

PRESS RELEASE

17 March 2011

“There is chance!”

Home renovation loan with singularly favourable conditions for low-income customers

Budapest, 17 March 2011 – Designed to improve the housing conditions of families living near subsistence level, a home renovation loan dubbed “Van esély!” [There Is Chance!] and offered at extremely favourable conditions, has been introduced by Habitat for Humanity Magyarország [Habitat for Humanity Hungary], good.bee, and Erste Bank Hungary Zrt. A unique opportunity in Hungary, the loan design has been available at selected Erste Bank branches since 17 March. This special program has been launched in Borsod, Szabolcs, Hajdú, and Békés counties as an experimental project.

In Hungary, approximately 900,000 people live in homes where the costs of housing amount to or exceed 40 per cent of the family income. The situation is even more depressing in the lower-income scope, because the quality of their housing is the worst. “The loan design ‘Van esély’ provides a chance renovate, remodel their homes, for instance to reduce their bills, to those who have had no access to credit precisely because of their financial standing,” announced by György Sümeghy, director of Habitat for Humanity Magyarország, accompanied by Jan Kouba, a representative of good.bee foundation, and dr. Zsolt Simon, head of retail product development at Erste Bank Hungary Zrt.

Habitat for Humanity Magyarország director György Sümeghy underlined that Habitat had been seeking a partner for years that was willing to make social considerations in housing-purpose lending. Families for whom Habitat designed this financing opportunity have such a low income that it has prevented them from obtaining safe and maintainable financing until now. It is the objective of Habitat to help families improve their living conditions by providing real support and not financial risks.

The “Van esély!” loan is the lowest-interest design among loan products available without mortgage, and also a very small co-finance is required. In addition to the interest, the fee of technical consulting represents the only cost, because the loan comes without disbursement fee or loan management costs. Social considerations will be part of the loan assessment procedure, because access to the loan is restricted by an upper limit on the applicant’s income.

The families involved in the loan are given support by technical advisors provided by Habitat in order to ensure that really necessary and useful changes are financed that do make a difference in their living conditions. The scope of such remodelling may involve insulation, construction or modernisation of water, gas, or electric piping, or prevention of life-threatening conditions.

The conditions of the “Van esély” design have been developed by Habitat. Similar programs in previous years have proven that careful selection of families, a cheap loan, and appropriate technical advice guarantee loan repayment. Involvement of a banking partner means less administrative work for the organisation, allowing it to service even more people in the future.

Dr. Zsolt Simon said Habitat was going to try and help 150 families in the first year in collaboration with good-bee and Erste, a bank active in corporate social responsibility initiatives. Following the first year, the results of the program are evaluated and decision on the continuation of the program is reached.

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The “Van esély” loan is available in the following Erste branches only:

	Fiók	Ir.szám	Város	Cím
Északkelet-Magyarországi Régió				
1	Debrecen, Vár u. Fiók	4024	Debrecen	Vár utca 4.
2	Nyíregyháza, Vay Á. krt. Fiók	4400	Nyíregyháza	Vay Ádám körút 12.
3	Salgótarjáni Fiók	3100	Salgótarján	Erzsébet tér 5.
4	Miskolc, Mindszent téri Fiók	3530	Miskolc	Mindszent tér 3.
5	Eger, Kossuth utcai Fiók	3300	Eger	Kossuth Lajos utca 13/a.
6	Hajdúszoboszlói Fiók	4200	Hajdúszoboszló	Hősök tere 9-11.
7	Hajdúböszörményi Fiók	4220	Hajdúböszörmény	Szt. István tér 2.
8	Berettyóújfalui Fiók	4100	Berettyóújfalu	Bajcsy-Zs. u. 1.
9	Hajdúnánási Fiók	4080	Hajdúnánás	Dorogi utca 10-14.
10	Hajdúdorogi Fiók	4087	Hajdúdorog	Nánási út 2.
11	Tiszavasvári Fiók	4440	Tiszavasvári	Kossuth utca 22.
12	Mátészalkai Fiók	4700	Mátészalka	Kölcsey utca 15.
13	Nyírbátori Fiók	4300	Nyírbátor	Szabadság tér 10
14	Záhonyi Fiók	4625	Záhony	Ady Endre utca 27-31.
15	Kisvárdai Fiók	4600	Kisvárd	Szent László utca 26.
16	Sárospataki Fiók	3950	Sárospatak	Rákóczi utca 40.
17	Sátorajlajújhelyi Fiók	3980	Sátorajlajújhely	Széchenyi tér 3.
18	Szerencsi Fiók	3900	Szerencs	Rákóczi út 73-75.
19	Tiszaújvárosi Fiók	3580	Tiszaújváros	Bethlen Gábor utca 5/b
20	Kazincbarcikai Fiók	3700	Kazincbarcika	Egressy utca 44.
Délkelet-Magyarországi Régió				
21	Békéscsaba, Munkácsy utcai Fiók	5600	Békéscsaba	Munkácsy u. 2.
22	Szeged, Széchenyi téri Fiók	6720	Szeged	Széchenyi tér 17.
23	Szolnok, Baross utcai Fiók	5000	Szolnok	Baross utca 8.
24	Kecskemét, Nagykőrösi utcai Fiók	6000	Kecskemét	Nagykőrösi utca 11.
25	Szarvasi Fiók	5540	Szarvas	Szabadság utca 32.
26	Gyulai Fiók	5700	Gyula	Városház utca 16.
27	Békési Fiók	5630	Békés	Széchenyi tér 4.
Dél-Dunántúli Régió				
28	Székesfehérvár, Palotai úti Fiók	8000	Székesfehérvár	Palotai út 4.
29	Szekszárdi Fiók	7100	Szekszárd	Széchenyi utca 40.
30	Zalaegerszeg, Ispotályközi Fiók	8900	Zalaegerszeg	Ispotály köz 2.
31	Pécs, Rákóczi úti Fiók	7620	Pécs	Rákóczi út 62-64.
32	Kaposvári Fiók	7400	Kaposvár	Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 24.
33	Csurgói Fiók	8840	Csurgó	Széchenyi tér 16.
Budai Régió				
34	Maros utcai Fiók	1122	Budapest	Maros utca 19-21.
Észak-Dunántúli Régió				
35	Tatabányai Fiók	2800	Tatabánya	Fő tér 20.
36	Veszprém, Szabadság téri Fiók	8200	Veszprém	Szabadság tér 1.
37	Szombathely, Mártírok téri Fiók	9700	Szombathely	Mártírok tere 12.
38	Győr Bajcsy-Zs. úti Fiók	9021	Győr	Bajcsy-Zs. u. 30-32.

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