

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1600, Arlington, VA 22209-3901

Phone, 703-875-4357. Fax, 703-875-4009.

Internet, www.ustda.gov. E-mail, info@ustda.gov.

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Deputy Director
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The Trade and Development Agency's mission is to advance economic development and U.S. commercial interest in developing and middle-income countries in the following regions of the world: Asia; Europe and Eurasia; Latin America and the Caribbean; Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia; and Sub-Saharan Africa.

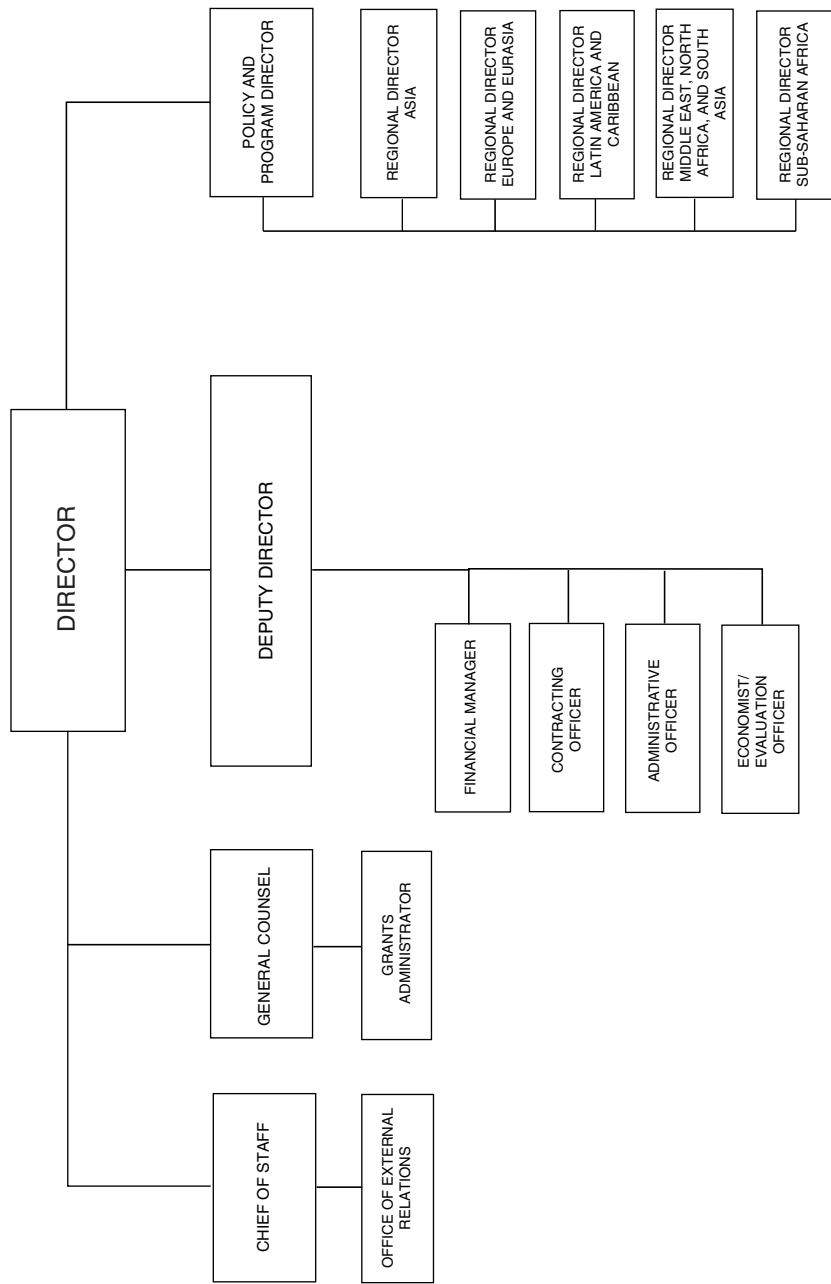
The Trade and Development Program was established on July 1, 1980, as a component organization of the International Development Cooperation Agency. Section 2204 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (22 U.S.C. 2421) made it a separate component agency. The organization was renamed the Trade and Development Agency and made an independent agency within the executive branch of the Federal Government on October 28, 1992, by the Jobs Through Exports Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 2421).

The Trade and Development Agency (TDA) is a foreign assistance agency that delivers its program commitments through overseas grants, contracts with U.S. firms, and the use of trust funds at several multilateral development bank groups. The projects supported by TDA

activities represent strong and measurable development priorities in host countries and offer opportunities for commercial participation by U.S. firms. Public and private sector project sponsors, in developing and middle-income countries, request TDA support to assist them in implementing their development priorities.

TDA's program is designed to help countries establish a favorable trading environment and a modern infrastructure that promotes sustainable economic development. To this end, the Agency funds overseas projects and sponsors access to U.S. private sector expertise in the areas of project definition and investment analysis and trade capacity building and sector development. Project definition and investment analysis involves activities that support large

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capital investments that contribute to overseas infrastructure development. Trade capacity building and sector development supports the establishment of industry standards, rules and regulations, trade agreements, market liberalization, and other policy reform.

TDA works with other U.S. Government agencies to bring their particular expertise and resources to a development objective. These agencies include the Departments of State, the Treasury, Commerce, Transportation, Energy, Agriculture, and Homeland Security; the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; the Export-Import Bank of the United States; and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

Activities

TDA funds various forms of technical assistance, training, feasibility studies, orientation visits, and business workshops that support the development of a modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment. Working closely with a foreign project sponsor, TDA makes its funds available on the condition that the foreign entity contract with a U.S. firm to perform the activity funded. This affords American firms market entry, exposure, and information, thus helping them to establish a position in markets that are otherwise difficult to penetrate. TDA is involved in many sectors, including transportation, energy, telecommunications, environment, health care, mining and minerals development, biotechnology, and agriculture.

TDA-funded studies evaluate the technical, economic, and financial aspects of a development project. They also advise the host nation about the availability of U.S. goods and services and can be used by financial institutions in assessing the creditworthiness of an undertaking. Grants are based on an official request for assistance made by the sponsoring government or private sector organization of a developing or middle-income nation. Study costs typically are shared between TDA and the U.S. firm developing the project.

The Agency makes decisions on funding requests based on the recommendations contained in definitional mission (DM) or desk study (DS) reports, the advice of the U.S. Embassy, and its own internal analysis.

Sources of Information

Requests for proposals (RFPs) to conduct TDA-funded technical assistance and feasibility studies, or DMs involving review of projects under consideration for TDA support are listed on the Federal Business Opportunities Web site at www.fbo.gov.

Small and minority U.S. firms that wish to be included in TDA's consultant database and considered for future DM and DS solicitations should register with the Online Consultant database through the Internet at www.ustda.gov.

In an effort to provide timely information on Agency-supported projects, TDA publishes the *Pipeline* and a calendar of events on a biweekly basis. For a paper subscription, call CIB Publications at 703-516-4801. For an e-mail subscription, visit the guest book at www.ustda.gov. A quarterly publication, *TDA Update*, contains current items of interest on a variety of program activities. Region- or sector-specific fact sheets and case studies also are available. An annual report summarizes the Agency's activities.

Agency news, reports, and lists of upcoming conferences, orientation visits, and business briefings are available through the Internet at www.ustda.gov.

Regional program inquiries should be directed to the assigned Country Manager. Phone, 703-875-4357. Fax, 703-875-4009. E-mail, info@ustda.gov.

TDA's library maintains final reports on all Agency activities. The reports are available for public review Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Copies of completed studies may be purchased through the Department of Commerce's National Technical Information Service.

For further information, contact the Trade and Development Agency, Suite 1600, 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22209-3901. Phone, 703-875-4357. Fax, 703-875-4009. E-mail, info@ustda.gov. Internet, www.ustda.gov.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20523-0001
Phone, 202-712-0000. Internet, www.usaid.gov.

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[For the Agency for International Development statement of organization, see the *Federal Register* of Aug. 26, 1987, 52 FR 32174]

The U.S. Agency for International Development administers U.S. foreign economic and humanitarian assistance programs worldwide in the developing world, Central and Eastern Europe, and Eurasia.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is an independent Federal agency established by 22 U.S.C. 6563. Its principal statutory authority is the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (22 U.S.C. 2151 *et seq.*). USAID serves as the focal point

within the Government for economic matters affecting U.S. relations with developing countries. USAID administers international economic and humanitarian assistance programs. The Administrator is under the direct