



U.S. Trade and Development Agency

Connecting U.S. companies with export opportunities overseas

NEWS RELEASE

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USTDA SUPPORTS HEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN ROMANIA

BUCHAREST –The U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a grant to the Romanian Ministry of Health (MOH) for the deployment and implementation of health telecommunications solutions for ten Romanian hospitals. The \$422,786 grant will support the development of a feasibility study on possible improvements in health care delivery in rural Romania. The feasibility study will be conducted by International Development and Technical Assistance LLC.

“Romania has made the modernization of its healthcare system a top priority,” stated USTDA Regional Director Carl Kress. “We are pleased to support this important goal, and to connect the Romanian Ministry of Health with U.S. technology and expertise.”

Romania is in the process of implementing an integrated health information system, which includes the introduction of a health card, electronic medical records, and electronic prescriptions. The European Union has committed to provide funding and support for the Romanian healthcare sector, but requires a feasibility study for implementation financing consideration. This study will not only help Romania implement these changes, but will introduce technologies and services from U.S. companies and open the market for U.S. exports.

In 2011, the Romanian MOH was forced to close 68 rural hospitals, resulting in a major void in healthcare availability for rural Romanians, who comprise 45% of the country’s population. A current pilot telemedicine project in Tulcea, Romania is making strides to address this issue. The USTDA-supported feasibility study will develop an implementation plan to roll this system out to ten additional hospitals in Romania, with the ultimate goal of full national implementation.

The grant was signed at the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest, Romania. The Deputy Chief of Mission, Duane Butcher signed on behalf of USTDA and Under-Secretary of State for Health Dr. Raed Arafat signed on behalf of the Romanian MOH.

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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.

