

Agricultural technology generation and dissemination in the zone.

- Enhance decentralized decision making in research and dissemination process.
- Promote and facilitate the delivery of available relevant agricultural technologies to intermediary organizations and farmer fora.
- Pilot approaches that inform agricultural technology generation and dissemination in a liberalized and decentralized framework so as to develop practical experiences, from lessons learnt.

Activities

The activities being carried out by the OPI include:

1. Multiplication of foundation seed or breeds.
2. Adaptive research
3. Training of farmers and service providers on the use of new technologies.
4. Production of information materials.
5. Technology promotion through field days, demonstrations and seed fairs.
6. Needs assessments
7. Building, strengthening and maintaining partnerships
8. Participatory monitoring and evaluation Impact Assessments.
9. Operationalising the Technology Support Fund.

Funding

The OPI is funded through support provided by the COARD project (NARO/DFID Project), Government of Uganda Recurrent budget and the World Bank support to NARO through ARTP 2.

Partners

In carrying out its activities the ARDC collaborates with NGOs, CBOs, NAADS, Local Government extension, CIAT, Makerere University and its sister institutes.

For more information contact:

Director
SAARI
P O SOROTI
Fax: 077 250 553
Tel: 077 702 553
E-mail: saaridir@infocom.co.ug

OR

Centre Manager
Serere ARDC
SAARI
P O SOROTI
Fax: 077 280 553
Tel: 077 221 351
E-mail: corsu@infocom.co.ug



**Serere Agricultural Research
and Development Centre
(ARDC)**

Introduction

Serere ARDC is one of the 12 ARDCs under NARO's Outreach and Partnership Initiative (OPI) Programme set up to carry out research and development at the 12 identified Agroecological zones. The OPI is a strategy for decentralization and mutual institutional learning in research and technology dissemination. It ensures client's needs are addressed in each agroecological zone through provision of relevant research outputs to intermediary organisations and service providers - clients control the whole process by expressing demand for services and their participation together with other partners in all activities.

Location

Serere ARDC which was formerly Serere District Farm Institute (DFI) is situated in Serere county, Soroti district 18 miles (31 Km) South-West of Soroti town and shares the same campus with Serere Agricultural and Animal Production Research Institute (SAARI). It is located at 30° 27' E and 1° 31' N at the elevation of 1140 m above sea level. The climate is sub-humid with a mean annual rainfall of 1350 mm bimodally distributed with a higher peak in April - May and a lower peak in August - September, divided by a short dry spell in mid June - July. The driest season is from December - March when temperatures can reach a maximum of 95° F.

Facilities

The centre has a total land area of 70 acres. Other facilities include one Office block with classroom, one Dining Hall and one kitchen, five Dormitories and eight staff Houses. Most of the facilities at SAARI are also available to the ARDC to use.

Staffing

The staff at the ARDC include the Centre Manager, one Agronomist, one Research Extension Liaison officer (on part time), three Technicians, one Accounts Assistant (Temporary basis) and five casual support staff.

Management of the ARDC

The ARDC is managed by a Sonal Steering Committee (ZSC) consisting of a total of 16 members drawn from a wide stakeholder representation in the zone viz: Farmers, Local government Administrators, Local Council 5, Local government extension, Civil society organisation, private sector, NAADS and NARO.

The day to day management of the centre is done by the Centre Manager.

Terms of Reference for ZSC

- Determine priority research areas for the ARDC.
- Recommended for approval by NARO proposed annual workplans and budgets for the ARDC.
- Advise Centre Manager on routine management of the ARDC.
- Recommend for approval by NARO Board necessary deviations in the workplans.
- Participate in the mobilisation from donors (including districts) and appropriation of resources for the ARDC.
- Participate in the promotion of partnership and

linkages among stakeholders in technology development, promotion and dissemination.

- Advise NARO Secretariat on matters relating to operations and management of the ARDC.
- Review and approve for funding applications to the Technology Support Fund.
- Participate in monitoring TSF supported project.

Mandate Area

The Serere ARDC has the mandate to carry out adaptive research and dissemination in the Eastern Savannah Agro-ecological zone consisting of the districts of Kaberamaido, Katakwi, Kumi, Pallisa, Soroti and Tororo.

Goal

The Goal of Serere OPI is to enable NARO to more effectively contribute to sustainable improvement of agricultural productivity and income for the modernisation of agriculture and the eradication of poverty in the Eastern savannah Agro-ecological zone.

Purpose of Serere OPI

- Empower clients
- Increase relevance and effectiveness of technologies.
- Increase the flow of knowledge and information.

Objectives

- Promote increased stakeholder involvement in