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Newsletter Vol.8

Message to Our stakeholders on COVID-19



Dear AR4D colleagues,

It is the time of the year to thank you for being part of ASARECA. As you are aware, 2019 marked 25 years since ASARECA was established. During the year, ASARECA rebranded and repositioned as the service provider of choice for AR4D convening and coordination, with partner countries rededicating their commitments to support ASARECA to promote regional collaboration. We are delighted that with your support, we successfully held the ASARECA Council of Patron Ministers Summit and General Assembly in May.

During the summit, the ministers ratified the new ASARECA Constitution (2019); received and blessed the New ASARECA Strategy and Results Framework (2019-2028); the ASARECA Medium Term Operation Plan (2019-2023); and signed a joint communiqué on Conservation Agriculture-based Sustainable Intensification (CASI). 2019 also marked the end of the Virtual Irrigation Academy (VIA) Project funded by the Australian Government, that has impacted over 200,000 households in Tanzania and Malawi. Lessons learnt from this project will go a long way in defining irrigation practices across the continent.

We are closing the year with good tidings from our partners, the European Union (EU) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Through their support, we launched the CADDP-XP4 project, a collaborative effort to strengthen the capacity of ASARECA and other SROs in mainstreaming climate smart strategies in the AR4D agenda.

Finally, ASARECA will in 2020 launch online registration of all its member institutions to create a members database to facilitate their participation in ASARECA governance and programming. We look forward to your participation. As you join family and friends in celebrations, here are a few highlights of some of the engagements we had towards the end of the year.

Prof. Jean Jacques Mbonigaba Muhinda
Executive Secretary—ASARECA

Latest updates



[Ethiopia and Uganda among top Ten Global Coffee Producers and Exporters](#): A recent report by the International Coffee Organization on Global Coffee Exports,

[Dr. Warinda appointed ASARECA new Deputy Executive Director:](#) ASARECA Board of Directors unanimously recommended appointment of Dr. Warinda, effectively elevating him as the head and supervisor of the technical programmes. The appointment takes effect from November 1, 2019.

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[ASARECA kicks off implementation of CAADP-XP4 project targeting climate change mitigation:](#) ASARECA started off the implementation of the Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture (DeSIRA) project, supported by a grant from the European Commission (EC). The project also known as CAADP-XP4 is designed to promote interventions in climate smart agriculture by improving the capacity of implementing partners to deliver quality scientific outputs.

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[ASARECA salutes East African Community on 20th Anniversary:](#) The East African Community (EAC) celebrated 20 years since the regional bloc was re-established. Recognizing the benefits of the EAC to the citizens of the region, we joined our partners in congratulating the leadership of the EAC

featured Ethiopia and Uganda as number five and eight respectively among the top ten producers and exporters for coffee. What lessons can partners pick to improve productivity?

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[ASARECA in talks with Center for Global Development on Biotechnology Research and Development:](#) With most countries in Africa contemplating the risks and benefits biotech in agricultural research and development, ASARECA held discussions with a visiting Fellow from the Center for Global Development, Gyude Moore, on opportunities of biotechnology.

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[Africa mourns the death of AR4D guru, Dr. Jean Ndikumana:](#) On a sad note, we regret to inform you of the untimely death of our colleague, Dr. Jean Ndikumana, who passed away on Thursday December 5, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. His remains were buried at his home in Burundi on Friday December 13th.

Secretariat and the Presidents of the member States upon continued efforts to promote collaboration.

Merry Xmas

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[ASARECA work on Biotechnology:](#)

ASARECA has done a tremendous amount of work on Agro-Biotechnology for Food and Nutrition Security in Eastern and Central Africa. We continue to position the organisation to provide leadership to the Governments to make conscious decisions in the field of biotechnology research and biosafety regulation



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