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PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. Launches Training Program To Help Azerbaijan Develop its Economy

Assisting Azerbaijan to develop the non-oil sectors of its economy is a major priority of the United States. The USAID-funded Public Investment Policy (PIP) Project, which works with the Azerbaijani Government to improve its macro, sectoral, and project planning, is an important element in advancing this objective. In cooperation with the Ministry for Economic Development, the PIP has now launched an extensive training program on public sector investment analysis and management. The training will be conducted in two rounds at the Park Inn Hotel, from February 6-28 and March 13-April 6. Participants will include management and technical staff from the Office of the President, the Cabinet of Ministers, the National Bank of Azerbaijan, and several Ministries involved with investment policy. The training will be interactive and participants will discuss how to develop a sound and balanced macroeconomic policy framework and sectoral strategies.

The training will be delivered by Dr. Mete Durdag, the head of the PIP Project, who will emphasize the importance of the efficient use of the country's limited financial resources in developing the non-oil sectors of the country's economy, and Dr. Richard Ansen, the PIP Project International Training Expert, who has extensive theoretical and practical experience in investment issues. At the request of the Azerbaijani Government, the PIP project plans to repeat the training sessions in early summer.