



IAR&T MONTHLY NEWS JANUARY, 2026

IAR&T.....Improving Farmers Productivity and Livelihoods

MEET THE DIRECTOR



Following the appointment of Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin as Director by the Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Vice Chancellor, Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife, Prof. Adebayo Simeon Bamire for a renewable 3-year term, the Institute held an Inauguration Ceremony in his honour on 20th May, 2025 at the Prof. E. A. Adebowale Training Hall, Moor Plantation, Ibadan. This ceremony officially marked the beginning of a new era in the administration of the Institute.

Prof. Oluwatosin is a renowned expert in Soil Survey and Land Management practices, earning him wide recognition within and outside the Country. He has won several Awards and Research Grants from both local and international donors. Prof. Oluwatosin joined the service of the Institute in 1991 as a Research Fellow II and rose through the ranks to the position of Research Professor in 2008.

Prof. Oluwatosin has contributed immensely to the growth of the Institute by serving in several capacities. Prior to his appointment, he was the Head of the Land and Water Resources Management Programme between 2018 and 2021, Head, Southwest Farming System Research and Extension Programme of the Institute and Zonal Coordinator of Southwest REFILS between 2009 and 2017, among others. He has also served on various Committees within the Institute and the University at large.

Prof. Oluwatosin is a member of the African Soil Science, Remote Sensing Association of Nigeria, British Soil Science Society, International Union of Soil Science (IUSS) and a *Fellow* of Soil Science Society of Nigeria. He has over 80 publications to his credit. Upon his assumption of office on 20th May, 2025, Prof. Oluwatosin has spent more than 200 days in the helm of affairs, with significant and notable developmental contributions in research, training and service delivery geared towards repositioning the Institute on a greater path. Members of the Institute and University Community wish him a successful tenure.

HARMONY AND DEVOTION: THE TRIO INSTITUTIONS IN MOOR PLANTATION HELD JOINT PRAYER MEETING.



Cross Section of Participants at the 2026 Joint Prayer Meeting

As it is the tradition and in the spirit of promoting unity among Staff members of the Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IAR&T), Federal College of Agriculture (FCA), and Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology (FCAH&PT), Moor Plantation, Ibadan, The 2026 Joint Prayer Meeting was hosted by FCA, Ib. and held on Monday, 5th January, 2026 at the New Lecture Theatre, "Lekki", FCA, Ibadan. The Annual prayer meeting served as a medium for the Management and Staff of the three (3) Institutions to come together, reflect on the past year and channel a pathway for the year ahead, while also committing the new year to the hands of God.

The occasion had in attendance the CEOs of the three (3) Institutions, including, the Director of the Institute, Prof. Gabriel Oluwatosin; Provost, FCA, Prof. J. J. Atungwu, rep. by Deputy Provost (Administration), Dr. Adenekan and Ag. Provost, FCAH&PT, Dr. Chidi Okpeze. Other Principal Officers of the three (3) Institutions, members of Staff, Union Leaders were also in attendance.

The representatives of both the Christian and Muslim faith offered prayer and exhortation for the Institutions and the nation at large.

Additionally, goodwill messages were delivered by the Union Leaders and CEOs of the three (3) Institutions respectively.

Following the conclusion of the Joint Prayer Meeting, each Institution proceeded to hold their personal meeting/interactive session at their respective venue.

The event was concluded with light music, with everybody in a gay mood.

VISITATIONS



Group photograph of the Director (4th R) with the Executive Council members of the Research Institutes' Games Association of Nigeria (RIGAN) led by the National President, Prof. O. F. Owolade (3rd R) during a Courtesy visit to the Institute, January 15, 2026.



UNESCO-REF President, Prince Abdulsalam Ladigbolu (2nd L) with the Institute Management during a Courtesy visit, January 16, 2026.



The Institute Management in a group photograph with the Officials of Code of Conduct Bureau, Oyo State led by the State Director, Mr. Amao Bolaji (4th from Left) during a Working Visit, January 27, 2026



The Director (R) and the Former Governor of Ondo State, His Excellency, Olusegun Mimiko (L) during a Courtesy Visit, January 28, 2026

Air and On Point: The Institute Broadcasts on Radio

IAR&T being the Zonal Coordinating Institute of Research Extension Farmers Input Linkage System (REFILS) in the South West region, continues to sustain the Flagship Radio Programme "Agbe Asejere" (Profitable Farming) on five (5) stations spread across the South West geopolitical zone. Through this radio programme, Institute's innovations, research breakthroughs, newly developed and improved technologies are now better accessed by the end users, with positive feedback from listeners across the Zone since the programme's inception in 2019.

Currently, the weekly programme is being aired on the following radio stations:

FRCN -Amuludun F.M. 99.1Mhz	–	Ibadan (Thurs. – 8.45pm)
OSBC Osun Radio F.M. 104.5Mhz	–	Osogbo (Tues. – 7.15pm)
Paramount F.M. 94.5Mhz	–	Abeokuta (Thurs. – 8.45pm)
BCOSAjilete F.M. 92.1Mhz	–	Ogbomoso (Tues. – 8.15pm)
BCOS Oke-Ogun F.M.	–	Alaga (Tues. – 8.15pm)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Promotion in the Institute

Name	Designation Promoted To	CONTISS
Mrs. W.O. Olubadewo	Deputy Director, Laboratory Services	14
Mrs. O. T. Owosibo	Deputy Director, Laboratory Services	14
Mr. A. B. Agbabiaka	Chief Agricultural Technologist	13
Mrs. P. O. Sulaiman	Chief Laboratory Technologist	13
Mrs. S. O. Abodunrin	Chief Agricultural Technologist	13

Wearing of Staff Identity Cards on the Premises

A Task Force has been put in place to enforce the directive that all staff wear their identity cards while on the premises. All Heads are to designate an officer in their respective Programmes / Units / Centres who will be responsible for liaising with the Office of the Secretary to the Institute on the enforcement of this directive. This is to ensure strict adherence to the wearing of staff identity cards and monitoring the prohibition of hawking of goods within the Institute.

Death

Unfortunately, the Institute lost one of its staff, Mrs. R.M. Agho from the Accounts Unit in January.

Mrs. Rachael Modupe Agho, until her death, was a committed and dedicated staff, whose contributions to the development of the Institute cannot be overemphasized. The Director prays for eternal rest of the dead and wishes the staff of the Institute, family and friends of the deceased the fortitude to bear this great loss.

For more information, enquiries and partnership, kindly visit our website: www.iart.gov.ng or reach us via email: director@iart.gov.ng