



U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Donna Thiessen
(703) 875-4357

USTDA SUPPORTS ENHANCED IMMIGRATION PROCESSING SYSTEM IN INDONESIA

JAKARTA, INDONESIA – (August 24, 2007) Enabling accurate processing and timely communication of traveler data through the use of advanced information and communications technologies (ICT) is the goal of a USTDA grant awarded today to the Directorate General of Immigration (DGI) of the Department of Justice and Human Rights. The \$585,869 grant will partially fund a feasibility study to assist DGI in migrating from its current paper-based system for checking traveler documents to a modern information management and communications system, thus improving Indonesia's overall travel efficiency and border security capabilities.

The grant was conferred during a signing ceremony held at DGI headquarters in Jakarta. The grant agreement was signed by U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia Cameron R. Hume and DGI Director General Basyir Ahmad Barmawi, on behalf of the U.S. and Indonesian governments, respectively.

As a sprawling archipelago comprised of thousands of islands, Indonesia experiences considerable inter-island domestic and international passenger traffic, both air and maritime. DGI is responsible for administering Indonesia's immigration regulations at each of the 126 entry/exit points throughout the country, a task which includes issuing passports and other travel documents, as well as screening all travelers in order to prevent unauthorized entry. DGI's current use of manual processes has led to inefficiencies in its travel procedures, impacting international trade and business activities and Indonesia's efforts to secure its borders.

DGI has selected Emergence Group Advisors (EGA) of Washington, D.C., to conduct the study, which will include the installation of a pilot system at eight of the agency's facilities in the Jakarta metropolitan area. The pilot system will utilize equipment from Motorola, Inc. (Schaumburg, Illinois). In addition to the USTDA grant, both EGA and Motorola will provide additional resources towards the completion of the study.

(More)

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency advances economic development and U.S. commercial interests in developing and middle-income countries. The agency funds various forms of technical assistance, early investment analysis, training, orientation visits and business workshops that support the development of a modern infrastructure and a fair and open trading environment. USTDA's strategic use of foreign assistance funds to support sound investment policy and decision-making in host countries creates an enabling environment for trade, investment and sustainable economic development. In carrying out its mission, USTDA gives emphasis to economic sectors that may benefit from U.S. exports of goods and services.

-30-

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