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## Protik Overview

The Protik ICT Resource Center is established by the combined efforts and goals of the Government of Albania, USAID, Albanian-American Development Foundation (AADF), Microsoft, Cisco, and Albtelecom. Established as a local non for profit organization on October the 10th, 2012, Protik?s mission is to catalyze the development of the information and communications technology (ICT) sector in Albania. The accomplishment of its mission was founded and will continue to be inspired on the values of **Integrity, Excellence, Transparency, Collaboration and Cooperation**. Protik aims to become the Albanian ICT hub: a connection point for those seeking the latest and most innovative ideas, products, and services.

As an ICT resource center, Protik will have a significant effect on long run productive activities in other sectors of the economy, through: promoting innovation and creativity, facilitating the creation of links between the ICT sector and other sectors of the economy; increasing the know ? how of non ICT people on ICT related subjects, promoting the best practices and international standards, providing access in training and technology to underprivileged groups, etc. Doing so, the impact of ICT will become even more noticeable.

Protik has the following goals:

·    **Foster innovation and entrepreneurship**

·    **Help increase demand for ICT**

·    **Promote networking and partnership**

## Protik's Partners

Protik will play a central role in stimulating the growth of the ICT sector in Albania. The resource center will help create a better ICT business environment by improving standards and educational opportunities, as well as advocate with its partners to ensure that the sector will attract new businesses and investments. Founders and partners are Protik?s most important resource. This partnership is a consortium of businesses, non for profit and government entities that promote the skills needed to compete in an innovation ? driven economy.

You may find more information on Protik?s founders in the following links.

**USAID**

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) was created on November 3rd, 1961 with a spirit of progress and innovation. Since its creation, USAID's culture continues to serve as a reflection of

core American values--values that are rooted in a belief for doing the right thing.

http://www.usaid.gov [2]

**Albanian - American Development Foundation**

The Albanian-American Development Foundation (AADF) supports the development and expansion of a market economy and democratic society in Albania. It represents a strong tradition of friendship and goodwill between the United States and Albania and promotes the exchange of ideas and experience between people of both countries.

http://www.aadf.org [3]

**Microsoft**

Microsoft is one of the biggest and most influential companies in the ICT industry worldwide. Microsoft Corporation engages in developing, licensing, and supporting a range of software products and services, by designing and selling hardware devices, and by delivering relevant online advertising to a customer audience worldwide.

http://www.microsoft.com [4]

**Cisco**

Cisco Systems, Inc. is the worldwide leader in networking for the Internet. Today, networks are an essential part of business, education, government, and home communications. Cisco has pioneered the use of the Internet in its own business practice and offers consulting services based on its experience to help other organizations around the world.

http://www.cisco.com [5]

**Albtelecom**

Albtelecom sha (a shortening of Albanian Telecom) is the Albanian incumbent operator and largest fixed line and internet service provider.

http://www.albtelecom.al [6]

Protik is willing to continue its partnership with other entities interested in investing in the ICT Center!

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