



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Regional Competitiveness Initiative

MACEDONIA REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

March 12, 2009

Hotel Holiday Inn, Skopje, Macedonia

- 09:00 – 09:30 Welcome coffee and introductory networking*
- 09:30 – 09:45 **Welcome Note***
- Michael Fritz, Mission Director, USAID Macedonia
- 09:45 – 10:00 **Introduction to the Goals of the Regional WfD Workshop***
- Neal Nathanson, USAID Washington E&E
- 10:00 – 10:45 **Presenting the Results from the Macedonia Workforce Development Study***
- Erik Butler, RCI / Human Investment Institute
 - *Questions and Answers*
- 10:45 – 11:15 *Networking Break**
- 11:15 – 11:45 **Presenting the Serbia Workforce Development Study***
- Ana Trbovich, Serbia Competitiveness Project
 - *Questions and Answers*
- 11:45 – 13:15 *Lunch and Networking**
- 13:15 – 14:00 **Presenting Regional Outlooks on the Current Workforce Development Situation***
- Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro Results, presented by Dragana Radevic, RCI / CEED Montenegro
 - Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia Results, presented by Jovan Madzovski, RCI / CEED Macedonia
 - *Questions and Answers*
- 14:00 – 15:00 **Open Discussion on Workforce Development in the SEE Region**, facilitator Erik Butler and Neal Nathanson*
- The data challenge: what is known and by what means about skills gaps?
 - What firms are saying about the supply of workers -- technical skills, general education skills, soft skills
 - What changes or adaptations are underway in the education system (all levels) to respond to changes in demand?
 - What mechanisms currently exist to "mediate" between supply and demand? Government institutions? Private institutions/organizations?
 - What are the most effective strategies for job creation
 - By what means do we/can we ascertain results and outcomes for labor market measures -- either those already being done by government and others, or those undertaken by USAID or with USAID support?
- 15:00 – 15:30 *Networking Break**
- 15:30 – 17:00 **Presenting and Discussing Potential Pilot WfD Projects, Conclusions and Next Steps**, facilitator Neal Nathanson, E&E, USAID Washington*
- Examples of short and long term assistance, willingness of co-funding, etc.
- 17:00 – 18:00 *Closing Networking, one-on-one discussions with refreshments**