Information About the Organizers

The Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSRDG) has been working on development and popularization of Social entrepreneurship since 2009. It offers financial as well as technical assistance (trainings, seminars, workshops, consultations) to social enterprises throughout of Georgia.

Please, see the webpage: www.csrdg.ge

NESsT has been one of the pioneers of venture philanthropy in CEE (Central and Eastern Europe Region). NESsT was established in 1997 by two US based social entrepreneurs with an idea of supporting social enterprise movement in CEE. Parallel to work in CEE, NESsT has been operating successfully in Latin America since 1999.

NESsT supports and invests in social enterprises that provide dignified jobs and income to those facing the greatest barriers to work—at risk youth, low-income women, ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities and small producers. Impact measurement of the NESsT Portfolio is critical and based on a 19-year track record of financial and impact indicators.

Since 1997, NESsT has provided consulting services to 120 clients in 55 countries, has supported more than 166 early-stage enterprises, improved the lives of 542,000 low-income individuals and generated 35,000 livelihood opportunities. NESsT has invested $11.5 million in entrepreneurial coaching and financing across 11 countries and trained 12,000 entrepreneurs in business planning and social enterprise start-up and management.

Please, see the webpage: www.nesst.org

Valores Foundation is Poland’s first Venture Philanthropy Fund. It aims at increasing the social impact of non-governmental organizations through offering them tailored financing and non-financial assistance for growth and expansion. Valores has a clear focus on charities and NGO’s helping truly under-privileged groups – the „hard cases”, supports social organizations that have an ability to scale-up and make significant social impact, offers a strong support of the Polish PE/VC community through engagement of Valores executive and board members, PSIK SBA mentors, and the personal involvement of Valores’ donors. The return on social investment is the achievement of agreed results. Valores is not expecting a financial return on its investment.

The first Valores Fund with 550k Euro in raised capital, is now nearly fully invested, with eight completed investments. Valores has already completed the three-year full investment cycle, including exit, with its first three social organizations, achieving significant social impact as well as organizational impact, proving out the original thesis when creating Valores in 2014.

Please, see the webpage: http://www.valores.pl