



Period of Performance: October 1 – December 31, 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 fourth quarter (Q4) of 2015.

The [Standards Alliance](#) was announced by USAID in November 2012 as a new funding facility designed to provide capacity building assistance to developing countries, specifically related to implementation of the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement. In May 2013, USAID and ANSI entered into a public-private partnership which will coordinate subject matter experts from throughout the private sector-led U.S. standardization system in the delivery of training and other technical assistance to interested Standards Alliance countries.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

This period of performance was dedicated primarily to planning for 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. Also through regular email correspondence, ANSI updated its members and U.S. government stakeholders.

Colombia

- *Workshop on Lighting Regulations: September 2 - 3, 2015*

ANSI worked with its U.S. stakeholders as well as its Colombian partners to prioritize key areas of focus and develop work plans for individual activities that build towards long

term goals. Lighting was identified as a priority for both NEMA, an ANSI member and the Colombia Ministry of Mining (MinMinas). The U.S. delegation for this two-day workshop in Bogota, Colombia included a robust and dedicated group of experts from the U.S. private sector, including NEMA Members Lighting experts from SYLVANIA and Philips Lighting North America. A follow-up workshop is being considered by NEMA for 2016.

- *COPANT internship: October 26 -29, 2015*

In collaboration with the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) and the Colombian standards body, Instituto Colombiano de Normas Tecnicas y Certificacion (ICONTEC), the Standards Alliance co-organized a COPANT internship geared for young standards professionals on October 26-29, 2015 in Bogota, Colombia. The Internship focused on introductions to best practices in standardization, and included presentations from ICONTEC as well as U.S. speakers from NIST and ASTM International. This training was attended by 19 delegates from 13 countries including: Bahamas, Paraguay, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, St. Lucia, Cuba, Suriname, Ecuador, Venezuela, El Salvador and Colombia.

- *Colombia delegation visit November 30 - December 4.*

On November 30 – December 3, 2015, the Standards Alliance worked with USAID’s Facilitando Comercio project in Colombia to organize an in depth orientation on the public-private nature of the U.S. system in Washington, D.C. The week-long visit incorporated discussions with experts from across the government and private sector including ASTM International, Intertek, Personal Care Products Council (PCPC), NEMA, International Code Council (ICC), USTR (TBT meeting), NHTSA, DoC/ITA, NIST, CPSC, FDA, and OMB-OIRA among others. The delegation of 16 Colombian officials included representatives of the Colombia’s Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism (MinCIT), national standards body (Colombian Institute for Technical Standards and Certification (ICONTEC), the National Accreditation of Colombia (ONAC), regulators, and the private sector including the Colombian Auto Parts Manufacturers Association (ACOLFA), the Colombian Plastic Industries Association (ACOPLASTICOS), the National Business Association (ANDI), the Colombia Export Promotion Agency (PROCOLOMBIA) and the National Accreditation of Colombia (ONAC). Outcomes of the meeting include:

1. Plans to establish a Standards Portal between the US and Colombia, (re)establishing MOUs between ICONTEC and 11 Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs)
2. Follow-up DVCs scheduled with CPSC and the Superintendence for Industry and Commerce (SIC), translation of the NIST-produced Industry Guides (5) on product compliance requirements
3. A workshop on Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) to be completed in April 2016, working in conjunction with Facilitando Comercio before their funding is concluded

East African Community (EAC)

- *ISO National Mirror Committee Training with ISO/TC 285*

On November 2, the Standards Alliance and the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves partnered on a training in Accra, Ghana focused on ISO National Mirror Committees (NMCs). Participants included members of the ISO/TC 285 clean cookstoves and clean cooking solutions, who were gathered in Accra to participate in plenary meetings. The NMC leadership from all five EAC member countries, as well as Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, DR Congo, and Ghana participated. The training was led by ANSI, and included presentations from ANSI, the U.S. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to TC 285, the Ugandan National Bureau of Standards, and ISO Central Secretariat.

- *Preliminary scoping meetings in Accra (Ghana/West Africa future engagement)*

While in Accra for the ISO NMC training, ANSI participated in a series of meetings to determine next steps for expanding the Standards Alliance into West Africa to support the new Trade Africa countries, i.e. Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire and Senegal. ANSI met with the USAID Ghana mission, the USAID West African Trade and Investment Hub, the Foreign Commercial Service, AmCham, Ghana Standards Authority, and the Ghana Trade Ministry. The meetings revealed a number of opportunities for Standards Alliance programming in Ghana and the region. ANSI and USAID are currently working through outstanding questions on the mechanics of a West Africa expansion which, once resolved, will pave the way for a full needs assessment and work planning period.

Indonesia

The fourth quarter of 2015 ended on target, with encouraging momentum for 2016. The focus on research and development of the laboratory was a large priority, as the legalities, expansion and staffing needed to be completed to stay current to the ongoing timeline, and carry the momentum of the continued public awareness and outreach programs. The entire suite of services and deliverables included under the program have been the backbone for the creation of an in-country testing and certification program that will increase US exports and enhance standardization efforts throughout the industry for improved public health and safety for the nation's citizens.

- *Laboratory research and development*

- Conducted the High Level Symposium to Enhance Contractor meetings for development and setup of testing laboratory and offices for certification program.
- Targeted time to complete testing laboratory and offices for certification program: May 2016 (Design and implementation began the second week of December 2015)
- Continuing meetings with legal counsel and business advisors to finalize all of the legal documentations for the new company, including filing for tax number, and

working permits

- Staff K. Wijaya and S. Dewi dedicated time and trips on the ground to ensure the necessary steps for lab development are followed for testing and certification of products within Indonesia to the SNI.
- Meeting with a local bank and other necessary provider representatives to finalize the project and accounts.
- Interviews of potential staff, including test engineer, test technician, test manager, office manager for employment beginning Q1 2016.
- Discussions and meetings with potential lab director.

■ *Education and training*

Recognizing the importance of training government workers and continuing to spread awareness of the need to train workers to the SNI and eventually to specific plumbing certifications, a Training of Trainers (TOT) session was held on Nov. 24 and 25, 2015. This was a two-day event organized by the Ministry of Public Works and Human Settlement. This event included several expert speakers and trainers including Ken Wijaya and Doug Kirk. The session was supported by the Ministry of Public Works and Human Settlement and was attended by 30 trainees.

■ *Central Java pilot project*

The pilot project in Central Java, in partnership with the Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province is moving ahead at full speed. This project is the result of the mutual desire of the Department of Human Settlements and Spatial Central Java Province (DINAS CIPTA KARU) and IAPMO to highlight the needs of the Indonesian sanitation industry, and aid in the development of Indonesia's national standards for health, safety, and the environment. This corporate social responsibility project collaboration intends to:

1. Utilize SNI 8153:2015 and supporting programs to build out a public restroom in Central Java to show real world impact through standardization of plumbing systems and components.
2. The goal of this project is that it will be a template for standardization that can be replicated. For the initial location, IAPMO will provide the technical expert and assist with the necessary funding to ensure the success of the project.
3. IAPMO staff will work with the department to identify the appropriate location for the project, set timeline, and select contractors.

MENA (Jordan)

- *IAPMO Participation in the International Water Association's Water and Development Congress 2015*

IAPMO staff participated and exhibited in the International Water Association's Water and Development Congress 2015. This was a well-attended conference, with many of the attendees being from the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region. This conference was instrumental in helping IAPMO to identify old and new partners for our ongoing efforts in Jordan. IAPMO also had productive meetings with the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO), the Royal Scientific Society, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing and the Water Authority of Jordan to discuss in detail the challenges Jordan is facing in delivering sustainable water and sanitation services. The team was able to identify specific barriers related to the implementation of their technical standards as well development of a skilled workforce. Jordan's current code is based upon the 2009 Uniform Plumbing Code, and the team recognized the need to update their code based upon current editions of the UPC.

In the subsequent weeks following the conference, IAPMO has been in touch with each of the major stakeholders to clarify its understanding of the obstacles the water and sanitation industry faces as well as work that is currently being done in the sector. A draft roadmap of project activities has been created and circulated to all stakeholders that addresses improving the institutional architecture, regulatory framework, personnel training landscape and supply chain schemes. As the major project activities are agreed by all stakeholders, IAPMO will work with the coalition to further develop project milestones and timelines.

Mexico

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

The High Level Symposium to Enhance Regulator Expertise on Good Regulatory Practice and the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade is scheduled to take place on February 9-10, 2016 in Mexico City, Mexico (rescheduled from its original dates in December 2015). 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. Interest from U.S. stakeholders includes agencies such as USTR, OMB, and FDA, as well as private sector organizations like UL and the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM).

- *Planning for trainings in 2016 with EMA*

ANSI continues to work with Secretariat De 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 which will focus on accreditation and conformity assessment, and were introduced in proposals received by ANSI from EMA. 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 already been conducted with NIST.

Peru

- *Medical Device technology workshop: November 2-4, 2015*

In partnership with INACAL, the national standards body in Peru and ANSI member, ASTM International, the Standards Alliance organized a three day workshop on November 2-4, 2015 in Lima, Peru. The workshop focused on the components of Good Regulatory Practice in Healthcare, Overview of Committee and Technical Training- Biocompatibility Test Methods, and Technical Training on Cardiovascular Materials or Device Aspects. Representatives from ASTM International, AstraZeneca, U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB-OIRA), and ANSI shared U.S. perspectives. The Peruvian viewpoints were represented and shared by INACAL, Medicines, Supplies and Drugs (DIGEMID), Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism (MINCETUR), Tagumedica Co. SA, National Center of Quality Control (CNCC), National Institute of Health (INS), and Supervisory Body of the State Peru representative (OSCE). The workshop was attended by 45 Peruvian participants from both the public and private sector. Specific and more immediate follow-up from this workshop includes periodic virtual meetings to maintain Peruvian expert engagement between INACAL and ASTM International. INACAL noted that the two priorities for virtual session discussions are ASTM F2809 – 10 Standard Terminology Relating to Medical and Surgical Materials and Devices and ASTM F1980-07 (2011) Standard Guide for Accelerated Aging of Sterile Barrier Systems for Medical Devices. ASTM and INACAL have established the timeframes for the virtual sessions as early March and early April 2016.

Noting that Peru will host APEC in 2016, ANSI is working with INACAL to try to establish additional workshop dates around the APEC planned meetings. One of the anticipated workshops that we would like to highlight for during the APEC year would be a follow-up to the Medical Device workshop possibly during SOM 3 (August 16-21,2016).

- *Planning for a workshop on textiles standards and regulation*

ANSI continues to work with INACAL and ASTM International, FTC, CPSC, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection to solidify dates for a textiles workshop tentatively scheduled to take place in June of 2016.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

- *Focused enquiry point training*

In December 2015, Diane Thompson of Thompson Consulting traveled to Zambia and Lesotho to provide focused enquiry point training in both countries. The trainings focused on stakeholder communication and the development of operation procedures, reference and promotion materials for the enquiry points. As a result of the training, Zambia successfully notified to the WTO for the first time since 2007.

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	Colombia	Facilitated workshop on lighting standards and technical regulations with NEMA	Yes
4	Colombia	Conducted COPANT internship for young professionals in partnership with ICONTEC	Yes
5	Colombia	Organized orientation visit of 16 Colombian officials to Washington, DC	Yes
6	EAC	Conducted ISO National Mirror Committee training for 10 countries	Yes
7	Ghana/ West Africa	Conducted initial scoping meetings with counterparts and ministries in Ghana	No
8	Indonesia	Conducted extensive laboratory R&D in advance of launching laboratory facilities to support implementation of the SNI in 2016	Yes
9	Indonesia	Conducted “train-the-trainer” events to enable further education and training on the implementation of the plumbing code in Indonesia	Yes
10	MENA (Jordan)	Attended International Water Association’s Water and Development Congress and conducted meetings with Jordanian ministries	Yes
11	Mexico	Conducted planning and organization for the high-level symposium on TBT and GRP for Mexican regulators	Yes
12	Peru	Conducted workshop on standards and good regulatory practice for medical devices	Yes
13	SADC	Conducted focused enquiry point training with Zambia and Lesotho	Yes

This period of performance included a combination of execution and the planning of future activities, many of which will take place in Q1 of 2016. The outcomes witnessed were quite positive and represent continued success of the Standards Alliance.

Of particular significance are the three activities carried out with Colombia. The workshop on lighting standards, COPANT internship, and orientation visit to the U.S. were all highly successful and addressed a wide range of mutual priorities. In particular, the week-long visit of 16 Colombian officials:

- included 18 separate meetings with participants from 14 private sector organizations and 5 government agencies
- resulted in a list of more than 15 opportunities for follow-on work (at least 3 will be included in the joint work plan of the Standards Alliance and Facilitando Comercio between January and May 2016)
- allowed for a meeting of the TBT chapter of the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and discussion of specific trade concerns

In addition, the opportunity to address medical device technologies with Peru represents positive movement forward in supporting the spread of trade-friendly practices for the sector. As Peru looks ahead to its year hosting APEC in 2016, this event could serve as a foundation for more activities with Peru and other APEC economies.

CONCLUSION

The 4th quarter of 2015 recognized the execution of several highly anticipated and well-received activities. Key outcomes were realized in almost every region, and the Standards Alliance model of beginning with content focused on foundational best practices and moving to specific sectoral priorities has expanded to almost all partner countries. The current contract period for the Standards Alliance is approximately halfway complete, and ANSI is pleased with the progress made thus far. 2016 promises to be a year of even more expansion and building on past successes.