



Investment Brief

# NESsT Venture Fund

A philanthropic investment fund for social enterprise development

Investment Brief: Slovakia

## Bambino

[www.materskecentra.sk](http://www.materskecentra.sk)



**Location:** Poprad, Slovakia

**Sector:** Social services, children and families

**Stage:** Fourth year, later-stage portfolio

### Organizational Information

**Date founded:** 1998

**Annual budget:** US\$ 48,000

**Employees:** 2.5 full-time staff, 30+ volunteers

**Mission:** Bambino supports families and children by offering education and self-help classes for pregnant women, mothers and fathers.

**Social challenge:** Pregnant and nursing women in Slovakia face a discriminatory environment and possible social, economic, and professional isolation.

**Leadership:** Staff have experience in designing and implementing social policies (for the elderly and families). They also have expertise in pedagogy, clinical medicine, "doula" skills, and communications.

### Social Enterprise Overview

**Enterprise Description:** The "School of Healthy Motherhood" provides fee-based courses on natural child delivery and parenting, addressing a serious need in Slovakia. Bambino's courses provide access to information on raising a healthy family - essential but largely unavailable to parents and soon-to-be parents - thereby contributing to the improvement of obstetrics in the region.

**Social Impact Goal:** The Center ultimately aims to help children by helping their mothers. Through this type of venture Bambino can improve the quality of its services and contribute to the "professionalism" of parenthood itself.

**Financial Goal:** Bambino plans for self-financing activities to make up 10% or more of the organization's total revenues in the future.

### NESsT Investment

**Overall Financial Support to Date**  
US\$17,300

**Financial Support Needed (Year 4)**  
US\$ 8,000

**Capacity-Building Support (Year 4)**  
Valued at US\$ 7,500

1. Develop a marketing and sales strategy, promotion plan, website development.

2. Create human resource policies and invest in key staff through their salaries.

3. Assist in overall organizational fundraising strategy and plan, human resource strategy, and risk mitigation plan.

In 2008, NESsT is assisting Bambino in the following areas:

In addition to workshops, NESsT meets bi-monthly with Bambino and facilitates consulting and financial support for Bambino from the NESsT Business Advisory Network.