



**EUROPE & EURASIA BUREAU - 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REGIONAL EVENT ON  
COMPETITIVENESS, FINANCE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**



**May 18 – 20, 2010,  
Hotel Europa Sarajevo,  
Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

## **DRAFT AGENDA TOPICS**

### **DAY 1 (May 18) – Competitiveness Finance, and Economic Growth in the E&E Region**

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

- USAID Mission Director (TBC)
- USAID Washington Representative (TBC)
- Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina (TBC)

#### **9:30 am – Coming out of the Global Economic Crisis: Current Status, Effects, and Responses** (Presenters TBC)

- Keynote – Paul Marer, PhD, Central European University Business School - Budapest
- Dragana Radevic – Overview of Economic Conditions in the Western Balkans
- Krassen Stanchev – Overview of Economic Conditions in the Caucasus, Moldova, Ukraine
- The Attractiveness of the E&E Region for International Investment and Trade
  - Survey of International Banks and Investment Funds
  - The Regional Economy from the perspective of a Multinational Firm
  - Financing Challenges in the Region

#### **10:45 am – Business Networking Break**

#### **11:15 am – Future of USG’s Economic Growth, Competitiveness and Finance Activities in E&E** (Presenters TBC)

- USAID’s Economic Growth Strategy for the E&E Region - Senior USAID Representative
- USAID Support - Global Entrepreneurship Program
- Latest Trends in the Regional Competitiveness Activities – Neal Nathanson
- Latest Trends in the Regional Financial Sector Programs – Hugh Haworth
- Country Reports (macro, competitiveness, finance) - Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine *(Brief presentations by USAID EG Officers and/or Project COPs)*

#### **1:00 pm – Lunch with Business Networking**

#### **2:30 pm – Partnership and Leveraging Opportunities with International Donor and Multilateral Organizations** (Presenters TBC)

- Introduction - Special Case Study: USAID Bosnia’s Funding Partnership with Sweden (maybe joint presentation by USAID and Swedish Representative)
- Regional Competitiveness Initiative – Alistair Nolan, Head of the OECD Investment Compact for South East Europe (with the support of the European Commission and in partnership with the RCC)
- Regional Cooperation Council - Sanjin Arifagic, Head of Economic and Social Development Unit
- EBRD Business Advisory Services (BAS) Programme – Activity partnership in IT and Tourism (TBC)

#### **4:00 pm – Business Networking Break**



**4:30 pm – Conclusions for Day 1 and Preparing for Day 2, Steve Eastham TBC**

- Open Discussion and Conclusions for the Day
  - USAID reps and Chiefs of Party
- Preparation for workshop program on Day 2:
  - Introducing the topics of the parallel sessions – Neal Nathanson TBC
  - Introduction to USAID’s new “Partners for Financial Stability” Program – Hugh Haworth TBC

**6:00 – 7:00 pm Welcome Reception (Traditional Cuisine from Bosnia and Herzegovina) TBC**

**DAY 2 (May 19): Focus on Sectors and Cross-Sectoral Activities (Split Parallel Sessions)**

**9:30 – Parallel Session 1 (Presenters TBC)**

<b><u>IT Quality for Increasing Competitiveness</u></b> – Sustainable IT Training and Certification Network	<b><u>Regional Tourism Promotion</u></b> – National Geographic Supplement, Regional Tourism Portal – Is it a need?	<b><u>Agribusiness Market Information Systems</u></b>	<b><u>Introducing the new Partners for Financial Stability (PFS) activity</u></b> (Part 1) - Financial Crisis Response Programs
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**11:00 – Business Networking Break**

**11:30 – Parallel Session 2 (Presenters TBC)**

<b><u>Access to Finance</u></b>	Introducing the <b><u>Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria</u></b> – Sustainable Management, Social and Economic Benefits, Cultural Heritage and Benefits to Environment - Armenia CAPS Project	<b><u>Regional Cooperation in Agribusiness</u></b> - Exhibitions / Fairs / Study Tours / Trainings	<b><u>Introducing the new Partners for Financial Stability (PFS) activity</u></b> (Part 2) - The New Global Financial Architecture in our E&E Countries and New Financial Sector Benchmarking of E&E Country Progress
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**1:00 – Lunch with Business Networking**

**2:00 – Parallel Session 3 (Presenters TBC)**

<b><u>Regional Donors collaboration/partnership</u></b> - Leveraging funds and cross-regional initiatives (Western Balkans – Black Sea – Caucasus)	<b><u>Increasing Business Cooperation</u></b> - B2B Opportunities and IT2Business Solutions Portal	<b><u>Workforce Development</u></b> in USAID Projects	<b><u>Indicators and Performance Measurement</u></b> in USAID Projects
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**3:30 – Business Networking Break**

**4:00 pm – Conclusions for Day 2, Steve Eastham TBC**

- Key Observations and Comments:
  - USAID reps and Chiefs of Party

**6:00 pm – End of Day 2**

**DAY 3 (May 20): The New Partners for Financial Stability (PFS) & New Directions for EG Programming**

**10:00 – New Partners for Financial Stability (PFS) activity (Presenters TBC)**

- The implementer and the team for the new PFS
- The work plan and input from the missions
- What the missions are doing on a bi-lateral basis
- Next steps for PFS

**11:30 – New Directions for Economic Growth Programming (Presenters TBC)**

- USAID Activities in Post-Presence Countries
- Leveraging other Donor Programs, GDAs, Mission Buy-ins
- Key Observations and Comments:
  - USAID reps and Chiefs of Party
- Open Discussion by EG Officers, FSNs and Chiefs of Parties
- Conference Wrap-up, Conclusions and Next Steps – Steve Eastham TBC

**1:00 pm – End of Day 3**

