

## **INFORMATION NOTE**

### **43rd International Vegetable Training Course on “Vegetable Breeding”, The World Vegetable Centre, Bangkok, Thailand, 26 October – 06 November 2026**

**Duration:** 26 October – 06 November 2026 (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: 19 June 2026***

#### **Background:**

The successful cultivation of high-quality vegetables relies heavily on the use of superior seeds. In tropical regions, the criteria for seed quality differ significantly from those in temperate climates. Specifically, tropical vegetables require greater tolerance to heat and strong resistance to the pests and diseases prevalent in the region.

The rapidly growing private vegetable seed sector in Africa and Asia is actively enhancing its capacity to develop and supply superior seed varieties. However, both private companies and public research institutions recognize a crucial need for training in vegetable breeding—particularly in optimizing the use of genebank resources and implementing advanced breeding techniques such as pyramiding disease-resistance genes and molecular breeding.

This vegetable breeding course aims to address these essential areas, equipping participants with the knowledge and skills needed to breed vegetables successfully for tropical environments.

#### **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:**

The course will provide participants with hands-on experience and expand their technical knowledge in tropical vegetable breeding. It also offers opportunities to build professional networks with fellow breeders and recognized experts in the field:

- Genetic diversity and resources at TVRC
- Genebank database management
- Seed production pipeline for small- and medium-scale enterprises
- Breeding schemes for tomato, chili, cucurbits, and okra
- Hybrid cultivar development using male sterility systems

- Plant–pathogen interactions
- DNA markers for vegetable breeding and pathogen/insect diagnostics
- Genetic diversity analysis (PCA) using genebank data
- DNA extraction and quality assessment
- Bulk segregant analysis
- RNA extraction
- PCR and gel result interpretation
- Marker design and group discussion

**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.

**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](mailto: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.

**Contact Persons:**

Mr. Kamal Dhameja  
 Head, Capacity Building & Development Projects  
 (CB & DP) Division  
 African Asian Rural Development Organization  
 (AARDO)  
 New Delhi, INDIA  
 Phone: +911126115936  
 E-mail: [kamaldhameja@aardo.org](mailto:kamaldhameja@aardo.org)  
 Mobile: +9180764 48341

Mr. Mohsin Ali  
 Technical Officer -III  
 Capacity Building & Development Projects  
 (CB & DP) Division  
 African Asian Rural Development Organization  
 (AARDO) New Delhi, INDIA  
 Phone: +91 1126115936,  
 E-mail: [cbdp@aardo.org](mailto:cbdp@aardo.org)  
 Mobile: +919179933435