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PRESS RELEASE

Indicators for Measuring the Quality of School Performance

The State Education Inspectorate (SEI), with support from USAID, has developed new indicators to measure the overall performance quality of primary and secondary schools in Macedonia. The School Performance Quality Indicators are a unique platform for measuring the quality of schools both internally through school self-evaluation, and externally by the SEI through integrated evaluations.

The School Performance Quality Indicators were presented to all primary and secondary school directors and key education stakeholders on January 27th. USAID Mission Director Michael Fritz highlighted the importance of the indicators for improving education in Macedonia. "The use of this set of indicators enabled the Inspectorate to compare the results from the Integrated Evaluations at the national level and to develop an Annual Report on the Quality of Education, the first of its kind not only in Macedonia, but in the region," he said.

Nikola Todorov, the Minister of Education and Science, added "An important element of diagnosing the quality of school performance is having objective indicators for measuring the level of that quality. The aim of these indicators is to provide precise insight into the work of the schools and give recommendations for further improvement,"

The School Performance Quality Indicators are only one of the many results of the SEI's capacity-building efforts, supported by the USAID Human and Institutional Development Program. Over the past five years, HIDP has worked with SEI staff to make the process of school evaluation as efficient, professional and objective as possible. Based on the results of school evaluations, SEI staff developed the Annual Report on the Quality of the Education Process in Primary and Secondary Schools in Macedonia.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The Human and Institutional Development Program is a five-year program funded by USAID and implemented by World Learning. The goal of the program is to improve the performance of institutions deemed key for the future of Macedonia. In the field of education, these include the State Education Inspectorate and the Bureau for Development of Education, as well as the Vocational Education and Training Center.

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>.