## MEDIA ADVISORY

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2011

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## **USAID** promotes Youth Employment Opportunities in 10 Serbian municipalities

**Novi Sad (November 21) –** The U.S. Agency for International Development's Economic Security Project will sign Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with 10 municipalities to provide employment opportunities for local youth. The signing will take place at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 23, at Novi Sad City Hall, Trg Slobode 1, Novi Sad.

The MoUs will be signed with the City of Belgrade, two of its municipalities – Stari Grad and Cukarica – as well as Novi Sad, Apatin, Sabac, Osecina, Raca, Velika Plana, and Topola.

USAID and the 10 municipalities will address youth unemployment on three levels. USAID will work with municipal Youth Office Coordinators to promote employment and self-employment programs. USAID will work directly with young entrepreneurs to develop their business plans into actual businesses. And, USAID will work with selected municipalities to develop Youth Entrepreneurship Action Plans (YEAP), which provide local, tailor-made solutions to reduce unemployment by strengthening youth entrepreneurship initiatives.

WHO: USAID Mission Director in Serbia Susan Fritz, City of Novi Sad Mayor Igor Pavlicic.

State Secretary in Ministry of Youth and Sport Ivana Kovacevic, 10 municipalities

Mayors and officials

WHEN: Wednesday, November 23 at 09:45 a.m.

WHERE: Novi Sad City Hall, Trg Slobode 1, Novi Sad

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363-9900.

For more information about USAID/Serbia, visit http://serbia.usaid.gov.

For additional information about the USAID PPES Program, visit

http://www.economicsecurity.rs

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Since 2001 USAID has invested more than \$662.5 million to stimulate economic growth, strengthen the justice system, and promote good governance in Serbia.

For more information about USAID, visit http://serbia.usaid.gov.