

BecA-ILRI Hub: Building the Capacity of NARS

Empowering African scientists to solve Africa's agricultural challenges



Joyce Njuguna, Bioinformatician
BecA-ILRI Hub
hub.africabiosciences.org

BecA-ILRI Hub
NARO eBioKit Workshop
Nov 10 - 14, 2014

BecA-ILRI Hub: Capacity building objectives



More and better skilled scientists from NARS and strengthened institutions in the BecA region conducting sustainable biosciences research for agricultural development in Africa for Africa, linked to a wide set of players.

- Strengthen capacity of individuals and institutions to harness the latest biosciences technologies for research for development to improve agriculture in Africa
- Promote access to world-class research and training facilities at the BecA–ILRI Hub

Capacity building at BecA



Capacity building is conducted via four streams:

1. ABCF Research Fellowships
2. Training workshops
3. Institutional capacity building
4. Creating linkages between researchers, Institutions

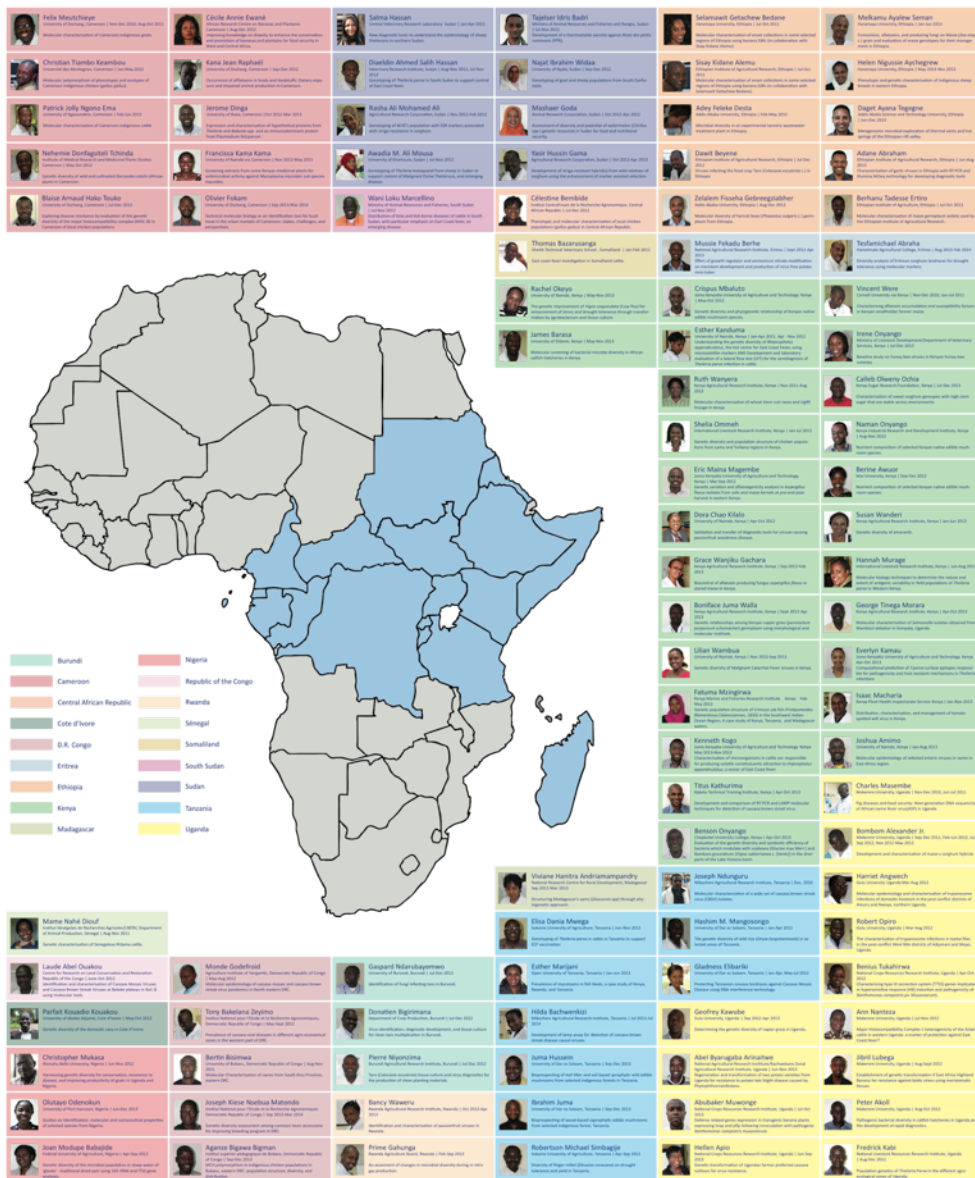


ABCF Research Fellowships

Building capacity through research, training, collaboration and mentorship

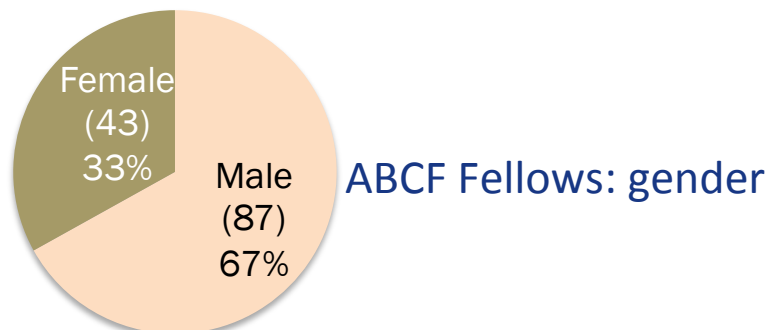
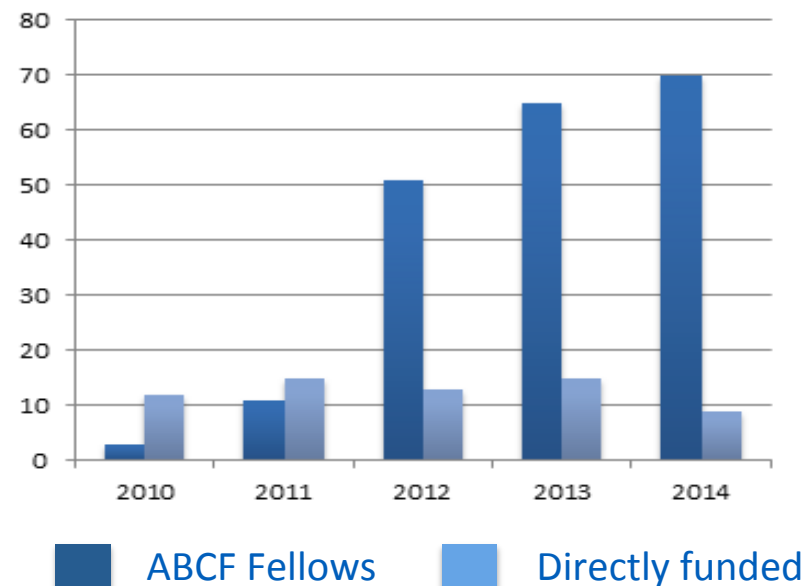


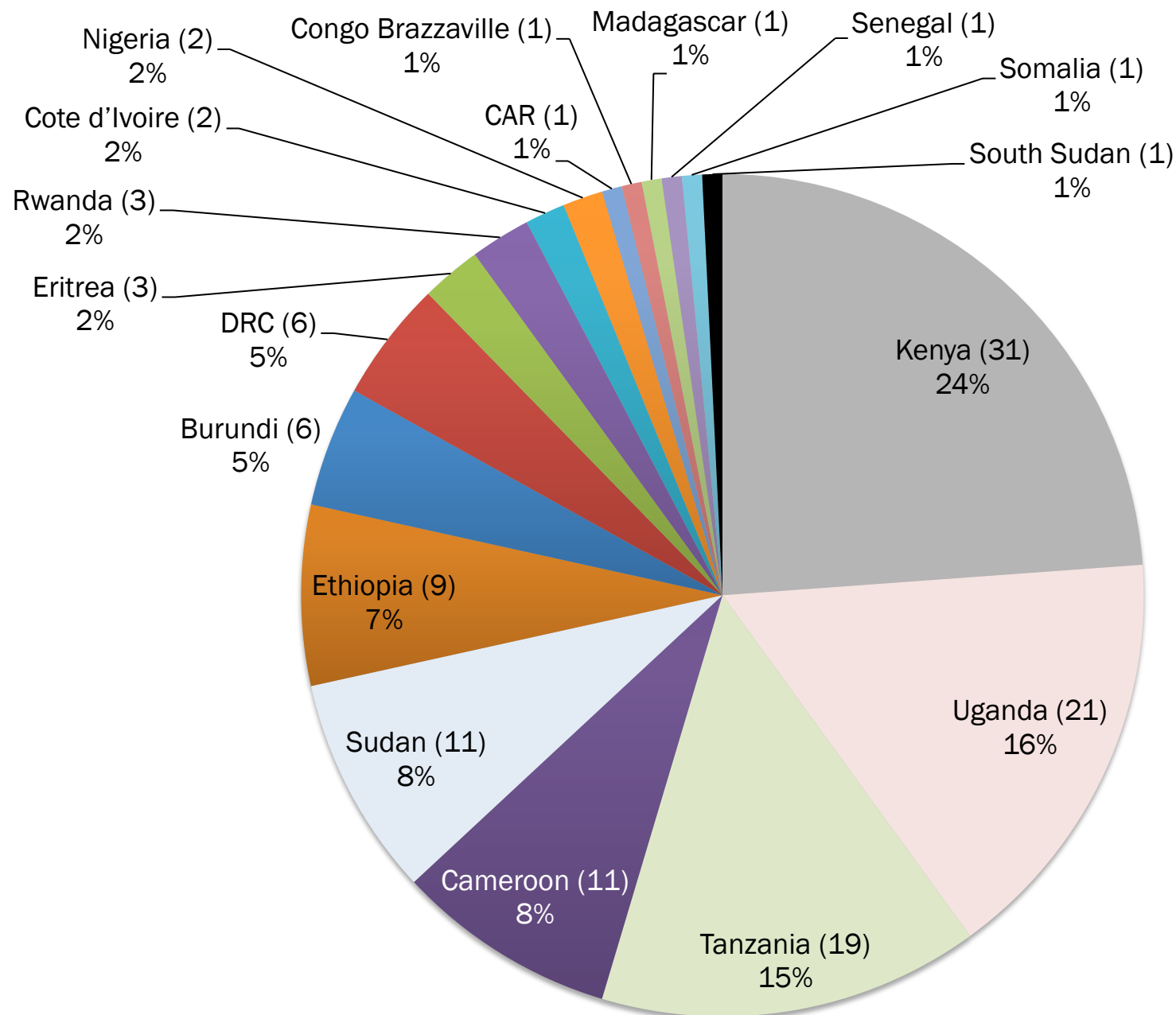
- Competitive
- Provide research placements at Hub for up to 12 months
- Capacity building through research, mentorship
- Open to researchers from African NARS (major focus in 18 BecA countries)
- Supports new projects or strengthens on-going projects
- **CALL FOR 2015 - open towards end 2014**
hub.africabiosciences.org



ABCF Research Fellows 2010-2014

Growing number of ABCF fellows at the Hub





ABCF Research Fellows by Country

Examples of outputs from ABCF projects



Photo: Alex Bombom

- Striga-resistant lines of sorghum, commercially available (Sudan)
- Drought tolerant sorghum (Eritrea)
- Passion fruit virus diagnostics (Kenya)
- Disease-free taro through tissue culture and diagnostics (Burundi/Ethiopia)
- Cereal crop hybrids (Uganda)
- PPR thermostable vaccine (Sudan)

Facilitating ABCF Fellows / Alumni sub-networks: Theileriosis group (2012)



BecA Annual Workshops



Key skills areas with large demand

1. Introduction to Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics (*May 2014*)
 2. Advanced Bioinformatics and Genomics (*with SLU*) (*2 weeks ago*)
 3. Laboratory Management and Equipment Operations (*June 2014, NM-AIST*)
 4. Scientific Research Paper Writing (*November 2014*)
- Taking the workshops to the region

Taking BecA training workshops to the region



Introduction to Molecular Biology, Bioinformatics and Functional Genomics

- 2013: University of Antananarivo, Madagascar
- 2014: Five BFX workshops: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Sudan



Laboratory Management and Equipment Operations

- 2013: Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research (EIAR), Holetta, Ethiopia, June 2013
- 2014: Nelson Mandela Institute of Science and Technology (NM-AIST), Tanzania



Scientific Research Paper Writing

- 2013: NM-AIST, Tanzania
- 2014: ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya

Institutional capacity building



- National Agricultural Biotechnology Centre, Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research (EIAR), Holetta



- Gulu University, Uganda



- Mikocheni Agricultural Research Institute (MARI), Tanzania



- Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST), Tanzania

Creating linkages/partnerships between scientists

Agricultural Research Connections Workshops

Encouraging Scientific Research Collaborations to Benefit African Farmers

- Organized by BecA & BMGF
- Kenya, July-Aug 2013; June 2014
- Over 150 scientists from SSA and outside SSA
- Proposals to Program for Emerging Agricultural Research Leaders (PEARLs)



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation



BecA-ILRI Hub Capacity Building: Key contacts



Wellington Ekaya PhD

Senior Scientist – Capacity Building

w.ekaya@cgiar.org

Val Aloo

Programme Management Officer

v.aloo@cgiar.org

hub.africabiosciences.org

Thank
You

biosciences
eastern and central africa

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INTERNATIONAL
LIVESTOCK RESEARCH
INSTITUTE



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TRANSFORMING AFRICA