



Asian Rural Institute Class of 2020

Rural Leaders Training Program

Founded in 1973 and located in Tochigi, Japan, Asian Rural Institute (ARI) trains grassroots rural leaders who live and work in their native communities, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, religious beliefs, gender, or age. Our 9-month training program aims to build a more just and peaceful society by facilitating the self-development of rural people.

Every year we invite 25 to 30 leaders from more than 10 countries to join the program. However, for the 2020 academic year, due to the spread of the coronavirus, 19 of the candidates were not able to enroll as they were hindered by an array of factors such as city blockades, borders closing, and visas being canceled. Although there will be various limitations this year, in the hopes that the pandemic around the world will end, we will train with the 11 participants who were able to enroll. The 19 leaders who could not enter the program will be able to receive training in 2021.

- ① ARI Nickname
- ② Activities

India (Nagaland)



Mr. Shothayi Dozo
Grace Home Khutsuokhuno
Teacher, Community Leader

- ① Dozo
- ② I have worked as a teacher and community leader, and I continue to guide and direct youth through my church. I look forward to my training in organic farming and community development at ARI. After returning home, I will continue to serve at Grace Home Khutsokhuno to enable my people, the Chakhesang, to live and eat more healthily.

Indonesia



Mr. Agustinus Adil
Parish Church of St Theresia
Farmer

- ① Agus
- ② I am a full-time farmer and have been raising porang, coffee and cacao as cash crops. Since 2002, I have planted more than 10,000 trees of various kinds. I want to study organic farming techniques, leadership and community development skills at ARI so that I can share what I learn with the farmers in my area.

Vietnam



Ms. Tran Thi Bich THANH
That Duong Vietnam
Community volunteer

- ① Thanh
- ② I work in a community, which is composed of mostly local women and children, who practice natural farming and sell to shops to supply safe food directly to urban consumers. I am motivated to study agriculture, the environment and the ecosystem. At ARI I also want to learn more about living in a community and gain skills in training.

Kenya



Ms. Celestine Mitsanze
Institute of Participatory Development
Project Facilitator

- ① Celestine
- ② I empower youth and women through community groups. Using song and dance, I engage my community with messages about environmental conservation, prevention of early pregnancies, HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, drug abuse and so on. At ARI I want to learn about organic farming techniques so that my community can plant and raise safe food.



Mr. Martin G Kirigia
Methodist Church in Kenya
Rural and Urban Development Administrator

- ① Martin
- ② My objective is to empower local farmers, so they can improve their income and support their families. Most of my work is in rural agricultural training centers, which offer technical advice to local farmers. I hope to further my knowledge at ARI by studying leadership and gender issues, development, and sustainable agricultural practices.



Mr. Mwalimu Shehe Muzungu
Magarini Children Center and Organic Farming Demonstration Farm
Supervisor, Vegetables and Cereals

- ① Mwalimu
- ② I grow food for the children and also work with the rural communities of the Giriama people in Kenya, where people live in extreme poverty and exclusion. In attending ARI training, I will learn new skills that I can share with my community. That way, we will be making farming alive and at the same time we will be loving ourselves.

Ghana



Mr. Joshua Ofori Suttah
Presbyterian Church of Ghana
Community Facilitator

- 1 Josh
- 2 I am a peasant farmer and also volunteer for my church leading youth agriculture and livestock programs. Many youths leave home in search of jobs. Upon my return to Ghana, I plan to organize quarterly training sessions so that I can transfer my knowledge to the church's communities, with emphasis on the youth and helping them make a living.

Rwanda



Ms. Saidath Murorunkwere
Dufatanye Organization
Community Social Worker

- 1 Sailove
- 2 I am motivated to help my community learn how to live sustainably and keep health in mind. Nearly 40% of the population in my area lives in poverty. Small scale farming is the major occupation and I want to learn techniques and skills from ARI that I can share. With better nutrition, health will improve, and children can go to school.

Japan



Mr. Ryo Maki
(2019 ARI Graduate)

- 1 Ryo
- 2 I am excited about the many opportunities to learn about sustainable agriculture that can be used in tropical areas. I am particularly interested in Indonesia, where I interned in North Sumatra. Working overseas for an NGO in Indonesia is my dream. My goal is to work with farmers to facilitate learning and a sustainable approach to development.

Japan



Mr. Yuta Kimura

- 1 Yuta
- 2 My experience as a manager at former company taught me about supervision, food processing and corporate culture. As an ARI participant, I want to learn first-hand about organic farming methods, servant leadership and community building. Following my graduation from ARI, I will help local farmers in Kenya.



Ms. Hiroka Komatsubara

- 1 Hiroka
- 2 I want to study about sustainable agriculture, "which protects nature and does not destroy the environment." My passion is to work in international development. Recently, I graduated from Chuo University with a degree in Policy Studies. I hope to gain skills and experience at ARI to launch a career in international cooperation.

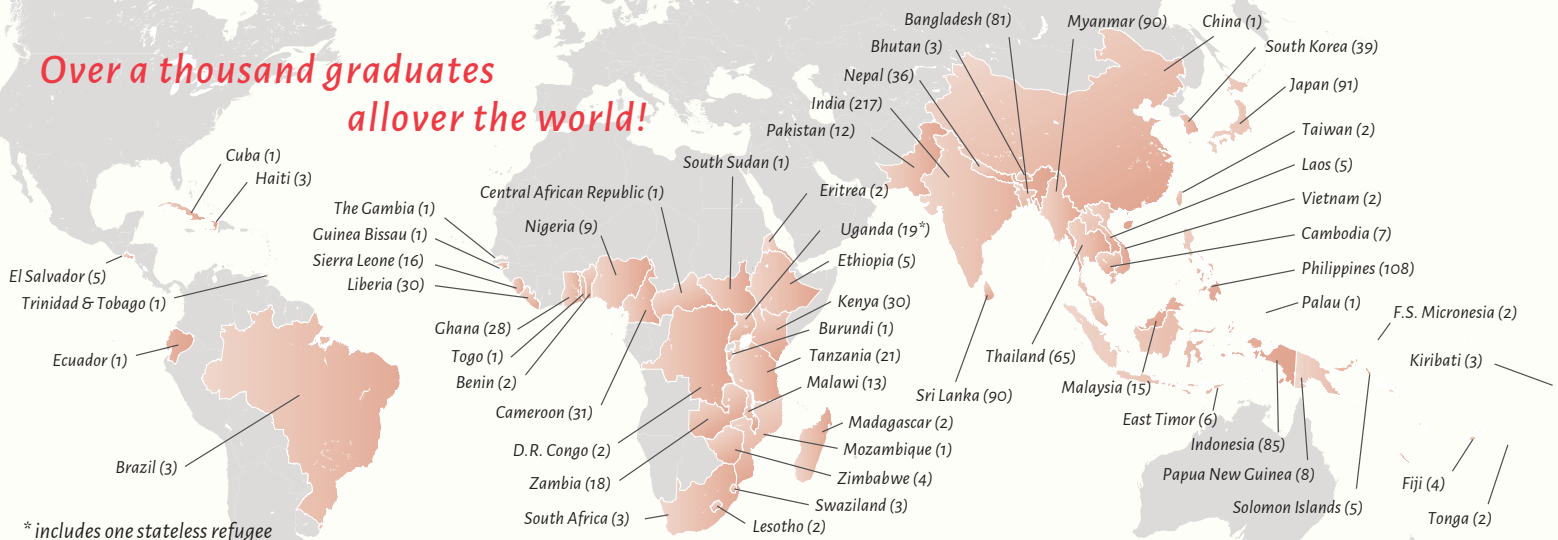
Advanced Training Course

Graduate Intern (GI)

A Japanese graduate of ARI is eligible to apply to be a GI. Graduate Interns focus on one section of the farm in which they wish to gain deeper understanding and more extensive experience. The GI also takes part in all other aspects of ARI life as an actively contributing community member.

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 also engage in a broad range of causes, such as environmental conservation, 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.

**Over a thousand graduates
allover the world!**



Would you like to invest in the future of Rural Leaders as a supporter?

The costs needed for Rural Leaders to participate in our training are mainly financed by donations. Tuition and board amount to US\$ 17,840, and the average airfare is US\$ 2,300. We provide financial assistance for these leaders to take part. It is an investment in people who will bring about lasting community change. For detailed information, please visit our website or call our office.

USA

US citizens may make tax deductible gifts to ARI through the American Friends of ARI (AFARI). Make out your check to AFARI and send it to:

American Friends of Asian Rural Institute, Inc.
2028 E Ben White Blvd #240-9000
Austin TX 78741-6913

or donate online through AFARI at
<http://afari.net/make-a-difference/support-ari/>

Canada

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 St. W., Suite 200
Etobicoke, ON M8X 2Y4
Attn: Church in Partnership
(Please designate "ARI" on the cheque)

Japan

There are multiple ways of contributing if you reside in Japan. Please visit our website at
(<http://www.ari-edu.org/en/support/>)
to learn more.