



For Immediate Release

**NESsT and Wines of Chile Donate First Round of Houses
To Families Living in Chile's Earthquake-Stricken Wine Region**

*Habitat for Humanity builds permanent housing facilities
for families working in nearby vineyards*

CAUQUENES, REGIÓN DEL MAULE (NOVEMBER 8, 2010) Following a rigorous process to select families living in Chile's most affected regions after the February 27 earthquake, NESsT joined Wines of Chile and Habitat for Humanity Chile to present the keys for the first three new homes to the families living in this area devastated by the earthquake.

The houses, measuring between 21,6 and 27 square meters, are known as "progressive housing" due to their design, which enables them to be expanded over time. The houses were possible thanks to an initiative of the Levantando Chile Fund, which was established by NESsT and Wines of Chile for this cause.

Wines of Chile is the promotional arm of Vinos de Chile, the Trade Organization that represents the Chilean wine industry, with 95 member wineries representing 95% of Chilean wine exports. The organization is committed to promoting the quality and image of Chilean wine throughout the world.

"I'm very happy with my new house," said Viña Undurraga vineyard worker, Mauricio Muñoz, while pointing at the pile of debris where his bedroom used to be. Mauricio was joined by his mother, Eloisa, to receive the keys to their new three-room house. They plan to move in by the end of the month. "We can't wait to move into the new house and leave the terrible memories of the earthquake in the past," said Mauricio's mother, Eloisa.

NESsT and Wines of Chile have identified a total of 20 houses that will be built before the end of year. All will be donated to families living in Chile's wine regions that were most damaged by the earthquake. Construction of an additional six homes will be built by Habitat for Humanity Chile this month in the town of San Vicente; to be followed by an additional eleven houses next month.

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“We are delighted to have completed the first phase of this initiative. It is a pleasure for us to deliver these houses to the wine industry workers who have gone to great lengths for their families’ wellbeing. I have no doubt that these houses represent a significant step towards rebuilding their homes and livelihoods,” said René Merino, president of Vinos de Chile.

The wine industry is a key element in Chile’s economy—wine is one of the country’s top five exports—and therefore well positioned to contribute to vital reconstruction efforts and rebuilding Chile’s economy.

For Pedro Torres, who works in Viña La Calina, and his wife Eliana, the new house has changed their lives. “After the earthquake it was very difficult to find the motivation to keep going,” he commented. “Now with the new house, we can plan our future with greater conviction.”

“There is still a great need to continue helping those who live and work in the earthquake’s most affected areas,” said Nicole Etchart, NESsT’s CEO and co-founder. “Although news of the earthquake and its victims seems to have faded from the headlines, we are conscious that there is so much left to do. There are still many families living in Chile’s wine regions who need all of our support to continue on with their lives.”

To learn more about Levantando Chile and how to get involved, please visit:

www.levantandochile.org.

About NESsT

NESsT works to solve critical social problems in emerging market countries by developing and supporting social enterprises. Since its founding in 1997, by social entrepreneurs Nicole Etchart and Lee Davis, NESsT has provided financial and business mentoring support to nearly 2,600 social enterprises in 48 countries. The NESsT Venture Fund currently operates in 10 countries across Europe and Latin America, including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Hungary, Peru, Romania and Slovakia. NESsT is a registered nonprofit in the UK and USA. Visit: www.nesst.org

About Vinos de Chile

Vinos de Chile is a trade organization representing Chile’s wine producers. It was established in 2007 after the merging of Viñas de Chile A.G. and ChileVid A.G to jointly promote the industry. Its main objective is the development and strengthening of the wine industry for which it works with its 96 associated vineyards, representing 95% of bottled wine exports in the country.

About Habitat for Humanity

Since its founding in 1976, Habitat has built, rehabilitated, repaired or improved more than 350,000 houses worldwide, providing simple, decent and affordable shelter for more than 1.75 million people. It has been present in Chile for eight years building suitable and healthy homes for the most vulnerable families in the country. Today Habitat for Humanity is supporting the reconstruction of Chile following the february 27 earthquake that devastated the country.

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