

Asian Rural Institute Class of 2017

2017 年度アジア学院学生 / 研究科生

Rural Leaders Training Program

農村指導者研修プログラム

SOUTH AFRICA



Dudu

Ms. Duduzile Princess Nkabinde

Japan International Volunteer
Center / South Africa Office
Project Coordinator, Field Officer

I have been employed by the Japan International Volunteer Centre in South Africa for 19 years. I teach Sunday School and direct a choir. I need to expand my horizons by improving leadership skills and learning more about organic gardening, which can mean survival for many in communities where we work.

INDONESIA



Ridwan

Mr. Ridwan Agustinus Samosir

PETRASA Foundation
Head of Farmer's Group Development
Division

As the head of division of PETRASA Foundation, I help farmers in the rural highlands of North Sumatra gain crucial access to credit, transition from conventional to organic farming, and improve their food security through home gardening. At ARI, I hope to gain greater perspective of rural leadership from participants of different backgrounds, tribes and religions.



Sensa

Ms. Vinsensia Dasi

St. Therese Mbata Parish Church
Farming Group Supervisor

I work with mostly women farmers in our area who grow rice, using manure with chemicals, in terraces on the mountain where we live. I want to learn how to raise rice with organic manure so the health of the people will increase, as the average life-span in our community is 40-50 years old.

Since 1973, the **Asian Rural Institute (ARI)** has been dedicated to training grassroots rural leaders who live and work in their communities in countries located primarily in Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

Located in Tochigi, Japan, ARI trains rural community leaders regardless of nationality, race, religious beliefs, gender or age. The aim of the training is to facilitate the self-development of rural people, in order to build a more just and peaceful society.

The training is practically-oriented. Participants learn through classroom lectures, discussions and study tours, then put this learning into practice by managing their own fields and rice paddies, raising livestock, leading committees and organizing events.

The ARI community is almost completely self-sufficient, with more than 90 percent of the food consumed coming from its own campus.

ARI does not have an independent source of funds, but relies on the support of individuals, churches and funding organizations to operate the training program. Furthermore, since ARI actively seeks out people from the most marginalized areas of the world, who have few resources to support themselves for this training, ARI helps them to connect with potential supporters for scholarship assistance. Thus, ARI's Rural Leaders Training Program is made possible by supporters' generous contributions.



Asian Rural Institute

CAMEROON



Vivian
Ms. Agem Vivian Anwi

Hands of Development International (HADI)
Field extension worker

At ARI I look forward to receiving competency-based training and adaptive techniques which are superior to my basic human resources as of now. After completing the ARI training, I hope to improve the agricultural sustainability of my community in order to help reverse entrenched and widespread poverty and hunger.



Yiven
Mr. Aketinihoh Austen Yiven

Multi-Green Investment -
Common Initiative Group (MGI-CIG)
Field Manager

I enjoy interacting with nature, and practicing agriculture is the ideal way to create financial stability in rural communities. Working on the farm with my grandmother as a youth gave me resolve to farm and find joy in it. When we work the land and nurture it, it will nurture us.



Dureen
Ms. Epie Dureen Ntube

Rural Youth Leadership and Sustainable
Development (RUYOLSUDEV)
Agricultural Extension Worker

I work with marginalized women and youth to provide tools for increasing their access to land, teach them farming methods avoiding destruction of the soil and improve food output. While at ARI, I hope to increase my skills and knowledge in sustainable techniques for enriching the soil, cultivating crops and rearing livestock.

CAMEROON



Nelly Shella
Ms. Nelly Shella Tchaptcheut Yonga

Rural Women Development Center
(RUWDEC)
Coordinator

As coordinator, I oversee projects geared towards improving the living standards of local communities with a focus on women, youths and vulnerable children. I look forward to learning at ARI a holistic approach to food production and the best agricultural practices which I can share with the farmers in my community.

BANGLADESH



Rome
Mr. Ruman Barua

Rissho Kosei-kai Bangladesh
Volunteer Project Coordinator

I serve the hilly rural area of Bandarban. Most inhabitants are very poor and have little education, which impedes their economic development and the quality of health. I seek to teach by example and participation, but recognize that much more needs to be done. My dream is to start a training school.



Marma
Mr. U Thoai Nu Marma

Rissho Kosei-kai Bangladesh
Rural Development Coordinator

As a volunteer for the Rissho Kosei-Kai Bangladesh in Bandarban, I facilitate agriculture-based livelihood improvement projects for the marginalized people in my area. At ARI, I look forward to learning about organization and farm management and food preservation methods.

INDIA



Asha
Ms. Asha Kenchammanahoskote
Jayappa

Coorg Organisation for Rural
Development (CORD)
Community Organizer

I am a community organizer working with the tribal community I belong to. I educate them on land ownership, help with community improvement projects involving youths, and advocate for women's and children's education. I am attending ARI so that I can help the tribal people go for organic and sustainable agriculture methods.



Willing
Mr. Willington Mungrei

Self Help Initiative Development
Organization, Runrei Area (SHIDO-RA)
Asst. Secretary and Field Worker

As a one-time farmer who has used harmful practices, I want to learn how to farm in a way that is in harmony with nature and to share this knowledge with my community. I also want to learn how to live in dynamic and meaningful servant leadership.

EAST TIMOR



Rui
Mr. Rui Sarmiento Araujo

Sacred Heart Institute for
Transformation (SHIFT)
Trainer

As the agriculture specialist at the Uma Ita Nian health clinic's food production program, I train local farmers in ways to improve vegetable yields by improving soil quality and in appropriate animal husbandry methods. My goal is to learn even more about composting, soils, and small-scale farming technologies at ARI.

PHILIPPINES



Mimi
Ms. Emelinda Cuyang Ongcal

Christians Meeting in Gospel Hall, Inc.
(CMGHI)
Full Time Volunteer Teacher and Staff
Support

My objective in teaching children is to help them learn to read and write as well as experience God's love by making their learning process fun and caring. After ARI, I want to help the farmers in my community practice sustainable farming, develop leadership skills and self-confidence.



Frida
Ms. Frida Domingo Laban

AETA Children's Home (ACH)
Teacher

I work as a teacher for the Aeta Children's Home in Zamboales, teaching 4th grade children. Along with teaching, I also help to provide food for the school through managing its gardening program and raising goats and pigs. I want to attend ARI so that I can learn more on how God can use me to help the poor people.



Psyche
Ms. Psyche Marie Porras

Holistic Living Center for Community
Development, Inc (HLCCDI)
Coordinator

The Holistic Living Center helps people recognize that what we eat and drink, our lifestyle, and how we connect to the environment affect diseases that could be avoided. We want to engage young children and get them to think about how they live, how they play, and the impact this has on the community.

MYANMAR



Mau
Mr. Hrie Mau

Mara Evangelical Church - Service and Development Department (MEC SDD)
Program Coordinator,
Finance Coordinator (SDD)

My community practices rotational farming, which has caused lower yields, chronic food shortages and poverty. We lack knowledge and skills in sustainable farming to lead us out of this situation. At ARI, I want to learn these techniques so I can return to demonstrate them for our people at our planned experimental farm.



Samuel
Mr. Samuel

Khawnum'zung Rural Development Organization (KRDO)
Community Trainer

I work with socio-economically unsafe, vulnerable, sensitive, religiously disregarded or forgotten and politically forgotten and uncared people. As a community trainer at KRDO, I work to increase community financial literacy and promote community health. I am eager to become a better servant leader at ARI, so that I can share this knowledge with my community.

LIBERIA



Jenneh
Ms. Jenneh Korlison

Community Women Empowerment Organization (COWEO)
Women Network Coordinator

I work in a multi-religious community where men have traditionally held decision-making power. We establish, develop and encourage women's groups by showing them how to increase agricultural production for their families as well as to generate income. We educate and encourage the women to take active part in family and community decision-making.

GHANA



Sena
Mr. Augustus Sena Letsukuma

Evangelical Presbyterian Development and Relief Agency (EPDRA)
Program Officer,
Agricultural Extension Services

I train and teach extension staff who in turn train farmers in soil and water conservation practices and the formation of marketing cooperatives. While at ARI, I want to increase my knowledge of organic farming practices, improve my leadership skills, and gain from others while living in community.

THAILAND



Ju
Ms. Thanarat Rinnasak

Original Liberty Mission Foundation
Coordinator

I work as a coordinator of services for the Mission Foundation in central Thailand. I look forward to learning as much as possible about organic farming, as my organization wishes me to establish a farm after I return from training at ARI.

ZIMBABWE



Taffy
Ms. Tafadzwa Dorothy Mukondwa

Heather Chimhoga Orphan Care (HCOC)
Social Worker

I am a full-time volunteer social worker, taking care of orphans and vulnerable children. My responsibilities include monitoring the feeding program, supervising kitchen staff, and fundraising for our chicken and moringa leaf projects, which provide healthy sustenance for children. During my time at ARI, I hope to learn about leadership skills, project management, and organic farming.

HAITI



Nixon
Mr. Nixon Rincher

Haiti-no-kai CESLA / CESLA Community Project (CCP)
English Teacher, General Secretary CCP

I would like to learn more about leadership because as a leader, I think I have to get enough capacity to lead groups and the community. I hope raising livestock and growing vegetables would help my community because the biggest problem of my community now is food.

JAPAN



Makiko
Ms. Makiko Takei

Working as a nurse, I had a big question about the advanced medical technology. For half a year, I studied in Denmark about the world situation of hunger, poverty and gaps in society. This year at ARI, I want to study how to support people's health and life by good food.



Chigira
Ms. Chigira Hasumi

I'm taking a year off from university this year to learn at ARI. At university, I learned the situation of the grass-roots people suffering because of development, and this made me think whether the development is really needed for a sustainable society. At ARI, I want to seek what I can do for the society.

Advanced Training Course

Training Assistant (TA)

ARI Graduates who have worked in their countries for five or more years may apply to be a TA. Those applicants who have demonstrated leadership and accomplishment in their communities are invited to come to ARI to assist in the training of the participants.

CAMEROON



Oscar
Mr. Oscar Nkweche Fortsin

Farmer

In 2006, as an ARI participant, I gained extensive experience working with pigs and harnessing the use of pig by-products. As a TA, I hope to grow my leadership abilities so that I may open an integrated farm school in Cameroon upon my return. Our plan is to bring together orphans and vulnerable children to gain knowledge on how to be self-sustainable.

Over a thousand graduates

After graduating from the ARI training program many Rural Leaders focus on sustainable agriculture in order to revive their communities, but that's not all. Graduates engage in a broad range of causes, such as conservation of the environment, education and microfinance. Others dedicate their lives to attain rights for women and tribal people, or organize aid for refugees. Responding thus, to the needs of grassroots people as Servant Leaders, they spread ARI's spirit of "Living Together" across the world.

Tsurukawa Rural Institute, Theological Seminary for Rural Mission (1960 - 1973)
 • South-East Asia Course: 116 graduates, 17 countries

Asian Rural Institute, Rural Leaders Training Center (1973 - 2016)
 • Rural Leaders Training Course: 1,158 graduates, 57 countries
 • Advanced Training Course: 87 graduates

