

Banana Research Network for Eastern and Southern Africa (BARNESA)

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BANANA RESEARCH NETWORK FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (BARNESA)

The Banana Research Network for Eastern and Southern Africa (BARNESA) was established by NARS under the auspices of ASARECA. It was founded in 1994 by a group of 10 countries of Eastern and Southern Africa, a direct consequence of the recognition of the importance of banana and plantain in the internal economies of the region. It was accepted and adopted by ASARECA as one of its constituent networks in 1995. In 1996, the BARNESA Steering Committee, with the approval of ASARECA, asked INIBAP to provide co-ordination support to BARNESA. INIBAP has provided co-ordination support since 1997 to date. The network includes membership from SADC region.

Supporting Agencies

INIBAP (IPGRI)

East African Plant Genetic Resources Network (EAPGREN)

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EAST AFRICAN PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES NETWORK (EAPGREN)

The Eastern Africa Plant Genetic Resources Network (EAPGREN) was initiated by a Stakeholders Meeting held in Kampala 3-5 November 1997. EAPGREN is a regional joint project of National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) of the ASARECA member countries, viz Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Sudan and Uganda. Within these countries, there are the national focal points for the networks.

Supporting Agencies

Sida provides the funding. Additional funding is made available by national programmes through the provision of scientific and technical staff and other forms of support.

Eastern Africa Rootcrops Research Network (EARRNET)

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EASTERN AFRICA ROOTCROPS RESEARCH NETWORK (EARRNET)

Research in root crops in sub-Saharan African started in the late 1970s through collaborative efforts of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS). ESSARN was established in 1984, working in 15 countries in the region, who collectively agreed that the common problems with cassava and sweet potato warranted a regional approach to supplement their NARS efforts. Later in the 1990s to better serve the increasing demands of NARS, ESSARN evolved into two regional networks; EARRNET and SARRNET.

EARRNET then joined ASARECA and is being implemented by IITA operating originally with the national cassava research programs of Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda and Uganda. Its activities are however, being expanded into all members of ASARECA.

Supporting Agencies

Donor: USAID/REDSO; Scientific partners include IITA, FOODNET, ECAPAPA and respective NARS.