



Unlocking Barriers to Utilization of Research: What's the way forward?



Dear colleagues, ASARECA has just successfully held the first meeting of its reconstituted Board of Directors. The new Board has started off with zeal in providing oversight in the way we do things. During the first meeting on September 17 and 18, the Board stated areas that they would like prioritized in the implementation of ASARECA Strategy and Results Framework. Simply put, the Board wants ASARECA to guide Governments in the member countries to break the impasse on Biotechnology research and utilization. Noting that Biotechnology is, perhaps the most controversial area in AR4D, the Board guided that ASARECA should pick up the mantle to sensitize and guide key national and state actors about

Biotechnology as a whole and Genetically Modified Organisms in particular. Besides Biotechnology, the Board would like the Secretariat to take keen interest in coordinating regional interventions in Climate Change and Climate Smart Agriculture; Youth and Women empowerment across the value chains; Invasive Species such as Fall Armyworm; and Agricultural Transformation. Suffice to say, the Boards' interest represents priorities of the National Agricultural Research Systems and are in conformity with our Strategy and Results Framework. We pledge to keep you updated on the progress towards implementing these priorities in this and other platforms.

Prof. Jean Jacques Mbonigaba Muhinda
Executive Secretary—ASARECA

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ASARECA News



1. [Guide the Governments in Biotechnology-Board urges ASARECA](#)
2. [Proceedings of ASARECA Council of](#)

Featured stories



Madagascar

In Madagascar, where farming had moved

[Patron Ministers Summit \(May 2019\)—
Abridged version](#)

3. Perspectives from the 74th UN General Assembly: The just concluded General Assembly discussed the role of the family; and the need to integrate urban populations into the Agriculture game-plan. More in this recap of proceedings: [Family and urban farming discussed at UN General Assembly](#)

News from our Partners

Kenya

Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) is not only the apex body for Agricultural Research and Development in Kenya, but also arguably the most advanced regional leader in Research for Development. Here are some research products from KALRO available on www.kalro.org for your information and for further inquiry from KALRO:

- [Avocado Seedling Multiplication](#)
- [Cashew Nut Growing Guide](#)
- [Macadamia Nut Propagation](#)
- [Mango Propagation](#)
- [Pyrethrum Propagation](#)
- [Tea Growers Guide](#)

Ethiopia

Despite challenges, the Ethiopian government insists that the country must become wheat self sustaining over the next five years. So what lessons have Government experts and researchers learnt as [Ethiopia calls for continued collaboration to increase wheat production and meet nutritional and food security](#)



toward modern intensive agricultural practices in recent decades, a study has demonstrated that the country's farmers would be better off if they returned to the traditional terrace farming of their ancestors. Using isotopic techniques to study erosion patterns of the island country's mountainous regions, where more than 30 percent of the agricultural area is already degraded, the Joint FAO/IAEA Division found that terracing systems could reduce soil erosion by 40 percent. Details in this article: [Return to Traditional Terracing Improves Farm Production in Madagascar](#)



Uganda

A recent report indicates that strengthening institutions to remove distortions can facilitate trade, and enhance resilience through climate-smart agriculture and low-cost irrigation systems. The report by the World Bank also shows that Developments in agricultural technology and ICT, and agribusiness models offer opportunities to further transform livelihoods and the economy: See details in this article: [Making Farming More Productive and Profitable for Ugandan Farmers](#) and in the [FULL REPORT: Closing the Potential-Performance Divide in Ugandan Agriculture](#)

Sudan

Farmers and other players in Sudan's agricultural sector are celebrating the success of new heat-resistant wheat varieties which could transform the food landscape in Sudan. The country has been hard hit by a severe bread shortage and sharp price

Tanzania

The United Nations (UN) has commended efforts by the Government of Tanzania for improving the agriculture sector in the country calling it the right direction towards growing the country's economy.

Details in this news article: [UN commends](#)

[Tanzania's efforts to improve agriculture, pledges more support](#)

increases last year. Locals blamed the bread shortage on a lack of foreign currency, which deepened a crisis that was triggered after the government halted wheat import subsidies. Extreme heat has in recent years also affected wheat yields. In this article, discover how [In Sudan technology helps farmers overcome wheat woes.](#)

AR4D Events

Featured Event: November 25 to 29th, 2019 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire: [The 4th AFAAS Africa-Wide Agricultural Extension Week \(AAEW\)](#) will be held in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire from 25th to 29th November 2019 with a focus on building synergies between Public and Private Sector Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) for Sustainable Agricultural Development in Africa. The event will be embedded in the Agricultural and Animal Resources Fair (SARA).

October 21-25, 2019 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) with support from the European Commission has organised an inception workshop for the Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DESIRA) project. Through this project, the EC through IFAD is supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) ex-pillar IV institutions to implement a Science-led and a Climate Relevant Agricultural programme. The workshop will be held at IFAD hub in Johannesburg, South Africa. The goal of the project is to increase the contribution of regional and country-level agricultural food and innovation systems, thereby enhancing the achievement of climate relevant productive and sustainable transformation of agriculture and food systems in low and middle-income countries in Africa. In the Eastern and Central Africa (ECA) region, the participating countries are: Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Madagascar, Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, and Uganda. ASARECA is the coordinator of the project in ECA. Watch out for future updates on this project on www.asareca.org and on [@asareca](#)

Other Events

1. *October 3-5, 2019 in Mombasa, Kenya:* [8th African Grain Trade Summit](#)
2. *October 23-25, 2019 in Accra Ghana:* [Conference of the African Plant Breeders Association](#)
3. *October 16-18 in Hyderabad India:* [Big Data in Agriculture Convention 2019](#)
4. *October 14-15, 2019, Dakar:* [Cracking the Nut 2019: Leveraging Systems for Improved Food Security](#)
5. *October 3-5, 2019 in Mombasa, Kenya:* [8th African Grain Trade Summit](#).
6. *October 7-9, 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia:* [African Climate Risks Conference 2019](#).
7. *January 23-24 in Nairobi, Kenya:* [2nd Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation in Africa](#).
8. *November 18-20, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya:* [ARUA International Conference 2019](#)
9. **March 2-4, 2020 in Moroto, Karamoja-Uganda:** [ECHO East Africa Symposium on Improving Nutrition and Livelihoods in Pastoralist Areas](#).

Publications



Eastern Africa Fall Armyworm Management

This document presents proceedings and outcomes of the joint FAO-SFE-ASARECA Regional Strategy Workshop on Fall Armyworm (FAW) for Eastern and Central Africa (ECA), held at Entebbe in Uganda from 18-20 September 2017. This



document describes five strategic intervention areas identified for sustainable management of FAW in Eastern Africa: (i) development of a FAW monitoring and forecasting system for early detection and action; (ii) appraisal of the options to manage FAW in the ECA subregion; (iii) exploration of mechanisms to ensure effective coordination, communication and awareness raising relating to FAW management; (iv) development of capacity for FAW impact assessment; and (v) development of strategies for resource mobilization towards sustainable FAW management in the subregion. The Strategy contains specific actions for implementation that are perfectly aligned to the continental framework for the coordinated management of FAW in Africa. Link: [Eastern Africa](#)

[Fall Armyworm Management Strategy and Implementation Plan](#)



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Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
(ASARECA)

Plot 5, Mpigi Road | P. O. Box 765, Entebbe, Uganda

Tel: +256 414 320 556, +256 414 321 885

Email: asareca@asareca.org | Website: www.asareca.org

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