

PRESENTERS SHORT BIOS (by day and session)

Day 1 – 9 am session

- Mr. Allan Reed, Mission Director, USAID Bosnia and Herzegovina
- H.E. Bosse Hedberg, Ambassador of Sweden to Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mr. Tarik Djodjic, Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mr. Lewis Tatem, USAID Washington

Day 1 – 9:30 am session – ALL 3

Dr. Paul Marer was born in Hungary; US citizen since 1961; dual US/Hungarian citizen since 2000. Earned Ph.D. from University of Pennsylvania (Wharton School), then spent 25 years at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business (1975-2000), promoted to full professor. Since 2000 has been Professor of International Business at the US-licensed and accredited Business School of Central European University, in Budapest.

Dr Dragana Radević, graduated from School of Economics, and defended its master and PhD thesis at Postgraduate Studies “Entrepreneurial Economy” University of Montenegro. Ms. Radevic is working as Executive Director of the consulting company CEED Consulting (www.ceed-consulting.com) and Professor Associate at University of Donja Gorica, in Podgorica (www.udg.edu.me). Established in 1999, CEED became leading consulting company in Montenegro capable to provide comprehensive variety of services in the area of business consulting, services to foreign investors, market research, policy analysis and advocacy. Since it is established, CEED was significantly involved in shaping business environment in Montenegro and promoting principles of corporate governance. Ms. Radevic published several papers in both domestic and international magazines, and participated in conducting the studies in international teams in the area of its specialization.

Dr. Krassen Stanchev, is CEO of KC 2 Ltd. (www.kc-2.org), recently served as Senior Consultant and Central Asia Advisor for Pragma Corp. (www.ksbd.kz and www.bei-ca.net); he is also Board Chairman, Founder and former Executive Director of IME (www.ime.bg) - the first Bulgaria's independent and free market think tank (1993), former member and committee chairman of the Constitutional Assembly (1990-1991), one of the most quoted Bulgarian observers, best country analyst award for 1996 by Euromoney and a nominee for Bulgaria's Mr. Ekonomika 2004 as well as laureate of Bulgaria Government Prize – 2002, Templeton – 2006 – as IME Director, and George Vassilev's Fund for Contribution to the Spirit of Liberty – 2006.

He was a principle drafter of a number of reforms from central planning to market economy and is one of the leaders of those reforms in Bulgaria, and consulted such in reform in other transition countries.

Day 1 – 11 am session – 8

- Neal Nathanson
- Amira Vejzagic-Ramhorst
- Igor Pesic, STARS Program

Hugh Haworth is Senior Financial Market Advisor in the European and Eurasia Bureau of USAID. Since 2002 from Washington he has conducted a broad range of economic growth assignments concerning Eastern Europe and Eurasia, principally on financial sector reform, but also on competitiveness, and linkages to democratic governance and social transition programs. He manages the E&E Bureau's regional program Partners for Financial Stability Program. He also serves on the Credit Review Board of



the Agency. From 1996 to 2002, living in Ukraine and Kazakhstan, he directed for USAID comprehensive financial sector, capital market, privatization, and pension reform efforts. For nearly two decades (1975-95), he served as a supervisory financial economist at the U.S. Securities Exchange Commission.

Artak Ghazaryan has over twelve years experience in assessing, managing, and implementing national and local programs. His expertise focuses on state governance, local self-governance, social and energy sectors, and overall economic development, including the Public Sector and institutional reform. He has extensive experience in the fields of public relations, economic and social policy and strategic planning, political and economic analysis, and legislative work in Armenia. He has worked with all levels of Government and Business, Parliament and donor funded projects. Mr. Ghazaryan has a Diploma in History and Master's Degrees in International Relations and Public Administration. He has undertaken trainings in Germany, Belgium, the UK and the US. He is author of a number of scientific articles.

Sheila Young is a seasoned development worker with over 22 years of development experience all over the world, including Honduras, Mexico, West Africa, Indonesia, India, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, before joining the Caucasus Mission in Azerbaijan. Though the bulk of her experience is with USAID, she also has worked with USDOE, USDA and the Peace Corps, and has direct experience in the fields of economic growth, trade, energy, agriculture, natural resource management, disaster relief, and conflict mitigation.

Michael L. Jones has served as Economic Growth Officer with USAID/Georgia since September 2009. Mr. Jones previously worked on USAID programs in Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, and Kenya. From 2005 to 2006, Mr. Jones served in Afghanistan as a USAID Field Program Officer, where he established USAID operations in Ghor province. From 2003 to 2005, Mr. Jones served in the USAID Office of Iraq Reconstruction as an Economic Growth Program Advisor, where he was based in Washington with TDYs to Iraq. Prior to his work with USAID, Mr. Jones worked as a Management Consultant for IBM Business Consulting Services (formerly PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP). Mr. Jones holds an M.A. in economics from Columbia University and a B.A. in economics from Miami University in Ohio.

Joseph Lessard is currently the Director of the Economic Growth Office at USAID/Macedonia. He has 10 years of experience designing and managing economic development programs with USAID. He recently completed a 14-month tour in the Agriculture Office in Afghanistan. He has previously served as Deputy EG Director based in Almaty, Kazakhstan covering five countries in Central Asia and as a Private Sector Development Officer in Nigeria.

Sergiu Botezatu joined USAID in February 2001. He is responsible for developing and managing a large portfolio of projects related to Economic Growth, Democracy/Governance, and Health and plays a key role in drafting USAID/Moldova country strategies.

Initially, as Project Management Specialist/ Agriculture, Mr. Botezatu was instrumental in the development and implementation of entire USAID/Moldova Agriculture Development Portfolio. He is the author of the Agriculture Land Privatization Methodology largely used by USAID Projects in the entire former Soviet Union region and was awarded a Certificate for Superior Performance in 2003. Being a valuable expert for the region he was engaged in many regional activities by the Regional USAID Mission for Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus.

Later he performed as Economic Growth Strategic Objective Team Leader and was responsible for entire USAID/Moldova Economic Growth portfolio. Mr. Botezatu in a very notable way ensured that all of the activities within the Private Enterprise Growth Strategic Objective are complementary of one another. Increased emphasis has been placed upon "job creation and income generation" within this Strategic



Objective. He developed and managed projects that focused on SME Development, Access to Credit Enhancement, and later to, second generation in terms of sophistication, projects, like Competitiveness Enhancement and Enterprise Development. He was awarded a Meritorious Honor Award in 2006.

Starting with 2005, given the new alignment of political forces in Moldova, Mr. Botezatu took the lead in guiding USAID to engage the Government of Moldova (GOM) on matters of national policy and regulatory reform. Early in 2006, he successfully managed USAID activity to negotiate a new initiative with the national government for reform of the Ministry of Agriculture as part of larger Central Administration Reform process.

With the October, 2006 agreement between the Government of Moldova (GOM) and the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) on a Threshold Country Plan (TCP), he took the leadership within USAID team on cross-sectoral anti-corruption initiative to support implementation of policies, procedures and systems aimed at improving governmental transparency, accountability and service delivery. He was the MCC TCP Country Program Manager and managed as CTO almost all components of MCC TCP that included Judicial, Health, Tax, Police, Customs Sectors, as well as, Center for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption.

In 2007 he performed with high appreciations for a period of six month as the Economic Development and Agriculture Policies Specialist at USAID/Iraq.

Mr. Botezatu has a PhD in Economics and an MA in Economics from the University of the State of New York. Also he graduated Economics at Central European University (CEU) in Prague, and has completed a set of intensive courses in Economics at the Institute of Advanced Studies in Vienna.

Before Joining USAID, Mr. Botezatu worked with Soros Foundation Network, World Bank, and was a member of CEU Economic Experts Group. He is married and has two children.

Jim Stein is the Director of the Economic Growth (EG) Office in USAID/Serbia and Montenegro, staffed with three FSOs and six FSNs who manage a \$125 million portfolio of projects to assist economic policy reform and private sector development in Serbia. He has been a Foreign Service Officer for 23 years. Prior to Serbia, he served in Guatemala, India, Indonesia, and Ecuador (in that order). He was a volunteer in the Philippines, 1977-1979, with Volunteers in Asia. He has directed USAID offices and projects in the areas of capital market development, financial sector development, public sector financial management, urban water and sanitation, microfinance, and agricultural and rural development policy.

Ryder Rogers is a Private Enterprise Officer with the Office of Economic Growth in Kyiv Ukraine. He works with the division of Private Enterprise, Trade and Agriculture, and primarily focuses on agricultural issues. Prior to joining USAID in 2008 Ryder worked with the Meals on Wheels Association of America and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Kazakhstan.

Day 1 – 2:30 pm session – 1

- Vladimir Milin
- Nedim Bukvic
- Natasa Miskin

Zihnija Hasovic joined EBRD as National Programme Director in 2001 and is responsible for all the Programme's activities including the operations, budgets, and the selection of clients and consultants in Bosnia and Herzegovina where BAS has approved and generated more than 420 consulting projects. Zihnija holds an MSc in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Sarajevo where he was employed as an Assistant to Professor. He also worked as a Mechanical Design Engineer in an organization for the manufacture of diesel engines under a Mercedes Benz license, then as a Chief Technical Advisor for

Procurement and Project Controls in an engineering organization in Oil, Gas and Chemical called Petroinvest. Also, Zihnija has a broad practical experience in project management and monitoring, management consulting, strategic planning, marketing and sales, financial management and analysis, and turnaround achieved through work with more than 100 Bosnian companies in a broad range of industries of different sizes working as Marketing Practice Leader and Team leader for an USAID programme operated by Deloitte Touche, Emerging Markets. Zihnija is married with two young boys.

Day 1 – 4 pm session – ALL 4

Alan Paic is Project Coordinator with the OECD Investment Compact for South East Europe, responsible for the Regional Competitiveness Initiative, dealing with Innovation and Human Capital issues. Alan also leads the Policies for Sustainable Competitiveness Network in the Middle East and North Africa region, within the MENA-OECD Initiative. Alan has worked on a variety of projects linked to competitiveness and innovation in an advisory role to both the private and public sectors.

Sanjin Arifagić heads the Economic and Social Development Unit at the Regional Cooperation Council. In his current capacity, Mr. Arifagić provides strategic leadership to the organization's involvement in private sector development, investment promotion and competitiveness. Before joining the RCC, Mr. Arifagić was a managing director of a boutique investment bank operating in the SEE region. He has also worked as a business development officer and project manager at the IFC/The World Bank group and a consultant for IBM Management Consulting Services and PricewaterhouseCoopers. He has worked extensively with both public and private sector clients in the area of privatizations, restructurings, corporate governance and mergers and acquisitions.

Gergana Valova is the Founder and Managing Director of Serdon Management Consultancy, a Bulgarian company with 13 years of experience both in Bulgaria and the SEE region. She has succeeded in creating a consultancy that blends local knowledge and expertise with international practices and work ethics. She is active in all of Serdon's projects which fall under the 3 major service pillars – Market Entry Services, Business Development and Project Management. Serdon is one of the leading companies on the Bulgarian market, working closely with most major embassies in Sofia and with foreign trade promotion agencies. Gergana Valova holds an EMBA degree from the American University in Bulgaria.

Ronald Pintar is the Power Division Director and co-owner of the Fibernet group, which is involved in providing critical infrastructure for the companies: secure power solutions, precise cooling and communications (fiber optic and copper). The company is the largest producer of optical connection cables in Slovenia and in this part of Europe, the only producer of special connection cables used in telecommunications. We are present in the region through our joint venture companies in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Macedonia. Fibernet actively designs and participates in the future communication of the region – FTTx projects.

Day 2 – 9 am session – 6

- George Sharkov
- Vedrana Ajanovic
- Sasha Gavrilovic
- Snjezana Derviskadic
- Giuseppe Belsito
- Sasha Vasic
- Dina Karic



- Michael Gold

Doina Nistor is Chief of Party for Competitiveness Enhancement and Enterprise Development Project (CEED), since end October 2009. Prior to this position, has served as CEED's Deputy Chief of Party. Ms. Nistor is a Moldovan economic development specialist, with over ten years of program management and economic development experience for USAID and other international donor supported programs. Has over three years experience in running and managing private business in the field of consulting, particularly business planning and financial brokerage.

Tomislav Bronzin, former general manager of Microsoft Innovation Center in Croatia (2005-2008), founded as public-private partnership project between USAID and Microsoft, now running as a self-sustainable program. Based on that project, he has hands-on experience in envisioning, creating, setting-up and maintaining Innovation Centers that helped foundation of Microsoft Innovation Center in Slovenia. As an expert, he has been involved as a Senior Advisor in envision phases of Innovation Centers in Macedonia, Kosovo, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Moldova.

Brett Johnson is the Global Practice and Market Strategy Advisor at the Macedonia Competitiveness Project, where he manages market linkages and capacity building activities in the apparel, light manufacturing and ICT sectors. Prior to his work in Macedonia, Mr. Johnson was part of the Southern Africa Trade Hub, leading market linkage activities in agriculture, apparel and specialty food. He has also served on project in the Caribbean focusing on export development, business environment and cluster development. Mr. Johnson received a Masters in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Evgenia Malikova, 1999, MBA (Management); 1989, Ph. D. (English language). Project Management Specialist and COTR in the Office of Economic Growth of the Regional USAID Mission for Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus. Joined USAID in 1993. Worked with the participant training, privatization, accounting reform, SME development, trade and investment, and competitiveness programs.

Natasa Tomic has joined RSG Capital in 2008 and is currently working as analyst. She is responsible for sourcing new investment opportunities, investment monitoring and analysis, and reporting and investor relations. Natasa holds degree from the Faculty of Social Science. During her studies she gained a lot of different skills and experiences mainly from field of sales and marketing. Before she started working at RSG Capital she was working at Ljubljana university incubator where she was responsible for PR and project management.

Jasminka Varnalieva - Recognized expertise in private sector development, particularly in the area of business environment reforms. State-of-the-art knowledge in investment promotion, regulatory reform, corporate governance, access to finance, SME development, competitiveness, competition regime, privatization, financial sector development and supervision. Comprehensive hands-on experience in Macedonia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Albania, Croatia, Poland, and South-East Europe.

Day 2 – 11:30 am session – 5

- Susan Warren
- Bruce Brower

Milena S. Nikolova is a tourism competitiveness specialist. She has worked as consultant, instructor and analyst in countries in SE Europe, Eurasia, North and South America, Middle East and Asia. She holds a



PhD in Marketing and Sustainable Tourism from The George Washington University (GW) School of Business in Washington, DC. Currently, Milena is the Managing Director of Solimar Europe, a boutique consulting firm specialized in promoting economic growth through market-driven sustainable tourism development.

Jovan Madjovski is Regional Manager of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Executive Development - CEED for Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania (www.ceed-global.org). Jovan has twelve years of experience working with development organizations such as US Peace Corps, USAID, UNDP, SEAF Investment Fund and the EU. He was responsible for project oversight of multi-million projects for economic growth, support of SMEs and private sector practices and policies in the area of employment, micro-financing, equity investment, environment/recycling and energy, which includes planning, technical coordination and supervision of the implementation of the project activities in accordance with the project objectives and documents.

His current position is very close related to the private sector operations as he is designing and implementing practical learning & networking events for entrepreneurs and managers. CEED's Top Class programs are practical, tailor made and unique "business experience sharing" learning programs currently implemented in 6 countries in the region.

Mr. Madjovski holds a Masters Degree in MBA from the University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" in Skopje and a B.Sc. in economics from the same university. He is Certified Management Consultant (CMC) and a trainer in HR and strategic planning.

Vasko Hadzievski comes from Macedonia. He is Agronomist by education and since 1993 is working in development cooperation in Agriculture, mostly for USAID funded programs. In the period 2005-2009 worked for the Swedish AID primarily on EU integration of Macedonian agriculture. Since October 2009, he is engaged by ARD for the USAID AgBiz program in Macedonia and is currently the Chief of Party.

Dori Pavloska – Gjorgjieska, MBA

- 10 years of progressively responsible professional experience in development projects in Macedonia (6 years with USAID projects – Land O'Lakes MAMA project and MCA);
- Currently, National Project Coordinator of the SIDA funded Support to Farmers' Organizations in the Republic of Macedonia (SFARM) project;
- PhD candidate, dissertation thesis: *Investments of the Foreign Donors in the Agricultural Sector in Macedonia*;
- Alumna of Davis and Elkins College, Elkins, WV, USA

Berina Selimovic-Mehmedbasic is a senior professional with extensive management and technical experience in financial services sector development, external and domestic debt settlement and fiscal reforms. She currently serves as chief of party for the Partnership for Advancing Reforms in the Economy (PARE) in Bosnia and Herzegovina and is working to strengthen the regulatory system for financial services sector, improve the financial administration of public resources and improve enabling environment for the financial services. She has valuable experience in coordinating and implementing massive donor assistance, numerous financial arrangements and large scale of reforms in the post conflict and transition period in Bosnia. She possesses extensive experience in working with multilateral and bilateral donors and international financial institutions, USAID, US Treasury, EU, IMF, WB, EBRD, EIB.



Her expertise includes planning, designing and implementing financial and fiscal reforms, leading policy reform dialogue, external debt negotiations with the London and Paris Club, strategic and financial planning and budget management, strengthening and modernizing public sector institutions. She was a high-level ministry of finance official in several mandates and the IMF economic advisor. She holds a master's degree in international law and diplomacy and a bachelor's degree in economics from University in Sarajevo.

Scott Calhoun, with Deloitte Consulting LLP, has more than thirty years experience in financial markets and institutional supervision that encompasses all aspects of prudential and compliance supervision and enforcement activities. Scott gained direct financial supervisory and regulatory experience en route to holding senior policy and management positions within federal financial regulatory agencies in the United States. After retiring in 2003, Scott began working in transitional economies advising governments, government institutions and central banks on matters covering various aspects of financial stability and financial supervision. Since 2005, Scott has worked on USAID-funded projects in Eastern Europe and Southern Asia, and he is currently the resident advisor leading the "Financial Sector Component" of USAID's multi-year Serbian Economic Growth Activity ("SEGA").

Day 2 – 2:30 pm session – 6

- Maria Bouzudi
- Lewis Tatem

Stephen Eastham – Experienced Senior Executive with 20+ years senior level experience managing complex business transactions in U.S. and international markets. Exceptional entrepreneurial history building early stage financial service and technology business into public company and industry leader financing over \$2 billion of assets. Significant international experience managing international development projects during economic/political transition period in Asia, Africa, Central & Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union. Education and training for senior business executives and entrepreneurs, organizational management and development, expanding access to credit for small/medium enterprises, capital markets development, privatization and re-structuring of public companies, corporate governance, and managing public/private partnerships.

Tatjana Lukic is a Senior Industry Advisor the USAID Competitiveness Project in Serbia, implemented by Booz Allen Hamilton. Since 2008 she has been designing and implementing a number of programs aimed at raising competitiveness of Serbian ICT enterprises through support to export promotion, workforce development and technology upgrading activities. Tatjana has over ten years of experience from the private sector, having held various managerial and consulting positions in the ICT industry with global companies such as Yahoo!, Schlumberger and Epicor, prior to her engagement with the USAID.

Kiril Minoski has 12 years experience in employment policy, project management, finance, international trade, business development and human resource management.

Currently he works for USAID Business Environment Project/Booz Allen Hamilton leading the activities for labor market and pension reforms.

Previously he has worked for USAID on Competitiveness and Banking Project for company Booz Allen and Hamilton on the various managerial positions.

He holds Master of economic science degree, mastering on the joint program of the Faculty of Economics-Skopje, Macedonia, University Antwerpen-Belgium, Staffordshire University- UK and University Barenisis- Italy) and he is BSc in Economics, graduating on the University St. Kiril and Metodij, Skopje, Macedonia.



Visar Ademi currently is working as WFD component leader at USAID Competitiveness Project in Macedonia. Mr. Ademi, holds a MBA from Lancaster University, UK and MA from University of Kentucky, US.

David King is a Ph.D. economist, and is Chief of Party (project director) of the USAID-Sida FIRMA project in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Over the past 15 years he has directed other large USAID projects in BiH, Serbia, and Montenegro focused on private sector business development, macroeconomic policy, financial sector development, commercial law reform, and institutional strengthening. He led World Bank, EBRD, and USAID assignments in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia, and Africa. He leads training on economic growth of new USAID professionals in Washington. Previously, he worked at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the OECD, and Citibank. Dr. King has taught economics, finance, and banking at Yale University, Rutgers University, New York University School of Business, London Business School, INSEAD, and the Banja Luka and Sarajevo Faculties of Economics. He has published in scholarly journals and the popular press, most recently in the Financial Times and the Wall Street Journal.

Peter Righi is a co-developer and the Global Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Executive Development (CEED) program which was founded by the Small Enterprise Assistance Funds (SEAF) in 2005. Peter conducted the primary research among SME entrepreneurs, was a prime architect of the training, networking, and market access model on which the program is based. Peter has worked in SEAF's Business Development Unit for 11 years and is a Sr. Associate for the BDU in addition to directing the CEED program. (SEAF is a private equity provider for SMEs in emerging markets.) During his time at SEAF, he has helped implement various export development programs for SEAF's investees and has actively contributed to their sales in foreign markets.

Zlatan Mulabegović is regional manager of Algebra Education, the regional leading company in IT education. Algebra Education offers comprehensive training portfolio of specialized IT improvements within the network of training centers located in Sarajevo, Tuzla and Brčko.

Zlatan Mulabegović is also president of BAIT, the roof association of ICT companies in Bosnia and Herzegovina. BAIT Association is a highly professional organization that developed the ICT industry in the modern information society, recognized and acknowledged by all its stakeholder of ICT in Bosnia and Herzegovina.