



# Lessons learned from the infoDev Access to Finance Program in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

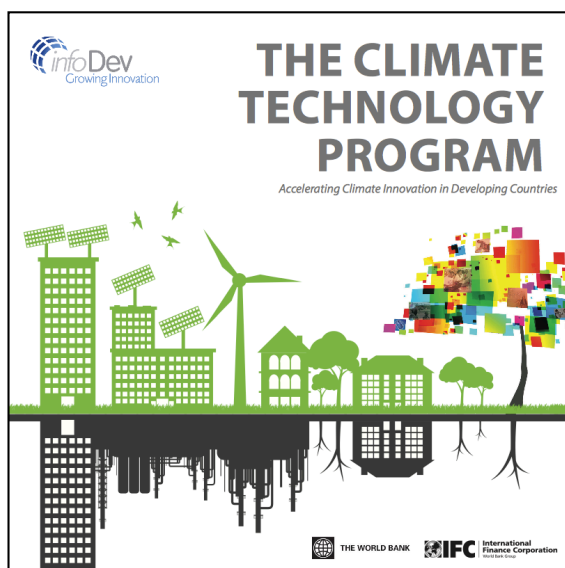
*Stefan Schandera | infoDev regional facilitator Eastern Europe and Central Asia*

EBAN 14th Annual Congress 2014 | May 2014; Dublin/Ireland



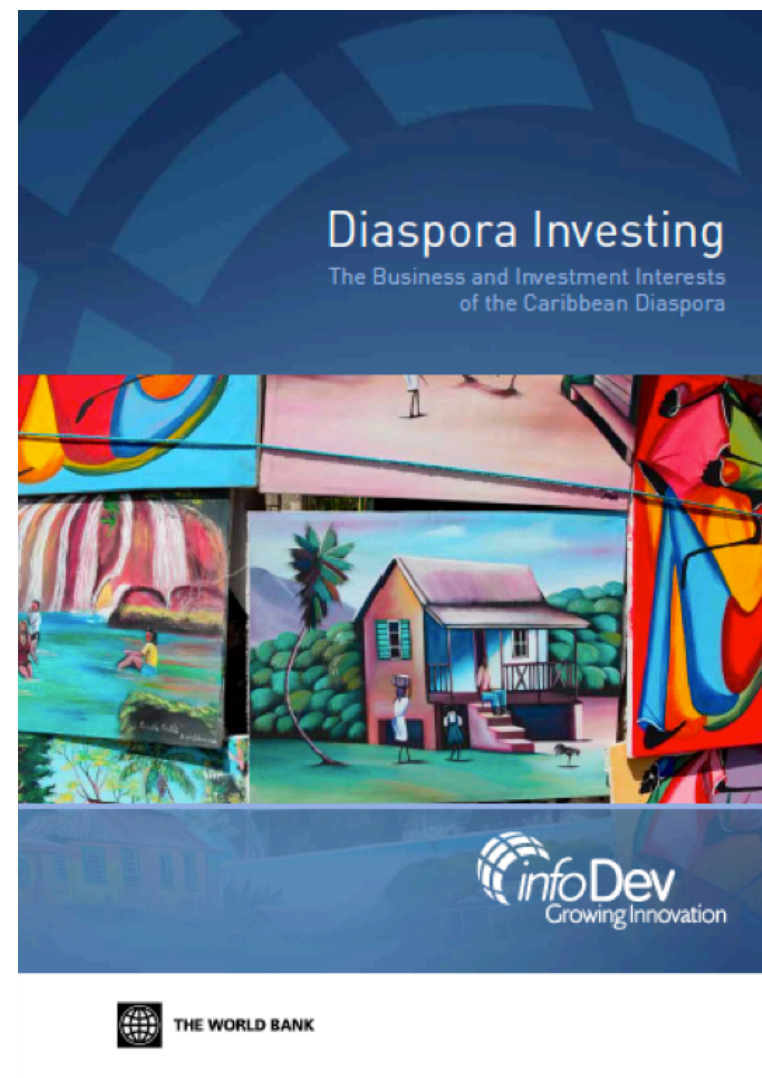
# About *infoDev*

Access to Finance	Agribusiness Entrepreneurship	Climate Technology	Mobile Innovation	Women's Entrepreneurship
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# infoDev Access to Finance program



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## infoDev Access to Finance program



### Creating your Own Angel Investment Group: A guide for Emerging and Frontier Markets infoDev / Kauffman Foundation, 2014

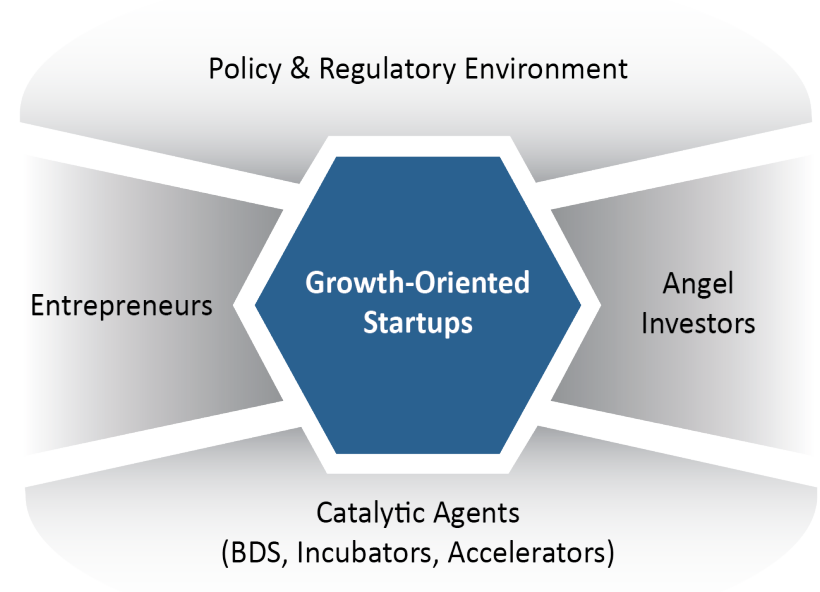
- Based on 2004 Kauffman publication *ANGEL INVESTMENT GROUPS, NETWORKS, AND FUNDS: A Guidebook to Developing the Right Angel Organization for Your Community*
- Addressing the needs of BAN initiatives in emerging markets
- More focus on post-investment activities and emphasizing innovation ecosystem
- [www.infodev.org/infodev-files/angel\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.infodev.org/infodev-files/angel_handbook.pdf)

# *infoDev* Lessons learned in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

- Access to Finance support activities in Kazakhstan, Moldova, Belarus (2012/2013) and lessons learned in Russia and Ukraine
- **Potentials:** Private investment and growing middle class / Innovation areas in ICT, agriculture... / Public funding for innovation and entrepreneurship
- **Challenges:** Entrepreneurship culture / Public-private sector links and Trust issue / Legal system and incentives / Role of public sector
- **Recommendations:** Awareness raising on three levels (startup, investors, public sector) / Legal system / Co-investment funds feasible?

# infoDev Lessons learned around the globe

- Money drain and Diaspora potentials
- **Ecosystems:** In emerging and developing countries, investments into all components of startup ecosystems are required
- **Sector focus examples:** Angel and investment funds linked to sector-focused incubators/accelerators (infoDev examples: Agribusiness Innovation Centres, Climate Innovation Centres, mLabs)
- Champions kicking off the wave



# Conclusions

- Wider ecosystem involvement required
- Awareness raising on three levels, and **trust-building**
- ICT sector as pioneers

## Further information

- [www.infodev.org](http://www.infodev.org)

Thank you very much!

Go raibh maith agaibh!