USTDA
U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Electricity Transmission and Distribution

Linking U.S. Businesses to Global Infrastructure Opportunities

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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.

Recent Activities

USTDA sponsored a Smart Grid Workshop in South Africa that exposed key stakeholders from the South African electricity transmission and distribution sector to U.S. state-of-the-art smart grid technologies, equipment and services. Following the workshop, USTDA invited these senior officials to the United States to connect them with U.S. companies focused on grid modernization technologies. These two events fostered the participation of U.S. companies in the implementation of smart grid projects in South Africa.

Shortly after the workshop and visit, the City of Johannesburg awarded Itron a $150 million contract to supply smart meters and an associated smart metering system. The technology will help support the city's demand side management initiative.

Delegates from the South Africa Smart Grid Reverse Trade Mission

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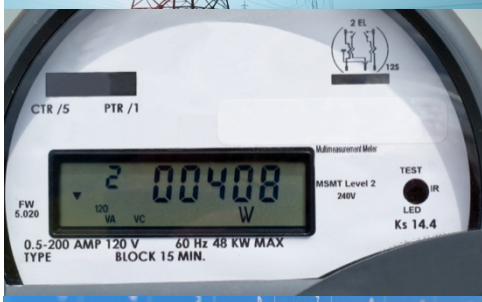
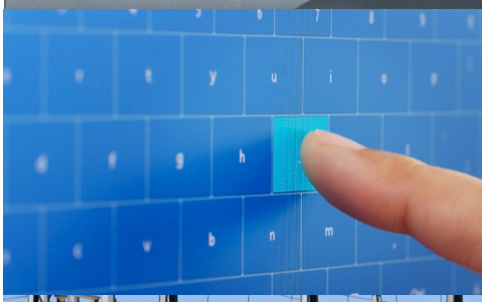
Electricity Distribution Data Integration, Management and Visualization Pilot Project in China
USTDA is partially funding a feasibility study and pilot project for the China Southern Power Grid Electric Power Research Institute Co. Ltd. to evaluate the viability of implementing a smart grid system in southern China. The Study includes data integration and modeling, as well as a pilot demonstration showcasing U.S. smart grid technology in a specific section of the power grid.



Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited Smart Grid Project in India
USTDA is supporting Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL) by funding a feasibility study to develop the requirements and specifications for the implementation of smart grid technologies. TPDDL plans to improve power quality and reliability to its customers by adopting a distribution automation system and network reliability augmentation program. This project is designed to improve the efficiency and reliability of TPDDL's one-million customer distribution system and to help provide application models for other electricity distribution networks in India.



Eastern Transmission Line Feasibility Study in Ghana
USTDA is funding a feasibility study to assist the Ghana Grid Company Limited, a state-owned power transmission company, in determining the technical and economic viability of reinforcing Ghana's electricity transmission network with new power transmission lines. The new lines would make the electrification of un-served rural communities more affordable and accessible in the northern and eastern regions of Ghana.

Smart Grid Applications in Power Distribution in Turkey
USTDA is providing funding for a feasibility study that will introduce upgraded control systems and smart grid technology to the Başkent Elektrik Company in Turkey. The study will include a gap analysis, strategy proposal, estimate of investment requirements and system integration recommendations for this newly privatized company.

Intelligent Supervision and Advanced Control System (iSAAC) for the Transmission Grid in Colombia
USTDA is providing a grant to XM Compañía de Expertos en Mercados S.A. E.S.P., the system operator and market administrator of the Colombian power grid, for technical assistance to design a conceptual Wide Area Measurement System (WAMS) for the Colombian power grid and to develop a roadmap for its implementation. The iSAAC project will involve the use of synchronized phasor measurement units and associated hardware at substations, along with system design work to improve the ability to monitor and control the national electrical grid in Colombia.

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