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## U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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### MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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### USTDA AWARDS GRANT TO HELP ESTABLISH COLD STORAGE FACILITIES IN PAKISTAN

WASHINGTON, D.C. – USTDA awarded a grant to FRIGIPAK Pakistan that will promote the establishment of a network of cold storage facilities at strategic locations within five key urban areas in Pakistan. The grant will fund a feasibility study designed to further advance the development of needed cold storage infrastructure for perishable food products, helping to improve both food security in Pakistan and producers' access to agricultural markets.

The \$392,328 grant was conferred during a grant signing ceremony held at USTDA's Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. During the signing ceremony, USTDA Acting Director Leocadia I. Zak remarked, "The Agency is proud to support this cold storage planning activity under USTDA's Pakistan Regional Infrastructure and Trade Initiative. It reflects USTDA's strategy in Pakistan to create mutually beneficial relationships for expanding economic relations and opening markets to greater trade."

The project will examine the existing cold chain infrastructure in Pakistan with a focus on improving the post-harvest system through commercial development of cold storage facilities. The study will facilitate the establishment of a full-scale and sustainable cold chain business enterprise in Pakistan that addresses technological improvements, determination of postharvest capabilities, and the viability of the network's business plan.

The World Food Logistics Organization (WFLO), one of the four founding members of the Global Cold Chain Alliance and an established nonprofit organization specializing in food logistics, will perform the feasibility study.

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