



## USTDA-Sponsored Events and Conferences Report

**Fiscal Year 2025**

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# USTDA-Sponsored Events and Conferences Report

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, USTDA

It is my pleasure to provide the U.S. Trade and Development Agency's report of the events and conferences sponsored by the Agency in Fiscal Year 2025.



Thomas R. Hardy  
Deputy Director & Chief Operating Officer  
(Performing the Duties of the Director)  
U.S. Trade and Development Agency

January 22, 2026  
Date

# USTDA-Sponsored Events and Conferences in Fiscal Year 2025

## Introduction

In response to the Office of Management and Budget's *Memorandum on Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations (M-12-12)* and *Memorandum M-17-08 Amending Memorandum M-12-12*, USTDA is pleased to provide this report on USTDA-sponsored conferences and events for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

USTDA is the U.S. government's first mover on critical infrastructure development in emerging markets, advancing the shared strategic priorities of the United States and our overseas partners while creating opportunities to deploy trusted U.S. solutions. USTDA funds the upfront technical work, including feasibility studies, technical assistance and pilot projects, that accelerates the development of infrastructure projects, helping them attract the financing they need for implementation and procurement of U.S. goods and services.

USTDA also hosts activities that promote infrastructure partnerships with the United States. These activities, which are the subject of this report, include reverse trade missions (RTMs) and industry events. The Agency's RTMs bring decision-makers to the United States to observe the best of American infrastructure design, manufacturing and operations. These visits link U.S. industry to export opportunities that advance shared strategic infrastructure priorities in partner countries. USTDA's events convene industry leaders from the United States and emerging markets to build partnerships that promote trusted U.S. technology and financing solutions for emerging market infrastructure priorities.

In FY 2025, USTDA carried out five RTMs and three industry events with expenses in excess of \$100,000, disbursing a total of \$2,074,987.99. Detailed descriptions of these events, all of which were obligated prior to FY 2025, are provided in this report. None of these events had expenses surpassing \$500,000.

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## Key Details of FY 2025 Events & Conferences

### **Infrastructure Financing Event Series – U.S.-Africa Public Private Partnership for Infrastructure Financing Workshop**

*Dates: October 2 – 3, 2024*

*Location: Nairobi, Kenya*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$149,030.83*

*Number of participants whose event expenses were self-funded: 260*

*Number of speakers whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 4*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 4*

*Number of contractors<sup>1</sup> whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 5*

The Infrastructure Financing Event Series – U.S.-Africa Public Private Partnership for Infrastructure Financing Workshop was one of three workshops in a series designed to promote cooperation between the public and private sectors in the United States and sub-Saharan Africa to enhance the enabling environment and catalyze investments for priority infrastructure projects in sub-Saharan Africa. Implemented in collaboration with the Trade and Development Bank (TDB), this workshop convened U.S. and African project development and financing stakeholders to discuss financing models, best practices, and strategies for successful public-private partnerships in key industries like energy, transportation, and agribusiness across two days of programming. The countries represented within the participants included Burundi, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Japan, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, and Zambia in addition to a number of individuals from the African Development Bank, International Finance Corporation, World Bank, Stanbic Bank, and Standard Chartered Bank.

### **Civil Nuclear Energy Workshop: Partnering for Implementation**

*Dates: October 8 – 9, 2024*

*Location: Knoxville, Tennessee*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$495,732.61*

*Number of participants whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 21*

*Number of participants whose event expenses were self-funded: 82*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 6*

*Number of USG employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 2*

*Number of contractors whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 7*

*Number of interpreters<sup>2</sup> whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 4*

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<sup>1</sup> In this report, the term “contractors” refers to the contractors hired by USTDA to implement USTDA events. Contractors are responsible for organizing and executing USTDA events.

<sup>2</sup> In this report, “interpreters” refers to contracted language interpreters supporting USTDA programming that includes non-English speaking and English Second Language (ESL) delegates or participants.

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The Civil Nuclear Energy Workshop, part of a broader series of workshops focusing on various topics in civil nuclear energy, shared best practices and recent developments regarding technical, operational, and regulatory practices throughout the civil nuclear energy value chain with key decision-makers and industry leaders throughout Europe and Eurasia. This two-day workshop included government experts from more than 25 European and Eurasian countries, U.S. government officials, and industry representatives. The speakers covered topics including reactor deployment lessons learned, nuclear solutions for industrial applications, financing, development trends, and other issues impacting project development and delivery.

### **Global Procurement Initiative (GPI) Life-Cycle Cost Analysis – Curriculum Platform Maintenance and Supplemental Training**

*Dates: November 19 – 21, 2024*

*Location: Cuenca, Ecuador*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$128,840.80*

*Number of participants whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 43*

*Number of speakers whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 1*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 1*

*Number of contractors whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 4*

*Number of interpreters whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 2*

The Life-Cycle Cost Analysis – Curriculum Platform Maintenance and Supplemental Training developed a 40-hour, self-paced, online program as well as a two-part, in-person simulation exercise that incorporated life-cycle cost analysis concepts into Ecuador's procurement practices. This simulation was developed as a two-session series, planned to occur between November 2024 and January 2025. The first of the two simulation sessions took place in Cuenca, Ecuador in November 2024 and brought together 43 Ecuadorian officials from the National Service of Public Contracting, select Ecuadorian purchasing entities, and the Ecuadorian Comptroller's office. This simulation trained officials on adopting best value procurement practices in public procurement using a real-world case study developed by the Ecuadorian Ministry of Transportation and Public Works.

### **South Africa Clean Energy and Climate Infrastructure Event Series – Municipal Energy RTM**

*Dates: October 20 – 26, 2024*

*Location: Raleigh, NC; Denver, CO*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$251,376.53*

*Number of delegates<sup>3</sup> whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 12*

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<sup>3</sup> In this report, the term "delegates" refers to individuals attending USTDA events on behalf of in-country partner entities or host country project sponsors. Through Study Tours and Reverse Trade Missions, host country delegates are connected with U.S. manufacturers and service providers who can provide goods and services to support the preparation and implementation of host country infrastructure projects.

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*Number of delegates whose event expenses were self-funded: 1*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 3*

*Number of contractors whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 5*

The South Africa Clean Energy and Climate Infrastructure Event Series – Municipal Energy RTM was one of several RTMs and workshops designed to promote cooperation in the clean energy sector in South Africa and the United States. The Municipal Energy RTM aimed to strengthen energy security across South Africa’s municipalities, to share best practices in Independent Power Producer procurement, and to improve municipal energy management. The RTM brought 12 South African government and private sector stakeholders to the United States to engage with leading American manufacturers and suppliers in energy generation, transmission, and storage.

## **Nigeria Methane Abatement and Flare Gas Utilization Solutions RTM**

*Dates: October 20 – 30, 2024*

*Location: Washington, DC; Pittsburgh, PA; Midland/Odessa, TX; Houston, TX*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$281,220.98*

*Number of delegates whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 15*

*Number of delegates whose event expenses were self-funded: 3*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 2*

*Number of contractors whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 4*

The Methane Abatement and Flare Gas Utilization Solutions RTM connected 18 delegates from Nigerian energy, gas and oil, and infrastructure companies and government regulators with the latest in American technologies and services for methane abatement and flare gas utilization in the oil and gas sector. Additionally, the RTM highlighted U.S. policies, regulations, and financing mechanisms relevant to the implementation of oil and gas projects in Nigeria.

## **Brazil Freight Rail Modernization RTM**

*Dates: October 21 –31, 2024*

*Location: Washington, DC; Chicago, IL; Dallas-Fort Worth, TX*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$321,906.66*

*Number of delegates whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 10*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 2*

*Number of contractors whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 3*

*Number of interpreters whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 2*

The Brazil Freight Rail RTM was the second and final RTM in a series of RTMs designed to familiarize key government and private sector representatives with best practices, regulatory advances, effective procurement, and technologies to support overall efficiency, resiliency, and safety in passenger and freight rail infrastructure projects in Brazil. This RTM connected a delegation of Brazilian rail sector leaders with U.S. industry to advance U.S. exports of locomotives, digital rail technologies, and energy solutions for Brazil’s freight rail network.

## **Indo-Pacific Healthcare Technologies RTM Series – The Future of Health Technology in Thailand RTM**

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*Dates: November 10 – 23, 2024*

*Location: Washington, DC; Boston, MA; San Jose, CA*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$244,465.16*

*Number of delegates whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 15*

*Number of delegates whose event expenses were self-funded: 4*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 2*

*Number of USG employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 1*

*Number of contractors whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 3*

*Number of interpreters whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 2*

The Indo-Pacific Healthcare Technologies RTM Series – The Future of Health Technology in Thailand RTM was the second and final RTM in a series of RTMs designed to familiarize healthcare professionals from India, Thailand, and Vietnam with U.S. healthcare technologies and best practices. This RTM brought 19 delegates from private Thai hospitals and key government agencies to the United States to explore American solutions in medical devices, health IT, digital health, and genomics, while highlighting commercial opportunities and promoting supportive regulatory environments.

## **Advanced Technologies for Methane Abatement RTM Series – Indo-Pacific Methane Abatement RTM**

*Dates: December 7 – 18, 2024*

*Location: Washington, DC; Midland/Odessa, TX; Houston, TX*

*Event expenses paid through FY 2025: \$202,414.42*

*Number of delegates whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 12*

*Number of USTDA employees whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 3*

*Number of contractors whose event expenses were funded by USTDA: 6*

The Advanced Technologies for Methane Abatement RTM Series – Indo-Pacific Methane Abatement RTM was the third and final RTM in a series of RTMs on methane abatement and waste-to-energy (WTE) technologies. The RTM brought 12 delegates from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand to the United States to showcase the latest American technologies, services, solutions, and best practices for methane abatement in the coal, oil, and gas sectors, in addition to WTE sector solutions that would reduce methane emissions from agricultural and household waste. In addition, the RTM exposed key stakeholders to policies, regulations, financing mechanisms, and U.S. technologies that can advance the implementation of methane abatement projects.