

Dr. Fina Opio is a Ugandan. She is married with two children. She holds **a Ph.D in Plant Pathology** from Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania; a Masters of Science in Crop Science from Nairobi University - Kenya; and Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Makerere University - Uganda. She is highly knowledgeable in plant pathology, bacteriology, participatory agricultural research, technology development and dissemination, rural development and Gender issues. She has a wide experience in Agricultural development issues, strategic planning, leadership and management, science and technology policy, agricultural development policy and innovations, all built over thirty years of career development path. She has published over 30 papers in international scientific journals and over 60 papers in conference / workshop proceedings. Currently, Dr. Fina Opio is Executive Director of ASARECA. She assumed this position on March 1, 2013. Before this appointment, she was the Manager Staple Crops Program of ASARECA. She joined ASARECA in June 2007. Prior to joining ASARECA she was the Director of the *National Crops Research Institute (NACRRI) based at Namulonge*. *NACRRI is one of the Institutes of the National Agricultural Council of Uganda*. She has been a member of many governing boards and councils including the **Uganda National Council of Science and Technology** where she was a member of the **Executive committee of the Council**. Fina has previously served as a consultant to both National and International organizations. She was a member of the **Advisory Panel** that Reviews proposals for **African fellowships** from Rothamsted International in U.K (2005- 2010). She was a member of the **Steering committee for Gender and Diversity Programme of the CGIAR** for the pilot Women fellowship Programme in Eastern Africa. She was a member of a working group that drafted the Biotechnology briefs for CTA in 2005. She has been a member of the team formed by COMESA to design the **Alliance for Commodity Trade Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA)**. She is a fellow of **Uganda Academy of Science and the African Academy of Science**. She served as vice-president of **Uganda Academy of Science from 2002 to 2004**. She was a **Member of the Board of Trustees for CIAT (2008 – 2011)**, where she served on **the Audit committee of the Board**; and she is a **Council member for Busitema University of Science and Technology**, where she chairs the planning and development committee.