



**USAID | MACEDONIA**  
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Press office: +389 (0)2 310 2314

Cell phone: +389 (0)70 367 547

Email: [bvelickovska@usaid.gov](mailto:bvelickovska@usaid.gov)

## PRESS RELEASE

### **New Robotics and Technology Laboratory in Secondary Vocational School**

To increase student interest in technical studies and professions, the American people, through the USAID Primary Education Project (PEP), are helping modernize the curricula for vocational education in Macedonia. This includes providing appropriate equipment, furniture and materials to establish robotics and control technology laboratories, as well as training selected vocational teachers.

Mihajlo Pupin Secondary Vocational School in Skopje is one school receiving such assistance. Representatives from the Ministry of Education and Science and from the City of Skopje joined representatives from USAID and PEP as well as the director, teachers and students of the vocational school to celebrate the opening of the laboratory.

"The skills and knowledge that students gain in school do not match labor market needs," said Lela Jakovlevska, USAID Senior Education Project Specialist. "The aptitudes most important in modern economies must be developed at primary and secondary school age. We hope that these labs for robotics and control technology will provide students with the skills and knowledge needed for Macedonia's future."

#### **NOTE TO EDITORS:**

The USAID Primary Education Project works with all public primary schools and electro technical secondary schools as well as selected gymnasiums in Macedonia to improve the quality of instruction and increase student employment skills. The overall goal of the USAID Education Program is to strengthen education in Macedonia and to support decentralization efforts as Macedonia seeks entrance to the European Union.

The American people, through USAID, have invested over \$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>.