Outline of JIRCAS

Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences

Masa Iwanaga

2018/05/21
Our Vision, Mission & Organization

JIRCAS’ s Vision
- Solutions to global food and environmental problems
- Center of excellence in the field of international agricultural research

JIRCAS’ s Mission
1. Undertakes comprehensive research of agriculture, forestry, fisheries and related industries in developing regions
2. Collects, analyzes and publishes information relevant to agriculture, forestry and fisheries in developing areas

Organizational Structure

President
Vice-President
Research Strategy Office
Research Planning and Partnership Division
Administration Division
Risk Management Office
Audit Office
Rural Development Div.
Social Sciences Div.
Biological Resources and Post-harvest Div.
Crop, Livestock and Environment Div.
Forestry Div.
Fisheries Div.
Tropical Agriculture Research Front

Program A: Environment and Natural Resource Management
Program B: Stable Agricultural Production
Program C: Value-adding Technologies
Program D: Information Analysis

Executives 4
General Administrators 39
Technical Staff 10
Researchers 121

Scope of work: Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in 1) Tropical/Subtropical Regions, 2) Other Developing Regions

MOUs with Research Partners (Total 121, as of March 2018)
1970 Tropical Agriculture Research Center (TARC) was established under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan

1993 TARC was re-organized into the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS).

2001 JIRCAS became an Incorporated Administrative Agency under the jurisdiction of MAFF.

2011 Start of 3rd Medium-Term Plan

2015 JIRCAS became a National Research and Development Agency under the jurisdiction of MAFF

2016 Start of 4th Medium-Term Plan

(2020 50th Anniversary)
In 1975, TARF was established in Ishigaki Island, Okinawa. TARF aims to develop agricultural production technologies applicable to developing countries in tropical and subtropical areas, utilizing its subtropical climate conditions.

Personnel: 64 (Researchers 16) (as of 2018 April 1)
Liaison Offices (Southeast Asia and Africa)

In 2004, the JIRCAS Southeast Asia Liaison Office was established in Bangkok, Thailand, to serve as a research and communications hub covering the whole of Southeast Asia.

In 2009, the JIRCAS Africa Liaison Office was established in Accra City, Ghana, to serve as a base station for Japanese agricultural researchers in Africa. The office was transferred to Nairobi, Kenya in 2016.

Participants of the side events at TICAD VI (2016/08/25–26)

Symposium at the JIRCAS Africa Liaison Office
Research Programs in the 4th Medium to Long-Term Plan (2016–2020)

Program A: Environment and Natural Resource Management
- Flagship Project: Climate Change Measures in Agricultural Systems
- Watershed Management in Africa
- Resource Management in Asia and Pacific Islands
- BNI Utilization

Program B: Stable Agricultural Production
- Flagship Project: Food Security in Africa
- Environmental Stress-tolerant Crops
- High-yielding Biomass Crops
- Pest and Disease Control

Program C: Value-adding Technologies
- Flagship Project: Food Value Chain
- Asia Biomass
- Multiple Use of Regional Resources in Semi-mountainous Villages
- Higher Value Forestry
- Aquatic Production in Tropical Areas

Program D: Information Analysis
- Food and Nutritional Balance
- Goal-Oriented Basic Researches (5)
JIRCAS International Symposium

- Annual open symposium aims at stimulating discussion between the world’s leading researchers and the general public.
- Focuses on hot issues in international agriculture, food security and environment

Promoting an active role for female researchers in agriculture, food, and nutrition research (2017)

Legumes Improve Our Livelihood! (2016)

Why 'Quality' Matters in International Agriculture Research? (2015)
JIRCAS leads global agric. R&D institutions

- JIRCAS leads and contributes to global fora in R&D
- JIRCAS President is assigned as Chair of GRA (Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases), an organization with 50 member countries from all regions of the world
- JIRCAS organized an international symposium during the GRA Council Meeting in 2017

GRA Council Meeting
(2017/08/29–09/01, Tsukuba, Japan)

Dr. Masa Iwanaga, Chair of the GRA Council Meeting

JIRCAS-NARO International Symposium on "Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Mitigation"
(2017/08/31, Tsukuba, Japan)
Japan International Award for Young Agricultural Researchers (Japan Award)

JIRCAS, together with MAFF, confers this award annually to three young researchers from overseas for their outstanding performance and research achievements in the field of agriculture.

Dr. Chandra Siddaiah NAYAKA (India)
University of Mysore

Dr. Min AUNG (Myanmar)
University of Veterinary Science

Dr. Seetal SHARMA (India)
International Rice Research Institute