



Period of Performance: July 1 – September 30, 2015

INTRODUCTION

The following report contains a summary of the major activities completed and outcomes achieved of the Standards Alliance, a public-private partnership between the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The enclosed report contains a summary of all activities completed in the third quarter (Q3) 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 planning for future implementation of activities described in the country-specific work plans, especially in Colombia, Peru and the East Africa region. 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. ANSI also regularly updated its members and U.S. government stakeholders through email communication.

ASEAN

- *Workshop on “U.S. Automotive Standards and Technical Regulations”*

On August 27, a workshop was held on the margins of the 23rd APEC Automotive Dialogue, targeting participants from ASEAN member countries. Bryan O’Byrne of the U.S. Department of Commerce discussed Regulatory Coherence as a new and integral “21st Century” element of U.S. trade agreement negotiations, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). He also outlined approaches toward developing meaningful engagement with the private sector. Martin Koubek from the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of the U.S. Department of Transportation

presented an overview of the motor vehicle safety regulatory, certification and enforcement programs of the United States to demonstrate the robustness of the U.S. system, which provides for high levels of vehicle safety and fuel economy performance. He highlighted the key principles of the U.S. regulations development process: comprehensiveness, scientific, data-based, and performance-oriented, rather than design-specific to facilitate innovation. Lastly, he offered a snapshot of the status of the Global Technical Regulations (GTR) development: the 16 GTRs that have been established and the ongoing work on the next GTRs, including, Electric Vehicles, Test Dummies, and Quiet Cars, and invited the other APEC members to consider becoming contracting parties to the 1998 Global Agreement.

Ken Feith, formerly of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), discussed the rigorous nature of the EPA's regulatory process, and highlighted the key differences between the two major agreements administered by the United Nations' World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29). The speaker representing U.S. industry emphasized that while truly global auto standards and regulations are being developed under the 1998 Agreement, a certification system is the means by which manufacturers provide the necessary evidence to the regulator. There are a number of certification systems in place and depending on the attributes of such systems there can be limited and unintentional consequences if such systems do not have an element of flexibility in terms of evidence. The presentation focused on systems that utilize a wide flexibility but maintain the necessary robustness to ensure the regulatory requirements are met. Utilizing only one source of evidence like ECE Type Approvals while providing a robust evidence trail it can disadvantage some manufacturers do to both cost and logistics.

The certification systems of Australia and South Africa were highlighted as they both utilize a wide range of evidence. Australia utilizes a Web-based system and South Africa keeps its process paper-based, demonstrating that such systems can be wide in their application modes but still ensure that vehicles entering the market are well regulated. Both systems are funded by manufacturers based on vehicle registration numbers. In this way economies and their consumers can gain from more choice and competitive prices while enabling local production to serve both domestic and foreign markets as harmonization work continues. These examples suggest that economies could consider accepting vehicles certified to both UN ECE and the U.S. FMVSS/EPA standards, given that they deliver comparable safety and environmental performance and outcomes.

Colombia

- *Planning for COPANT internship:*

Working with the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) and the Colombian standards body, Instituto Colombiano de Normas Tecnicas y Certificacion (ICONTEC), the Standards Alliance will co-organize a COPANT internship geared for young standards professionals on October 26-29, 2015 in Bogota Colombia. The Internship will focus on introductions to best practices in standardization, and will include presentations from ICONTEC as well as the U.S. ANSI recruited U.S. speakers from NIST and ASTM. COPANT member participants will include individuals from the following countries: Bahamas,

Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, St. Lucia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Paraguay, Venezuela, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Suriname.

- *Planning for Colombia delegation visit November 30-December 4*

Included in the work plan with Colombia's Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism (MinCIT) is a delegation visit to the DC area. With the renewal of USAID's Facilitando Comercio project in Colombia, engagement began again in earnest in late 2014, and in September ANSI, MinCIT and ICONTEC agreed on dates visit to take place November 30-December 4, 2015. ANSI and the Facilitando Comercio worked together to finalize the list of delegates for the visit, as well as recruit U.S. participation. Initial interest from the U.S. included private sector organizations such as ASTM International, NEMA and UL and government agencies such as FDA and NIST.

East African Community (EAC)

- *Support for U.S.-EAC trade talks*

In August, the Standards Alliance supported talks between the U.S. and the EAC in the context of the recently signed U.S.-EAC Cooperation Agreements on Trade Facilitation, SPS and TBT. During the TBT component of the talks, held via digital videoconference (DVC), representatives from the EAC Secretariat, the EAC member states, USTR and ANSI discussed a draft year 2 Standards Alliance work plan and received additional input from the EAC on what to address through the program. Following the DVC, the Standards Alliance worked with the EATIH to adjust and finalize the relevant work plans.

- *Finalized year 2 EAC work plan*

In September, the Standards Alliance and the EATIH finalized a joint work plan of activities to carry out over the next period in the EAC. The plan includes activities that will be led by the Standards Alliance, including workshops on good regulatory practice (GRP) and the TBT Agreement, as well as activities that will be led by the East Africa Trade and Investment Hub, e.g., the regional rollout of the electronic notification system.

- *Complete Enquiry Point Action Plans in Tanzania and Rwanda*

In August, Diane Thompson of Thompson Consulting traveled to Tanzania and Rwanda and carried out focused TBT enquiry point capacity-building. The trainings focused on stakeholder communication and the development of operation procedures, reference and promotion materials for the enquiry points. The action plans for the remaining EAC member countries will be carried out in December.

Indonesia

The third quarter of 2015 was extremely productive, and one of the most exciting quarters of this project to date. Following the necessary measures to plan the implementation phase of the newly developed Indonesian national standard (SNI), the focus of Q3 was on the implementation of the educational component and personnel training, along with the necessary steps for implementation. Numerous meetings took place in August 2015 throughout Indonesia

through Q3. Staff of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) attended the following meetings with Indonesian National Standardization Agency (BSN) representatives to ensure implementation of both the SNI and educational component stay on target:

- Fri, Jul 31: Ministry of Public Works, Denpasar; Mahasaraswatu University
- Mon, Aug 3: Government meetings with BSN; MPW; MHS; LPJK;
- Tues, Aug 4: University Trisakti; University Mahamudi Jakarta
- Wed, Aug 5: UII, Yogyakarta
- Thurs, Aug 6: MPW, Central Java, Pilot Project Site Visit
- Fri, Aug 7: ITS, Surabaya

■ *Implementation of Uniform Plumbing Code for Indonesia (UPC-ID), SNI 8153:2015*

The Meeting with BSN was very encouraging. We understand that both Bali and Central Java regions will push to immediately mandate and begin to utilize the SNI. The meeting, led by BSN Director Kukoh, was attended by IAPMO staff, Ministry of Public Works, LPJK, Ministry of Human Settlements and other officials. The head of Ministry of Public Works (MPW) has recognized the importance of immediately issuing the status of compulsory/mandatory to the SNI Plumbing System for Buildings. As such, the following are action items that came out of the meeting:

- A. MPW has requested a Train the Trainer session be developed and delivered for all regional MPW workers to be trained to the SNI in November 2015. The training is now being developed by IAPMO. The audience for this first training will be nearly 50 – all head MPW regional staff.
- B. The MPW will disseminate the SNI to all regional offices in November, and will schedule to meet with all regional MPW's, Universities, Consultants, and Contractors to work to align the several laws necessary to mandate the testing and certification of products to the SNI.
- C. IAPMO has requested for permission to translate SNI to English for US manufacturers to have a ready guide to test and certify their products to the SNI for listing within Indonesia. IAPMO hopes to complete and publish the SNI translation by March 2016.
- D. BSN's written conclusions from the meeting include the support and necessity of the laboratory build-out as soon as possible so products can begin to be tested to the SNI for the market.
- E. IAPMO believes that the regional Ministry of Public Works in Bali will be the most proactive as they have support and assistance from the Ministry of Tourism. They are interested to implement the necessary phasing of mandates to assist with the increase of tourism. Representatives from MPW, Human Settlements and Planning, and water agencies were all in attendance and in support of the project. The first goal for MPW, Bali is to make the SNI mandatory for all building tenders within the region. They are also in support of, and are assisting in the development of, a pilot project within the region to show the full system of standardization, and potable water delivery.
- F. The government of Central Java is also very proactive and has agreed to implement a pilot project for the construction of a public restroom following the SNI in Semarang. They will first train the government workers to the SNI in the Office of Cipta Karu in the Central Java province, and then construct the public

restroom to the SNI as part of the grand opening of the central park rehabilitation.

G. BSN believes that within one year the SNI:8153 should have mandatory/compulsory status from the MPW and Ministry of Public Housing in all future tenders.

- *Develop a personnel training and certification program for installers and code enforcement officials on the UPC-ID*

Numerous meetings with the Ministry of ManPower and the Construction Services Development Institute (LPJK) were extremely successful. LPJK has agreed to fast track the review and approval of the updated SKKNI and assist in mandating the personnel training. All University meetings held this quarter were very positive, in their own right. Each brought a new piece to the puzzle, and IAPMO was able to put the necessary information together and will be developing a program for delivery at each partner University. Action items and timelines have been developed following the meetings for each individual partner University in line with their outlook on possible delivery and demand. By December 2015, IAPMO will prepare the model of curriculum and education in accordance with the results of the meeting along with the MoU for each university. Indonesia, through the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing has had the beginning curriculum drafted for Plumber certification. However; the SKKNI has not been harmonized / ratified with the new regulations, namely, SNI Plumbing System for Building. IAPMO education department will harmonize the SKKNI to the SNI.

Mexico

- *Planning for High Level workshop for Mexican Regulators December 8-9*

An Advanced Course Technical Barriers to Trade for North American Regulators is tentatively scheduled for December 8-9, 2015 in Cuernavaca, Mexico. During the third quarter, ANSI worked with the Secretariat of Economia to determine the dates and location for the workshop, as well as exchange preliminary ideas for the agenda. The purpose of the workshop will be to highlight the tools of the TBT Agreement for experienced regulators, especially in areas that support U.S.-Mexican trade and cooperation. Preliminary interest from U.S. stakeholders includes agencies such as USTR, OMB, and FDA, as well as private sector organizations like ASTM International.

- *Planning for trainings in 2016 with EMA*

ANSI continues to work with Secretariat of Economia and La Entidad Mexicana De Acreditación, the accreditation body of Mexico (EMA) to solidify dates for two additional activities in the 2015-16 work plan that will focus on accreditation and conformity assessment. The first activity will cover uncertainty and traceability methods for testing laboratories that perform chemical and environmental tests. The second activity will include conformity assessment practices for the food sector, and will include participation from the National Health, Food, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA). Initial outreach and interest in conducting these programs has been conducted with NIST.

Peru

- *Planning for Medical Device technology workshop*

A training on Medical Device Technology standards is scheduled for November 2-4, 2015 in Lima, Peru. The point of contact in Peru is INACAL, the national standards body. The initial request from INACAL was to receive training from ASTM on the ASTM Medical Device standards. ANSI, ASTM and INACAL worked together to finalize dates for the training in Lima, secure participation from FDA in the form of a video presentation, and recruit participation from the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI), another standards developing organization active in the medical devices sector.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

- *Launch of the Mozambique Enquiry Point*

In September, the Southern Africa Trade Hub (SATH) organized the launch of the Mozambique enquiry point. The event followed SATH-led technical assistance to the enquiry point to boost its ability to fulfill duties under the TBT Agreement. The Hub has launched/re-launched Enquiry Points across the SADC region, including in Lesotho, Malawi and Zambia.

- *National TBT Committee trainings*

In August, SATH and Diane Thompson of Thompson Consulting, led trainings in Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana, and Swaziland to establish national TBT committees. These committees serve as an important forum for gathering public and private sector input on domestic and foreign technical regulations and other important TBT matters.

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	ASEAN	Facilitated workshop on U.S. automotive standards and technical regulations for 4 ASEAN countries	Yes
4	EAC	Supported US-EAC trade talks	No
5	EAC	Completed enquiry point action plans for Tanzania and Rwanda	Yes

6	Indonesia	Secured support from central and local governments in Indonesia for the dissemination and implementation of the UPC-ID (SNI 8153:2015)	Yes
7	Indonesia	Secured support from central government and educational authorities in Indonesia for the approval of a curriculum for education and certification of plumbers and installers	Yes
8	SADC	Launch of Mozambique's national enquiry point with SATH	No
9	SADC	National TBT committee training carried out with Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana and Swaziland	No

This period of performance was dedicated mainly toward the planning of future activities, many of which will take place in Q4 of 2015. However, the outcomes witnessed were still quite positive and represent continued success of the Standards Alliance.

Engagement with Indonesia and IAPMO continues to yield positive results, as witnessed by the significant demonstration of support and tangible action items from the five-city tour undertaken by IAPMO staff in July-August. With the Uniform Plumbing Code for Indonesia now published, significant progress is being made to facilitate nationwide implementation and to train installers and plumbers in its use.

Similarly, the workshop on automotive standards in regulation carried out on the sidelines of the APEC dialogue represents positive movement forward in supporting the spread of trade-friendly practices for the automotive sector. The second auto program to be conducted in the Standards Alliance, the Cebu event may be highlighted not just for the strong U.S. public-private representation, but for cementing a long-term strategic engagement with countries in the ASEAN region. Early feedback provided to ANSI suggests that Malaysia is already indicating its intent to update its requirements to be more in line with good regulatory practices. ANSI will continue to monitor this development for more details.

CONCLUSION

Following a very busy 2nd quarter and in advance of a busy 4th quarter, this period of performance included necessary planning and organization tasks. However, the momentum of activities still appears strong and individual events continue to yield positive feedback. ANSI looks forward to building off of these successes in the next period, carrying out planned activities with Colombia, Peru, the EAC and other partners.