



**USAID | MACEDONIA**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **30 Management Consultants Certified for the First Time in Macedonia**

30 Macedonian professional consultants were awarded the title of Certified Management Consultants (CMCs) from the International Board of Certified Management Consultants (IBCMC). This is the first group of CMCs to be trained and certified in Macedonia, and the largest group certified through a single program, worldwide. The certification process was co-organized by the USAID Competitiveness Project, MCA 2000 (the **Management Consulting** Association), and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Business Advisory Services (BAS) Program.

"We at USAID are pleased that Macedonian companies now have access to high-quality professional management consultancy services which will make it possible for them to analyze and solve complex business problems," said USAID Economic Growth Office Director, Joseph Lessard. "Better performing enterprises will result in new investment, increased productivity and sales, and create new employment."

CMC certification not only denotes the highest quality consulting standards, but also adherence to the ethical canons of the profession. Less than 2% of management consultants worldwide have achieved this level of performance and attained the CMC title. Together with nine consultants already practicing in Macedonia, who were certified outside the country, Macedonia now has 39 CMCs. Their efforts will not only improve the domestic business climate, but will give Macedonia a competitive advantage in the Balkans. With this group certification, Macedonia now ranks third in the region for CMC capacity (after Romania (50 CMCs) and Bulgaria (45), and followed by Croatia (30) and Slovenia (10). There are none in Serbia, Albania and Montenegro.

By successfully completing the certification process, MCA 2000 is now eligible to assume full membership in the ICMC Institutes (the global association of national management consulting institutes from around the world) and will, itself, be authorized to organize trainings and award certificates.

#### NOTE TO EDITORS:

**The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993.** USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.