



USAID
ОТ АМЕРИКАНСКОГО НАРОДА

**Forum on Economic Growth and Competitiveness in Kazakhstan
Intercontinental Hotel – Astana
April 17, 2007**

- 8:30 – 9:00 Registration
- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Introduction
*His Excellency Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Karim Massimov
The Honorable Ambassador of the United States of America to Kazakhstan, John Ordway*
- 9:20 – 9:50 A Practical Look at “Competitiveness” *Neal Nathanson, USAID/Washington*
- 9:50 – 10:30 Making It into the Top 50 – Analyzing the World Economic Forum (WEF) Competitiveness Index - *Dr. Margareta Drzeniek (WEF Switzerland) and Ciara Michelle Browne (WEF Switzerland)*
- 10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break
- 10:45 – 11:15 Two Case Studies in Economic Transformation
*Poland – Mirek Zielinski and Artur Nowicki (Unilob Co. - Poland)
Economic Transition in Southeast Europe – Krassen Stanchev*
- 11:15 – 12:00 Ways of Competitiveness Improvement in Kazakhstan - *Bakhytzhan Sarkeyev, Vice Chairman of the CMAR (Center for Marketing and Analytical Research)*
- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch (Marco-Polo Restaurant, 1st floor)
- 13:30 – 15:00 Breakout Sessions¹ – How to improve KZ Competitiveness and Growth Prospects (Based on the Three Groups of WEF Indicators)
- Basic Requirements (Pillars 1 – 4)
Neal Nathanson (USA) and Mirek Zielinski (Poland)
 - Efficiency Enhancers (Pillars 5 – 7)
Ciara Michelle Browne (WEF Switzerland) and Dr. Michael Boyd (USA)
 - Innovation Factors (Pillars 8 – 9)
Dr. Margareta Drzeniek (WEF Switzerland) and Krassen Stanchev (Bulgaria)
- 15:00 – 15:15 Break
- 15:15 – 16:30 Breakout Group Presentations (led by a panel) and Wrap-Up (Moderators: *Patrick Perner, MIT Representative*)
1. Based on the presentations, what do we recommend for Kazakhstan?
 2. What changes need to be made?
 3. How can GOK and USAID better support competitiveness and economic growth in the regions of Kazakhstan on a practical level?
 4. What other questions do we need to ask in order to promote change and economic growth (through competitiveness)?
- The Kazakhstan Chief of Party (Patrick Perner) will note all recommendations and develop a document of potential programming. This document will be submitted to USAID and GOK for consideration of follow-up activities.*
- 16:30 – 16:45 Forum adjourns
- 16:45 – 18:00 Reception (“Paris” Restaurant, 22nd floor)

¹ Discussions will be conducted in Russian and translation will be provided for non-Russian speakers; notes will be taken.