



Network of Organic Agriculture Researchers in Africa

RÉSEAU DES CHERCHEURS EN AGRICULTURE BIOLOGIQUE EN AFRIQUE

شبكة الباحثين في الزراعة العضوية بإفريقيا

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CALL FOR NOARA COUNTRY CONTACT PERSONS

1. The Need for Country Contact Persons (CCPs)

One of the reasons for creating NOARA is to ensure that its benefits reach the grassroots at country level in Africa. The only way this can be done is to have one Contact Person per country that can coordinate NOARA activities in his/her respectful country. The CCPs will work with the regional hubs and the Continental Secretariat of NOARA to ensure NOARA's mandate is fulfilled.

2. Terms of Reference for the Country Contact Persons (CCPs) of NOARA

- a) The position is voluntary without any salary.
- b) One CCP shall be allocated per country in Africa.
- c) Tenure of service is three (3) years, renewable once.
- d) Must have a minimum of M.Sc. in a field related to Organic and Ecological Agriculture
- e) Must have good publications in organic agriculture.
- f) Must be in active service with a governmental research/ academic institution or a registered non-governmental organization involved in organic or agro-ecological research throughout the tenure of office.
- g) Shall mobilize members for NOARA at national level.
- h) Shall organize at least one Organic and Ecological Research Dialogue annually at country level, to address challenges of organic and agro-ecology stakeholders.
- i) Shall contribute to news articles on NOARA's website, Bulletin and other media.

Mode of Application: Interested/ qualified persons should submit:

1. Letter of Interest
2. Abridged CV
3. Letter of institutional/organization support:

To

Continental Coordinator,

Network of Organic Agriculture Researchers in Africa (NOARA)

Email: coordinator@noara.bio ; noaraafrica@gmail.com

3. Brief Background about NOARA and its Operations

The Network of Organic Agriculture Researchers in Africa (NOARA) is established to unite and coordinate scientific and technical activities of researchers in the field of organic and ecological agriculture focusing on Africa. It was established by African organic research stakeholders in 2012, during the 2nd African Organic Conference at Lusaka, Zambia and re-organized by the African Organic Network (AfrONet) in 2019. NOARA is a membership Network that draws members from stakeholders within and outside Africa, focusing addressing food security and improvement in livelihoods of Africa through cutting-edge research outputs in organic and ecological agriculture. Its leadership structure consists of a team Board of Trustees and Governing Council with members from different regions of

Africa and has over 370 members across twenty-seven countries within and outside Africa. Its continental secretariat is domiciled at the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Some recent achievements of NOARA include:

- 1) Participation in the Continental Steering Committee of the African Union Commission-led Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative to address research aspect of the decision of African Heads of States and Governments on Organic Farming [ex.cl/dec.621 (xvii), 2010]
- 2) Establishment of an African Scientific Journal on organic agriculture (African Journal of Organic Agriculture and Ecology – AJOAE - <https://publications.noara.bio/about-journal>) for publishing empirical data of organic agriculture and ecological research focusing on Africa
- 3) Networking organic agriculture researchers from all regions of Africa and outside Africa for synergy in addressing food security and sustainable farming in Africa
- 4) Establishment of a technical bulletin (African Organic Agriculture - <https://publications.noara.bio/about-bulletin>) for improving capacity of stakeholders and information sharing
- 5) Facilitation of 5th and 6th West Africa Organic Conference, as well as organization of the 1st African Organic Research Conference (AFROREC).
- 6) Ongoing development of Organic Agriculture Research Agenda for Africa 2033.

Further details about NOARA can be found on www.noara.bio

4. NOARA Vision

Africa with zero hunger, poverty eradicated, improved livelihoods and sustained ecosystem through innovative organic and ecological agriculture research.

5. NOARA Mission

To generate and disseminate sound evidence-based scientific organic agricultural knowledge that can ensure healthy, ecological, fairness and care of organic agriculture actors in Africa for sustainable livelihood and ecosystem, leading to food security, incomes and sustainable development.

6. Thematic areas of NOARA

Thematic area 1: Research and Training

- i. Lead research agendas on organic and ecological agriculture in Africa.
- ii. Coordinate organic and ecological agriculture training and research in Africa.
- iii. Support or initiate research activities that will contribute to the social, cultural and economic productivity of Africa's smallholder farmers, processors and marketers, particularly, women and youths who have been largely marginalized.
- iv. Demonstrate success stories useful for up scaling organic and ecological agricultural practices.

Thematic area 2: Policy and Stakeholders' Engagements

- i. Promote collaboration among organic and ecological agriculture researchers, practitioners, farmers and policy makers in Africa.
- ii. Foster improved ecological organic agriculture database, to influence policy development in Africa.
- iii. Advocate for the mainstreaming of organic and ecological agriculture into agricultural research and innovation to enhance food security in Africa.
- iv. Engage organisations producing organic and ecological inputs in confirmatory and adaptive research for possible recommendation of their products to end users in Africa and beyond.

Thematic area 3: Conferences and Information Dissemination

- i. Organize conferences and meetings for the exchange of information on organic and ecological agriculture.
- ii. Publish research and technical results on organic and ecological agriculture.
- iii. Organise consortia of experts to address specific or emerging issues relating to organic and ecological agriculture in Africa.

Thematic area 4: Networking, Advocacy and Awards

- i. Enhance partnerships for organic and ecological agriculture research in Africa and beyond.
- ii. Map out like-minded organisations.
- iii. Honour distinguished members as fellows of the network.
- iv. Represent the interest of organic and ecological agriculture researchers within and beyond Africa.

Further clarification, contact noaraafrica@gmail.com or WhatsApp +2348035709365