

NETWORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Network Advisory Committee (NAC) is a consultative group of individuals representing the key African institutions that are active in the area of economic growth and policy research and capacity building. The Committee provides advice to the Consortium on the content and delivery of networking activities, including collaborative research, capacity building, and outreach activities. The Committee is co-chaired by the representatives of the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in East and Central Africa (ASARECA) and the West African Council on Agricultural Research and Development (WECARD/CORAF).

LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES

Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) is a non-political organization of the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of ten countries: Burundi, D. R. Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. It aims at increasing the efficiency of agricultural research in the region so as to facilitate economic growth, food security and export competitiveness through productive and sustainable agriculture.

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African Economic Research Consortium is a public not-for-profit organization devoted to the advancement of economic policy research and training. AERC's mission is to strengthen local capacity for conducting independent, rigorous inquiry into the problems facing the management of economies in sub-Saharan Africa.

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Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (IAV) was founded in 1966 and is a higher education and research institute. Its areas of expertise include: agriculture and agricultural resources; rural development and spatial planning; environment and natural resource management; agro-industrial processing; plant biotechnology, animal and microbial; veterinary public health; and services associated with agricultural production, distribution, and marketing.

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Le Hub Rural's goal is to assist West and Central African stakeholders (States, Inter-governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Development Partners) to promote coherent agricultural and rural development programs for poverty alleviation and food security achievement. It provides the following services: i) information: to list and share development experiences, ii) advice: to provide free high-level expertise, and iii) dialogue: to establish links between the rural sector agents.

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Michigan State University is one of the top research universities in the world—on one of the biggest, greenest campuses in the United States. Home to nationally ranked and recognized academic, residential college, and service-learning programs, MSU is a diverse community of dedicated students and scholars, athletes and artists, scientists and leaders. In ways both practical and profound, MSu works to create a stronger, more sustainable, and more hopeful future for all.

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Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), Eastern and Central

Africa is the East and Central African node of the ReSAKSS Africa-wide initiative. Based in the region of the Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the ReSAKSS-ECA node is implemented by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), in collaboration with COMESA, the International Food Policy

Research Institute (IFPRI), and other regional and national partners in the region. ReSAKSS-ECA programme is structured around three main thrusts: strategic analysis, knowledge management and communication, and capacity strengthening.

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Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), Southern Africa is the southern Africa node of the Africa-wide ReSAKSS initiative. Based in southern Africa, the ReSAKSS-SA node is jointly implemented by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), in collaboration with Southern African Development Community (SADC), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and other regional and national partners in the region. In line with all other ReSAKSS nodes, ReSAKSS-SA programme is structured around three main thrusts: strategic analysis, knowledge management, and capacity strengthening.

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Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), Western Africa is the West Africa node of the Africa-wide ReSAKSS initiative. Based in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region of West Africa, the ReSAKSS-WA node is implemented by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), in collaboration with ECOWAS, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and other regional and national partners in the region. In line with all other ReSAKSS nodes, ReSAKSS-WA programme is structured around three main thrusts: strategic analysis, knowledge management, and capacity strengthening.

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The University of The Gambia was established by an Act of the National Assembly of the Gambia in March 1999. The enactment, which was a bold step to fulfill a long-standing desire of the people of The Gambia and to respond to several years of advocacy both within and outside the country for a university, ended years of indecision on the university question.

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University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso was founded in 1974 with only 374 students and by 2003-2004 academic years, the University grew to nearly 20,000 students. One of its major objectives is to train and develop business leaders, administrative and technical staff, middle managers and skilled workers to meet the public and private sector needs.

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West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development's (CORAF-WECARD) vision is to contribute to sustainable reduction of poverty and food insecurity in West and Central Africa. This will be achieved through agricultural led economic growth, and improving agricultural research system of the sub-region. The mission is underlined by the determination to meet the socioeconomic needs of the population in the sub-region. This is why CORAF/WECARD's concern is to improve, in a sustainable way, agricultural productivity, competitiveness and markets. The general objective of CORAF/WECARD is clear, precise, and pertinent: to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of small-scale producers and promote the agribusiness sector. For that reason, it puts the producers and end-users at the center of research.

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