USAID Plan for Using the International Trade Data System (ITDS)
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The mission of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is to provide humanitarian aid and development assistance to lesser developed countries. Established during the Kennedy Administration, USAID has become the Federal Government's second largest exporter, behind only the Department of Defense. USAID typically awards contracts/grants to U.S. entities. The U.S. entities in turn partner with host country entities for delivery of goods/commodities via U.S.-flagged carriers.

Although not an importer, USAID has a vested interest in international commerce. As a result, the Agency plans to formally join the ITDS initiative by completing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) in FY 2008. USAID participation in the initiative will begin during 2009 when the export functionality is anticipated to be ready.

USAID anticipates that the ITDS system will enable USAID to collect information with more specificity by tracking its exports through ITDS interface with the current Customs' Shippers Export Declaration reporting requirements. As we move closer to the export design phase of ITDS, USAID will coordinate with DHS to define its requirements for tracking its exports through the ITDS system without any additional burdens placed on its contractors and grantees.