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Jon Daane (1950) is Director of the International Centre for development oriented Research in Agriculture (ICRA). He studied rural development sociology and holds a graduate (1977) and doctor's degree (1982) from Wageningen University (WU). From 1997-1983 he worked in research collaboration between WU and the University of Malaya and conducted fieldwork on the relation between social organisation and technological innovation in rice production in W. Malaysia. From 1983-1991 he was full-time professor at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences (FSA) of the National University of Benin and coordinated collaboration between FSA and several Dutch universities aimed at institutional strengthening of FSA. He joined ICRA as Director in 1992 and helped it develop into a European centre specialised in capacity development for rural innovation in the South. With partners, ICRA initiated and joined national-level multi-actor 'learning partnerships' for rural innovation in 10 countries in Sub-Sahara Africa and 3 in Latin America. These capacity strengthening partnerships include some 25 universities and 10 national agricultural research organisations.