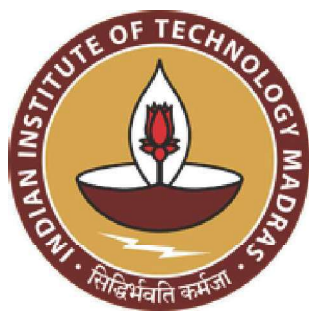




AFRICAN ASIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (AARDO)

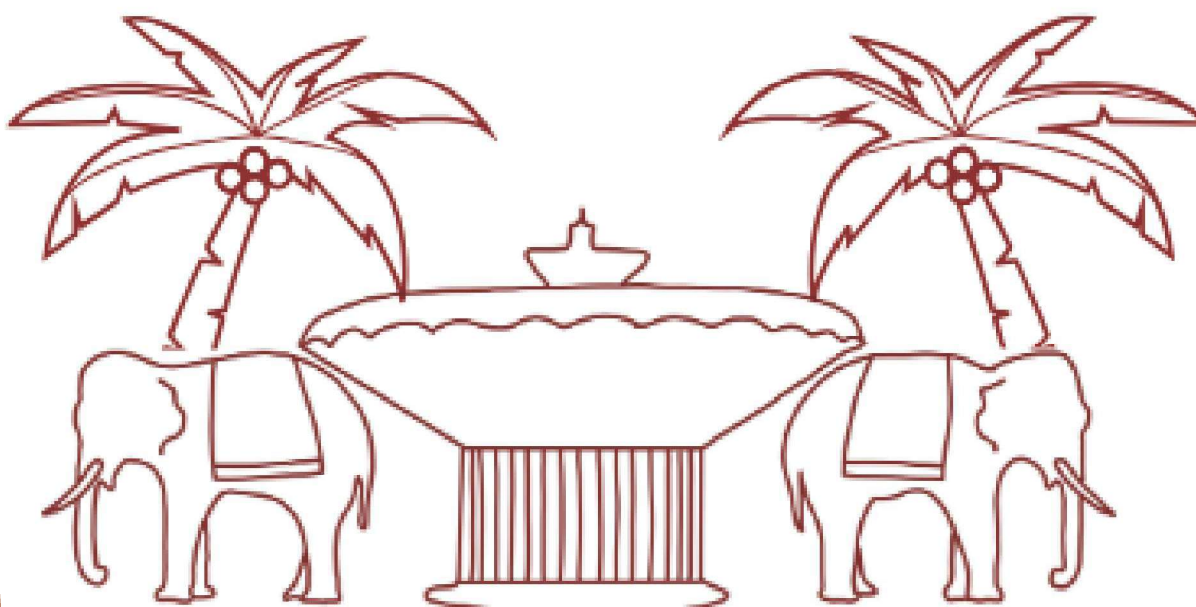
AND

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS (IIT M)
OFFICE OF GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT**

FULL TIME SCHOLARSHIP

Master of Science by Research (M.S.) and Ph.D. Programmes

Under the MoU between AARDO and IIT Madras



1. Programmes

M.S. Programme | Ph.D. Programme

2. About AARDO

The **AFRICAN-ASIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION** is a rural centric inter-governmental autonomous organization located at 2, State Guest Houses Complex, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110 021, India .

African Asian Rural Development Organization is mandated to develop understanding among members for better appreciation of each other's problems and to collectively explore, opportunities for coordination of efforts for the welfare and eradication of thirst, hunger, illiteracy, disease and poverty amongst rural people in the African-Asian region. The Organization comprises thirty six (36) members, which include thirty two (32) member countries namely, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia and Zambia from Africa; and Bangladesh, Republic of China (Taiwan), India, Iraq, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Syria and Yemen from Asia; besides, four (04) Associate Members namely, Economic and Social Development Centre (ESDC) from Palestine, EKITI Chamber of Commerce Industry, and Mines (EKITICIM) from Nigeria, Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC) from Republic of Korea and the Agricultural Bank of Sudan (ABS) from Sudan.

AARDO is promoting South-South Triangular cooperation in the domain of agricultural and rural development. As such, AARDO is championing and advocating more science to rural societies for inclusive transformation of rural areas in Africa and Asia.



3. About IIT Madras

The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) was established in 1959 by the Government of India and is an Institute of National Importance. The Institute offers education and conducts research across science, engineering, technology, management, humanities, and interdisciplinary areas.

IIT Madras continues to be one of India's leading institutions of higher education and research, with the following latest rankings:

- **NIRF 2025** - Overall: Ranked No. 1 in India for the 7th consecutive year (2019-2025).
- **NIRF 2025** - Engineering: Ranked No. 1 in India for the 10th consecutive year (2016-2025).
- **QS World University Rankings 2027**: Ranked 170th globally, improving from 180th in QS World University Rankings 2026.



4. Admission Timeline

Timeline	Activity
September 25, 2026	Application opens https://admissions.ge.iitm.ac.in/
October 31, 2026	Application deadline
November 9–20, 2026	Interviews
November 23–27, 2026	Students to accept/decline offers
1st week of December 2026	Issuance of offer letters by Academic Section – Research Unit and IITMGE Scholarship letters
2nd week of January 2027	Report on selected students at IIT Madras

5. Academic Information

M.S. Programme

Programme: Master of Science by Research (M.S.)

Duration: 2 years, with the possibility of a 6-month extension.

Ph.D. Programme

Programme: Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Duration: Usually, 4 to 5 years.

Medium of Instruction and Communication: English

Semester

- January – May
- July – November

Eligibility for M.S. Programme

Candidates with any of the following qualifications may be considered:

- A 4-year Bachelor's degree in Engineering or Technology; or
- A recognized 4-year B.Sc. degree; or
- A recognized 4-year B.S. degree; or
- A Master's degree in an appropriate Engineering, Technology, or Science discipline.

Eligibility for Ph.D. Programme

Candidates with any of the following qualifications may be considered:

- A Master's degree in Engineering, Technology, or Science with a good academic record;
- A Master's degree by Research in Engineering, Technology, or Science with a good academic record;
- A 5-year Dual Degree in Engineering; or
- A 5-year BS + MS Dual Degree with a good academic record.



6. Please Note and Programme Requirements

Please Note

- Foreign nationals with an eligible degree from Indian universities will be treated on par with Indian nationals for admission.
- Foreign students are expected to have a working knowledge of English.
- If the medium of instruction for the qualifying degree was not English, applicants must provide proof of English proficiency:
- **IELTS:** Minimum overall score of 6.5
- **TOEFL:** Minimum overall score of 80
- Test results should meet the validity requirements prescribed by IIT Madras.
- Foreign nationals will register as **full-time scholars**.
- All applicants should have a minimum **CGPA of 8.0/10.0**, or its equivalent/first class.
- The Selection Committees may prescribe higher evaluation criteria than the minimum eligibility requirements listed above.
- The selection, admission, and award of the **M.S. and Ph.D. degrees** will be governed by the ordinances of the Senate of IIT Madras.

7. Application Guidelines

1. Review Projects

Choose up to 3 projects that match your interests.

2. Apply Online

Submit the application form along with the required documents.

3. Selection Process

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for a virtual test and/or interview.

4. Decision Notification

Selected candidates will be informed of the admission decision and scholarship award.

5. SII Registration and Visa Processing

Necessary documents will be issued to facilitate the visa process, wherever applicable.

6. Start of the Programme

Orientation and commencement of the academic session at IIT Madras.



8. Airfare Support from AARDO

Airfare support from AARDO is applicable to students from active AARDO member countries, subject to the applicable AARDO rules and provisions.

9. IIT Madras GE Scholarship

M.S. Programme

Selected M.S. students will receive:

- **Tuition Fee Waiver**
- **One-Time Admission Fee Waiver**
- **Monthly Living Allowance: ₹20,000**
- **Every Semester:** Enrollment Fee, Medical Fee, Seat Rent, Extra-Curricular Fee, and Student Wellness Fee will be covered by the Office of Global Engagement (OGE).

Ph.D. Programme

Selected Ph.D. students will receive:

- **Tuition Fee Waiver**
- **One-Time Admission Fee Waiver**
- **Every Semester:** Enrollment Fee, Medical Fee, Seat Rent, Extra-Curricular Fee, and Student Wellness Fee will be covered by OGE.
- **Monthly Living Allowance:**
 - **Year 1 & Year 2:** ₹37,000 per month
 - **Year 3 & Year 4:** ₹42,000 per month

The Office of Global Engagement will provide the monthly stipend for the first two years. Subsequently, OGE will coordinate with the Guide to facilitate similar financial support for an additional two years, or until completion of the degree requirements, whichever is earlier, subject to the applicable rules and availability of support.

10. Contact Details

AARDO

Dr. Sanjeeb K Behera
Head, IEC Division

E-mail : sanjeebbehera@aarodo.org
Ph. No. +91-11-26877783/26115936
Mobile/Whatsapp : +91-9810664507

Mr. Kamal Dhameja

Head, PP&P and CB&DP Divisions

E-mail : kamaldhameja@aarodo.org
Ph. No. +91-11-26877783/26115936
Mobile/Whatsapp : +91-8076448341

IIT Madras

OGE Inbound Team

Office of Global Engagement

Indian Institute of Technology Madras

Tel: +91 044 2257 8865

Email: iitmaardoscholarship@ge.iitm.ac.in



Links for More Information

- AARDO Website: www.aardo.org
- IIT Madras M.S. and Ph.D. Research Admission Brochure
- IIT Madras M.S. Ordinances - [LINK](#)
- IIT Madras Ph.D. Ordinances - [LINK](#)
- IIT Madras Website: www.iitm.ac.in
- Office of Global Engagement, IIT Madras: ge.iitm.ac.in

