



U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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NEWS RELEASE

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IMPROVED ICT INFRASTRUCTURE STRENGTHENS NATIONAL DIGITAL GOVERNMENT NETWORK IN COSTA RICA

SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA – Yesterday, USTDA awarded a grant to the Digital Government Technical Secretariat of Costa Rica to assist in developing the information and communication technology connectivity infrastructure of a national digital government system. The implementation of such a system will provide increased efficiencies within Costa Rica and open new export opportunities during the deployment of system.

U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica Anne S. Andrew said that the \$438,000 technical assistance project provided by USTDA will allow Costa Rica to better provide information to its citizens online and will offer opportunities for U.S. commercial involvement.

“This technical assistance grant signed today will provide Costa Rica with a roadmap and guidelines to support the implementation of a government-wide backbone network,” U.S. Ambassador Anne Andrew said during the grant-signing ceremony with Costa Rican Minister of Planning and Political Economy Dr. Laura Alfaro Maykall.

“It will also provide for a shared data center. Ultimately, this network of shared data will allow Costa Rican government entities to be better connected and to better share resources, exchange information, implement coordinated processes and activities, offer new services, handle casework on-line, promote e-commerce, and facilitate citizen access to government information and services,” the Ambassador explained.

“On behalf of the U.S. Government, I would like to acknowledge the Government of Costa Rica for its leadership in advancing e-government initiatives. We are very pleased to collaborate on this important project,” she concluded.

The opportunity to conduct the USTDA-funded technical assistance will be competed on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website. A link to the FBO announcement will be posted to USTDA’s website at www.ustda.gov. Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement. The Digital Government Technical Secretariat will select the U.S. contractor that will complete the technical assistance.

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The [U.S. Trade and Development Agency](http://www.ustda.gov) advances economic development and U.S. commercial interests in developing and middle-income countries. The agency funds technical assistance, feasibility studies, training, orientation visits and business workshops to support development of modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment. USTDA's efforts create an enabling environment for trade, investment and sustainable economic development.