



What is the impact?

ARI has trained more than 1,300 rural leaders — dedicated servants committed to working side by side with their people toward more sustainable, healthy, self-reliant communities.

“Using the ARI training and experiences, I have gained in my work, I have seen people transformed from hopeless people to people with hope.”

Mr. Peter Chandi, Kenya

“The most influential attitudes I gained at ARI are being a good servant leader, how to value every individual and multi-cultural experiences. I apply these every day in my work with different people. I treasure the belief that a good follower is a good leader.”

Ms. Genalyn Oliveros, Philippines

“After ARI training I changed my attitude toward leadership. I learned that servant leadership is the best way to change a society. I experienced this personally when I started to work with my people. ARI is the place where I found theology in action.”

Fr. Laksiri Peiris, Sri Lanka

“I learnt from many people in ARI, especially Dr. Takami, who really taught me by action. The most important thing for me is how to practice what I observed in my daily life at ARI. Now, I practice it in my family, my organization, and my community.”

Rev. Tigor Sihombing, Indonesia

Training One Rural Leader
Means Training a Whole Community



“We are investing in persons who will dedicate their whole life to sustain life for the future. I think it’s a valid investment, and a lasting investment, in persons who will work as leaders for the people.”

Rev. Dr. Toshihiro Takami
Founder of ARI

We invite your financial participation in ARI

Annual expenses for each participant

Study Scholarship	\$17,840
Travel Scholarship	up to \$ 2,500

US citizens living anywhere may take tax-deductible gifts to ARI through AFARI Make out your check to American Friends of ARI and send it to:

American Friends of Asian Rural Institute Inc
2028 E Ben White Blvd
Ste 240 PMB 9000
Austin TX 78741-6931

or donate online through AFARI at
<https://afari.net/donate>

Canadian citizens can make a tax-deductible donation to the United Church of Canada to support ARI. Cheques payable to the UCC should be sent to:

United Church of Canada
3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200
Toronto, Ontario M8X 2Y4
Attn: Church in Partnership
(please designate “ARI” on cheque)

Gifts can also be sent directly to ARI by Postal Money Order (*yûbin furikae*). ARI has *tokutei kôeki zôshin hôjin* status, making donations within Japan tax-deductible.

account number: 00340-8-8758
account name: Ajia Gakuin

Visit the Japanese ARI website for online donation in Japan.

www.ari-edu.org



Asian Rural Institute

Rural Leaders Training Center

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That We May Live Together



Asian Rural Institute

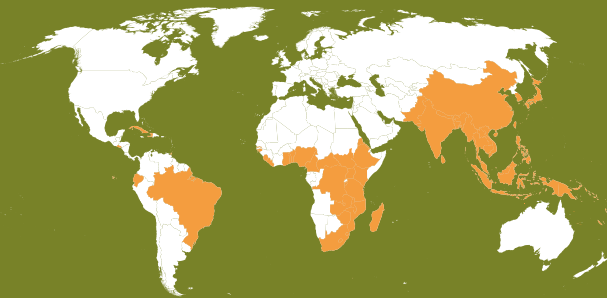
Our Mission

The mission of the Asian Rural Institute is to build an environmentally healthy, just and peaceful world, in which each person can live to his or her fullest potential. This mission is rooted in the love of Jesus Christ.

To carry out this mission, we nurture and train rural leaders for a life of sharing. Leaders, both women and men, who live and work in grassroots rural communities primarily in Asia, Africa and the Pacific, form a community of learning each year together with staff and other residents.

Through community-based learning we study the best ways for rural people to share and enhance local resources and abilities for the common good. We present a challenge to ourselves and to the whole world in our approach to food and life.

That We May Live Together



Colored areas show the countries of ARI graduates (2020).



What is ARI?

ARI is a training center for rural community leaders set on a six hectare farm in eastern Japan. Founded in 1973, we conduct a yearly Rural Leaders Training Program in which we nurture and train grassroots leaders from communities throughout Asia, Africa, the Pacific and the Americas.

Who takes part?

ARI invites rural leaders who are living and working with people in their rural communities. We place emphasis on reaching the most marginalized, poor, and oppressed peoples, with particular attention placed on the recruitment of women leaders.

Christian in inspiration, ARI is ecumenical in practice. We welcome people of any faith, ethnicity, class, or profession as long as they share ARI's vision and pledge to return home to work with their people after they complete the training. In the past we have trained church leaders, community and village leaders, NGO personnel, agricultural trainers, teachers, orphanage staff, and many more.

What do we teach?

All people and their communities have within themselves the capabilities and resources to live a dignified and healthy life.

Sustainable Agriculture

We practice and teach methods of integrated organic farming. This incorporates techniques of enriching the soil, cultivating crops, and rearing livestock naturally. In all areas we promote the use of materials and technology that are available locally in our participants' communities so that they can reduce dependency on outside resources and gain greater self-sufficiency in food and feed production. Working together, participants, staff, and volunteers produce most of the food we eat on campus.

Servant Leadership

We show the importance of being a leader as one who serves and works at the level of the people. A servant leader lives a life that is an example and an inspiration to help all people to reach their highest potential.

Community Building

Our training facilitates the discovery and utilization of the strengths and talents inherent in all people: organizing community through full participation in decision making, in contribution of abilities, and in access to resources.

How do we teach?

Community-Based Training

Each year we invite about 30 women and men to take part in the nine month program. Together we build a community in which we respect different cultures and faiths and where everyone actively participates. Teaching, learning, and growing are experienced mutually as we share in our work and exchange our ideas, values, and life experiences.

Learning by Doing

Practical training takes place through the daily labor of maintaining our self-sufficient farm. Participants manage their own fields where they experiment with ideas they have learned in the classroom or observed during study trips. As participants work and learn, they can exercise leadership, responsibility, self-discipline, and initiative within the ARI community.

Foodlife

At the heart of our training is the concept of 'Foodlife' — holding significant value in life and the food that sustains life. It is a joyful experience when community members produce food through their own labor and then gather around the table to share meals prepared from their own harvest. At every meal we experience the blessings of God and the heart of the community.