

## Our Class of 2021

### Rural Leaders Training Program

For the 2021 Rural Leaders Training Program, we have invited 24 candidates from overseas. Their arrival is yet to be decided as the suspension of Japanese visas continues due to COVID-19 measures.

However, three Japanese participants have joined ARI this April and already started their training on campus.

We hope that the worldwide spread of the coronavirus will end so that all overseas candidates can join our studies as soon as possible.

#### Japan

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**Eri Okada**

**(Eri)** After graduating from university, I began volunteering at ARI in the FEAST (kitchen) and livestock (pig) section. Through experiencing the entire process where life is transformed to food, I thought deeply about what “life” itself is. Now, I would like to think about a society where this life is valued through organic farming.



**Keisuke Katô**

**(Keisuke)** My International Studies in university caused me to have doubts about a society that does not utilize people's potential. At ARI, I would like to reconsider my approach to development. I want to learn from participants and be proactive in our life together to prepare to build a better society.



**Jun Matsui**

**(Jun)** I have been working as a social worker in the medical and welfare field, and there I felt the need for social change. At ARI, I will deepen my study of community development and other topics that will lead to a sustainable society, with the aim of realizing a society where “no one is left behind.”

## Rural Leaders Training Program

ARI provides powerful leadership training for grassroots community leaders: the annual Rural Leaders Training Program.

Servant  
Leadership

Community  
Building

Sustainable  
Agriculture



Our Rural Leaders Training Center empowers some of the most marginalized communities on earth, so that they can enjoy and share the wealth of food, land, and community.

Every year, we invite rural community leaders from grassroots organizations in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Pacific to our campus in Japan. The 9-month training is guided by our motto, 'That We May Live Together.'



## Our Graduates

