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## MEDIA ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS TO BE AWARDED \$150,000 TO LAUNCH NEW AGRIBUSINESSES**

**BELGRADE** – Twelve young entrepreneurs will receive grants totaling \$150,000 (11.6 million RSD) to launch agribusinesses as winners of a Youth Business Plan Competition sponsored by the USAID Agribusiness Project.

The awards will be presented at 11 a.m. Wednesday by USAID's Economic Growth Office Director Susan Kutor and Serbia's Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Trade, Forestry and Water Management Milos Milovanovic.

The media is invited to attend the awards ceremony at Hotel Moscow in Belgrade.

The recipients of the agribusiness start-up grants will be launching businesses in a variety of pursuits including milk processing, and fruit, vegetable and medicinal herb cultivation and processing. All completed an agribusiness training course sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The USAID Agribusiness Project launched its Youth in Agribusiness Project in 2008 to promote entrepreneurship among youth in Serbia. Nearly 1,250 students from throughout the country have completed its training course. The business plan writing competition has been held three times and 28 students have received agribusiness start-up funds totaling nearly \$370,000 (28 million RSD).

**WHO:** USAID's Economic Growth Office Director Susan Kutor, Serbia's Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Trade, Forestry and Water Management Milos Milovanovic, 12 young agribusiness entrepreneurs

**WHAT:** Award of \$150,000 in grants to the young entrepreneurs; presentation of one of the award-winning agribusiness plans

**WHEN:** 11 a.m. Thursday, December 22

**WHERE:** Hotel Moscow, Belgrade (1st floor)

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