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# U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **USTDA SUPPORTS AVIATION DEVELOPMENT IN HAITI** *Responds to Haiti's Request to Rebuild Airport Infrastructure*

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI** – In the aftermath of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010, USTDA has responded to the request of the Government of Haiti to assist in modernizing the Haitian aviation sector.

Last week, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a grant to the Autorité Aéroportuaire Nationale (AAN), Haiti's national airport authority, to conduct an analysis of priority airport infrastructure modernization projects. This assistance will enable it to design and implement important upgrades at Haiti's principal international airport in Port-au-Prince.

USTDA is working with AAN to fulfill its request for grant assistance to develop plans, project costs and implementation timelines for several high-priority projects that require prompt implementation to improve the safety and efficiency of airport operations. The projects to be analyzed through this technical assistance grant include the construction of a parallel taxiway, a new air traffic control tower, a sewage collection system and a wastewater treatment plant, a power generation facility and other high priority post-earthquake upgrades and repairs.

"This grant represents how the United States is investing in Haiti's infrastructure, to help it build back better," Ambassador Merten stated after he conferred the grant on August 24, 2010 for \$813,000 to AAN Director General Lionel Isaac. "Toussaint L'Ouverture Airport is Haiti's gateway to the world, and safety and efficiency improvements will help stimulate economic growth and increase prosperity."

From Washington, D.C., USTDA Director Leocadia Zak added: "USTDA is pleased to partner with AAN on this important project, which will realize important safety and productivity benefits for the aviation transportation sector in Haiti."

Primary categories of materials and services likely to be needed for these priority projects include ground handling equipment, sewage and wastewater treatment technologies, power supply systems, air traffic control tower components, navigational equipment, engineering and construction services and training for technical staff.

As part of its outreach efforts, a USTDA team traveled to Haiti for the grant signing and to meet with both public and private sector representatives to discuss projects focusing on the energy, information and communications technology, transportation and environmental sectors.

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](http://www.ustda.gov). Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement. The Autorité Aéroportuaire Nationale will select the U.S. contractor that will complete the technical assistance.

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*The [U.S. Trade and Development Agency](#) 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.*