

Remarks of USAID's Assistant Administrator
for the Bureau of Europe and Eurasia, Paige Alexander
Ceremony for Delivery of Portable e-Inspection Kits
September 26, 2013

Minister Harito, General Inspector, ladies and gentlemen, good morning, on behalf of USAID, I am pleased to be here to formally deliver portable e-Inspection kits to Albania's Central Inspectorate.

Witnessing this event and the partnership between USAID and the Government of Albania is a particularly special moment for me because it highlights some of USAID's own reform efforts that I have been involved in. Over the past five years, USAID has been undergoing a process of transforming how we do business in developing countries. We have been working very hard to align our assistance to the strategies and plans developed by countries, particularly as they relate to Millennium Development goals and the Paris Declaration.

One of the pillars of our Agency's reforms is to channel assistance resources directly through countries' financial systems. This project to support Albania's Inspection Reform and to deliver these kits, is a result of a rigorous assessment conducted by USAID of Albania's procurement and financial systems. Over the course of the last two years, USAID and the Central Inspectorate have worked to meet the high standards to qualify for direct Government to Government assistance. Today's ceremony celebrates the success of this endeavor and speaks to the benefits of supporting an open government based on transparency and accountability.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous leadership of the General Inspector, Mimoza Hajdarmataj, and her highly qualified and talented staff. Your training and investment in understanding USAID's systems is an asset to the Government of Albania.

I would also like to express USAID's support for the new Minister of Innovation and Public Administration, Minister Harito. I applaud your government's plans to increase transparency and accountability in the public administration. We hope the work USAID has accomplished with the Central Inspectorate will prove a model for your future work.

And finally, this partnership is a demonstration of USAID's confidence in Albania's systems and we are pleased the U.S. Government has provided assistance through Government of Albania's systems. I look forward to seeing the exciting impact of this partnership.