Internet services and DSTV are available. A well equipped and experienced catering unit that serves delicious meals to visitors is in place.



Exposing pupils to available technologies at the Institute.

Partnerships

The Institute attaches great importance to building functional and sustainable partnerships in order to improve livelihoods. Partners include Non Government Organisations (NGOs), Community-based Organisations (CBOs), Private Sector, Individuals, Farmer groups, other NARO Institutes, Local government, NAADS, Makerere and Uganda Christian University among others.



A Japanese volunteer gives instructions on vegetable growing to a worker.

Mukono ZARDI Football Team

The Institute has a football team, NARO Ntawo FC which ranks among the top five teams in Mukono district. This team consists of young talented players from the Institute and neighboring communities.



NARO Ntawo Football Team

Eco-Tourism site

The Institute has an eco-tourism site comprising of a variety of indigenous and introduced trees and herbaceous species for study and recreation purposes. This well maintained natural sanctuary also harbors beautiful birds and monkeys for tourists.



Visitors at the Eco –tourism site

For more information please contact:
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NARO

MUKONO ZONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE



Improving Livelihoods In The Lake Victoria Crescent Agro-ecological Zone (LVCAZ)

MUZARDI

MUKONO ZONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPEMENT INSTITUTE(MUZARDI)

Introduction.

Mukono Zonal Agricultural Research & Development Institute (MUZARDI) is one of the seven Public Zonal Agricultural Research & Development Institutes in Uganda.Its mission is to conduct adaptive research and technology dissemination in the Lake Victoria Crescent Zone The Institutes' specific functions include:

» Understanding the farming systems of the zone

» Participatory identification of priority and market oriented agricultural research needs.

» Sourcing, refining, adapting and disseminating appropriate agricultural technologies and innovations.

» Building capacity of farmers in adaptive research and technology transfer.

» Supporting farmers' linkages with markets.

Location

The Institute is located in Mukono District, 20Km East of Kampala City and 2Km off the Jinja-Kampala high way in Ntawo village. It evolved from the former Mukono District Farm Institute (DFI) and occupies 41 hectares of which 60% is available land for Research and Development activities.

Management and Human Resources

The Director conducts the day–to-day management of the Institute under the guidance of the Management Committee, which provides strategic direction. The Committee comprises of 8 members selected among farmers, Local government, NGOs, and the Private Sector.

There are various categories of staff including Research scientists and technicians with expertise in agronomy, plant pathology, entomology, rural sociology, socio-economics, agricultural engineering, animal production and agri-business. Support staff have expertise in administration, finance, information management and procurement.



L-R: Peter Lusembo Institute Director and secretary to the committee) John Muwonge,Kiwoma Anna Maria Mukasa, Patricia Nakatudde,Hellen Gakwaya,Vicent Kimuli(Chairman) Nantale Lukwago, Ssalongo Lutaaya

On Station Research Activities

The Institute has different sections conducting on-station trials and demonstrations of improved technologies. Multiplication of demand driven planting material is also undertaken. Research and development activities are based on the following commodities:

1. Annual crops: beans, maize, cassava and sweet potato.
2. Perennial crops: Bananas, Coffee and Cocoa.
3. Horticulture: vegetables and fruit tree seedlings of mango, avocado, oranges and passion fruit.
4. Livestock: goats, pigs and crosses of dairy cows, local and improved poultry. This unit also deals with improved pastures like Panicum and Chloris for legumes and Stylo, Siratro and Centro for grasses.
5. Apiary: demonstration of bee-keeping technologies.
6. Agro-forestry: Sourcing, refining and demonstration of improved agro-forestry technologies.





Improved technologies of oranges and local chicken of white, red and black lines at the Institute.

Capacity building and Outreach

The Institute organizes training programmes for farmers, students and service providers tailored to their specific needs. The majority of these are conducted at the institute premises, but some are conducted at different venues especially at district or sub-county headquarters.

More than 1500 visitors are hosted at the Institute annually. Internship programmes are provided for students from Makerere University and other tertiary Institutes who utilize the wide agricultural knowledge base of Institute staff.

Farmer exchange visits, farmer contests, open days and field visits are carried out in partnership with farmers, extension staff, NGOs and local government in the different districts of the zone. These outreach activities help in enhancement of adaptive research and technology transfer among Institute clients.

Training Facilities

The Institute has spacious training rooms, classrooms and a big conference hall for participants who desire to be in a clean, quiet and beautiful environment. There are five dormitories and several guest rooms offering boarding facilities for workshop participants. Additional services provided on request include secretarial services, LCD projectors, public address systems and stand-by generator.