IFS Capital Limited, IFS Asset Management, and Funds IGC Forge Strategic Partnership to Mobilise Japanese Capital for SME Growth Across Asia Pacific

- Funds IGC will provide funding through direct or indirect collaboration with private credit funds managed by IFS Asset Management to scale private credit strategies for SME lending.
- Parties will co-develop networks and pipelines to execute private credit investment and lending opportunities in the region.

Singapore, 2 September 2025 — IFS Capital Limited ("**IFS Capital**"), IFS Asset Management Private Limited (**"IFSAM**") and Funds IGC Pte Ltd ("**Funds IGC**"), the Singapore subsidiary of Japan's **Funds, Inc.**, today announced that they have signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding ("**MoU**") to channel Japanese capital into private credit strategies serving small and medium-sized enterprises ("**SMEs**") across the Asia Pacific region.

Under the MoU, Funds IGC will provide funding through direct or indirect collaboration with funds managed by IFSAM, which are focused on asset-backed financing secured by real estate and structured credit investments, and accessible to institutional and accredited investors. The funds are also used to provide vital financing to creditworthy SMEs that need access to capital for business growth.

In addition, the three parties will co-develop networks and pipelines to identify, structure, and execute private credit opportunities across Asia Pacific, combining their shared expertise, market knowledge and regional networks to expand their presence in Asia Pacific.

Addressing the Gap in SME Financing Through Private Credit

Private credit has been gaining momentum as an asset class globally. High net worth individuals and institutional investors, including alternative asset managers and sovereign wealth funds, have been allocating more capital to private credit as they seek stable income, capital preservation and enhanced portfolio diversification amid the current volatile macroeconomic environment.

In Asia Pacific, the private credit market remains significantly underpenetrated and presents strong long-term growth potential.

Particularly, the parties see a growing demand for private credit financing opportunities for SMEs, which are typically underserved by traditional financial institutions. The SME sector represents 98% of all businesses in Asia but continues to face a US$2.5 trillion financing gap.

"This collaboration marks an important step forward in our efforts to connect Japanese capital with Southeast Asia's SME growth story," said Randy Sim, Group CEO of IFS Capital Limited. "We are building the infrastructure and expertise that international investors need to access these dynamic opportunities."

Charis Liau, Chief Investment Officer of IFS Asset Management, added: "With the strong support of our partners, we are expanding access to private credit for investors and addressing

the financing needs of SMEs. Our goal is to build a scalable private credit platform that channels institutional capital into SMEs across Southeast Asia, deepening the region's financial ecosystem."

Funds' Strategic Expansion into Asia

To capture growth opportunities in the region, leading Japanese financial platform Funds, Inc. has recently established Funds IGC in Singapore as its overseas hub to spearhead global expansion. With a mission of fueling international growth circulation by bridging Japanese capital with global opportunities, Funds, Inc aims to enhance financial inclusion in emerging markets by channelling Japanese capital into financing solutions for SMEs and financial institutions across Asia Pacific. From Singapore, Funds IGC will lead cross-border investment flows, supported by senior leadership with extensive backgrounds in structured finance and venture capital.

"By establishing Funds IGC in Singapore, we are creating a bridge for Japanese capital to participate directly in Asia-Pacific's growth. This partnership allows us to deliver attractive opportunities to Japanese investors while supporting the long-term development of SMEs in the region" said Keisuke Yamakoshi, Co-CEO, Funds IGC.

About IFS Capital Limited

IFS Capital Limited is a Singapore-based financial services group listed on the Singapore Exchange since 1987. The company provides financing solutions across ASEAN, including factoring, leasing, hire purchase, and loans, serving the needs of SMEs and supporting business growth in the region. For more information, visit www.ifscapital.com.sg or contact info@ifscapital.com.sg.

About IFS Asset Management Private Limited

IFS Asset Management (IFSAM) is a Singapore-based fund management company licensed and regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Part of the PhillipCapital Group and subsidiary of IFS Capital Limited, IFSAM specialises in private credit investments with a focus on asset-backed lending to SMEs in Singapore. With a commitment to disciplined investing and long-term partnerships, the firm combines deep local knowledge with institutional expertise to generate resilient risk-adjusted returns for its investors. IFSAM serves only Accredited Investors and Institutional Investors. This advertisement has not been reviewed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. For more information, visit www.ifsam.com.sg or contact info@ifsam.com.sg.

About Funds IGC Pte Ltd and Funds, Inc.

Funds IGC Pte Ltd is the Singapore-based subsidiary of Funds, Inc., a leading Japanese financial platform that connects investors with high-quality financing opportunities worldwide. Funds, Inc. operates one of Japan's premier online investment platforms, offering curated investment products to its extensive base of individual and institutional investors. For more information, visit https://funds.jp/.

Media Contacts

IFS Capital
Nishita Lalvani, Chief Marketing Officer
nishita.lalvani@ifscapital.com.sg

CDR for IFS Asset Management
IFSCapital@cdrconsultancy.com