

PRESS RELEASE  
15<sup>th</sup> October 2015



## Unique meeting for exchange of Central and Eastern European experience in youth financial education

Amsterdam, Netherlands – Together with project partners, [Child and Youth Finance International](#) (CYFI) is organizing the *Kick-off Meeting of the project “Transfer of Visegrad countries experience and building capacity of civil society in Eastern Europe in the field of youth financial education”* on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of October. The meeting will take place in the Institute of Banking Education of the National Bank of Slovakia in Bratislava.

### **What is the project about?**

Supported by the [International Visegrad Fund](#), the project is aimed at building institutional capacity of civil society and public institutions in the countries of Visegrad Eastern Partnership Region (Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia and Azerbaijan) in the area of financial literacy and economic citizenship education for youth, using extensive experience of V4 countries – Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia - and CYFI network expertise. It involves workshops and a master training for building technical expertise of participating organizations in the topic.

The main aims of the meeting are to utilize the unique know-how of the Visegrad countries to facilitate social and economic transformation, democratization and regional cooperation. This will be achieved through the development of civil society and supported by cooperation among local governments, universities and individual citizens – the results of this collaboration will then be applied to the particular area of creating and delivering financial education programs at national and local levels in Eastern Europe.

### **Why is this meeting taking place?**

Increasing the financial literacy of the youth and the general population in the EaP countries has become a priority in the agendas of the policy makers. While the V4 countries have extensive experience in developing national programs e.g. financial education integration into the school curriculum in Czech Republic or have created national financial literacy standard in Slovakia, most of participating EaP countries are still in the course of developing national strategies of financial literacy, and this project will support them in the process by sharing best practices from V4 region and developing institutional capacity to scale up programs. V4 project partners have diverse and substantial experience in areas like training, financial literacy methodologies and programs.

The meeting will focus on sharing V4 countries experience in (national) financial literacy programs for children and young people. The meeting will present the conducted gap analysis and determine the streams needed for training sessions, and identifying the main streams for Training of Trainers that will take place at the beginning of 2016 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

### **Who is participating in the meeting in Bratislava?**

9 project partners from both EaP countries (Eastern Partnership) and V4 countries will participate in the meeting. Among these there are: [Microfinance Centre](#), Poland, [Institute of Banking Education of the National Bank of Slovakia](#), [The Foundation for Improvement of Financial Culture](#), Hungary, [European Financial Planning Association Czech Republic](#), [LEPL National Youth and Children Palace of Georgia](#), [Banking University of Ukraine](#), [Institute of Educational Sciences of the Republic of Moldova](#), [Reliable Youth Future NGO Azerbaijan](#), and the [Youth Entrepreneurship Support and Development Center](#) of the Republic of Belarus. Moreover, the meeting will see the participation of stakeholders and experts from the National Bank of Georgia, Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Finance of Slovakia, Children of Slovakia Foundation, Warsaw Institute of Banking, Association of finance and citizen literacy Czech Republic, and Aflatoun.

## About International Visegrad Fund

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The International Visegrad Fund is an international organization based in Bratislava founded by the governments of the Visegrad Group (V4) countries—the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Poland, and the Slovak Republic—in Štířín, Czech Republic, on June 9, 2000.

The fund operates several grant programs, and also awards individual scholarships, fellowships and artist residencies. The aim of the Flagship Projects program is to support long-term projects of strategic character that significantly contribute to providing access to the unique experience and know-how of V4 countries with democratic transformation and integration, EU accession and regional cooperation.

<http://visegradfund.org/>



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## About Child & Youth Finance International

Child & Youth Finance International (CYFI), an NGO based in Amsterdam, aims to develop a generation that will be able to prevent future financial crises by increasing the financial education, financial access, employability, and entrepreneurship skills of children and youth. Launched in April 2012 and funded by Mastercard and People's Postcode Lottery, the Child and Youth Finance Movement has already expanded to 125 countries and reached more than 36 million children. Our international and regional events result in policy changes, and are the only events in the world where children contribute to setting the global agenda.



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### CYFI Social Media Channels

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**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/childfinance> (@ChildFinance)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/childfinance> (@childfinance)

**Hashtags:** #ChildFinance