



P R E S S R E L E A S E

Bucharest, 7th August 2014

Coface Romania and The Bucharest University of Economic Studies will collaborate to develop a model for credit risk assessment

Coface Romania in partnership with The Bucharest University of Economic Studies will work together within a research and development project. The project is 80% funded by the Executive Agency for Higher Education Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI), the remaining funding being provided by Coface Romania as a private partner. The project will last two years (July 2014 - June 2016) and the result will be the development of a new assessment model of the corporate risk.

One year after the initial submission of the project for public financing in early July 2014, the two partners have received positive response from UEFISCDI to start the activity.

The main objective of the research project is to create a "new model for corporate risk assessment: a scientific tool for knowledge based management", which will contribute to the development of forward looking variables (including macroeconomic level analysis), sensitivity analysis (scenario stress test based), different calibration for SME and LC (large corporates) etc.

Coface's role, as private partner, through its 9 financial analysts coordinated by Iancu Guda (Business Information & Debt Collection Manager) will provide the know-how and expertise in economic analysis, financial information and databases to test the model and the company's resources within the different phases of the project.

The Bucharest University of Economic Studies will be the coordinator of this initiative and its research team of 9 doctors in Economics will be responsible for developing the project regarding budgets' eligibility, reporting to ANCS etc.

"We believe in our partnerships within the business environment and we are confident that this joint project, won through a tough competition will establish a long term relationship. Along with Coface, a company with wide international recognition, we hope to contribute to the knowledge development and the training of human resources specialized in corporate risk assessment.", said Professor Ion Stancu, PhD, Vice-Rector of The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Faculty of Finance, Insurance, Banking and Stock Exchange.

"We are honored to be able to really get involved in this research and development project of corporate risk assessment, even more with an educational partner, such as The Bucharest University of Economic Studies. Through this initiative, we want to transfer Coface's know-how in the service of society and, with the research team of ASE, to generate long-term results in



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terms of risk forecasting. Also, another goal is to inspire both Coface analysts and future generations of economic students to pursue a professional career tailored to the nowadays economy.", said Constantin Coman, Country Manager, Coface Romania.

Coface's team annually engages in social responsibility actions dedicated to education through partnerships with various student associations, supports underprivileged children with scholarships and sponsors personal development projects.

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About Coface

The Coface Group, a worldwide leader in credit insurance, offers companies around the globe solutions to protect them against the risk of financial default of their clients, both on the domestic market and for export. In 2013, the Group, supported by its 4,440 staff, posted a consolidated turnover of €1.440 billion. Present directly or indirectly in 98 countries, it secures transactions of over 37,000 companies in more than 200 countries. Each quarter, Coface publishes its assessments of country risk for 160 countries, based on its unique knowledge of companies' payment behaviour and on the expertise of its 350 underwriters located close to clients and their debtors.

In France, Coface manages export public guarantees on behalf of the French State.

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About ASE

Established by Royal Decree on April 6, 1913, The Bucharest University of Economic Studies is one of the 12 elite universities in Romania, part of the category „universities with advanced research and education”, with all areas of studies within the first category nationwide. According to U-Multirank evaluation within business studies, the majority of ASE's programs are positioned overall in the first half of the rankings, with four universities in the top 100 and three in the top 150, out of a total of 342 participating universities and colleges in Europe.

ASE currently has 11 faculties, over 21,000 students and 781 teachers and professors and is involved in numerous research projects and human resource development.

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