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U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**USTDA DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES U.S.-EGYPT BUSINESS FORUM**

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, USTDA Director Leocadia Zak announced that USTDA, in coordination with the U.S.-Egypt Business Council and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Egyptian Embassy and the U.S. Departments of State and Commerce, will be hosting a two-day forum on June 27-28 to encourage enhanced trade and sustainable economic development in Egypt.

USTDA will be sponsoring a 48-person delegation from the Egyptian public and private sectors to travel to Washington, DC for the *Egypt: Forward* Forum. The Forum will bring together key Egyptian and U.S. public and private sector representatives to discuss trade, investment and commercial opportunities between the United States and Egypt. The Forum will cultivate an environment of increased cooperation, relationship building, and new opportunities among its participants. Breakout sessions will focus on four priority sectors: energy, information and communication technology, transportation, and agriculture. Following the Forum, four site visits, each focused on one of the four highlighted sectors, will occur in additional cities across the United States to meet with U.S. companies and discuss opportunities to work in Egypt.

Announcing the event, Director Zak stated, “At this critical time, it is even more important for us to work together to support the development of Egypt’s infrastructure. This Forum will serve both as an opportunity for increased business ties between the United States and Egypt, and as a catalyst to further U.S. engagement with Egypt’s public and private sectors.”

The Forum and site visits are part of the U.S. Government’s broader assistance efforts to support Egypt’s economic stabilization and modernization. The U.S. Government is working on a wide range of assistance programs to support the Egyptian people. This new activity builds on USTDA’s long history of commitment to Egypt’s economic growth. USTDA’s many prior activities in Egypt have led to the implementation of successful infrastructure projects in a wide range of sectors, particularly in transportation, energy and petrochemicals. This Forum and the subsequent site visits help ensure that this strong relationship will continue. For more information on the Forum, visit [www.iesc.org/egyptforward](http://www.iesc.org/egyptforward).

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*The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.*