

National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)- The Gambia

Presented By
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Background Information

- NARI is the principal research organization in The Gambia;
- It was under the Ministry of Agriculture as Dept of Research;
- NARI was established by an act of parliament 1993.

NARI comprises three main divisions:

- **Research**, the scientific wing of the Institute
- **Finance and administration**
- **Technical support**

Objectives

- To achieve greater food security through intensification and diversification of crop, livestock and fish production.
- To increase income in the rural areas.
- To enhance the contribution of agriculture to the country's balance of payments through encouragement of export diversification and facilitation of value added activities after production.
- To consolidate the natural resource base of agriculture.

Mandate

- To provide technological solutions to the problems of producers and inform policy makers on options to increase agricultural production and productivity;
 - Conducting applied client oriented and adaptive research in agriculture and natural resources;
 - Study, supervise and control the production of nucleus, foundation and certified seeds of the major seeds grown in the Gambia.
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Research Programs

- Agricultural engineering
- Agroforestry
- Cereals
- Cropping systems and resource management
- Farm management
- Fisheries
- Grain legumes and oilseeds
- Horticulture
- Livestock
- Pest management
- Seed technology unit
- Socioeconomics



Research facilities

- The Institute's headquarters in **Brikama** has three laboratories:
 - pest management,
 - soil analysis and
 - food quality control.
- The library and documentation centre is responsible for disseminating the Institute's research results.



Technology Transfer and Dissemination

- Technologies are transferred and Disseminated in collaboration with stakeholders thru:
 - Farmer Field School;
 - Group methods (field days, field trips, PLAR)
 - Individual method (method demonstration)



Participatory learning and action research (PLAR) farmer training

Strategies for Technology Transfer

- Liaison office between Research and stakeholders;
- Organize bimonthly meetings between research and stakeholders on the progress of research and response from farmers;
- Organize AREV to present research findings to stakeholder



Internal Collaborators

- NACOFAG
 - All line ministries/departments involved in agriculture and related fields.
 - ITC
 - UTG
 - NGOs
 - PRIVATE SECTOR
- AGRICULTURAL SERVICE PROJECTS



External Collaborators

- AfricaRice centre (WARDA)
- IITA
- ICRAF
- ICRISAT
- ISRA
- CORAF/WE CARD
- AVRDC
- CILSS/INSAH
- WASA
- CTA
- ILRI

NARI Achievements

- Introduction and release of **improved varieties** of rice, millet, sorghum, groundnuts, fruit trees, cowpeas, root and tubers and other crops;
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- NARI has successfully completed a nationwide **soil fertility and plant nutrient** survey in both the lowland and upland ecologies. Soil fertility maps for the identification of sites for optimum crop production were also produced.
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- NARI has developed environment-friendly **pest management** practices based on the use of botanical insecticides such as neem, eucalyptus and garlic extracts (control vegetable pests).
- Integrated approaches have developed for the control and management of **striga**, a major constraint in cereal production, especially maize, millet, sorghum and rice.

Achievements Cont.

- NARI has successfully developed manual rice thresher and motorized cassava grater.



NARI-NACOFAG Collaboration

- Literature review on land tenure system;
- Survey on Land accessibility by women, Youths and immigrants;
- Trained NACOFAG members on cassava processing into gari and packaging;
- Processing equipments were supplied to members.
- Dissemination of NERICA rice to farmers



NARI-NACOFAG Collaboration

Future collaboration

- Dissemination of groundnut varieties (Aflatoxin resistant);
- Reintroduction of cassava varieties (white and gari);
- Dissemination sweet potato varieties (Njala white)
- Livestock value chain (small ruminants and poultry)
- Fisheries (aquaculture- processing and preservation)
- Rice -promotion (value addition- Processing and packaging);
- Advocacy and lobbying on land tenure policy reform

Constraints limiting Technology Transfer

- Limited financing
- insufficient close collaboration bet research and stakeholders
- Insufficient trained personnels
- Most research not demand-driven (publication)
- Lack of staff commitment
- Low extension agent/farmer ratio



Thanks For Your Kind attention

