

Regional Workshop “Building a Sustainable Regional ICT Training and Certification Network”

October 7, 2009 (Day 1)

9.00 Welcome Address

- Denny Robertson, USAID Development Counselor, U. S. Embassy Sofia
- Neal Nathanson USAID Europe and Eurasia Bureau/Economic Growth, Washington

9.15 Key Note Speakers – The Strategic Importance of the ICT Training and Certification

- Markus Schwertel, Regional Manager Networking Academy, European and Emerging Markets, Cisco Systems
- Ciara O'Higgins, Business Development Manager, European Software Institute

10.15 Business Networking Break

10.45 Needs and Solutions for ICT Training and Certification in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Moderator: George Sharkov, Regional Manager Eastern Europe, European Software Institute

- Tatjana Lukić, Senior Industry Advisor ICT Sector, USAID Competitiveness Project, Serbia
- Dona Scola, ICT Industry Advisor, USAID Competitiveness Enhancement and Enterprise Development (CEED), Moldova
- Visar Ademi, Workforce Development Manager, USAID Macedonia Competitiveness Project, Macedonia
- Giga Shubitidze, Chairman of ICT Business Council of Georgia
- Besim Ilazi, USAID Kosovo Private Enterprise Project, Kosovo
- Ivaylo Gueorguiev, Program Manager, European Software Institute, Center Bulgaria/Eastern Europe

12.15 Lunch and Business Networking

13.30 Key ICT Competencies. Development of a Sustainable Regional ICT Training and Certification Network.

Moderator: Filip Stoyanovich, Regional Director USAID Regional Competitiveness Initiative

- Ciara O'Higgins, Business Development Manager, European Software Institute and George Sharkov, Regional Manager Eastern Europe, European Software Institute
- Markus Schwertel, Regional Manager Networking Academy European and Emerging Markets, Cisco Systems
- Maia Hristova, HP Education Services Manager
- Tomislav Bronzin, Microsoft Innovation Center Varazdin, Croatia
- Teodora Varbanova, Education Program Manager, Microsoft Bulgaria
- Ljubomir Trajkovski, Director, Trajkovski & Partners Consulting

15.00 Business Networking Break

15.30 – 17.30 Wrap Up Session

Moderator: Neal Nathanson USAID Europe and Eurasia Bureau / Economic Growth, Washington

- Summary of conclusions
- Questions and answers
- Next steps

October 8, 2009 (Day 2)

9.00-12.30 Meetings for the establishment of the network

- Meetings of potential stakeholders
- Meetings with Bulgarian organizations

12.45-15.30 Visit to Business Park Sofia

- Departure from the Hilton Hotel
- Light lunch (sandwiches)
- Visit to Regional HP Training Center
- Tour of the Sofia Business / Technology Park
- ESI Center Eastern Europe visit, with open discussion and Q&A
- Return to the Hilton Hotel

*Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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