
U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



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MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Donna Thiessen
(703) 875-4357

USTDA PROMOTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING IN CHINA

BEIJING, CHINA (September 18, 2009) – Today, USTDA continued its commitment to advancing Sichuan Province’s ability to address disasters following the devastating earthquakes of 2008 by awarding a grant to the Sichuan Provincial Department of Health to strengthen the province’s emergency medical response capabilities. The grant reflects the agency’s strategy of focusing on projects in China that will create export opportunities for U.S. goods and services.

The \$294,119 grant was conferred during a grant signing ceremony held at the Ministry of Health International Communication Center in Beijing, China. USTDA Director for Policy and Program Geoffrey Jackson and Sichuan 120 Emergency Operations Center Chairman Su Lin signed the grant on behalf of the U.S. and Chinese governments respectively.

“Today’s grant demonstrates USTDA’s commitment to support Sichuan province develop world-class emergency response and health care systems by providing access to U.S. technology and expertise,” said Jackson.

The USTDA grant will be used to develop a curriculum and implement a train-the-trainer program at the Sichuan 120 Center. The technical assistance will provide the Center’s personnel with emergency medical services (EMS) training in general pre-hospital care and train trainers to spread this information first to EMS professionals and then to fire, police and other emergency service providers and the general public.

The assistance builds on the success of a USTDA-funded orientation visit to the United States for administrative leaders from the Sichuan 120 Center that contributed to the acquisition of Motorola radio equipment. Today’s award also follows recent USTDA grants to support Sichuan’s efforts to develop emergency response and healthcare systems after the earthquake, including technical assistance on earthquake aftershock prediction and helicopter search and rescue training.

The Sichuan 120 Center is responsible for commanding, dispatching, organizing and coordinating all provincial daily emergency care as well as large-scale “sudden occurrences,” and was one of many centers that responded to calls following the Sichuan earthquake.

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The opportunity to conduct the study for the Sichuan Provincial Department of Health pursuant to the USTDA grant will be competed on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website. A link to the FBO posting will be posted on USTDA's website at www.ustda.gov. Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement. The Sichuan Provincial Department of Health will select the U.S. firm that will provide the USTDA-funded assistance.

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency advances economic development and U.S. commercial interests in developing and middle-income countries. The agency funds various forms of technical assistance, feasibility studies, training, orientation visits and business workshops that support the development of a modern infrastructure and a fair, open trading environment. USTDA's strategic use of foreign assistance funds to support sound investment policy and decision-making in host countries creates an enabling environment for trade, investment and sustainable economic development. In carrying out its mission, USTDA gives emphasis to economic sectors that may benefit from U.S. exports of goods and services.

-30-

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