

Regional Economic Growth Workshop for the E&E Region

Sheraton Hotel, Tirana, Albania

Day 1 – Tuesday May 15, 2012

MORNING SESSION: REGIONAL TRENDS, USAID PRIORITIES AND IMPACT ON E&E PROGRAMMING

- 9:00 am** **Welcome and Introduction, Moderated by Steve Eastham, E&E/EG**
- USAID Albania – Joe Williams, Mission Director
- 9:15 am** **New USAID Priorities, Global Directives and Processes**
- Roberta Mahoney, Deputy Assistant Administrator, E&E Bureau USAID Washington
 - Global Directives: USAID Forward, Gender Equity, FTF
 - Bureau Priorities and Trends: Budget and staff projections for the E&E region, balancing EG – DG objectives
- 9:45 am** **Overview of Regional Trends in Economic Growth and their Impact on E&E/EG Programs**
- Monitoring Country Progress Analytics – Ron Sprout, USAID/W
- 10:30 am** **Networking Break**
- 11:00 am** **Overview of Regional Trends in Economic Growth and their Impact on E&E/EG Programs (continued)**
- Impact of the European Financial Crisis on E&E Countries – Leslie Sulenta, PFS
- 11:30 am** **Open Discussion with Mission EG Officers on Current State of E&E/EG Projects**
- Panel: Moderator David Cowles, E&E/EG – Conan Peisen, USAID/Armenia; Joe Lessard, USAID/Macedonia; Susan Kutor, USAID/Serbia; Ron Sprout, USAID/Washington**
- Matrix on E&E Missions Activities by Technical Focus
 - Open topics and themes important for implementing E&E strategic goals and targets
 - Areas for Discussion
 - Common areas where Missions are devoting resources; Neglected areas
 - Alignment of priority areas map to the MCP
 - Constraints to addressing priority areas
 - Measuring effectiveness in program areas
 - Proposed changes to the programming mix
- 12:30 pm** **Lunch Break**

AFTERNOON SESSION: MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF FUTURE PROGRAMMING

- 2:00 pm** **Designing the Next Generation of Projects in Cooperation with other Country Partners, Neal Nathanson, E&E/EG**
- Leveraging Resources of Emerging Donors (CE 10) – Alexander Gupman, U.S. Department of State
 - European Union Programs for Economic Growth – Luigi Brusa, European Union Delegation Representative (TBC)
 - Working with Host Governments – Greg Olson, USAID Azerbaijan
 - Co-Funding Joint Trainings by USAID and CBI Netherlands – Reinoud Nuijten, CBI Netherlands
 - EBRD BAS Programme Partnership – Neritan Mullaj, National BAS Programme Manager
- Questions and Answers***
- 3:00 pm** **Regional Approaches to Regional Issues - David Cowles E&E/EG**
- Regional Approaches to Competitiveness and Enterprise Development – Filip Stoyanovich, CoP, RCI
 - Regional Approaches to Financial Sector Stabilization – Leslie Sulenta, CoP, PFS
 - Facilitating Regional Trade – Sanjin Arifagic, Head of Economic Development Unit, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)
 - Legal and Regulatory Issues with doing business in multiple countries – Perparim Kalo, Managing Partner, Kalo & Associates
 - Growing a Regional Business – Mark Wood, CoP, KPEP
- 3:45 pm** **Networking Break**
- 4:15 pm** **Sustainability and Legacy Organizations – Case Studies, Steve Eastham E&E/EG**
- Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), Sanjin Arifagic, Head of Economic Development Unit
 - Unilob, Poland, Mirek Zielinski and Artur Nowicki
 - Center for Entrepreneurship and Executive Development (CEED), Peter Righi, Global Director
- 5:00 pm** **Wrap-up – Direct Video Conference link to USAID/Washington**
- **Summary of Day 1 Topics: David Jessee, USAID/Washington, Moderator; Alma Kospiri, USAID/Albania; Tanja Markovska, USAID/Macedonia; Aytan Gahramanova, USAID/Azerbaijan**
 - **Presentation/Discussion (Q&A) with Paige Alexander, Assistant Administrator E&E Bureau**
- 5:55 pm** **Day 2 Announcements, Steve Eastham**
- 6:00 – 7:00 pm** **Adjourn (Reception in hotel)**

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Day 2 – Wednesday May 16, 2012

9:00 am Parallel Session 1

<u>Open Discussion 1 – Enterprise Development, Innovation, and Competitiveness</u>	<u>Open Discussion 2 –Financial Sector Development</u>
Facilitators: <u>Joe Lessard</u> , USAID Macedonia and <u>Neal Nathanson</u> , USAID E&E/EG	Facilitator: <u>Steve Eastham</u> and <u>David Cowles</u> , USAID E&E/EG
Discussants: <u>Victor Luboyeski</u> , CoP, Rritje Albania; <u>Mark Wood</u> , CoP, KPEP Kosovo; <u>David Blood</u> , CoP, EGP Montenegro	Discussants: <u>Leslie Sulenta</u> , CoP, PFS; <u>Leeza Timofeeva</u> , Country Director, FSVC Albania; <u>Mirjana Makedonska</u> , DCoP, RSBDP Macedonia
<u>Areas for the discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success stories and best practices from Missions • Value chains • Legacy organizations and local support for entrepreneurship and innovation • Technology/innovation centers 	<u>Areas for the discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success stories and best practices from Missions • Access to Finance • Financial Sector Stability • Impact of Euro Zone financial crisis • Legacy organizations and Regional Institutions working successfully in financial sector development

10:15 am Networking Break

10:45 am Parallel Session 2

<u>Open Discussion 1 – Entrepreneurship, Workforce Development, and Job Creation</u>	<u>Open Discussion 2 – Business Enabling Environment, Trade and Investment</u>
Facilitator: <u>David Cowles</u> , USAID E&E/EG	Facilitators: <u>Conan Peisen</u> , USAID Armenia and <u>Greg Olson</u> , USAID Azerbaijan
Discussants: <u>Jan Karpowicz</u> , CoP, YES Network Macedonia; <u>James Kent McNeil</u> , CoP, Young Entrepreneurs Program Kosovo; <u>Visar Ademi</u> , CEO, MyCareer Macedonia	Discussants: <u>Joseph Lowther</u> , CoP, BEP Serbia; <u>Jorge Segura</u> , RCI, <u>Sanjin Arifagic</u> , RCC, Head of Economic Development Unit, <u>Melani Shultz</u> , COP ACT - Azerbaijan
<u>Areas for the discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success stories and best practices from Missions • Working with the Government, private sector or academia for results and sustainability (short or long term) • Identifying Certification Programs to meet market needs • Labor policy and law – liberalization of labor laws, modernization of collective bargaining, active labor market policies, etc. • Initiatives to encourage entrepreneurship 	<u>Areas for the discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success stories and best practices from Missions • Harmonization of regulatory frameworks to support regional trade • USAID legacy organizations and regional institutions to support harmonization of Business Enabling Environment • Seeking synergy with other USAID programs for BEE

12:00 pm Adjourn Plenary Session