

2018 CEF Partners Meeting

CEF Headquarters in Ljubljana, September 3-4, 2018

Distinguished representatives and Partners of the Center of Excellence in Finance,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a privilege for me to share with you briefly the views on the importance of the international development cooperation for learning practices, as the National Bank of Romania is a partner of CEF from its beginnings.

I am happy to see that CEF became an outstanding regional learning hub for strategic areas such as the Public Financial Management, Tax Policy and Administration, Central Banking, Leadership for Managing Reforms and Data Analysis for Designing Policies. As a central banker, I believe that it is essential to foster learning development through international collaboration and provide insights to underline the importance of CEF role in hosting and coordinating the co-operative process to bring together the best resources in SEE. Our gathering here, tonight, is the best example of successful working together for sustaining the international development of the human capital.

The National Bank of Romania publicly assumed an active social role in the education for the large society and is active on the front of learning and development to continuously prepare its employees to the highest

standards and expectations, as well as to ensure a lifelong learning process for its most valued resource, the people.

At the same time, the National Bank of Romania has a tight international and European cooperation with the European Central Bank, the European System of Central Banks and the Single Supervisory Mechanism, sharing learning and development programs and best practices within regular seminars organized within its own learning centers for professional development. In average, there are 5 such programs *per annum* provided and delivered by the National Bank of Romania.

For instance, the National Bank of Romania through the International Relations Department organized international conferences and seminars, such as, for the past 11 years, the regional seminar on Financial Stability issues – in cooperation with the International Monetary Fund.

The National Bank of Romania considers that the talent management priority is key to foster creation of added value via its people and launched a recruitment program called “Brain Regain” dedicated to the Romanian experts working abroad, to hire them and benefit from their expertise and contribution to the development of economic policies.

Another example of best practices of the National Bank of Romania’s International Relations Department is the seminar organized in partnership with the Macroeconomic Modelling and Forecasting Department, called “Bucharest Economic Analysis and Research Seminar”, where the most

prominent figures from the international economic environment lectured. The seminar started in September last year and had 12 editions up to this day, the speakers coming from renowned institutions, among which I quote the Paris School of Economics, Council of Economic Policies, FED, ECB, Kent Business School, Banque de France, De Nederlandsche Bank, etc. These best practices of the National Bank of Romania's collaboration in developing the learning by international cooperation rely on the openness and borderless principles in continuous professional education, facilitating the acquisition of skills and expertise. Any international cooperation needs to have strong ownership and accountability. Since 2001, CEF has come a long way to be today the main knowledge hub in South and Eastern Europe, by standing to these principles. The main benefits are for the many persons that passed through professional formation programs provided by CEF, fostering the share of experiences and expertise at international level. It is only by international cooperation that we become more efficient in exploiting the learning capacities and more effective in delivering the most updated information and progress for the benefit of CEF members and non-members.

The international cooperation for learning development should be an ongoing process to explore the channels for reaching all the potential beneficiaries. To facilitate the professional formation for adults, the experiential learning should bring forward the meaningful storytelling for

relevant breakthroughs in the fields of Economics and Finance, to provide e-learning opportunities and webinars, to endeavour in the usage of international knowledge exchange platforms and to continue and upscale the active participation in professional working groups and workshops.

Much can I say about the topic of donor best practices and the experience of international development cooperation; however, I will shorten my speech here due to the fast passing of the time given and I invite you all to debate the topics further tonight and tomorrow.

I would like to extend my warm thanks and appreciation for this dedicated event to the organizers, on behalf of the National Bank of Romania and to express my wishes for fruitful dialogue among all participants.

Thank you.

Serban Matei,

Director of the International Relations Department,

National Bank of Romania.

Ljubljana,

September 3, 2018