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Press Release

AKADEMIYA2063 and IFDC Seal Partnership to Provide Policy Solutions to Boost Agricultural Productivity and Food Security in Africa

JUNE 9, 2025 – AKADEMIYA2063 and the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to leverage research to inform policy action toward advancing Africa's food security ambitions. The partnership will provide a framework for collaboration in the delivery of strategic initiatives to support the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), the continent's agrifood system transformation framework, including planning and implementation processes of the Kampala CAADP Declaration, and the Nairobi Declaration on the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit.

"AKADEMIYA2063 is delighted to partner with IFDC to guide policymaking and programmatic interventions toward accelerating sustainable agricultural productivity growth and food security in Africa," said **Dr. Ousmane Badiane**, Executive Chairperson at AKADEMIYA2063. "This partnership comes at an opportune moment, as the continent prepares for the implementation phase of the recently adopted Kampala CAADP Declaration on 'Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa.' We look forward to leveraging our joint expertise to promote evidence-based decision-making while strengthening technical and institutional capacities at country and continental levels."

IFDC and AKADEMIYA2063 will work together to explore research in key thematic areas, including economic analysis on soil health, input policy, prices, and the impacts of soil health on agricultural yields and incomes, as well as food security and nutrition. In addition, the parties are intent on leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) and remote sensing data to assess and map soil health and agricultural production and yields to guide soil fertility and food security decision-making and management.

"We are proud to join forces with AKADEMIYA2063 in this timely partnership to advance Africa's food security and agricultural transformation. By combining our expertise in soil health, nutrient use efficiency, plant nutrition, and agribusiness with AKADEMIYA2063's policy research and analytical capacity, we can deliver actionable solutions that support the African Union's CAADP framework, the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan, the Soil Initiative for Africa, and the implementation of the Kampala and Nairobi Declarations. Together, we aim to focus on coordinated actions—leveraging big data, innovation, and local capacity—to restore degraded soils, sustain soil health, boost productivity,

and ensure resilient food systems for generations to come," said **Mr. Henk van Duijn**, President and CEO of IFDC.

Knowledge sharing will be a notable component of the partnership, with potential activities spanning sharing soil health and other relevant data, strengthening technical and institutional capacities for fertilizer, soil health, and agricultural production measurement, monitoring, and analysis, as well as conducting joint fundraising for research, analysis, capacity-strengthening, and outreach.

About AKADEMIYA2063

AKADEMIYA2063 is a pan-African non-profit research organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda, and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. Inspired by the ambitions of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and grounded in the recognition of the central importance of strong knowledge and evidence-based systems, the vision of AKADEMIYA2063 is an Africa with the expertise we need for the Africa we want. This expertise must be responsive to the continent's needs for data and analysis to ensure high-quality policy design and execution. AKADEMIYA2063's overall mission is to create, across Africa, state-of-the-art technical capacities to support the efforts by the Member States of the African Union to achieve the key goals of Agenda 2063 of transforming national economies to boost economic growth and prosperity. Learn more at www.akademiya2063.org.

About IFDC

IFDC is a public international organization active in more than 30 countries in Africa, Asia, and America. IFDC uniquely approaches the global issues of food security and poverty by bridging the gap between research and impact, combining science-based innovations, holistic market systems development, an enabling policy environment, and strategic partnerships to assist farmers and countries to identify and scale sustainable agricultural solutions, including improved nutrient use efficiency. These approaches are needed to boost soil health and crop productivity while reducing the environmental impact of fertilizer use. IFDC translates research into action by using locally driven, environmentally sound, and impact-oriented solutions. With our partners, we seek to close the yield gap, eradicate global hunger, safeguard the soils on which our lives depend, and generate economic resilience for farming households and the countries in which they live. Learn more at www.ifdc.org.

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