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Conference Services

At the request of the OSCE Delegation of the United States of America the attached presentation by Mr. Edward Gonzalez, Director, General Development Office, USAID Mission in Skopje, delivered to the Session IV of the 2nd Preparatory Meeting, 26th Economic and Environmental Forum in Venice, is being distributed to all delegations.

26th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING Venice, 24-25 May 2018 Session IV

EEF.DEL/35/18 24 May 2018

ENGLISH only

Mr. Edward Gonzalez, Director, General Development Office, USAID Mission in Skopje



USAID/MACEDONIA

Overall Goal

Support the government of Macedonia's goal to advance EURO-ATLANTIC INTEGRATION, peace, and stability

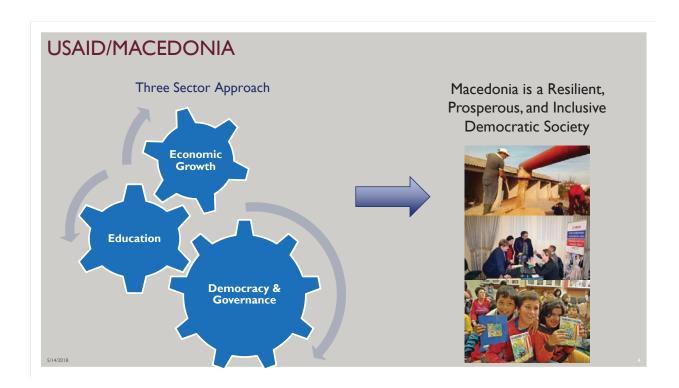


USAID/MACEDONIA

What is success?

When local actors WORK TOGETHER to promote their joint socio-economic development









40+% Youth Unemployment

Ethnic Tension Between Youth

Low Wages

Skills Mismatch



Inflexible Regulatory Environment High Youth Migration

Youth are Neglected by Political Parties

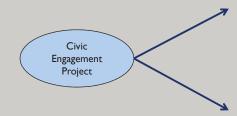
Disabled and Ethnic Minorities Are Further Marginalized

5/14/2018





Democracy and Governance: Supporting Youth Leadership and Civic Engagement

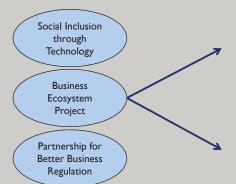


- LEAD Fellowships
 - Youth Development Index in 20 Municipality
- Youth Bank
- Youth-led Community Development & Cultural initiatives
- Youth-focused Political Mobilization
- Promoting Multi-Stakeholder planning
- Increasing CSOs' capacity to mobilize private sector resources
- Co-financing activities w/ Private Sector



CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

Economic Growth: Creating an Enabling Environment for Young Entrepreneurs



- Workforce Development
- Access to Finance
- Reforming Internship Law
- Business Incubators
- Consulting Services for Entrepreneurs & SMEs
- Working w/ "Lead" Companies to Co-finance Activities Strengthening Social Corporate Responsibility
- Provide Internships



CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

Economic Growth: Promoting Practical Education



- Student competition to design a technical and/or process solution applicable in the company's production lines of their new product.
- Number of Participants: 50
- Results: Internships and job offers
- USAID's Contribution: USD\$6000
- Rade Koncar's Contribution: USD\$28,700
- University: In Kind Contribution

CURRENT ENVIRONMENT

Economic Growth: Fostering Social Inclusion of Young People w/ Disabilities in the Workforce



- Creation of HUBIT, the first center in the Balkans to offer IT training and internships to youth with disabilities to help them prepare for careers in IT.
- Results
 - 137 successfully completed trainings
 - 13 participants got internships
 - 6 participants achieved fulltime employment
- Private Sector Involvement:
 - Internships
 - Mentors

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STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

Short term

Long term

- Provide incentives
- Make it easy!
- Incorporate private sector in the planning process
- Regulatory reform
- Awareness raising
- Increase CSOs capacity to engage w/ the Private Sector



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