



Defining ASARECA's Strategic Priorities for Next Five Years

Dear AR4D colleagues,

ASARECA is in the process of developing its Second Medium Term Operational Plan One (MTOP-1) for the next five years (2024-2028). ASARECA is operating under a ten-year Strategy covering the period 2019-2028. The Strategy is operationalized using two Medium-Term Operational Plans, each covering five years. ASARECA developed the first Medium Term Operational Plan One (MTOP-1) covering the period 2019-2023 at the end of 2018 which is giving way to MTOP-2, which is expected to advance MTOP-1 milestones by installing appropriate mechanisms required to deliver the mandate of the repositioned ASARECA. The MTOP will be a tool for leadership in brokering, nurturing, catalyzing, and coordinating effective AR4D partnerships that deliver high priority regional outcomes in the ECA sub region. ASARECA stakeholders that have been consulted include: Agriculture line ministries and associated ministries; National Agricultural Research Institutes; and the following umbrella bodies: Regional farmers organizations; registered farmers organizations; regional Agricultural Extension bodies; Regional private sector organizations; regional agribusiness bodies; regional Higher Education bodies; the CGIAR; Development Partners; Regional Economic Communities; international NGOs; and regional youth bodies among others. Consultations are ongoing and we welcome you to contribute to this exercise.



Enock Warinda (PhD)

Executive Director-

News Highlights

News Highlights

Land soil project promises to boost agric



ASARECA stakeholders set priorities

ASARECA convened its stakeholders across all thematic areas on July 17-19, 2023 for consultations aimed at developing its Medium Term Plan 2 (MTP-2). The MTP is expected to guide the Associations' programming starting January 2024 and spanning the next five years. Speaking at the opening of the workshop, ASARECA Executive Director, Dr. Enock Warinda said ASARECA is a stakeholder-based institution, which must consult its constituents to inform its priorities. [Read more](#)



Transforming Africa's Food Systems: Challenges and Opportunities

The discussion around food systems is timely because it embraces the entire spectrum in an integrated manner from the farmer to the consumer, and, in-between, the numerous actors and sectors. Evidently, food systems are about production, nutrition, roads and other infrastructure, markets, and trade. It is about connecting farmers to markets, education and entrepreneurship, enabling small-scale farmers to become micro and small entrepreneurs. To benefit from this expert perspective, [Read more here](#)

Forecasting Tool Finds Best Time to Effectively Fight Fall Army Worm

A novel modelling system relying on simple inputs could help smallholder farmers accurately predict the best time for controlling fall armyworm larval populations to prevent



The LSC-IS project is implemented in three countries by national and international organizations. These are: Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB), Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR), the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), the International Soil Reference and Information Centre (ISRIC), the Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation (WUR), World Agroforestry (ICRAF), and ASARECA. [Read more](#)



NARO raises profile of Pearl Millet, the Forgotten Food Security Crop

Pearl Millet is regarded the sixth most important cereal crop in the World, only next to wheat, rice, maize, barley and sorghum. The crop is important to communities living in semi-arid areas especially in the Eastern Horn of African Countries like Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. At least 5 million people in Eastern Africa are threatened by severe hunger, while an estimated 200,000 people have already died. Aware of the role of this crop in regional food security, NARO through its research Centre, NaSARRI is undertaking cutting-edge research to reclaim the importance of the crop. [Read more](#)



crop damage and yield losses. The models use a combination of field data, plant-pest lifecycle data and earth observations to produce near real time forecasts to help fight the pest, which is [estimated to cause annual yield losses in Africa of US\\$9.4 billion](#), according to CABI. [Read more](#)



What Eastern African Countries Could Learn from Rwanda Extension Model

Rwanda's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock integrated and institutionalized the Farmer Field Schools (FFS) approach through the National Extension program called the Twigire Muhinzi, which literally means: "*Farmers let us ensure our self-reliance*". This extension Model stands on two legs in the communities and promises to close the gaps that have long eluded the African extension systems. [Read more](#)

AR4D Events

UN Climate Change Conference

United Arab Emirates

Key information: UN Climate Change conferences (or COPs) take place every year, and are the world's only multilateral decision-making forum on climate change with almost complete membership of every country in the world. During COP 28, the world will come together to agree on ways to address the climate crisis. Details: <https://www.cop28.com/>



Kenya Lifts Ban on Exporting Unprocessed Macadamia Nuts

In 2009, Kenya banned the export of unprocessed macadamia nuts to allow local processors access to larger quantities of the raw material which in turn would create jobs in this labour-intensive sector. Fast forward to April 2023, the government has lifted the ban for one year. [According to](#) Kenya's Trade and Investment Cabinet Secretary Moses Kuria, lifting this ban would open marketing outlets for growers and allow competitiveness so that farmers can sell to the highest bidders. [Read more](#)

ASARECA JOBS

ASARECA is seeking to fill two attractive positions for: (1) Head of Finance and (2) Executive Assistant to the Executive Director. Interested applicants should complete the online application form and upload their CV, Cover Letter and relevant academic certificates all in one file not exceeding 10 Megabytes (MB). [Read more](#)

The Eighth Global Meeting of the Farmers' Forum

February 12, 2024 - February 13, 2024

Key information: The Farmers' Forum is a bottom-up dialogue on rural development and poverty reduction between farmers' organizations, IFAD and governments. The 2024 global meeting brings together more than 80 farmers' leaders from around the world, representing millions of smallholders and rural producers who work with IFAD and partner institutions. September 19, 2024 - September 20, 2024. Details: [https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/-/the-eighth-global-meeting-of-the-farmers-forum?](https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/-/the-eighth-global-meeting-of-the-farmers-forum?_l_back_url=%2Fen%2Fweb%2Flatest%2Fevents%3Fdelta%3D50)

[p_l_back_url=%2Fen%2Fweb%2Flatest%2Fevents%3Fdelta%3D50](https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/-/the-eighth-global-meeting-of-the-farmers-forum?_l_back_url=%2Fen%2Fweb%2Flatest%2Fevents%3Fdelta%3D50)

The 11th International Conference on Agriculture 2024

Bangkok, Thailand

Date: 19-20 September 2024 Venue: Bangkok, Thailand Key Information: The 11th International Conference on Agriculture 2024, will take place 19th – 20th September 2024, Bangkok, Thailand. It will explore the latest research, ideas, and solutions related to Agriculture. This conference is a unique opportunity to connect with leading educators, researchers, policymakers, and other stakeholders from around the world. Details: <https://www.clocate.com/the-international-conference-on-agriculture-agrico/59236/>

Africa Agribusiness and Science Week: FARA is co-organizing the event with the CAADP XP4 partners i.e., CCARDESA, ASARECA, CORAF, AFAAS, the Government of the Republic of South Africa and in collaboration with numerous other partners including AUC, AUDA, GFAR, YPARD, PAFO, One CGIAR, FAO, AFDB, UNIDO, AFBC, Sappi, AGRA, AWARD, ICRISAT, DESIRA LIFT, PANAP, RUFORUM, Standard bank. Development Partners collaborating in this event include EC, IFAD, AfDB, AfreximBank etc. Theme: Linking Science, Innovation, and Agri-Business for Resilient Food Systems. Details: <https://aasw.faraafrica.org/>

Science and Innovation for Food Systems Transformation: Follow up to the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit. Following the [UN Food Systems Summit](#) held in September 2021, the [UN Food Systems Coordination Hub](#), was established in early 2022 to coordinate follow-up to the summit, including facilitation of food systems transformation pathways at the country level. The 2023 follow up conference brings together members of the UNFSS Scientific Group, the Director of the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, and the Managing Director of the CGIAR Science Group on Systems Transformation to explore scientific findings that inform food systems transformation. Date: 11th April, 2023. Eye Street, Washington DC. Details: <https://www.cgiar.org/news-events/event/science-and-innovation-for-food-systems-transformation-follow-up-to-the-2021-un-food-systems-summit/>

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