

Profiles of ASARECA New Board of Directors

The reconstituted ASARECA Board of Directors consists of four categories of stakeholders. These are:

1. One representative of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) representative
2. One representative of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)
3. Five representatives of the National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARIs)
4. Six representatives of sectors critical to AR4D. These are: Private sector, farmers organisations, higher education, agricultural extension, NGOs, and Development partners

1. Dr. Hussein Abubakr: Chairman Board of Directors



Dr. Hussein Abubakr was elected the first Chairman of the reconstituted ASARECA Board of Directors during its first meeting on May 3rd, 2019 in Kampala, Uganda. He is one of the five representatives of the National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARIs).

He holds a PhD in Business and Development Economics and is currently working as the Director General of (Agriculture Research Council) ARC, Sudan. Dr Hussein has more than 20 years experience in the formulation, implementation and management of strategies, programmes, policies and projects in research, business and agricultural development. He worked as Director of the Institute for Development Studies and Research, University of Khartoum for 5 years. In addition, he has proven leadership and membership to teams for design and evaluation of development programs with various organizations including the United Nations Development Program, the World Bank, FAO, IFAD, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, Arab Organization for Agricultural Investment and Development and the African Union, among others. He has published more than 20 papers and supervised more than 30 graduate students.

Category 1: Regional Economic Communities (RECs) representative

2. Ambassador Dr. Kipyego Cheluget



He holds a PhD in Political Sciences and is currently working with COMESA as the Assistant Secretary General for Programmes. He has a wide experience in regional organizations, having served as IGAD's Chief Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution officer in the late 90s before joining the East African Community as Deputy Secretary-General for Projects and Programmes.

He worked as Kenya's High Commissioner to Zambia and Malawi, and Permanent Representative to COMESA. He is a long serving

diplomat, and is formerly the Deputy High Commissioner of Kenya to New Delhi, India. He also served in various capacities at the Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including as Director, Foreign Service Institute, Asia and Australasia, Middle East, Research and as Deputy Chief of Protocol. As a representative for the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Dr. Cheluget brings on board skills in policy, trade and regional markets.

Category 2: CGIAR representative

3. Dr. Robin Buruchara



He holds a PhD in Plant Pathology and is currently working with CIAT as the Director of the Pan Africa Bean Research Alliance (PABRA), a collaborative multi-country and multi-institutional, interdisciplinary research and development partnership.

He has over 25 years experience in the development and dissemination of Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs), concepts and approaches to address the challenges of the Bean value chain across 31 African countries. He has a wide

experience in research within and beyond the region, and programme management at senior management level. He coordinated the Sub Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSACP) in the Lake Kivu region, and for 10 years, was the Regional Director for CIAT in Africa. As a representative for the CGIAR, Dr. Buruchara brings on board skills in research, resource mobilization, partnership and networking

Category 3: NARI Representatives

4. Dr. Yona Baguma



He holds a PhD in Molecular Biology and is currently the Deputy Director General at the National Agricultural Research Organisation, (NARO), Uganda. He has served as a researcher and leader in agricultural research for over 30 years.

During his service, Dr. Baguma has developed skills in financial management, human resources management, public relations, social integration, science communication, government liaison, partnership building, project development and implementation. He currently serves on a number of national, regional and global boards. He is an accomplished innovative ethical researcher, transformative leader and has a long-standing interest in the broader agricultural sub-sector. Dr Baguma brings on board a wide range of skills relevant to the mission and mandate of the repositioned ASARECA.

5. Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo



He holds a PhD in Production Ecology and Resource Conservation; and is currently working as Director General and Chief Research Officer (CRO) at the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI). He worked as a National coordinator for Cassava Research Program where his main role was to ensure that research on cassava was conducted in cohesive and effective manner in the country, thus guiding policy makers in the Ministry of Agriculture to make appropriate national decisions for cassava. He has extensive research experience and has participated in numerous tailor-made courses such as gender, conventional and molecular breeding, and molecular and phenotypic data analyses. He has extensive

experience with internationally funded projects and has worked as principal investigator/coordinator for NARS from Tanzania for several projects. He has collaborated with several CGIAR organizations including IITA, CIAT and NRI.

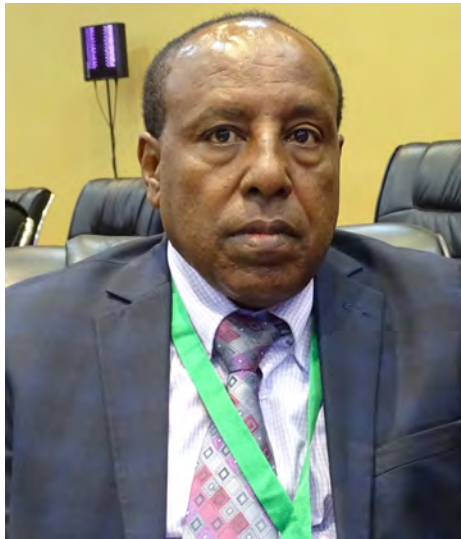
6. Engineer Dieudonne Nahimana



He holds a degree in Agricultural Engineering (*Ingenieur Agronome*) and is currently the Director General of the “*Institut des Sciences Agronomiques du Burundi* (ISABU).

Over years, Ir Nahimana developed a career in corporate governance through sitting on the Board of Directors of a number of institutions, including ASARECA. He brings on board expertise in agricultural engineering, research programs management and partnerships development.

7. Dr. Yirga Tizale Chilot



He holds a PhD Natural Resource/Environmental Economics and is currently working as the Deputy Director General for Administration and Capacity Building at Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR). He has expertise in agricultural economics, research and technology transfer focusing on characterizing farming systems, resource use efficiency, natural resources management and impact assessment of new agricultural technologies and development interventions. He has experience in international partnerships with institutions like the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), International Wheat and Maize Research Institute (CIMMYT), International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the International Potato Improvement Institute (CIP) and ASARECA.

Category 4: Sector representatives

8. Assistant Professor Bol Andrew Wieu Riak



He holds an MSc in Agricultural Extension & Rural Development and is currently working as the Head of the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development at the Upper Nile University (UNU) where he is responsible for the operations of the department both academic and administration.

He also lectures in areas of Agricultural Extension Education, communication, methods & Rural Development. In addition, he supervises student's research and graduation research projects. He is also a founder and a board chair of the Upper Nile Youth

Development Association. Before joining UNU Riak was a farmer and served as an agriculturist in the White Nile irrigated Schemes and the mechanized rain fed areas of Gedaref, Blue Nile and Upper Nile of former Sudan for more than ten years growing Cotton, Sorghum and Sesame. He is representing Farmers Organizations in the new ASARECA Board of Directors.

9. Prof. Patience M. Mshenga



She holds PhD in Agribusiness Management and is currently the Chairperson of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Management at Egerton University, Kenya. She is keen on research in areas of Entrepreneurship and Agri-enterprise Development, Value chain development and analysis, Farm and non-farm linkages, Agribusiness organizational Management and Agricultural Marketing. She has over 15 years experience of lecturing, research and community engagement. Prof Mshenga is representing the Higher Education Sector to the new ASARECA Board of Directors.

10. Ms. Regina Kayitesi



She holds a Master's in Rural Development and Food Security and is currently working for the Chamber of Agriculture and Livestock in, Rwanda as Membership and Marketing Manager. She has worked with the Private Sector Federation for the last 6 years.

She has worked with KILIMO Trust and Rwanda Horticulture Development Authority (RHODA)—now National Agriculture Export Development Board (NAEB), in Rwanda. Ms. Kayitesi is a value chain and agribusiness professional with vast experience in Agriculture extension, post harvest and food technology, both from the private sector perspectives. She represents the Private Sector/agri-business sector in the Board.

11. Ms Elysée Mvumbi



She holds a BSc Diploma Agricultural Economics and is currently working as Senior Monitoring & Evaluation Officer at the National Extension Service Democratic Republic of the Congo.

She has a very long experience in planning and monitoring activities, including establishing dashboards of performance indicators to monitor implementation of agricultural extension programs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and beyond. Ms Mvumbi is representing the Extension/Advisory Services Sector in the inaugural ASARECA Board of Directors.

12. Mr. Eric Hermann Raparison



He holds Master's in Comparative Law. He is currently working as the National Coordinator of "Sehatra Iombonana an'ny Fananantany" (SIF), a Civil Society Platform supporting the land sector in Madagascar.

He has extensive experience in legal issues in various sectors such as land, environment, agriculture, governance, etc.

Mr Raparison is representing the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the new ASARECA Board of Directors. He brings on board wide expertise in handling legal matters.

13. Representative of Development Partners

The World Bank is currently holding the portfolio of representing Development Partners' (DPs) perspectives in the Board. Going forward, it is expected that Development Partners will from time-to-time select one amongst the DP institutions to represent them in the Board.