on Good Regulatory Practices with SADCSTAN and SADCTRLC carried out in South Africa with all 15 SADC member states (June 2015)

All of the projected outputs described in the Year Two Plan were completed or begun and/or rescheduled for Year Three. Where outputs were postponed or rescheduled in Year Three, this was most often due to a delay caused by staff turnover at counterpart agencies or gaps in partner USAID project contracts. The 2014-2015 outputs are summarized by country/region in the table from the work plan.

ACTIVITY	COUNTERPART	STATUS
<b>Central America (CAFTA-DR)</b>		
1. Training on standards and U.S. customs requirements for the textiles industry	Guatemala (VESTEX)	Completed June 2015
2. Conference on food additive regulation (led by USDA)	ILSI Mesoamerica	Completed January 2015
3. Development of StandardsPortal in Spanish language	COGUANOR, INTECO, OSN	Postponed until Year 3
<b>Colombia</b>		
4. Training/information exchange on the WTO Code of Good Practice	MinCIT and ICONTEC	Completed May 2015
5. Assistance for laboratory recognition by CPSC	ICONTEC and designated lab	Begun communication with CPSC, ongoing
6. Development of StandardsPortal in Spanish language	ICONTEC	Included in Year 3 work plan
7. FSMA training	ICONTEC	Postponed awaiting feedback from FDA
<b>EAC</b>		
8. Focused enquiry point capacity building (led by Thompson Consulting)	Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda	Action plans completed for all 5 EAC countries

9. Workshop on public consultation in the regulatory process and standards development	EAC and the East African Trade Hub	Completed August 2014
10. Standards and/or conformity assessment exchange	Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda	Reworked in Year 3 work plan
11. Participation in workshop on Building institutional capacity in the use of trade-related International Support Measures (ISMs)	UNDESA and UNDP, Uganda National Bureau of Standards	Completed November 2014
<b>Indonesia</b>		
12. Development of a Uniform Plumbing Code for Indonesia (UPC-ID) (led by IAPMO)	BSN	Completed March 2015
13. Implementation of UPC-ID (led by IAPMO)	BSN, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Industry	Begun, ongoing
14. Development of a personnel certificate program for installers and code enforcement officials (led by IAPMO)	BSN, academic institutions	Begun with university partnerships, ongoing
15. Development of a third-party testing and certification program for plumbing products sold in Indonesia (led by IAPMO)	BSN	Ongoing in Year 3
<b>Mexico</b>		
16. North American Conference on Good Regulatory Practices and Regulatory Cooperation	Secretariat of Economy, COFEMER	Completed December 2014
17. Capacity building for COPANT members on conformity assessment principles	DGN	Completed November 2014
18. Advanced course for regulators on TBT principles and the TBT Agreement	Secretariat of Economy	Planned for December 2015
<b>MENA</b>		
19. TBT awareness building seminars for stakeholders	JSMO, MCINET, IMANOR	Planned for Q4 2015
20. Enquiry point capacity building	JSMO, IMANOR	Postponed to Year 3
21. Training/information exchange on standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment for the electrical/electronic sectors	JSMO, MCINET, FENELEC	Postponed to Year 3
<b>Peru</b>		
22. Training on regulatory impact assessment (RIA) and risk analysis	INDECOPI (now INACAL)	Completed October 2014
23. Development of StandardsPortal in Spanish language	INDECOPI (now INACAL)	Postponed until Year 3

24. Improving the Quality and Management of Water Resources Training	INDECOPI (now INACAL)	Modified to medical devices, planned for Q4 2015
<b>SADC</b>		
25. Focused enquiry point capacity building ( <i>led by Thompson Consulting</i> )	Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia	Action plans finalized for all 3 countries
26. Capacity building for national mirror committees	Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia	Completed March 2015
27. Exchange on good regulatory practices, including best practices for national TBT committees	SADCSQUAM	Completed June 2015
28. Launch of national enquiry points ( <i>led by SATH</i> )	Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia	Completed in October, November 2014 and April 2015
29. Workshop on referencing standards in legislation ( <i>led by SATH</i> )	Zambia	Completed December 2014
30. Training/information exchange on the WTO Code of Good Practice	South Africa (SABS)	Rescheduled for Year 3
<b>Vietnam/ASEAN</b>		
31. Capacity building for TBT Enquiry Point ( <i>led by Vietnam GIG</i> )	STAMEQ TBT office	October 2014 – May 2015
32. Training/information exchange for the medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics sectors	STAMEQ	Postponed until Year 3
33. Capacity building for operation of standards technical committees	STAMEQ/VSQI	Postponed until Year 3
34. Capacity building for certification and inspection bodies ( <i>led by Vietnam GIG</i> )	STAMEQ conformity assessment dept.	Postponed until Year 3
35. Support for revising law on product and goods quality ( <i>led by Vietnam GIG</i> )	STAMEQ conformity assessment dept.	Postponed until Year 3
36. U.S. automotive standards and regulations workshop ( <i>led by AAPC</i> )	AAPC and APEC Automotive Dialogue	Completed April 2015
<b>Yemen/GSO</b>		
37. Training for TBT Enquiry Point	YSMO	Postponed until political situation improves
38. TBT awareness building seminars for stakeholders	YSMO	Postponed until political situation improves

39. Training on standards management and TC/Secretariat skills

YSMO

Postponed until political situation improves

## SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In addition to achieving all of the projected outputs for the first year of the initiative, the Standards Alliance recognized several key milestones and accomplishments that may be highlighted as indicative of future successes. This section includes examples of these accomplishments, most of which build off of the major successes highlighted in the [Year 1 Report](#).

### 1. Work stream developed on Good Regulatory Practices

The Standards Alliance executed several programs on good regulatory practice (GRP) in Year 2, with some focusing on GRP broadly, and others focusing on individual elements such as public consultation or analytical tools for rule-making. The workshop on public consultation held in Arusha, Tanzania with EAC countries in August 2014 boasted strong public-private participation and also provided an opportunity for two U.S.-based standards developers, ASTM and IAPMO, to make connections with decision-makers in the EAC member states. Next, the training for Peruvian regulators held in Lima in October 2014 contributed directly to Peru's high-level developmental goals related to joining the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and also spurred discussion of more programming in the same vein.

One of the first events to address GRP overall was the North American conference held on December 10-11 in Mexico City. Organized in conjunction with the Secretariat of Economy of Mexico, the Federal Regulatory Improvement Commission (COFEMER), and the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), this event achieved several unique milestones for the Standards Alliance, including:

- First to include a third country partner as organizer (Canada)
- Largest attendance (over 150 participants from all 3 countries)
- Highest level government participation (in addition to Undersecretary Chavez in the opening session, U.S. Ambassador E. Anthony Wayne delivered a luncheon keynote address)
- Largest delegation of U.S. speakers and moderators, representing both the public and private sectors (ANSI, USTR, NIST, OMB-OIRA, FTC, FDA, USDA, NSF International, American Chemistry Council, A2LA, and General Electric Co.)

North American Conference on GRP in Mexico City



Conference speakers and moderators with M. François Rivest, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Canada to Mexico; Sean Jones, Mission Director, USAID Mexico; and Rocio Ruiz Chavez, Undersecretary of Competitiveness and Regulation, Secretariat of Economy, Mexico

The successes of the Mexico event paved the way for the program agenda to be used as a model for the workshop carried out on June 1-2, 2015 in Johannesburg, South Africa. That event again boasted strong U.S. public-private participation (speakers from ANSI, USTR, OMB-OIRA, ASTM, Caterpillar, DISCUS); and all 15 SADC member states were represented through the SADC committees for standards and technical regulation. One participant at the workshop noted its positive impact, stating:

“The workshop was a great opportunity to make contacts with standards and regulations experts from the SADC countries. The products from our industry sectors (mining and construction machines) do not currently have standards and regulations for most of the SADC countries, but probably will have within the next few years. Our industry would like to support any new standards and regulations plans in the SADC and the SADC contacts from the workshop will be very beneficial for future communications.”

In addition, through the Johannesburg event, ASTM was contacted by the SADC Regional Coordinator with a follow-on request for training on ASTM’s standards development procedures. This potential training is still being discussed may take place in year three.

Activities like the South Africa and Mexico events lay the foundation for deeper technical exchange and sectoral topics to be addressed. Moving forward, ANSI expects to replicate this successful model with other interested Standards Alliance partners.

## 2. Finalization of uniform plumbing code for Indonesia



Launch event for Indonesian Plumbing Code, Jakarta  
 IAPMO CEO G.P. Russ Chaney with BSN staff and other officials. Credit: IAPMO with World Plumbing Day.

Standards Alliance engagement with Indonesia has addressed priorities related to regulatory and standards infrastructure, as well as critical public health issues such as access to clean water and sanitation. Working with the International Association for Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), the second year of activity witnessed a major milestone with the National Standardization Agency of Indonesia (BSN) in the finalization and publication of a uniform plumbing code (UPC) for Indonesia in March 2015 in conjunction

Through the Standards Alliance, IAPMO has supported BSN with training and capacity building on the principles of consensus standards development. The March launch marked the first Indonesian National Standard for plumbing — SNI 8513:2015, *Plumbing Systems for Buildings* — highlighting the need for

standardization across the plumbing industry, from standards to certification, and how this document will have an immediate, lasting impact on every citizen of Indonesia. The adoption of an internationally recognized UPC will help Indonesia address clean water and effective sanitation issues integral to public health by ensuring the safe delivery of water via properly installed and certified products.

Looking ahead, IAPMO has signed agreements with universities and other academic institutions in IAPMO to develop a full training curriculum to train installers and code officials on the new standard and increase its widespread implementation.

### 3. Training to facilitate increased participation in international standardization

One of the primary goals of the Standards Alliance and objectives of the TBT Agreement is fostering increased use of and participation in international standards activities. Several Standards Alliance activities have included this topic, such as the programs on the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards. In the Colombia exchange carried out in May 2015, presenters discussed participation in ISO, IEC, and other international standards organizations such as ASTM and NEMA. ASTM has reported that following that event, it received a number of technical requests related to its standards for textiles and plastics. In addition, a representative from ICONTEC has expressed interest in participating in ASTM's Technical Visitor Program.

From March 30 – April 1, the Standards Alliance, in partnership with the Southern African Trade Hub (SATH) carried out a workshop in Maseru, Lesotho on effective participation in ISO, focused on national mirror committees. The training was led by a representative of ANSI's ISO team and the leaders for the U.S. national mirror committees for the ISO/TCs on mining, food products and energy management. The workshop focused on the formation and operation of mirror committees, as well as the work plans and dynamics of the focus ISO/TCs. At least 15 representatives from the national standards bodies and national mirror committees of Lesotho, Malawi and Zambia participated in the training.

ISO national mirror committee training, Lesotho



Training participants from Lesotho, Malawi and Zambia; and speakers

At the workshop, participants also discussed opportunities for continued cooperation and follow-up training or exchange. Since the conclusion of the workshop, positive results have come to fruition. For example, one of the participants from Malawi approached ANSI about the possibility of a “P-member twinning” arrangement for ISO TC285 on clean cookstoves. ANSI and the Malawi Bureau of Standards have since agreed to cooperate in this manner, which provides an informal but sustained mechanism for exchange between two mirror committees for one ISO TC. Similarly, the U.S. representative from the ISO TC on mining reported that Zambia has requested a P-member twinning arrangement with the U.S.,



and he has worked with Malawi to facilitate an arrangement with South Africa. These types of member-member capacity building arrangements are particularly valuable in encouraging developing countries in their efforts to expand participation in more ISO committees and gain experience to take on leadership roles.

During 2014-2015, across the Standards Alliance countries, a rise in participation in ISO committees occurred at an average rate of 28% more committees over the previous year (2013-2014). Nearly every country increased its number of ISO committees in which it participates. In the future, ANSI hopes to conduct more training and exchanges such as the Colombia and Lesotho events, to encourage more progress in this area.

#### 4. Development of sectoral training modules

In addition to successful foundational programs such as the GRP workshops noted above, in the second year of the Standards Alliance ANSI also developed several strong sectoral training modules, designed to respond to country requests pertaining to standards and regulations for one particular sector. The most robust of these programs was the U.S.-Central America Conference on Textiles Standards and Customs Procedures, carried out in Guatemala in June 2015. In response to an original request from the Government of Guatemala on behalf of its local industry association, VESTEX, ANSI convened experts from the U.S. government and private sector to design an agenda for a 2-day or 4-day training course on the standards, regulations, and customs procedures that guide exports of textile products to the U.S. In Guatemala, a 2-day training was organized and expert presenters joined from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP); Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC); Federal Trade Commission (FTC); and ASTM. All of the U.S. experts expressed strong interest in carrying out similar training activities in other Standards Alliance countries, with Peru as the likely next location and training targeted for 2016. As a result of the training, VESTEX has expressed interest in participating on ASTM's committee for textiles (D13), which would add representation from a Central American market and boost Guatemalan industry understanding of the ASTM standards. Besides textiles and water/sanitation, the Standards Alliance also developed training agendas and content in 2014-2015 that addressed the following priority industries:

- Food additives – The successful conference held in El Salvador in January 2015 was well received by participants and the industry experts have expressed interest in replicating the program in other key markets such as ASEAN.
- Automotive industry – The American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC) co-organized the Standards Alliance workshop with ASEAN countries on the sidelines of the APEC Automotive Dialogue in Manila, Philippines in April 2015. The event was successful in reaching a number of officials from ASEAN or APEC member countries and in addressing U.S. automotive standards and regulation. The AAPC has already put forward a proposal to carry out a second workshop, building on the topics addressed in the first, on the sidelines of the next APEC meeting set to take place in August 2015 in Cebu, Philippines.
- Medical devices, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics – While a training on standards and regulation in these health sectors for a Vietnamese audience was not possible to schedule during 2014-2015, an agenda was developed with input from all three U.S. industries and represents a model that may be used in other interested countries.

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### EVALUATION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

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During the second year of the Standards Alliance, ANSI tracked the major performance metrics that will establish progress towards the project objectives. According to the Year One Plan and project “Mission Statement”, the following measures of success will be applied generally across the Standards Alliance work plans:

1. Understanding of the WTO TBT measured through a comparison of knowledge assessments conducted before and after training sessions, communication frequency between inquiry points, and/or number of comments raised during bilateral or multilateral interaction.
2. Implementation of the Code of Good Practice (Annex 3 of the TBT Agreement) by central government and other standardizing bodies.
3. Transparency measured by the number and/or percentage of proposed technical regulations that are notified to the WTO Secretariat, and through comparison with baseline rates.
4. Increased engagement in international standardization measured by participation levels in organizations such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC); and others.
5. Increased consultation with the private sector through workshops, stakeholder comments opportunities, responses to stakeholder questions, etc.
6. Progress in areas of trade concerns between the U.S. and partner governments, potentially including reduced compliance costs and/or greater market access for U.S. and domestic firms.

The table below summarizes outcomes witnessed for these metrics in 2014-2015.

Indicator	Relates to Measure	Definition	Unit of Measurement	Result
1	2, 4, 5	Participants trained on the Code of Good Practice	Number of workshop attendees	60 <sup>1</sup>
2	2, 4	MoU's or informal arrangements established between partner country standards bodies and U.S. based SDO's	Number of agreements signed/in progress	9 <sup>2</sup>
3	3	Partner countries showing increase in WTO TBT notifications	Number of countries	3 <sup>3</sup>
4	4	Increase in ISO TCs/SCs in which partner countries participate	Average percentage increase	28% <sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Workshop in Bogota, Colombia (May 2015)

<sup>2</sup> ASTM International reports that 1 new MoU is in progress with Seychelles (a SADC country standards body), and 3 informal arrangements to participate in training or exchange programs are under discussion with Colombia, Guatemala, and SADC. NEMA is also discussing a new MoU with ICONTEC (Colombia). Finally, IAPMO signed 5 MoU's with Indonesian universities to develop training curricula for the new Indonesian plumbing standard.

<sup>3</sup> Panama, Peru, and Vietnam all demonstrated increased notifications between the first year of the Standards Alliance (5/1/2013 – 4/30/2014) and the second year (5/1/2014 – 4/30/2015). Source: <http://tbtims.wto.org/>

<sup>4</sup> Total TC/SC participation was measured across the 22 countries included in the Standards Alliance who are also ISO members. Every country except Malawi showed an increase or maintained equal levels between 2014 and 2015. Source: ISO.

5	5	Workshops held or other opportunities for partner country governments to engage with local private sector	Number of workshops	9 <sup>5</sup>
6	5	Public-private participation at Standards Alliance events	Total number of participants	821 <sup>6</sup>
7	6	U.S. TBT specific trade concerns raised through bilateral engagement facilitated by Standards Alliance	Number of trade concerns	4 <sup>7</sup>

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## CONCLUSION

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The Standards Alliance recognized major progress in 2014-2015, accomplishing stated objectives and completing work plan deliverables, while continuing stakeholder outreach across ten country/regions. In addition to this success, concrete training modules on both foundational principles and sectoral priorities maximized the impact of the program. With these important models established, the next year of the Standards Alliance will build further to operationalize and streamline the implementation of new and existing projects.

Future success of the Standards Alliance will rely on continued engagement and support from a diverse stakeholder group in the U.S., including private and public sector experts. The outreach conducted and relationships established during the first two years form the necessary foundation for this process to continue. ANSI recognizes the contributions of all of the agencies and organizations that participated in the Standards Alliance this year, including the core partners USTR and NIST, as well as OMB-OIRA and regulatory agencies, and looks forward to continuing to bring the expertise of the U.S. public-private partnership for standards, conformity assessment and technical regulations in implementing the Standards Alliance.

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<sup>5</sup> See complete list of activities on p. 1. Workshops for this indicator include Tanzania (August 2014); Peru (October 2014); Mexico (November 2014); Mexico (December 2014); Zambia (December 2014); El Salvador (January 2015); Lesotho (March 2015); Colombia (May 2015); and Guatemala (June 2015)

<sup>6</sup> Includes participants in all of the above workshops and Indonesian standards development events.

<sup>7</sup> A U.S.-Colombia FTA meeting for the TBT Chapter was held on the sidelines of the Code of Good Practice exchange, providing an opportunity for USTR to discuss developing trade concerns with counterparts in Colombia.