

INFORMATION NOTE

42nd International Vegetable Training Course on “Safe Vegetable Production”, The World Vegetable Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

Duration: 08-19 September 2025 (excluding dates of arrival and departure)

Venue/Host: WorldVeg, Bangkok, Thailand

Sponsoring Organizations: African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) &
Government of Republic of China (Taiwan)

Deadline for Application: 25 June 2025

Background:

Vegetables are vital for health, however safety is also crucial. Consumers worldwide worry about food safety, especially pesticide residues and microbial contamination. Vegetable crops need high pesticide use, raising food safety concerns due to residues. Microbial contamination from poor handling and contaminated water also poses health risks. These issues underscore the need for safer, more sustainable vegetable production.

About the Training Course: The programme will equip participants with skills for safe vegetable production. It focuses on IPM, sustainable soil health, and responsible biological solutions, helping farmers reduce chemical inputs while ensuring food safety.

About WorldVeg:

World Vegetable Center (AVRDC) conducts research, builds networks, and carries out training and promotion activities with its mission of Research and Development to realize the potential of vegetables for healthier lives and more resilient livelihoods. AVRDC has five regional offices, two (2) in Asia and three (3) in Africa.

Course Objectives:

This two-week training programme is designed to provide the participants with hands-on experience and expand their technical knowledge in safe vegetable production. The training programme further aims at facilitating the participants to expand their professional network to fellow breeders and well-known recognized experts in the field. The programme will cover the following key topics:

- Process of developing GAP standards using a case study approach
- Diseases of vegetables and their management related to GAP standard
- Principles of regenerative agriculture for better soil health in vegetable production
- Effective Microorganisms (EM) in promoting safe and sustainable vegetable production.
- Vegetable grafting and their management
- Sustainable soil fertility management
- Integrated pest management for key vegetable crops

- Success story: Royal Project Foundation

Methodology: The course is taught by experts from the World Vegetable Center and Kasetsart University (Thailand). The instruction will be in English. The training methods will be a blend of classroom lectures, hands-on exercises, and excursions to leading vegetable seed producers in Thailand.

Participants will go through an evaluation of their current knowledge by taking both a pre-test and a post-test. This will help us gauge their starting point and measure the progress they make in various areas, including Germplasm collection and conservation, establishment of a company gene bank or seed storage system, setting up a seed production pipeline, understanding the breeding schemes for tomatoes, chili, and cucurbit crops, developing hybrid cultivars using male sterility systems, applying statistical methods in plant breeding, and utilizing marker-assisted selection techniques.

Application Process: The nominees are required to click on the link: <https://aardo.org/worldveg.html> a link to the application form (In Editable Pdf) and guidelines will appear. The nominee needs to download the form, fill it, get the duly filled in and endorsed by the nodal ministry and forward it to AARDO through the email: cbdp@aardo.org **along with the recommendation letter from AARDO's Nodal Ministry and a passport copy.**

The form must be completed in all aspects. Incomplete/wrong information may lead to rejection of application.

Selection Procedure: The nominations received from the member countries, after due screening and finalization will be forwarded to WorldVeg for their consideration.

Presentation of Country Report: the participants will be required to give a presentation during the programme on the situation in their respective countries. The guidelines for preparation of country report will be provided to the selected candidates along with the letter of acceptance.

Post Training Action: on completion of the training course, the participants will be required to submit a brief report and evaluation of the training to the AARDO Secretariat.

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