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## PRESS RELEASE

### CDC invests in the Advans S.A., SICAR

CDC Group plc ("CDC"), the UK Government-backed private equity emerging markets fund of funds investor today announces that it has committed EUR 7 million (US\$10.5m) to the Advans SA SICAR ("Advans"). Advans is a regulated specialised venture capital company, which invests mainly in greenfield microfinance institutions (MFIs) in Africa and Asia.

CDC signed a Subscription Agreement by which it committed to invest equity in Advans for an amount of EUR 3 million (US\$4.5m) to be executed immediately. CDC will also commit an additional EUR 4 million (US\$6m) in Advans in anticipation of the second round of fundraising to be organised by Advans in early 2009.

CDC's investment will support Advans in extending its network of MFIs mainly in Asia and Africa.

- Ends -

**About Advans:** Advans is headquartered in Luxembourg and was created in August 2005, with a committed capital of EUR 14.1 million. Advans' mission is to build a network of microfinance institutions in developing and emerging countries to cater to the financial needs of micro, small, and medium enterprises, which have limited or no access to formal banking services. Advans is managed by Horus Development Finance, its initial shareholder alongside several development financial institutions: Agence Française de Développement, European Investment Bank, the Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO), IFC, and KfW Development Bank. To know more, please visit [www.advansgroup.com](http://www.advansgroup.com)

### About CDC

- CDC is a government-owned fund of funds with net assets of £2.7bn.



- It uses its own balance sheet to invest in private equity funds focused on the emerging markets of Asia, Africa and Latin America, with particular emphasis on South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.
- CDC's mission is to generate wealth, broadly shared, in emerging markets, particularly in poorer countries, by providing capital for investment in sustainable and responsibly managed private sector businesses.
- Further information can be found at [www.cdcgroup.com](http://www.cdcgroup.com)

### **Enquiries**

#### **CDC Group**

Miriam de Lacy, Director of Corporate Communications,  
Sarah Fedorcio, Communications Assistant  
T: +44 207 963 4711  
M: +44 7799 824 947  
E: [mdelacy@cdcgroup.com](mailto:mdelacy@cdcgroup.com) or  
[sfedorcio@cdcgroup.com](mailto:sfedorcio@cdcgroup.com)

#### **Advans**

Claire Leprince, Communications Manager  
Claude Falgon, Advans SA SICAR Manager  
T: +33 1 53 32 75 75  
E: [cleprince@advansgroup.com](mailto:cleprince@advansgroup.com) or  
[cfalgon@advansgroup.com](mailto:cfalgon@advansgroup.com)