



### Joint Project with Slovenia Launched



Together with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Stavreski and the Slovenian Ambassador, DCM Aggeler yesterday spoke at the launch of USAID's new "Training of Internal Auditors in the Public Sector" (TIAPS) project. TIAPS is funded through State Department's "Emerging Donors Challenge Fund," a unique program designed to intensify U.S. foreign assistance partnerships with newer donor governments from Central and Eastern European countries. Through the Challenge Fund program, the U.S. and Slovenian governments will equally share project costs and coordinate closely on project oversight. The project is the first certification program in Macedonia to focus on financial and performance auditing in the public sector. It will train and certify 80 public sector internal auditors in line with international standards and European Union best practices.

*photo: DCM Aggeler speaks at the launch of USAID's new "Training of Internal Auditors in the Public Sector" (TIAPS) project.*



**DCM Aggeler Remarks**  
**Launch of USAID Training of Internal Auditors in the Public Sector in Macedonia**  
University St. Cyril & Methodius, Skopje  
December 12, 2012, 11:00

Thank you, Director Spasovski. Deputy Prime Minister Stavreski, Ambassador Rakovec, Director Dobovisek, government representatives, auditors, and media representatives,

Good morning, dobro utro, mire mengjes!

I am pleased to be here today to launch a new project focused on internal auditing. The Training of Internal Auditors in the Public Sector project, or TIAPS, is the result of the U.S. State Department's Emerging Donors Challenge Fund, an innovative program designed to intensify U.S. foreign assistance partnerships with newer donor governments from Central and Eastern European countries, such as the Republic of Slovenia.

Through the Challenge Fund program, the U.S. and Slovenian Governments will equally share the project cost and will partner with the Macedonian Ministry of Finance to implement TIAPS in Macedonia.

We are proud to be a part of this multi-country partnership.

Since 1993, the American people have invested over one billion dollars in Macedonia, more than half of that through USAID.

Throughout this time, USAID has focused on promoting economic growth and job creation, supporting education, and strengthening democratic institutions and practices.

Today we continue this support with the TIAPS project which, I am proud to say, is the first certification program in Macedonia to focus on financial and performance auditing in the public sector.

This internationally recognized certification program, developed by the Center of Excellence in Finance and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, will equip public sector auditors with an understanding of international audit standards and best practices that will help them promote good governance, transparency, and accountability. These are important principles in public financial management are critical to EU integration.

This is very important to the United States and to other partners and friends of Macedonia such as the Republic of Slovenia, who have been working with the Government here over the past two decades to implement necessary political and economic reforms that foster Euro-Atlantic integration for Macedonia.

I congratulate all the institutions and individuals involved in bringing this important project to fruition. I especially want to congratulate the students who, through a rigorous selection process, are here today to participate in this training.

I commend you for your dedication to your careers in the accounting and auditing profession and your willingness and desire to grow professionally.

Your successful completion of this capacity building program will be of great benefit not only to the public sector, but also to the ordinary citizens of Macedonia who depend on an efficient, transparent, and accountable government.

I wish you all the best of luck with your studies and many future successes.

Thank you, blagodaram, faleminderit!