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# U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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**MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

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## **USTDA SUPPORTS FLOOD FORECASTING AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS IN TURKEY**

**ANKARA, TURKEY** – In order to mitigate damage, casualties and economic losses due to flooding in high risk areas located throughout Turkey, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a grant today to the Turkish State Meteorological Service (TSMS) for a feasibility study to develop a comprehensive roadmap for a fully operational flood forecasting and early warning system. The project offers opportunities for Turkey to develop commercial relationships with U.S. companies that have expertise in flood mitigation.

This feasibility study will lead to the development of a system that will provide useful forecasts that allow citizens and businesses the maximum time to prepare for a flood.

Douglas A. Silliman, Chargé d’Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, said that implementation of the project will lead to the development of technical and structural measures that will create substantial benefits for Turkey.

“The USTDA study will provide Turkish authorities with a strategy to manage a serious environmental threat while also augmenting ties between the United States and Turkey,” said Mr. Silliman who signed the \$507,420 grant in Ankara.

“We expect that the study will assist Turkey with its priorities to improve public infrastructure development, training, technology transfer, and cross-border relations with its neighbors.”

The implementation plan will include recommendations to assist TSMS in determining its needs for hardware, software, geographic information systems, relational database management systems, sensors, weather and water monitoring equipment, communications equipment, and modeling systems.

The grant is part of the U.S. Government’s long-term commitment to engage with Turkey through the Framework for Strategic Economic and Commercial Cooperation, which seeks to enhance bilateral economic cooperation.

The opportunity to conduct the USTDA-funded feasibility study 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. The Turkish State Meteorological Service will select the U.S. contractor that will complete the feasibility study.

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*The [U.S. Trade and Development Agency](#) advances economic development and U.S. commercial interests in developing and middle-income countries. The agency funds technical assistance, feasibility studies, training, orientation visits and business workshops to support development of modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment. USTDA's efforts create an enabling environment for trade, investment and sustainable economic development.*