



**USAID | MACEDONIA**  
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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **USAID Swears In New Mission Director for Macedonia**

On February 25th in Washington, D.C., Dr. Robert Wuertz was sworn in as the new USAID Mission Director for the Republic of Macedonia. Dr. Rajiv Shah, the USAID Administrator, officiated at the swearing in.

This will be Dr. Wuertz's first posting as Mission Director. He most recently served as Deputy Mission Director in Iraq, where he managed USAID's \$7 billion multi-sector portfolio. Prior to Iraq, he served in the USAID missions in Egypt, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Ghana. Dr. Wuertz has a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Virginia and a B.A from Cornell University.

USAID assistance aims to improve Macedonian governance and democratic institutions and practices; to accelerate private sector growth and workforce development; and to improve the quality of the education system for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, while at the same time expanding access for disadvantaged populations. In an increasingly tight budget environment, Dr. Wuertz will be working in partnership with the Government of Macedonia to achieve high-impact results through the USAID Forward agenda, a new set of reforms that support innovation and technology as a way to stimulate development.

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

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>.