

| Grand Prix | Dr. Guntur Venkata Subbarao



Senior Researcher, Crop, Livestock and Environment Division,
Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences
(JIRCAS) / India

Award Citation :

Nitrogen fertilizers become sources of greenhouse gas emissions through nitrification activities in the soil. Dr. Subbarao was the first to discover "Biological Nitrification Inhibition (BNI)," which inhibits these activities by suppressing substances released from plant roots. Furthermore, he has contributed to reducing environmental impact by commercializing BNI-enhanced wheat, which maintains a conventional yield while using fewer nitrogen fertilizers.

| Grand Prix | Ms. Kate Kelland



Chief Scientific Writer at the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness
Innovations (CEPI)

Former Global Health and Science Correspondent at Reuters
/ United Kingdom

Award Citation :

Ms. Kelland's investigative reporting revealed the misconduct of an international organization concerning the assessment of the "carcinogenicity" of the most widely used herbicide in the world. In an era where misinformation spreads rapidly, her work demonstrated to the world the necessity and importance of providing appropriate information based on scientific evidence regarding food and health.

| Sano Touzaburo Special Prize | Dr. HATCHO Nobumasa



President, Agricultural Development Consultants Association
Professor Emeritus, Kindai University / Japan

Award Citation :

To secure and improve the efficiency of water resource utilization in agriculture, Mr. Hatcho developed the Scheme Irrigation Management Information System for integrated system management and improvement of irrigation water management, which contributes to agricultural development, especially in developing countries.

| 21st Century hope Prize | Dr. BEPPU Shigeru



Deputy Chairman and Director of the Japan Disaster Food Society
／ Japan

Award Citation :

By researching the actual conditions of disaster victims, Dr. Beppu proposed maintaining a “rolling stock,” which ensures food supplies similar to everyday meals during disasters, instead of conventional “emergency food.” He established a new category called “disaster food” and founded the Japan Disaster Food Society. He is also working on creating an international certification system.

| Prize for Bright Future of Niigata | Ms. ARAYA Rieko



Agricultural Produce Ritz Co., Ltd. President and CEO ／ Japan

Award Citation :

As a new farmer, Ms. Araya started a business producing and processing sweet potatoes. As a sixth industry planner, she supports new farmers, runs farm restaurants, promotes agriculture-welfare collaboration, and accepts agricultural interns, contributing to the revitalization of the local community.

| Prize for Bright Future of Niigata | Dr. MITSUI Toshiaki



National University Corporation Niigata University, Institute for Social Innovation and Cooperation • Professor ／ Japan

Award Citation :

To address the significant decline in rice quality and yield due to abnormally high temperatures and droughts caused by global warming, Dr. Mitsui developed “Koshihikari Niigata University NU1,” a high-temperature tolerant variety of rice, which holds great promise and has the potential to make a significant contribution to the future of rice farming in Niigata Prefecture.