

## A few words of “thanks” to Dyno Keatinge

After a long and successful career in International Agricultural Research and Development, Dr Dyno Keatinge retired in April 2016 as Director General of the World Vegetable Center, and consequently also ended his tenure as Chairman of AIRCA. The World Vegetable Center is one of the nine founding members of AIRCA and Dyno led AIRCA as member of the Steering Committee, Deputy Chair and Chair since 2013. His passion for AIRCA, and his tireless support to AIRCA activities were crucial in making AIRCA what it is today – a coalition of the willing, committed to supporting AIRCA’s mission of “Putting research into use by strengthening capacities for sustainable improvements to incomes, food and nutrition security in healthy landscapes”

### **A quote from the outgoing AIRCA Chair, Dyno Keatinge:**

*“I believe strongly that our association has brought substantive benefits to all our Centers and has meant the likelihood of our successful collaboration between Centers is now much more likely. I urge all AIRCA members to work diligently in 2016 to knit our alliance more closely together for our mutual benefit and ultimately for the benefit of poor, malnourished and disadvantaged communities worldwide”*



### **The 1<sup>st</sup> AIRCA meeting in Rome in 2012**

Jose Joaquin Campos, (CATIE), David Molden (ICIMOD), Mark Holderness (GFAR), Faisal Taha (ICBA), Trevor Nicholls (CABI), Christian Borgemeister (icipe), Michael Hermann (CFFRC), Richard Jones (IFDC), Coosje Hoogendoorn (INBAR), John Beer (CATIE), Sarah Simons (CABI), Dyno Keatinge (AVRDC)

Dyno was instrumental in the achievement of AIRCA’s milestones to date: In 2012, AIRCA was formed at a meeting in Rome, and a few months later launched at the GCARD2 meeting in Punta Del Este, Uruguay.

From there, AIRCA quickly gathered momentum: In 2013, many colleagues from AIRCA centers in a joint effort developed the AIRCA White Paper “Transforming rural livelihoods and landscapes: sustainable improvements to incomes, food security and the environment” (click [here](#) to read the White Paper), which was launched at the November 2013 Global Landscapes Forum in Warsaw. Dyno’s input and support was also crucial in establishing and securing funding for the AIRCA secretariat which is hosted by icipe in Nairobi.

AIRCA has joined a number of international fora and platforms, like GFAR (the Global Forum for Agriculture Research), GODAN (Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition), TAP (Tropical Agriculture Platform), as well as regional associations like the Asian-Pacific Association of Agriculture Research Institutions (APAARI). Under Dyno’s leadership, AVRDC was always ready to support AIRCA not only with precious staff time, but for example also hosted the first AIRCA workshop on Theory of Change, a great success and very beneficial to the participants from five of the nine AIRCA members.

He also made sure that AIRCA is very visible in AVRDC, and despite his already very busy travel schedule, Dyno always managed to make time to include AIRCA events in his trips – be it visiting fellow AIRCA members, or attending AIRCA organized events, such as the AIRCA session at the 2015 Global Landscape Forum.

Dyno’s passion and dedication is an inspiration for us all, and the spirit of collegiality, respect and sharing will surely live on, and we all look forward to Dyno still being associated to AIRCA as an ambassador.



*Dyno Keatinge promoting AIRCA at the GLF 2015 in Paris*