USTDA

U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Telecommunications

Linking U.S. Businesses to Global Infrastructure Opportunities

www.ustda.gov

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.

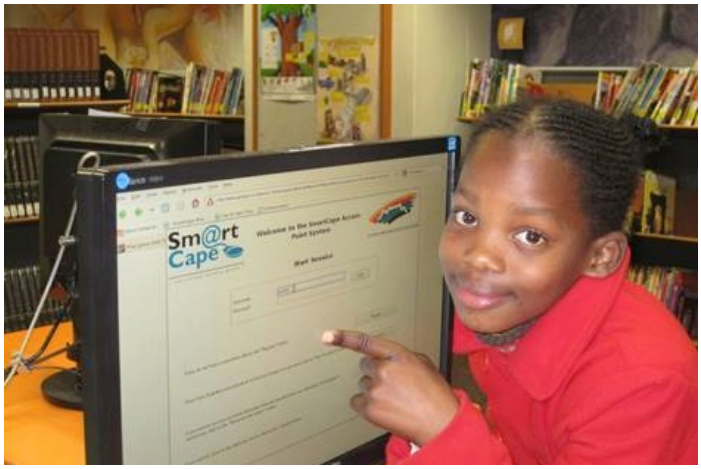
USTDA advances these objectives through its two key programs, the International Business Partnership Program and the Project Development Program.

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.

Success Story

USTDA funded a feasibility study to evaluate the technical, financial and other critical aspects of extending Cape Town's municipal optic fiber backbone and implementing a Wi-Fi network in Khayelitsha and Mitchells Plain South Africa. Based on the recommendations in the feasibility study, implementation of the Wi-Fi network roll-out began in December 2013 and full implementation is expected by 2016. U.S. companies are expected to be competitive in the supply of a number of key components for the project.



A student at the city library in Cape Town participates in the SmartCape project, which seeks to provide internet access to all citizens through the public library system.

USTDA
U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Telecommunications
Linking U.S. Businesses to Global Infrastructure Opportunities

www.ustda.gov

Sub-Saharan Africa SEACOM Fiber Optic Cable Network
Bringing broadband communications to Africa through the sale of more than $400 million in U.S. exports demonstrates USTDA's success in utilizing U.S. technologies and services to expand information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure overseas. The Agency's investment in a regional ICT conference in Ghana and a reverse trade mission to the United States proved successful when a group of African ministers, traveling on the USTDA-funded RTM, convinced potential financiers that undersea fiber-optic cable connecting East Africa to the rest of the world could be commercially attractive. As a result, the SEACOM fiber optic cable network has revolutionized communications in Africa.

Dominican Republic Digital Television Technologies
USTDA hosted a delegation of high-level representatives from the public and private telecommunications sector of the Dominican Republic to explore the U.S. regulatory framework and technology associated with conversion to digital television. The RTM was designed to help prepare for the country's scheduled conversion to digital television under the Advanced Television Systems Committee (ATSC) standard in 2015.

West Bank ICT Infrastructure for Rawabi New City
USTDA funded an ICT Master Plan for Rawabi that will provide residents with cost-effective essential ICT services, while simultaneously creating a leading-edge enabling environment for start-up technology and ICT companies to establish themselves in the West Bank.

Vietnam Financial Information Management Modernization
Introducing a delegation from the State Bank of Vietnam to U.S. central bank operations best practices and the ICT systems used in the management and supervision of the sector was the goal of this USTDA-sponsored RTM, which visited Washington D.C., New York, NY and Silicon Valley, CA. The RTM directly supported the Vietnamese government in developing a centralized and integrated ICT platform to include a data warehouse and core banking system, while simultaneously opening up business opportunities for U.S. ICT providers.

Nigeria Shared Disaster Recovery Services
This USTDA-sponsored project is assisting the Central Bank of Nigeria in determining the technical requirements and business and operational models for a shared disaster recovery center for Nigeria's financial sector. The technical assistance is focused on reducing the high cost of lending in Nigeria by improving the operational efficiency of Nigeria's private banks through shared ICT and power services.

Contact us for more information:
Phone: 703-875-4357

Lida Fitts – Acting Regional Director for Sub-Saharan Africa
Michael DeRenzo – Country Manager for Southern Africa
Heather Lanigan – Country Manager for Turkey and MENA
Lisa Bonnikson – Country Manager for West Africa
Isabel Sepulveda – Country Manager for Brazil

Connect with USTDA

twitter.com/USTDA
facebook.com/USTDA
youtube.com/USTDAvideo
flickr.com/USTDAphotos