

The NARO–Makerere–ICRA Collaborative Initiative

The initiative is managed by a steering committee with members from all three collaborating organisations and ASARECA. The initial learning cycle of the first phase comprises a series of residential learning modules interspersed with field studies conducted as part of ongoing work to address a high-priority problem of rural development. The second phase is one of consolidation, mainstreaming and follow-up, where knowledge and lessons learned from the first phase can be applied to overall institutional change within NARO and to the educational programmes of Makerere. The third phase will focus on creating networks and expanding the initiative into the sub-region.

Jaap Kampen, consultant on a World Bank progress review of the Ugandan Agricultural Research and Training Project, was introduced to the NARO–Makerere–ICRA Collaborative Initiative on a recent review mission. He was very impressed by the concept. He writes: 'I have been involved with agricultural research in eastern Africa for the last 15 years and I want to let you know that I was greatly impressed, both with the methodology and with the apparent impact – even at this early stage – on changing mindsets.'