

Welcome to the fourth edition of our AIRCA Newsletter, which includes a number of stories from our AIRCA members as well as some updates from the AIRCA secretariat. We hope you enjoy the read!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM AIRCA MEMBERS



CABI calls for action at global open data summit

The GODAN (Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition initiative) Summit in New York was the largest event ever planned for open data in agriculture and nutrition. It brought together key stakeholders from around the world to consider how open data can help achieve SDG 2 - Zero Hunger. CABI hosts the GODAN secretariat, and AIRCA as an association as well as INBAR and the World Vegetable center are among the over 350 members. [Read more](#)

CABI – Biosecurity experts come together to boost Africa's trade

13 September 2016 - Working together to boost regional trade and food security, 35 African biosecurity champions from ten Central and East African countries met on 5-9 September 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya for the third Africa Plant Biosecurity Network workshop. The Network brings African biosecurity professionals from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe together [Read more](#)



CATIE participates in global dialogue on food security

From October 10-11, USDA and USAID organized the International Food Assistance and Security Conference in Iowa. During this event members from public and private sectors, including CATIE, discussed the issues and challenges related to the implementation of programs to alleviate hunger and promote long-term food security worldwide. [Read more](#)

Crops for the Future – From farm to fork: Nutritious alternative to fast food

Crops For the Future brings to light the unrealised potential of underutilised crops which can help contribute to human welfare, in particular: generating income for the world's poor, ensuring food security, and reducing 'hidden hunger' (caused by micronutrient deficiencies resulting from uniform diets) [Read more](#)



ICBA - World Food Day: Quinoa and hope of food security in marginal environments

The growing concern over climate change makes the 2016 theme for World Food Day, "Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too," especially timely. The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has been particularly affected by these issues and one solution could be found in quinoa, a small grain-like crop. [Read more](#)



ICBA – Helping women realize full potential in farming and science

Agriculture is an engine of growth for rural communities, particularly in the developing world. It has also proven to be an especially viable tool for women to lift themselves out of poverty. In least developed countries, 79 percent of economically active women report that agriculture is the primary source of their incomes and agriculture is the single most important source of employment for women in Africa and South Asia [Read more](#)

ICIMOD - Managing climate and social risks key to hydropower development

The Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region has nearly 500 GW hydropower potential, but only a fraction of it has been developed. A seminar convened by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), FutureWater, and Statkraft on 1 September 2016 at Stockholm World Water Week discussed these risks and the way forward. [Read more](#)



ICIMOD – Upgrading Ginger value chain

ICIMOD's Rural Livelihoods and Climate Change Adaptation in the Himalayas (Himalica) pilot project in Myanmar has facilitated linkage between private sector actors and communities. This is expected to overcome key constraints in ginger value chain and build trust among actors working at different nodes of the value chain [Read more](#)

ICIMOD - Water Users Agree to Pay Watershed Communities in Kailash Sacred Landscape, Nepal

Dasarath Chand municipality in far western Nepal has suffered from an acute water shortage for several years. To meet the area's water demand, a new project to provide sufficient water for their daily life of municipal citizens is under construction with support from Asian Development Bank (ADB). [Read more](#)



icipe - Solar powered mosquito trap offers hope for combating malaria

A newly-developed, solar powered mosquito trapping system (SMoT), which is baited with a synthetic odour blend that mimics human odour, has led to a 70% decline in the populations of *Anopheles* mosquitoes, the most significant malaria-transmitting species, in Rusinga Island, western Kenya. In addition, households using SMoTs have recorded malaria infection rates that are 30% lower than those not using the technology. [Read more](#)

icipe – Leadership in insects for food and feed research

A key strategy of *icipe* is to remain alert to emerging developmental challenges facing Africa, and then identify opportunities to use insect science to respond to such problems. In accordance, the Centre has established itself as a leader in the globally emerging insects for food, feed and other uses research agenda. Because of three interconnected issues, this topic has captured the imagination of the global scientific community, donors, and the general public alike. [Read more](#)



IFDC – IFDC Project Facilitates 700 Million FCFA Credit Agreement

Through the intermediation of IFDC's Toward Sustainable Clusters in Agribusiness through Learning in Entrepreneurship (2SCALE) project, the Netherlands cooperative society Oikocredit and Promo Fruits, the largest juice processor in Benin, signed a new credit agreement in the amount of 700 million FCFA. Promo Fruits specializes in producing fresh pineapple juice for local, regional, and international markets. [Read more](#)

IFDC – Lead Farmer Hosts Competition for Young Producers

According to Michael Asutami, a Ghanaian seed producer and innovative entrepreneur, many farmers in Ghana still believe the solution to increasing yields is expanding the area of cultivation and, as a result, plowing many acres of land. But Atsumi is working to change these beliefs by hosting a model farmer competition that teaches farmers the need to focus on good agricultural practices [Read more](#)



INBAR - Growing Change: the impact of optimal management

Bamboo can play a vital role and offers many 'climate-smart' benefits for local communities. Apart from this, it supports poverty alleviation and offers opportunities for improving livelihood. Although, Chishui is rich in bamboo resources it still lacks optimal management and utilization. There was an immediate need to address this and support the farmers in this region. [Read more](#)

World Vegetable Center – Proof is in the field

Seed companies across Asia experienced the quality and depth of the WorldVeg breeding program during two field days showcasing the most recent developments in disease resistance and production characteristics for tomato and bitter melon.

[Read more](#)



GAPAD – Roundtable Forum on SDG 2 in Nairobi

The Global Action Plan for Agricultural Diversification (GAPAD) is an initiative to support the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, spearheaded by Crops for the Future, and supported by all AIRCA members and various other institutions. A series of events has taken place in 2016, the latest being the Roundtable Forum on SDG 2 – Ending Hunger, which was jointly organized by CABI, CFF, and the World Vegetable Center. [Read more](#)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS



icipe's research on the use of satellite data to map the severity of maize lethal necrosis earned recognition at the ESA Living Planet Symposium [Read more](#)



icipe's Prof. Baldwyn Torto appointed Fellow of the Entomological Society of America (ESA). [Read more](#)



Dr Dyno Keatinge appointed Chair of CABI Horticulture Editorial Board [Read more](#)



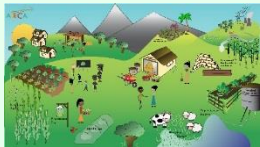
CABI's Regional Directors Dr Loke Wai Hong, and Dr Sivapragasam Annamalai, for South East Asia each received the MARD medal [Read more](#)



During its annual general meeting the *icipe* Governing Council honoured six outstanding postgraduate scholars [Read more](#)

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

AIRCA has adopted the Tropical Agriculture Platform Capacity Development Common Framework, a key component of the TAP Action Plan and designed to promote better coherence and greater impact of Capacity Development (CD) in support of Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) in the tropics. [Read more](#)



SDG video ready!

The video illustrates what AIRCA and its members can contribute to a range of Sustainable Development Goals, in the area of food security, agriculture biodiversity, sustainable land management, soil health, water management and many others. To watch or download the video, click [here](#)

AIRCA publications established: Set up and hosted by CABI, this site provides a searchable database of abstracts of the key publications by AIRCA Member organizations and has been set up to make the AIRCA publication abstracts freely available, including, wherever possible, the corresponding full text, or links to the full text. [Read more](#)

