

Asian Productivity Organization

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PROJECT NOTIFICATION

5 April 2012

1. **Project Code:** 12-IN-21-GE-TRC-B
2. **Project Title:** **e-Learning Course on Lean Production Systems**
(based on the Global Development Learning Network of the World Bank platform)
3. **Duration:** Session 1: 23–26 July 2012
Session 2: 13–16 August 2012
4. **Venues:** Session 1: Fiji, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.
Session 2: Cambodia, IR Iran, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam
5. **Implementing Organizations:** APO Secretariat and the following NPOs:

Session 1

- 1) Fiji: National Training & Productivity Centre, Fiji National University, Suva
- 2) Malaysia: Malaysia Productivity Corporation
Petaling Jaya, Selangor
- 3) Pakistan: National Productivity Organization, Multan
- 4) Philippines: Productivity and Development Center
Development Academy of the Philippines,
Metro Manila
- 5) Singapore: SPRING Singapore, Singapore
- 6) Thailand: Thailand Productivity Institute, Bangkok

Session 2

- 7) Cambodia: National Productivity Centre of Cambodia,
Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy, Phnom Penh
- 8) IR Iran: National Iranian Productivity Organization,
Tehran
- 9) Lao PDR: Productivity Division, Small and Medium
Enterprise Promotion and Development Office,
Lao National Productivity Organization,
Vientiane
- 10) Mongolia: Mongolia Productivity Organization, Ulanbaatar
- 11) Sri Lanka: National Productivity Secretariat, Colombo
- 12) Vietnam: Vietnam Productivity Centre, Hanoi

6. **Number of Participants:** More than 20 and up to 25 from each participating country (a total of up to 300 participants)
7. **Closing Date for Nominations:** Session 1: 5 July 2012
Session 2: 25 July 2012

8. **Objective:**

To provide participants the core concepts and fundamental methodology of lean production systems.

9. **Background:**

Lean production systems involve the systematic elimination of all types of waste in production and related processes. "Lean" also involves the concept of continuous production flow to satisfy customer demand by minimizing production lead time. The objective is to get the needed items to the right place at the right time in the right quantity and quality. The process requires identifying and eliminating activities that do not add value to the process of design, production, logistics, and customer relations. Lean production has been widely adopted by industries and other sectors in many countries.

The lean production system was developed originally by Toyota Motor due to its complicated operations. It has become more widespread with the business success of Toyota. The "Toyota way" became a topic studied in business schools, and "lean" is used by many consulting firms and in academia as a synonym for the Toyota production system. To achieve the objectives of lean systems, several techniques and concepts are indispensable, including just-in-time inventory, the pull concept, small-lot production, total quality management, supply chain management, and value stream mapping.

Since high productivity is a key factor in business success, the use of advanced knowledge, technology, and lean production systems is imperative to ensure increased productivity and performance. The APO is therefore actively expanding its program on lean production systems. In 2012, the APO will introduce a two-tiered approach, e-learning and a face-to-face training course for this subject. This e-learning course provides fundamental information on lean production systems to enable participants to understand the key methodology and applications. The APO will offer this course through the World Bank's distance-learning platform, the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN).

10. **Modality of Implementation:**

The project will be implemented at GDLN centers in participating countries. A resource speaker will deliver presentations from Japan. In each session of the course, there will be six country groups of 20–25 participants each. Each of the country groups will be moderated by a country project coordinator in each GDLN center. The presentations of resource speaker will be interactive, involving exercises and case studies while allowing participants to raise questions. Each group of participants in each country will make presentations to share their learning on implementing lean production systems.

11. Scope and Methodology:

Scope

- 1) Understanding the core concept and fundamental methodology of lean production systems; and
- 2) Basic approaches to lean production system applications.

Methodology

Interactive online lectures, group discussions, observational site visit, and live country presentations through videoconferencing technology and assessment examination.

12. Participants:

- (a) Age: Preferably between 25 and 50 years.
- (b) Education: University degree or equivalent qualification from a recognized institute.
- (c) Present Position: Managerial and technical personnel from industry involved in manufacturing who wish to acquire and utilize knowledge of lean production systems or trainers/consultants on lean production or a related field.
- (d) Experience: At least three years of experience in a related field.
- (e) Language Proficiency: Proficiency in written and spoken English is essential.

13. Financial Arrangements:

(a) To be borne by the APO

- (i) All assignment costs for resource speakers to prepare presentation materials and deliver presentations.
- (ii) Rental and other charges of the GDLN centers in Tokyo and other participating countries.
- (iii) Honorarium for a local project coordinator in each of the participating countries and transportation costs for field visits, if necessary.

(b) To be borne by participating countries

- (i) Any other local implementation costs not covered by the APO.

14. Actions by participating member countries:

Each participating country is requested to nominate more than 20 and up to 25 candidates and submit their biodata (the first page of the APO biodata form only). Please ensure that candidates nominated meet the qualifications specified above.

Participating countries will each identify a project coordinator from within the NPO or any

other relevant organization with knowledge of lean production systems to coordinate and facilitate course activities at the local level. The coordinators will arrange field visits and moderate group discussions among the participants during the training course in consultation with the NPO and resource person. The group discussions will include experience sharing, views of participants on lean production systems, and review of e-learning sessions. Field visits will be arranged to enterprises where lean production system-related measures have been or are being put in place. Local project coordinators will also make all necessary arrangements with the local GDLN center.



Ryuichiro Yamazaki
Secretary-General