

Press release

MICROFIX, the Microfinance Local Currency fund well on its track

Amsterdam, July 10th, 2008.

Corporate Connect and PlaNet Finance are happy to announce the Technical Assistance support confirmed by BNP Paribas, FMO (Netherlands Development Finance Company) and TCX (a local currency capital market development fund) to the common initiative taken by both entities to set up MICROFIX, a microfinance local currency fund. The fund will be working with microfinance institutions and international investors to understand, quantify and reduce currency risk by providing currency hedging services (swaps and Fwd contracts) as well as FX risk management solutions.

MICROFIX will be managed by PlaNIS, the microfinance investment services unit of the PlaNet Finance Group.

The Technical Assistance budget now being provided, PlaNIS and Corporate Connect will be working on the set up of MICROFIX fund by the end of December 2008 in order to start operation early 2009.

About Corporate Connect:

Corporate Connect is THE investment advisor for emerging market investment funds and is known for its innovative approach and is highly appreciated for its integrity.

Based on the extensive finance and consultancy background of the Corporate Connect partners, together with a large network within the international financial markets, Corporate Connect has acquired a well-established position in the areas of fund and investment advisory as well as arranging capital. In this capacity Corporate Connect also acted as the advisor to TCX NV, in the set-up, structuring and placement of the Fund.

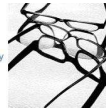
www.corporateconnect.eu

About PlaNet Finance:

PlaNet Finance Group is an international organisation whose mission is to fight against poverty through the development of microfinance. As the microfinance expert, PlaNet Finance Group provides a diversified set of service to help increase access to financial services for the poor:

- PlaNet Finance Technical Solutions, the technical assistance and consulting provider;
- PlaNIS, the business unit specialised in microfinance fund advisory, structuration and management;
- Planet Rating, the microfinance rating agency;
- MicroCred, the microfinance investment company;
- PlaNet Guarantee, the microinsurance specialist;
- FinanCités, the venture capital company for microentrepreneurs in French deprived urban areas.
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Based in Paris, the PlaNet Finance Group is active in more than 60 countries with an international network of 38 offices in Europe, North America, Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.



In 2007, PlaNet Finance Technical Solutions provided assistance to 220 microfinance institutions (MFIs), reaching almost 9 million clients. Planet Rating conducted 83 rating missions and 2 new Greenfield institutions were created by MicroCred. PlaNet Guarantee has been able to provide microinsurance products to 120 000 microentrepreneurs. PlaNIS set up the financing for 40 MFIs mainly on behalf of responsAbility funds / Crédit Suisse and MicroFund for a total of EUR 80 million. In one year, FinanCités financed 19 microentreprises in France for a total of EUR 853,000. PlaNet Finance Group gathers more than 550 staff.

www.planetfinance.org

About PlaNIS:

PlaNIS is the unit of PlaNet Finance Group dedicated to financial services in microfinance. PlaNIS focuses on:

- 1- Microfinance debt fund management and advisory. PlaNIS currently manages or advises 6 funds for a total portfolio over 80 M Euros invested in almost 60 microfinance institutions in 20 countries;
- 2- The structured financings in microfinance (CLOs, CDOs, syndications);
- 3- The advisory and the management of private equity funds (including origination, survey and structuration of targeted investments, buying and selling mandates, M&A,..)

About FMO:

The Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO) is the international development bank of the Netherlands. FMO invests risk capital in companies and financial institutions in developing countries. FMO's investment portfolio is EUR 3.4 billion, making it is one of the largest bilateral development banks worldwide. Thanks in part to its relationship with the Dutch government, FMO is able to take risks which commercial financiers are not - or not yet - prepared to take. FMO's mission: to create flourishing enterprises, which can serve as engines of sustainable growth in their countries.

www.fmo.nl

About BNP Paribas:

BNP Paribas is a European leader in global banking and financial services and is one of the 4 strongest banks in the world according to Standard & Poor's. The group is present in over 85 countries, with more than 168,000 employees, including 129,500 in Europe. The group holds key positions in three major segments: Corporate and Investment Banking, Asset Management & Services and Retail Banking. Present throughout Europe in all of its business lines, the bank's two domestic markets in retail banking are France and Italy. BNP Paribas also has a significant presence in the United States and strong positions in Asia and the emerging markets.

www.bnpparibas.com

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