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## Citi supports innovation at Slovak schools

Citi helps to establish Education and Communication Centers in schools across Slovakia

**Bratislava**, **July 15**, **2010**: Citi and its local partner Bratislava Community Foundation announced 7 winners of the program ""Education and Communication Centers" to be implemented in 7 elementary schools in 5 regions across Slovakia.

The 7 winning schools will use their financial award of 3 200 € to build and/or renovate an existing space e.g. libraries or classrooms and create a new centre which will become an open platform for interactive teaching through lessons, lectures and trainings for diverse targets groups including pupils, teachers, partners, parents and other relatives. The 7 new centres will open their gates at the beginning of school year 2010/2011. Centres will be built in 7 elementary schools in the following regions: Michalovce, Prievidza, Dolny Kubin, Zvolen, Pezinok, Prievidza and Povazska Bystrica.

The program is designed to stimulate innovative methods of teaching alongside building stronger relationship between schools and their communities. The social aspect of the new space is important as well as improving the teaching environment. The centers will be used for informal meetings with parents, alumnae and other school visitors. The centres may accommodate different public events related to the school environment.

This alternative education space is also designed to help people to network with others, relax and develop new communication skills.

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## **About Citi's Office of Financial Capability**

Citi's Office of Financial Capability combines the strength of Citi's business, people and partnerships to empower individuals to achieve their personal finance goals and improve their quality of life. Citi takes a holistic approach to Financial Capability that encompasses four elements critical to achieving sustainable results: 1) increasing financial literacy; 2) developing short-term and long-term financial plans; 3) increasing ability to select appropriate financial products or services to implement those plans; and 4) providing ongoing support that helps consumers redefine their financial goals over the course of their lives. In 2004, Citi made an unprecedented 10-year, \$200 million global commitment to support financial education. As of 2010, the company has invested over \$167 million in these efforts in 73 countries around the world.

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