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# U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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### **IMPROVED HEALTH CARE SUPPLY CHAIN LOWERS MEDICAL COSTS, INCREASES EFFICIENCY IN EGYPT**

**CAIRO, EGYPT** – To better position leaders in U.S. healthcare technology in Egypt, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded a grant yesterday to the Egyptian Ministry of Health to improve the pharmaceutical supply chain which will lead to a more efficient public health care system. Egypt’s healthcare sector is expecting growth rates of 10 percent annually for the next five years, representing a key market for increased exports of U.S. technology and a driver of export growth under President Obama’s National Export Initiative.

The USTDA grant will fund a feasibility study to examine how Egypt’s pharmaceuticals supply chain could be enhanced with the introduction of data collection, inventory management, and process standardizations. The study will also focus on increasing communications in order to facilitate closer collaboration among stakeholders.

As a leader in health technology, U.S. equipment and service providers can play a key role in the development of state-of-the-art delivery of Egypt’s healthcare system.

At the signing ceremony, Ambassador Scobey said, “The United States and Egypt have had a long history of cooperation in the healthcare sector, including implementing programs to improve health coverage of underserved populations and strengthening the technical and managerial capacity of the health sector to positively impact the well-being of the Egyptian population.”

“This USTDA grant is yet another opportunity for Egypt and the U.S. to work together, this time addressing the supply and distribution of pharmaceutical products in Egypt.”

The project is an integral part of the Ministry’s health reform effort to provide cost effective and improved services to the public. Dr. Kamal Sabra, Assistant Minister of Health for Pharmaceutical Affairs in the Egyptian Ministry of Health signed the grant on behalf of the Ministry of Health. With support from USTDA, the Ministry will be able to provide more affordable pharmaceutical services to patients in the public health care system.

In addition, the grant will fund the design of a pair of pilot projects for two governorates in Egypt to test key findings of the study.

The opportunity to provide the USTDA-funded assistance under the grant awarded will be competed on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website. A link to the FBO announcement will be posted on USTDA's website at [www.ustda.gov](http://www.ustda.gov). Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the announcement. The Egyptian Ministry of Health will select a U.S. firm to provide the assistance associated with this grant.

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*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.*