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April 10, 2007
For Immediate Release

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USAID'S CUTTING EDGE MICROENTERPRISE KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WINS TOP INDUSTRY AWARD

IRG Applauded for www.microlinks.org Implementation

Washington, DC – International Resources Group (IRG) is proud to announce that the Microenterprise Development Office's Knowledge Management and Communications program of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) was recognized last week with an award from Federal Computer Week, a leading industry magazine.

The award, *Knowledge Management Initiative Delivering High Value to a Broad User Community/ Supporting Agency Mission*, was given to microLINKS (www.microlinks.org), created for the Accelerated Microenterprise Advancement Project (AMAP) IQC, is implemented by prime contractor, the QED Group, LLC and International Resources Group.

"We are delighted with this acknowledgement for our work in the Knowledge Management field," said Tony Pryor, IRG Senior Manager. "Over the past four years, the microLINKS Website has become the "go to" resource for microenterprise practitioners and experts worldwide. We are happy to be part of the team to make that happen."

This annual award was presented at a ceremony at the magazine's E-Gov Institute's 8th Annual Knowledge Management Conference and Exhibition on April 4 at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC. Stacey Young, Senior Knowledge Management Advisor with USAID's Microenterprise Development Office, accepted the award on behalf of the team. She praised both IRG and QED for their successful implementation of microLINKS.

AMAP's goal is to share information among USAID partners in their efforts to assist more than 100 poor and transitional countries in the implementation of sound microenterprise development programs. The microLINKS Website offers virtual workspaces, communities of practice, discussion forums and a learning library online to practitioners around the world who otherwise could not share relevant issues. The project also utilizes knowledge management solutions to complement the Website, including communications, training and knowledge services to connect with 5,800 practitioners in 90 countries.

IRG is an international professional services firm that helps governments, the private sector, communities, and households manage critical resources to build a cleaner, safer, and more prosperous world. Since its inception in 1978, IRG has completed over 750 contracts in 135 countries, delivering high-quality, cost-effective services that promote positive economic growth, institutional and social change, and intelligent use of resources – human, physical, environmental, and financial.

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