



For Immediate Release

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PlaNNet Finance Group Announces Strategic Partnership with responsAbility, a leading asset manager in social investments, through its subsidiary PlaNIS

PlaNNet Finance Group, a leading microfinance group whose mission is to alleviate poverty through financial inclusion, has formed a strategic alliance with responsAbility. This alliance will be forged via responsAbility's strategic participation in PlaNIS, marking a new era of long-term cooperation. This partnership will create fully integrated investment processes, enabling PlaNIS to expand its local presence and increasing synergies between responsAbility and PlaNNet Finance Group.

responsAbility's participation in Paris-based PlaNIS, which will operate under the new name PlaNIS responsAbility SAS, is the natural consequence of a successful business partnership that started in 2005. As preferred investment partner, PlaNIS' team of Investment Analysts and Investment Officers financed 77 microfinance institutions in 25 countries last year, mainly in Central Asia, the Caucasus, Latin America and Western Africa. This constitutes a loan portfolio of USD 179 million at the end of December 2010.

Combined with the imminent launch of responsAbility's offices in Lima (Peru), Nairobi (Kenya) and India, local partners and borrowers worldwide will benefit from more direct services and efficient integrated investment processes. One key outcome will be the positive impact on transaction costs, which are comparatively high in the development investment universe. Investees and investors alike will benefit from efficiency gains. Furthermore, PlaNNet Finance Group and its partners will develop increased synergies with responsAbility, particularly for the structuring and development of social investment products.

PlaNNet Finance Group will remain an important shareholder of PlaNIS responsAbility SAS.

The parties concerned have agreed not to disclose the financial details of the transaction.

Arnaud Ventura, Co-founder and Vice President of PlaNNet Finance Group, commented, "Since 2005, PlaNNet Finance Group has been developing its investment advisory activities through close collaboration with responsAbility. Inviting responsAbility to become a strategic shareholder of PlaNIS is a natural development for our group. PlaNNet Finance Group hopes to build strong links with responsAbility in the coming years, supporting the development of one of the leading microfinance/impact investment asset management groups in Europe."

Klaus Tischhauser, co-founder and CEO of responsAbility, declared that "Local presence, global investment analysis capacity and know-how in various development-related areas are key features of responsAbility. This strategic investment in PlaNIS, and closer cooperation with PlaNNet Finance Group

overall, are important steps towards strengthening our position as a leading asset manager for social investments.”

Sébastien Duquet, Managing Director of PlaNIS, heralded “the strengthened partnership, which represents a significant step forward for PlaNIS, triggering new opportunities for development in areas such as fair trade, SME financing, micro-healthcare, and education project financing.”

About PlaNet Finance Group

Founded in 1998, PlaNet Finance is one of the world’s leading microfinance groups, fighting poverty via the development of inclusive finance. The group aims to help those excluded from mainstream financial services to save, borrow and gain access to insurance coverage, thus enabling them to stabilise their income, create and develop income-generating activities and seek protection against everyday risks. PlaNet Finance Group is active in 80 countries, working continuously to promote the growth and development of microfinance.

www.planetfinancegroup.org

About responsAbility

Founded in 2003, responsAbility Social Investments AG is one of the world's leading asset managers for social investments. It specializes in sectors such as microfinance, SME financing, fair trade and independent media. With its products, responsAbility enables people in developing countries and emerging markets to access markets, information and other services crucial for their development. Private and institutional investors can thus professionally contribute to positive social development while at the same time achieving a financial return. responsAbility is backed by well-established Swiss financial institutions and a social venture capital company. Its founders and shareholders include Baumann & Cie., Credit Suisse AG, Raiffeisen Schweiz Genossenschaft, Schweizerische Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft AG, Bank Vontobel AG as well as George Avenue C. V. responsAbility currently manages USD910 million invested in 344 institutions and in 65 countries (31.12.2010).

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