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Press Release

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Informational Workshop on SEW in Bugesera, Eastern Province

Kigali, October 12, 2010 – IFDC CATALIST is organizing a one-day informational workshop on the SEW component (Sustainable Energy Production through Woodlots and Agroforestry in the Albertine Rift). The workshop is being held for local authorities, civil society organizations and the private sector in Bugesera, Eastern Province, on October 13th, 2010 at the Youth Center.

SEW is a three-year regional project (Burundi, DRC, Rwanda) that aims to achieve sustainable energy production based on reforestation and the professionalization of the energy production sector. Its goals include boosting fuel wood production by promoting private investments through efficient woodlot reforestation and agroforestry, strengthening the firewood and charcoal value chains and providing an enabling environment for the development of the fuel wood sector.

The workshop is expected to bring together about 110 participants from the district of Bugesera who are directly or indirectly involved in the project. Sessions will give attendees a clear understanding of the project and will create synergies that are needed for its success. Participants will have an opportunity to formulate expectations and recommendations.

Organized by IFDC's CATALIST project, the Bugesera workshop follows an initial workshop held in July 2010 in the Southern Province. A third workshop will be held in

the Northern Province on October 15th, 2010.

The CATALIST project is increasing food security, reducing poverty and improving regional collaboration in an effort to foster peace and security in the Great Lakes Region. CATALIST is enabling farmers to increase their production and incomes through an integrated approach that combines sustainable agricultural intensification technologies with farm-to-market linkages and infrastructure construction.

For more than 35 years, IFDC has focused on increasing and sustaining food security and agricultural productivity in over 100 developing countries through the development and transfer of effective and environmentally sound crop nutrient technology and agribusiness expertise.

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