USTDA

U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Latin America and the Caribbean

Linking U.S. Businesses to Global Infrastructure Opportunities

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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.

USTDA Programs

USTDA promotes economic growth in emerging economies by facilitating the participation of U.S. businesses in the planning and execution of priority development projects in host countries. The Agency's objectives are to help build the infrastructure for trade, match U.S. technological expertise with overseas development needs, and help create lasting business partnerships between the United States and emerging economies.

USTDA advances these objectives through its two key programs, the International Business Partnership Program and the Project Development Program.

In support of the National Export Initiative, USTDA launched the International Business Partnership Program (IBPP) to connect foreign project sponsors with U.S. manufacturers and service providers in order to open new export markets and identify commercial opportunities for U.S. companies. USTDA's reverse trade missions – the mainstay of the IBPP – bring foreign decision-makers to the United States to observe the design, manufacture and operation of U.S. products and services that can help them achieve their development goals. These visits also include meetings with financial institutions to introduce financing options, as well as technical and regulatory bodies that can assist with strengthening the project sponsor's technical capacity.

Through feasibility studies, technical assistance and pilot projects, USTDA's Project Development Program helps overseas project sponsors identify technological solutions and various sources of financing for priority infrastructure projects.

USTDA in Latin America and the Caribbean

USTDA projects harness the latest U.S. technologies to provide solutions for host country environmental needs. The USTDA places a high priority on Latin America and the Caribbean, and works with qualified project sponsors to facilitate the implementation of priority infrastructure and development projects.

USTDA focuses its activities in strategic sectors that offer the greatest opportunity for developmental and commercial impact. These strategic sectors include clean energy, transportation, and telecommunications. Other sectors of interest include agribusiness and water and environment.

The following page provides a representative sample of USTDA initiatives and activities in the region.

As the result of a feasibility study and associated reverse trade mission funded by USTDA, the Cartagena Refinery (REFICAR) has thus far concluded over $1.5 billion in contracts with U.S. companies for this refinery upgrade. These contracts include a $1.4 billion engineering, procurement, and construction contract for the refinery expansion that will increase processing capacity to 165,000 barrels per day. (Photo credit: Jeff Hager)

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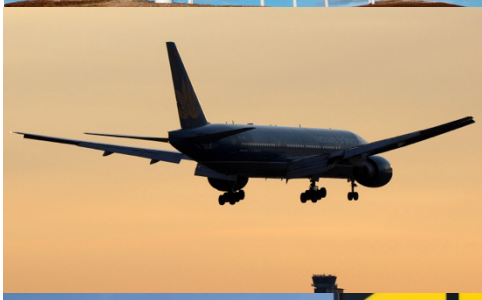

Clean Energy

Intelligent Supervision and Advanced Control System for the Colombian Transmission Grid: USTDA is providing a grant to XM Compañía de Expertos en Mercados S.A. E.S.P., the system operator and market administrator of the Colombian power grid, to fund a sole-sourced technical assistance to design a conceptual Wide Area Measurement System (WAMS) for the Colombian power grid and to define a road map for its implementation. The iSAAC project will involve the use of synchronized phasor measurement units and associated hardware at substations, along with system design work to improve the ability to monitor and control the national electrical grid in Colombia.

Baja California Wind Power Project: In support of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) and the U.S.-Mexico Bilateral Framework on Clean Energy and Climate Change, USTDA is funding a feasibility study for the State Government of Baja California to enable the supply of wind power to state government office buildings and facilities.

Aviation

U.S. – Brazil Aviation Partnership: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the United States and Brazil in April 2012, officially launching the U.S.-Brazil Aviation Partnership. The Partnership's objectives are to provide a coordinated and structured vehicle between the Brazilian and U.S. aviation sectors to address mutual aviation sector priorities, to share expertise on industry best practices, to enhance technical capacity, and to develop technology solutions to aviation sector challenges. A series of technical visits, workshops and conferences are scheduled to take place in either the United States or Brazil.

Master Plan Update for Bogota International Airport: This technical assistance grant to the Special Administrative Unit for Civil Aeronautics (Aerocivil) addressed planning for phased development at BOG over the next 30 years. The technical assistance included a workshop regarding terminal technology and security improvements that highlighted U.S. sources of supply.

Telecommunications

Rio de Janeiro State Government Information Technology Modernization and Integration: USTDA is providing a grant to the Rio de Janeiro State Information Technology Company (PRODERJ) of Brazil for technical assistance that will design the road map and implementation plan for a new data center in the state of Rio de Janeiro. The grant will also fund an information technology infrastructure review for the state government.

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