

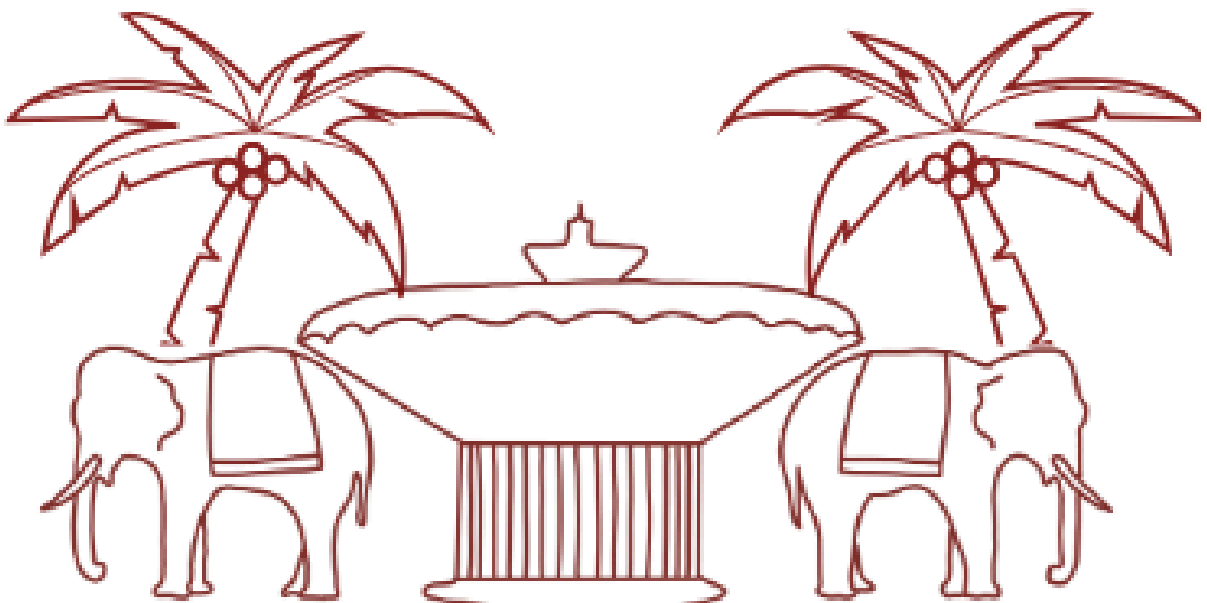


Indian Institute of Technology Madras

Office of Global Engagement

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 (AARDO)** is a rural-centric, inter-governmental autonomous organization that subscribes to the spirit of South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

AARDO is a manifestation of solidarity among the peoples of Africa and Asia, with the noble mandate of promoting cooperation for sustainable agriculture and rural development for nearly 60 years.

As an inter-governmental institution, AARDO is also a policy advocacy organization, with a total strength of **31 members**, comprising **17 members from Africa** and **14 from Asia**.

African and Asian Member Countries

African Member Countries

Burkina Faso | Egypt | Eswatini (Swaziland) | Ethiopia | The Gambia | Ghana | Kenya | Liberia | Libya | Malawi | Mauritius | Morocco | Nigeria | Sierra Leone | Sudan | Tunisia | Zambia

Asian Member Countries

Bangladesh | China (Taiwan / Republic of China) | India | Iraq | Jordan | Republic of Korea (South Korea) | Lebanon | Malaysia | Oman | Pakistan | Palestine | Sri Lanka | Syria | Yemen



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
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

Select projects that align with 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

Mr. Kamal Dhameja, Technical Officer
Information Education and Communication (IEC) Division
African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO)
Mobile/WhatsApp: +91-8076448341
Email: kamaldhameja@aarodo.org

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

