Over a thousand graduates

After graduating from the ARI training program, many Rural Leaders focus on sustainable agriculture in order to revitalize their communities. But that’s not all. Graduates also engage in a broad range of causes, such as environmental conservation, education and community development. Others dedicate their lives to attain rights for women and tribal people, or organize aid for refugees. Responding to the needs of governments, people as Servant Leaders, they spread ARI’s spirit of “Living Together” across 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$ 1,640, and the average airfare is US$3,705. We provide financial assistance for these leaders to take part. It is an investment in people who will bring 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 6th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Canada

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

United Church of Canada Partners in Mission
1525 – 36 Street NW
Calgary, AB T2N 5L9

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.

Asian Rural Institute

Rural Leaders Training Program

Located in Tochigi, Japan, Asian Rural Institute (ARI) trains grassroots rural leaders who live and work in their native communities, regardless of nationality, race, religious beliefs, gender, or age. The aim of the training is to build a more just and peaceful society by facilitating the self-development of rural people.

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.

ARI does not have an independent source of funds, relying on the support of individuals, churches, and funding organizations to operate the training program. Furthermore, since the individuals ARI seeks out are from some of the most marginalized areas of the world, they often have few resources to sponsor their training. ARI helps these individuals connect with potential supporters for scholarship assistance. Thus, ARI’s Rural Leaders Training Program is made possible by supporters’ generous contributions.

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. These applicants, who have demonstrated leadership and accomplishment in their communities, are invited to come to ARI to assist in the training of current participants.

Advanced Training Course

Graduate Intern (GI)

A Singaporean 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.

El Salvador (5)

Haiti (3)

Cameroon (28)

D.R. Congo (2)

Lesotho (2)

South Sudan (1)

Kiribati (3)

Tonga (2)

Japan (90)

Vietnam (1)

Bhutan (3)

Malaysia (15)

Nepal (36)

Thailand (65)

Bangladesh (81)

India (216)

Philippines (106)

Pakistan (12)

Myanmar (88)

Sri Lanka (90)

Myanmar (88)

Sri Lanka (90)

Canada

Ms. Kaoru Kobayashi

2019 ARI Graduate

I worked with immigrants while in University, and for a Japanese confectionary as a product developer after graduation. I want to gain skills to empower immigrants and the producers, who are often struggling rural farmers. As a graduate intern, I hope to focus on brushing up my servant leadership skills, managing my kitchen garden and learning about marketing.

USA

Ms. Tebveretaoke Tokaneta-jake

Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development

Agriculture Officer / 2008 ARI Graduate

I truly believe that we are created differently so that we can work together and cooperate to save the world. I am ready to be part of ARI and learn together with fellow participants.

Japan

Ms. Kaoru Kobayashi

2018 ARI Graduate

I want to learn leadership skills, as well as conduct research and field trials in the poultry sections in order to acquire knowledge I can bring back to my community. I want to be able to share my knowledge of poultry feed mixing, fish pond care, integrated farming, food processing and pest/disease management so that my community can become more efficient and self-sufficient.

Canada

Ms. Saman Chhan

Community, Health & Agriculture Development (CHAD) Methodist Church in Cambodia

Farmer, Trainer

I grew up in a poor rural family and left school early to earn money. I am bringing the community together to improve health, income and education. At ARI, I want to experience practical learning for servant leadership, organic agriculture, and community development so I can train more local leaders.

Indonesia

Ms. Hayu Putri Astari

Yayasan Pesantren Al Amanah

Teacher

I want to help my community, especially the young people and farmers, by training them in sustainable agricultural techniques and conservation practices. I believe that we are created differently so that we can work together and cooperate to save the world. I am ready to be part of ARI and learn together with fellow participants.

ARI Nickname

Activities

Cambodia

Ms. Saman Chhan

Community, Health & Agriculture Development (CHAD) Methodist Church in Cambodia

Farmer, Trainer

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India

Mr. Jeremiya Narzary

Bodo Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rural Development Coordinator, Community Organizer

I work with my people to help them improve all facets of their lives. In my area of rural Assam, I promote vegetable cultivation and encourage children to continue their studies. I look forward to developing my skills in Servant Leadership and my knowledge of organic farming so I can empower my people to lead healthier lives.

Kiribati

Ms. Tebveretaoke Tokaneta-jake

Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development

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Indonesia

Mr. Jeyon Rainhard Berhitoe
Youth With A Mission
Training Center Coordinator

Pr. Surya Darma Bakti Sitorus
Disakoria Department of Huria Kristen Indonesia Church (HKI)
Pastor

Mr. Lal Rem Ruata
Lapotchanqu District, The Methodist Church of Upper Myanmar
President, District Methodist Youth Association, Farmer

Pr. Surya

Mr. Francis Alhassan
Northern Region Peace Building Foundation
Project Assistant

Latuaka

Mr. Ibrahim Fusseini
Abram Organic Farming Project
Agricultural Extension Agent

Mr. Francis

Ghana

Mr. Daliso

Rev. Lordson Setsoafia Kwaisi Tagbedza
Centre for Sustainable Communities
chaplain, Agriculture teacher, Hare Technical Institute

Myanmar

Mr. Mana Hieh
Kampeti Township Baptist Association (KTBA)
Associate Pastor

Pr. Cornio Masunung
Togo Farm, Lifeline Village Ministries
Farm Manager

Mr. Emmanuel Eitalan By Jr.
Water Agro-Forestry, Nutrition and Development Foundation (WAND)
Learning site Manager

Mr. Eman

Kenya

Mr. Dennis Ngenja Joseph
Institute of Participatory Development & Change
Governing Facilitator

Mr. Patrick Kullie
Vonjima Free Pentecostal Church
Farmer, Church Worker

Mr. Dennis

Liberia

Mr. Patrick

Ms. Karin Nkhatata
Waltherhughele
Field Officer

Ms. Karin

Malawi

Mr. Ryo Maki

Japan

Mr. Ryo

Vietnam

Ms. Hien Thu Le
Research Center for Rural Development (RCRD)
Farm Manager

Mr. Hien

Sierra Leone

Mr. Auriele Lucie Zanfack Woubeng
Vision in Action Foundation
Outreach Officer

Ms. Auriele

Uganda

Mr. Sultan Lam
Action Youth for Agricultural Development & Change
Field Officer

Mr. Sultan

Mr. Patrick

Ms. Hadiyah Nnakiruuta
SOKA Development Agency
Programs Coordinator

Ms. Hadijah

Vietnam

Ms. Forbaph Hilda Ngwe
Presbyterian Church in Cameroon
Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

Mr. I.B.

Cambodia

Mr. Caroll

Cameroon

Mr. Alex

Rev. Alex Owusu
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
Chaplain, Tutor, Atwima College of Education

Mr. Alex

Cambodia

Mr. Caroll

Ms. Rita Naikani Ngoh
Presbyterian Church in Cameroon
Community Education Officer

Ms. Rita

Cambodia

Mr. Caroll

Ms. Hilda

Myanmar

Mr. Ma Na Hieh
Kampeti Township Baptist Association (KTBA)
Associate Pastor

Ms. Richelle Dela Paz
Abia Diocese Teachers and Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative
Agriculture Production Economist

Ms. Richelle

Philippines

Mr. Ryo

Japan

Mr. Ryo

I am passionate about supporting small scale farmers abroad. The ARI training will help me become a rural leader who is knowledgeable about servant leadership and empowering farmers through sustainable agricultural techniques. During training, I would like to keep in mind the importance of listening to the needs of the people and working together with them. I am eager to learn new ideas and techniques I can use in the future to help farmers around the world.

Philippines

Ms. Rittha

Myanmar

Mr. Hieh

I want to be a good rural leader in all aspects. I see many similarities between ARI’s practices and what my organization has been doing with integrated farming. It’s my sincere hope to join ARI so that I might increase my knowledge and learn new methods of farming, rural leadership, community building and sustainable agriculture.

Philippines

Mr. Ryo

Japan

Mr. Ryo

I am working to help bring peace and cooperation to the people who suffered during the tribal conflicts that lasted until 2016. At ARI, I would like to gain more experience in sustainable, organic agriculture so I can teach the people how to improve their nutrition and health.

Philippines

Ms. Hadijah

I am a full-time pastor and a volunteer facilitator for KTBA. It is my job to facilitate the change from shifting cultivation to permanent farming in my community. I want to attend ARI to learn together with leaders from different countries about organic farming techniques.

Philippines

Ms. Richelle Dela Paz
Abia Diocese Teachers and Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative
Agriculture Production Economist

Ms. Richelle

Philippines

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