Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative

Purpose
The Ohio State University leads a consortium of U.S. universities training the next generation of food-system scientists, managers, and policymakers in Tanzania. The Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) aims to develop human and institutional capacity for food security and poverty alleviation in a country where 42% of under-five children are malnourished.

Impact
When the five-year initiative ends in 2016, it will have trained 20 Tanzanian scholars at the Ph.D. level and 100 at the Master’s level, sponsored more than 130 research projects, improved Tanzanian university teaching methods and facilities, and established and nurtured research linkages between the U.S., Tanzania, and other African countries.

In 2012 and 2013, OSU instructors prepared 68 Tanzanians through live video-workshops for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), as a first step towards their study in the U.S. Nineteen research projects have been launched on crop improvement, gender and agricultural productivity, climate change, nutrition, and other food security topics.

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