



# U.S. Trade and Development Agency

Connecting U.S. companies with export opportunities overseas

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MEDIA INQUIRIES**

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## **USTDA Provides Technical Assistance for a National Emergency Network in Chile**

**SANTIAGO, CHILE** – Yesterday, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a \$514,548 grant to the Undersecretariat of Telecommunications (Subtel) of the Government of Chile to provide technical assistance for the planning of a National Emergency Network (NEN). The grant was signed at the U.S. Embassy in Santiago by U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission James L. Williams on behalf of USTDA, and by Undersecretary Jorge Atton Palma on behalf of Subtel.

The USTDA grant will support technical assistance for the planning of a network, which will provide a unified platform for coordination among Chile’s various emergency response agencies. The NEN will be a highly robust and redundant nationwide networking facility that would enable the systems of various public-safety organizations to interoperate. The NEN will provide a common communications facility that would ensure uninterrupted and undegraded operation under a wide range of emergency and disaster scenarios.

“USTDA is proud to be collaborating with the Government of Chile to support the National Emergency Network,” remarked USTDA Regional Director Nathan Younge. “I am pleased that U.S. companies will be able to offer their expertise in this initiative, partnering with the government of Chile to further plan for future emergencies.”

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.

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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.*

