FARMERS' DIALOGUE DR CONGO, Bukavu

Report of the session Training of Trainers



25 - 28 February 2013

The session took place in the Bwindi Institute, six kms North of Bukavu – South Kivu – DR Congo



Participants: 35 people from North and South Kivu (9 women and 26 men), mainly farmers, took part with representatives of NGOs working with farmers and FD members who are committed to the future of agriculture.

Two main themes were covered:

- Leadership
- Agricultural development in DR Congo

Trainers and speakers:

Hajji Jamil Ssebalu, President of Farmers' Dialogue Africa and main trainer for the session **Alphonse Bisusa**, Chairman of Farmers' Dialogue DR Congo **Bagalwa Bahati**, Executive Secretary of Farmers' Dialogue DR Congo



Hajji Jamil Ssebalu (2nd from left) with participants

Objectives of the session:

This meeting had been asked for by those in charge of FD in DR Congo during the Training of Trainers session in Kenya in November 2012.

Their vision was:

- To strengthen leadership and team building skills of the Congolese team.
- To prepare for the International Farmers' Dialogue planned for November 2013 in DR Congo.



Participants had the opportunity to discover more about "Farmers' Dialogue" and the essential part that moral values and personal change can play in rural and agricultural development. They were able to assess the farming situation in DR Congo and discover how each person can be responsible, in a situation where most of the farming is done on very small farms without much equipment.

They were also trained in how to give training to the local farmers. They were asked to think of the attitudes needed to make their work and lives more effective: to have hope – to laugh at oneself – to allow mistakes – to listen carefully – to link up with others - ...



Conclusions of the session:

- **The evaluation** showed the great appreciation the participants had for the session. They committed themselves to pass on what they learnt to their local communities
- A small group started to work on the preparation of the **International Farmers' Dialogue planned for November 2013.** All the participants were asked to contribute their ideas and help with the preparation. A list of tasks has been established.

