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# Citi donated more than 3 million crowns for CSR projects last year. Citi helped in 2014 not only to women in shelters but also to students at high schools and universities in terms of financial education.

PRAHA – Citi was actively involved in a broad range of projects in the fields of financial literacy, development of the non-profit sector, and charity activities pursued in cooperation with non-profit organizations in the Czech Republic last year. In 2014, Citi supported corporate social responsibility activities, which form an integral part of Citi's corporate culture and are among the bank's core values, on a local basis to the tune of more than CZK 3.07 million.

"We work on our corporate social responsibility projects with many non-profit organizations. Citi Foundation and Tereza Maxová Foundation supported together for the second time mothers and women living in shelters. We helped to these women to solve their difficult current situation due to the development of education in the area of financial literacy and ultimately assisted them in finding work. Indeed, we did not forget students at high schools and universities. Students launched into the projects in the area of financial education that will improve their future employment prospects," says Michal Nebeský, Citi Country Officer in the Czech Republic.

## **Citi Foundation**

Citibank has been focusing on financial education in the long-term perspective, supporting various efforts through grants provided by its CSR arm, Citi Foundation. The bank has been working with selected partners from among non-profit organizations in this field for a long time. Last year, Citi Foundation contributed CZK 2,390,000 to Czech non-profit efforts.

In 2014, Citi Foundation took up on project "Made by" launched last year with focus on improving the financial literacy of mothers and women who live in shelters in the Czech Republic in cooperation with the **Tereza Maxová Foundation**. This is the first project of this type focusing on this target group. The primary goal of the project is to prevent children being taken away from women who face difficulties in life in particular due to financial problems. The other goal is to help women regain control of their lives and be able to take care of their children so that the children can be raised in their biological families. Last year, two shelters were involved in the project: Azylový dům pro ženy a matky dětmi o.p.s. Vsetín and Azylový dům pro matky s dětmi Osek. Citi has supported the project with CZK 1,190,000. During the pilot project involving 54 women living in

shelters in Vsetín and Most, whereas 17 women saved money for living outside the shelters, they were able to pay rent, and 7 women have found a permanent job. These women make various products (home shoes, angels etc.) that they subsequently sell in order to generate profit. The home shoes enjoy a good reputation and currently they were sold for about CZK 121.000.

- For the third year running, Citibank and the Faculty of Economics and Administration of Masaryk University have been developing a program focused on improving financial literacy among socially disadvantaged citizens, and university students were chosen as the potential suitable financial literacy educators in society. The program aims to achieve a systemic change and introduce a new approach to financial education of the adult population in the Czech Republic. Citi contributed CZK 800,000 to the project in 2014.
- Junior Achievement offers practical economic and financial education to young people, develops their knowledge and skills, and inspires and supports them in an active approach to life so they can assert themselves and are well prepared for the labor market. Citi donated CZK 400,000 to the organization last year.

## Citibank's Employee Charity Fund

Citibank in the Czech Republic has its own Employee Charity Fund to which its local employees contribute on a voluntary basis. The finances in the fund consist of employee contributions increased by the same amount by the bank, and are distributed twice a year to non-profit organizations active in the Czech Republic that meet the formal requirements and submit an official application for support. More than CZK 10 million has been distributed since the inception of the fund in 1996, and 19 projects were supported with CZK 680,000 last year. Support is provided primarily to smaller non-profit organizations, children's shelters and specialized schools operating on the local or regional level.

## Volunteering and charity

Last June was dedicated to volunteering at Citibank. Last year, the traditional Citi "Global Community Day" volunteering project offered Citi employees in the Czech Republic volunteering opportunities on various days throughout the month. Some 100 employee volunteers helped in 8 organizations across the country.

Twice a year, the bank organizes charity sales exhibits where employees can purchase products from sheltered workshops. Before Easter and Christmas, non-profit organizations offer decorative items and small gifts at Citibank's headquarters, and the proceeds from every sales exhibit regularly amount to about CZK 40,000.

Also, charity collections of clothing and household items were held in Citi several times last year. Collected things wandered to e.g. Lékořice, Children's Center in Krč or to Borůvka Praha.

#### Citi

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#### **Citi Foundation**

The Citi Foundation works to promote economic progress in communities around the world and focuses on initiatives that expand financial inclusion. We collaborate with best-in-class partners to create measurable economic improvements that strengthen low-income families and communities. Through a "More than Philanthropy" approach, Citi's business resources and human capital enhance our philanthropic investments and impact. For more information, visit <u>www.citifoundation.com</u>.

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