

## **MICROFINANZA RATING JOINS THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MICROFINANCE INVESTORS AS FIRST SPECIALIZED RATING AGENCY MEMBER**

**NEW YORK, NY** (June 9, 2010) – The International Association of Microfinance Investors (IAMFI) has announced that MicroFinanza Rating, the leading specialized microfinance rating agency, has joined as its newest member and first niche microfinance rating agency member.

IAMFI provides the forum for members to access crucial information and develop thought leadership on microfinance investment challenges and opportunities. Joan Trant, executive director of IAMFI, says “We are very pleased to welcome new member MicroFinanza Rating, with its broad capacity in microfinance institution financial and social ratings and in-country assessments. MicroFinanza Rating offers a vital service to our industry by providing on-the-ground knowledge for evaluating microfinance investment risk.”

Since it was founded in 2000, Milan-based MicroFinanza Rating has performed more than 500 assessments in over 60 countries, including microfinance ratings, credit ratings, social ratings, institutional diagnostics, due diligence, loan portfolio audits and country screenings. In addition to its headquarters in Milan, MicroFinanza Rating has regional offices in Latin America, Central Asia, Southeast Asia and Africa. According to the “Microfinance Rating Outlook Report 2008” and “Microfinance Rating Outlook Report 2009,” both published by ADA and KPMG Luxembourg, MicroFinanza Rating is the global market share leader for microfinance ratings.

Aldo Moauro, executive director of MicroFinanza Rating, says, “We believe that investors represent a crucial driver for the improvement of transparency culture within the microfinance industry. By joining IAMFI, MicroFinanza Rating looks forward to forging more direct and systematic relationships with investors and, within such a privileged context, to be a key independent, professional and specialized source of information, with the goal to foster quality investment in the industry.”

IAMFI members have access to valuable information, expand their networks and make more informed decisions about microfinance investing. MicroFinanza Rating is a valued contributor to this process.

### **About IAMFI**

The International Association of Microfinance Investors (IAMFI) is a global membership organization dedicated to serving current and potential microfinance investors. Microfinance provides low-income households and enterprises access to capital and other financial services. IAMFI helps commercially oriented microfinance investors achieve their financial and social goals by offering credible, objective information, conducting research, facilitating dialogue and engaging with industry leaders to improve the global environment for microfinance investment.

### **About MicroFinanza Rating**

MicroFinanza Rating is an independent private rating agency specialized in microfinance. Its mission is to provide professional and independent information about the financial and social performance and risk profile of microfinance institutions to the market. During 10 years of activity, MicroFinanza Rating has contributed strongly to the development and consolidation of internationally recognized microfinance rating standard methodologies and processes. MicroFinanza Rating offers a variety of products and services that meet the needs of microfinance institutions and investors.

#### **For more information, contact:**

Geralyn Lederman

+1-212-297-2118

[glederman@kellencompany.com](mailto:glederman@kellencompany.com)

Or visit [www.iamfi.com](http://www.iamfi.com)

Aldo Moauro, Executive Director, MicroFinanza Rating

Phone: +39 0444 325039

[aldo.moauro@microfinanzarating.com](mailto:aldo.moauro@microfinanzarating.com)

Or visit [www.microfinanzarating.com](http://www.microfinanzarating.com)

###