

## DAY 1 (May 17) – Competitiveness, Finance, and Economic Growth in the E&E Region

### 9:00 am – VIPs Welcomes and Introduction

Moderator – Steve Eastham, USAID Washington

- USAID Washington — Jerry Bisson, Director, E&E Bureau Office of Economic Growth
- USAID RSC/Hungary — David Leong, Mission Director

### 9:10 am – Panel presenters change

### 9:15 am – KEY NOTE SPEAKERS, Moderator – Steve Eastham

- Franto Ricka, Economist, Office of Chief Economist, EBRD
- Dr. Paul Marer, Central Eastern University / Budapest
- Questions and Answers

### 10:15 am – Business Networking Break

### 10:45 am – Mission Presentations and E&E Summary, Moderator – Steve Eastham

- Country Reports (EG Portfolio Review), brief presentations by USAID EG Officers and/or Project COPs — 5 min each on Country economic environment, Mission priorities in EG, Program portfolio, Innovations/Success Stories
  - o Albania – Alma Kospiri, USAID Albania
  - o Armenia – Conan Peisen, USAID Armenia
  - o Azerbaijan – Neal Nathanson for USAID Azerbaijan
  - o Belarus – Anastasiya Glambotskaya, USAID Belarus
  - o Georgia – Douglas Balko, USAID Georgia
  - o Kosovo – Flora Arifi, USAID Kosovo
  - o Moldova – Nancy Reiter, USAID Moldova
  - o Ukraine – James Gilman, USAID Ukraine
- Emerging Donor Programs – Michelle Barrett, USAID Hungary

- Overall Summary of EG projects in the E&E region – Jerry Bisson

### 12:30 pm – Lunch with Business Networking

### 2:00 pm – Partners for Financial Stability (PFS) Moderator – David Cowles, USAID Washington

- The PFS approach to regional financial sector development: building on fundamental successes and accomplishments – Jean Lange, PFS (10 minute video)
- Introduction to the \*new\* PFS – Leslie Sulenta, COP, PFS Program
- Financial Sector Progress, Gaps and Challenges in SEE & Eurasia – Michael Borish, PFS Benchmarking Advisor

### 3:15 pm – Business Networking Break

### 3:30 pm – Regional Competitiveness Initiative (RCI), Moderator – Filip Stoyanovich, Director, USAID RCI Project

- RCI value added to in-country Missions and projects: replication and co-funding examples – Filip Stoyanovich
- Update on the Competitiveness projects in the region – Neal Nathanson, Senior Competitiveness Advisor, USAID Washington
- Update on SME Sector in SEE and Eurasia – Peter Righi, CEED Washington

### 4:30 pm – Concluding Day 1 and Preparing for Day 2, Moderator – Neal Nathanson

- Conclusions and take away from Day 1
- Open Discussion and Questions & Answers
- Preparation for workshop program on Day 2 - Introducing the topics of the parallel sessions

### 5:30 pm – Welcome Reception by the RCI and PFS Projects

Open Evening

**DAY 2 (May 18)** – Regionalization: the importance of collaboration and partnerships

**9:00 am** – Regional Economic Integration, Moderator – Neal Nathanson

- Regional cooperation in economic development (Sanjin Arifagic, RCC), information technology (George Sharkov, ESI E&E), tourism (James Dion, National Geographic) and agribusiness (Boban Ilic, SWG RRD)
- Regional cooperation to expand into new markets – Global Entrepreneurship Initiative (Peter Righi, CEED Washington)
- Questions & Answers

**10:00 am** – Business Networking Break

**10:30 am** – Parallel Session I – Focus on Sectors and Cross-Sector Activities

<p><b>Donors Cooperation and Public - Private Partnerships, Facilitator – Nancy Wildfeir-Fields, USAID Hungary</b></p>	<p><b>Workforce Development Facilitator – Denise Lamaute, USAID Washington</b></p>	<p><b>USAID EG Programming: PFS Country-Level Financial Sector Overviews and Buy-Ins Facilitator – Lori Bittner, PFS</b></p>
<p>1. Regional Cooperation Council – Sanjin Arifagic 2. European Commission Joint Research Centre / IPTS Sevilla – Fabien Santini 3. Cisco Entrepreneur Institute – Jacek Raczkowski 4. Azerbaijan Competitiveness and Trade Project – Melani Schult 5. GIZ - Tine Schrammel 6. LINC - Project Ukraine - Howard Ockman 7. Hewlett Packard - Gerard Stilp</p>	<p>1. RCI / Serbia Compete Project – Tatjana Lukic – Project Management Professional Certification 2. Kosovo Private Enterprise Project – Burim Korqa 3. Macedonia Competitiveness Project – Visar Ademi 4. FIRMA Project – Dina Karic</p>	<p>1. David Cowles, USAID 2. Leslie Sulenta, PFS 3. Michael Borish, PFS 4. Conan Peisen, USAID Armenia 5. Scott Calhoun, PFS</p>
<p><b>12:00 pm</b> – Lunch with Business Networking <b>1:00 pm</b> – Parallel Session 2 - Focus on Sectors and Cross-Sector Activities</p>		
<p><b>SMEs Finance: Enabling Environment and Donor Credit and Guarantee Facilities Facilitator –Tina Mendelson, PFS</b></p>	<p><b>IT Sector: Excellence, Innovation and Business Facilitator – Filip Stoyanovich, RCI</b></p>	<p><b>Capital Markets in SEE and Eurasia Facilitator – Robert Singletary, PFS</b></p>
<p>1. Steve Eastham, USAID 2. David Cowles, USAID 3. Ivan Pilepic, PFS 4. Michael Gold, Kosovo Business Enabling Environment Project 5. Kiril Minoski, Macedonia IDEAS Project 6. Karine Saroukhanian, EBRD</p>	<p>1. RCI / ESI Eastern Europe – George Sharkov 2. Cisco Networking Academy – Markus Schwertel 3. Hewlett Packard – Gerrard Stilp 4. USAID Moldova – Nancy Reiter 5. Kosovo Private Enterprise Project – Rhedon Begolli 6. Serbia Compete Project – Tatjana Lukic 7. Macedonia Competitiveness Project – Zarko Pop-Iliev 8. Albania CED Project -Victor Luboyeski 9. Macedonia eGov Project – Elena Stamatoska 10. Georgia EIP Project - Levan Jioshvili</p>	<p>1. Hannes Takacs, Budapest Stock Exchange 2. Denise Lamaute, USAID 3. Milko Stimac, Serbian State Securities Commission 4. Alex Kutsenko, PFS and FINREP Ukraine project 5. Anita Mlinaric, PFS</p>
<p><b>2:30 pm</b> – Business Networking Break <b>3:00 pm</b> – Parallel Session 3 - Focus on Sectors and Cross-Sector Activities</p>		
<p><b>Connecting SMEs with Finance Providers: Financial Products, Advisors, and Networks Facilitator –Tina Mendelson, PFS</b></p>	<p><b>Agribusiness Regional Cooperation Facilitator – Dr. Bruce Brower, CoP, BiH FARMA Project</b></p>	<p><b>Vulnerability of SEE and Eurasia to the EU Sovereign Debt Crisis Facilitator – Scott Calhoun, PFS</b></p>
<p>1. Michael Gold, SME Financing in Kosovo and Macedonia 2. Mirjana Makedonska, Macedonia Competitiveness Project 3. Peter Righi, CEED 4. Tom Higgins, EMPOWER Award 5. Jasmin Gabela, FIRMA Project</p>	<p>1. Serbia Agribusiness Project – Jim Herne 2. SWG for Regional Rural Development – Boban Ilic 3. EBRD – Marta Bruska 4. Azerbaijan Competitiveness and Trade Project – Melani Schultz 5. Kosovo New Opportunities for Agriculture Program – Fatmir Selimi</p>	<p>1. Anthony Sinclair, Serbia Business Enabling Project 2. Alex Kutsenko, PFS and Ukraine FINREP project 3. OTP Bank Hungary</p>

6:30 pm - Dinner ( if you are interested to join, please tell us at the registration desk, the dinner price is 3900HUF. A group reservation will be made at the Trofea Grill, <http://www.trofeagrill.net/fooldal>)

## DAY 3 (May 19), morning – INTERNAL DISCUSSION – USAID and PROJECT IMPLEMENTERS ONLY

### New Directions for Competitiveness, Economic Growth and Finance Programming 9:00 am – Summary conclusions of the Day 2 parallel sessions (3 minutes maximum) Moderator – Leslie Sulenta

Donors Cooperation and Public- Private Partnerships - Nancy Wildfeir-Fields	Workforce Development - Denise Lamaute	USAID EG Programming: PFS Country-Level Financial Sector Overviews and Buy-Ins - Lori Bittner
SMEs Finance: Enabling Environment and Donor Credit and Guarantee Facilities - Tina Mendelson	IT Sector: Excellence, Innovation and Business – Filip Stoyanovich	Capital Markets in SEE and Eurasia – Robert Singletary
Connecting SMEs with Finance Providers: Financial Products, Advisors, and Networks - Tina Mendelson	Agribusiness Regional Cooperation – Dr: Bruce Brower	Vulnerability of SEE and Eurasia to the EU Sovereign Debt Crisis - Scott Calhoun

### 9:30 am – E&E Bureau/Mission Engagement, Moderator – David Cowles

- RCI Workplan for 2011 - 2012 – Filip Stoyanovich
- PFS Workplan for 2011 - 2012 – Leslie Sulenta
- Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS), project benchmarking and indicators – Neal Nathanson
- E&E/EG support for the field – Jerry Bisson

### 10:00 am – Open Discussion - “E&E – The Way Forward”, USAID Washington E&E, Moderator – Jerry Bisson

- E&E priorities and strategy – Jerry Bisson and David Leong
- Regional Programs, Graduation and Legacies - Alexander Gupman, US State Department EUR/ACE
- Open discussion - possible topics for discussion:

Current budget and staffing environment	E & E approach to phase out and graduation
How can RCI and/or PFS projects assist your Mission?	Do regional projects add value to your Mission's work?
Access to Finance – SME financing and/or Private Equity /VCs	Workforce Development
Finance policy, training, best practices, etc?	Sectors – IT, Tourism, Agribusiness, others?
Trade facilitation? Cross-border issues?	Donor coordination?
Are cross-regional (from the Caucasus to the Balkans and vice versa) activities beneficial?	Should we or can we link to other regions (Middle East, Central Asia, etc.) to benefit of our clients and partners?

- **Light lunch will be served in the room**

### 1:15 pm – Wrap Up, End of Day 3, RCI and PFS Teams

- Recommendations for RCI/PFS regional program activities 2011 – 2013 (suggestions that come out of the event discussions)