

**Press Release
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IFDC SHARES ITS EXPERTISE AT THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL RESOURCES FAIR (SARA) 2017 IN ABIDJAN, CÔTE D'IVOIRE

November 17, 2017 – Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire – The International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) is taking part in the International Agriculture and Animal Resources Fair (SARA), scheduled from November 17 to 26, 2017 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

This fourth edition of SARA, organized by the Ivorian government, is on the theme "Structural transformation of the agriculture-based economy in the face of climate change" with the objective of offering stakeholders a platform to meet and exchange ideas on issues concerning the Ivorian and African agriculture sector. More than 200,000 visitors and 800 corporate exhibitors from more than 30 countries are expected for the 2017 edition

During the ten (10) days of SARA, the IFDC team and its partners will meet the general public and professionals of the Ivorian and African agriculture sector to share our experience for a more professional, more efficient, more sustainable and more rewarding agriculture for all.

IFDC is a Public International Organization created in the United States in 1974 with offices in more than 30 countries around the globe. IFDC's mission is to enable smallholder farmers in developing countries to increase agricultural productivity, generate economic growth, and practice environmental stewardship by enhancing their ability to manage mineral and organic fertilizers responsibly and participate profitably in input and output markets.

In West Africa, there are more than 230 people who bring their expertise on a daily basis for the development of agriculture through 10 national offices. IFDC works in close partnership with national and regional institutions, the private sector and smallholder farmers through multiple projects such as: Toward Sustainable Clusters in Agribusiness through Learning in Entrepreneurship (2SCALE), Four-Country Cotton Partnership (USAID C4CP), AfricaFertilizer.org initiative, the Communal Approach for the Agricultural Market (ACMA) in Benin as well as the Fertilizer Deep Placement and Micro Dosing project (FDP MD) in Mali.

IFDC's representation in Côte d'Ivoire, which came into being in 2016, is dedicated to the development of the fertilizer sector and agriculture value chains. Our teams provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) and to the local fertilizer industry in order to improve the quality of fertilizers and promote the use of balanced fertilizers that are better adapted to different soil and crop types. As part of its 2SCALE program,

IFDC and its local partners support about 10,000 female and male producers and more than 50 small and medium enterprises organized around 25 agribusiness clusters in the rice, soybean and vegetable sectors, contributing to the development of inclusive and profitable value chains for all.

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2SCALE seeks to improve rural livelihoods and food security in Africa, by being an inclusive agribusiness incubator based on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). Implemented in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria and Uganda, the 2SCALE project is funded by the Dutch government and jointly implemented by IFDC, ICRA and BoP Innovation Center as well as partners such as the private sector, government agencies, research centers, development organizations, universities and especially small female producers to create agribusiness clusters for competitive value chains.

***Four-Country Cotton Partnership (USAID C4CP)** is a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC). The project aims to improve food security in targeted areas of the C-4 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali). The strategic objective of the project is to increase the incomes of male and female producers as well as cotton processors in these countries. USAID C4CP focuses on cotton and rotational crops, mainly cereals and legumes.*

***AfricaFertilizer.org** is an IFDC initiative, led in partnership with the International Fertilizer Association (IFA), the African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP), the United Nations United Nations for Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the African Union Commission (AUC). Its objective is to contribute to the development of a sustainable and profitable agriculture sector in Africa by providing clear and timely information on fertilizers to the public and private sectors.*

***The Communal Approach for the Agricultural Market (ACMA)** is a project funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Benin and implemented by IFDC. ACMA improves agricultural productivity by working with local authorities in rural areas in Benin. Project partners include the Royal Tropical Institute, CARE International Benin-Togo, Sahel Capital and Partners Ltd. of Nigeria and Benin Consulting Group International.*

***Fertilizer Deep Placement and Micro Dosing (FDP MD)** is a project financed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by IFDC to increase the productivity of cereal crops. The project promotes and disseminates innovative fertilizer-based technologies for targeted crops, particularly rice, millet and sorghum. Micro Dosing (MD) is the application of very small amounts of fertilizer directly to the roots of plants. The method increases the efficiency of fertilizers and can double the productivity of millet and sorghum crops.*