I am from the urbanizing Western region of Sri Lanka where I am concerned that modernization is distancing my people from nature. There is a great lack of motivation to farm in Sri Lanka and I want to share its joys with my people. I have returned to ARI to refine my knowledge of sustainable practices so that I can pass it on to my students and their families.

My goals are to further my knowledge and skills of organic farming, gain more understanding of myself through reflection, and improve my servant leadership skills. I am excited to start a Community Farm where I can try new agricultural techniques, reflect on the results and share with the community. The experimental farm will also show visitors the importance of biodiversity and allow a space for humans and nature to connect.
I come from a rural community consisting of farmers and cow breeders. I work to combat the socio-economic obstacles that keep my congregation in poverty through agricultural training on model farms. I hope to update my knowledge of natural pest management and agricultural record-keeping.

It is my joy to help both farmers obtain organic certification and plan educational agricultural activities for my community. I am motivated by my desire to help the local farmers attain stronger voices within their communities. As a practicing farmer, I want to share my knowledge of natural pest management and agricultural record-keeping.

My community consists mainly of subsistence or peasant farmers who produce staple foods such as maize, cassava, and plantains. I work with the church youth, mainly getting them engaged in agriculture I specialize in agriculture, and want to grow my beekeeping business from zero to 100 hives in three years.

I spread new agricultural knowledge and materials (such as seeds) to indigenous communities. I am a strong believer in the importance of harmonizing indigenous and scientific knowledge. I work to learn different information sharing techniques and how to integrate local, indigenous knowledge with modern technologies.

My community consists of subsistence farmers and small scale irrigation practitioners, and bee keepers. I specialize in horticulture, apiculture, and environmental development. I hope to train at ARI, which will help me to learn more about organic agriculture so I can offer both children and their parents an alternative to agro-chemicals.

My calling is to work among the very poor of society, to alleviate poverty. My goal is to foster a positive social environment amongst the local, indigenous knowledge with modern technologies. My focus at ARI will be to study group-learning techniques which I can apply to my own multi-faith, multi-cultural community.

I come from a remote village, 12 km away from the closest school and health center. As a woman leader, I mentor farmers and work to empower the women in my community through counseling and workshops. At ARI, I hope to learn more about organic agriculture and biogas production techniques at ARI, and to share this with my community back home.

I work to promote better farming techniques and lead projects in rural communities to alleviate poverty. My first-hand knowledge of Sri Lanka’s rural communities allows me to tailor my work to their needs. Recently, I led a home gardening program in a community that was experiencing urban infringement.

I am involved in pastoral work and am responsible for coordinating the teaching of catechism, inquests and visiting the sick and disadvantaged people. My community consists of subsistence farmers from mixed cultures found in Zambia. The Sisters also support themselves by farming. At ARI, I hope to learn more about organic agriculture so I can offer my community an alternative to the use of agro-chemicals.

I come from a community where 95% of the residents engage in farming. Recent neighboring volcanic activity has drastically hurt the crop yield and the livelihood of the community. I am the faith leader of the community, and have come to ARI to learn better ways to help my people through new and innovative farming practices.

I come from a diverse community that suffers from a lack of knowledge, which prevents the full utilization of local resources. I have led programs to promote understanding between faith groups through awareness training, prayer meetings, and shared celebrations. My focus at ARI will be to study group-learning techniques which I can apply to my own multi-faith, multi-cultural community.

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I am from a background of rice farming, so I can offer both children and their parents an alternative to the use of agro-chemicals.

My community suffers from poverty, environmental degradation, and health problems caused by population pressure, climate change, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. I work to address these challenges, many of which are felt most by the rural women. I am responsible for project design, resource mobilization, and personnel management.

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