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For Immediate Release

CENTRE FOR MICRO FINANCE AND LEGATUM INSTITUTE ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

Chennai (October, 2008) – The Centre for Micro Finance (CMF) and the Legatum Institute have entered into a partnership whereby Legatum will support CMF research and operating activities, including the dissemination of microfinance research results, during fiscal year 2008. This collaboration will strengthen the expertise of CMF in combining the best academic thinking with on-the-ground field capabilities to identify the impact of financial services for the poor.

“This is a very exciting and important partnership for the Centre for Micro Finance,” said Justin Oliver, the Executive Director of CMF. “Legatum’s support of our core operations empowers us to undertake important projects and use results from our research in ways that we would be unable to without the partnership. This further enhances CMF’s commitment to improve microfinance services for those who need them.”

The Legatum Institute is an independent research, policy, and advisory organization within the Legatum group of companies. The Institute's mission is to research and promote the principles that drive the creation of global prosperity and the expansion of human liberty.

The Centre for Micro Finance was established in 2005 to improve the lives of the poor by maximizing both the access to financial services and its impact through rigorous research and training. The Centre works in partnership with various MFIs in India, banks, investors, training institutions and several academic institutions in India and abroad, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Yale, Harvard, New York University (NYU) and the Indian School of Business (ISB).

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If you'd like more information about the Centre for Micro Finance and its work, please visit the website at <http://ifmr.ac.in/cmfi> or call Alexandra Kobishyn.

To learn more about the Legatum Institute please visit the website at <http://www.li.com>.