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USTDA PROMOTES IT MODERNIZATION IN BRAZIL

ARACAJU, Brazil – Today, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency awarded a grant to the Empresa Sergipana de Tecnologia da Informação (Sergipe State Information Technology Company, or EMGETIS). The grant will provide technical assistance to help the state-owned entity develop a roadmap to expand its broadband network and modernize an existing data center.

"This project builds upon USTDA's recent efforts to support information technology modernization activities in Brazil," said USTDA Regional Director Nathan D. Younge. "It demonstrates how our countries' governments and industry are working together to increase internet access and improve IT operations."

Regional Director Younge, along with Mr. Belivaldo Chagas Silva, Vice Governor of the State of Sergipe, and Mr. João Augusto Gama, Planning Secretary, witnessed the signing of the grant by the U.S. Consul General in Recife, Richard Reiter, and Mr. Ezio Prata Faro, President of EMGETIS.

The activity will develop a plan to expand the state's existing hybrid fiber and wireless broadband network in order to provide connectivity and e-government services throughout the state of Sergipe in northeast Brazil. The technical assistance will include the development of fundamental design requirements, budget and implementation plans for the modernization of the state's existing data center. It will also develop a strategy and procedures to ensure the preservation of essential services during a potential cyber attack or natural disaster.

The opportunity to conduct the USTDA-funded technical assistance 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. Interested U.S. firms should submit proposals according to the instructions in the FBO announcement.

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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.