



ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION

PROJECT NOTIFICATION

15 June 2016

1. **Project Code** 12-AG-31-GE-RES-B
2. **Title** Research on Agricultural Productivity Measurement and Monitoring
3. **Timing and Duration** June 2016–May 2017
4. **Implementing Organization** APO Secretariat

5. Objectives

- a. To monitor and report on the agricultural productivity trends and performance in member economies by conducting a survey based on an internationally harmonized methodology;
- b. To provide analysis of the most up-to-date agricultural performance and productivity trends, as well as potential agricultural growth to facilitate understanding of them in APO member economies;
- c. To facilitate the use of APO data as a reference source by policymakers, development planners, economic analysts, NPOs, and other stakeholders within and beyond APO member economies; and
- d. To strengthen national agricultural policy analysis through the establishment of a sound database on agricultural productivity and increase the visibility of the APO by publishing the first research report on its Agricultural Productivity Database.

6. Background

Global agriculture faces multiple challenges in the 21st century. It will have to produce more than double the food, feed, fiber, and fuel to meet the additional demand from a world population of more than nine billion in 2050. This output must come from the finite land and water available for agriculture. Natural resource degradation and negative impacts of climate change on agriculture make this an even more daunting task. Accelerating agricultural productivity through sustainable practices could be part of the solution.

Increased agricultural productivity is crucial in achieving the objectives of many countries of rural poverty reduction, food security, and inclusive economic growth. For many developing and less-developed countries, agriculture contributes substantially to rural livelihoods, trade revenues, and national food security. It is also the backbone of the nascent manufacturing and food industry sector because it supplies the raw material requirements. But for most of those countries, the systems for monitoring productivity trends are weak. This usually translates

into weak planning and programming systems, which often lead to improper allocation of scarce resources among sectors and even within the agriculture sector.

With globalization and increasing liberalization in the trade of agricultural and food products, countries in the region need reliable databases on their agricultural resources and their productivity so that governments can plan and pursue the appropriate policy mix and program support. This is essential for enhancing the competitiveness of agribased enterprises and at the same time will help the private sector identify potential areas for investment in the sector.

This research is being undertaken to address the current gaps and weaknesses in systems for monitoring agricultural productivity in member countries. It also paves the way for the establishment of a harmonized regional database on agricultural productivity indicators at the APO Secretariat for benchmarking and monitoring trends which will be utilized in designing appropriate programs to support the needs of the sector in member countries.

7. Scope and Methodology

This research project is an attempt by the APO to measure, analyze, and monitor agricultural productivity in its member economies and other reference economies based on an internationally harmonized methodology.

A research team under the supervision and guidance of the chief expert will conduct research, which includes data collection, processing, and analysis involving examination, adjustment, harmonization, estimation, and computation of agricultural productivity growth, among others.

8. Chief Expert

The APO will appoint a chief expert for this project to lead the team of researchers. The chief expert will assume management, advisory, and supervisory roles in the project and will be responsible for producing the research report before/by the mutually agreed upon deadline.

9. Financial Arrangements

To be borne by the APO

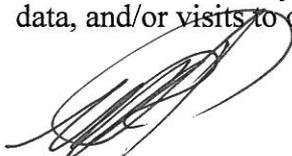
- a. All assignment costs of the chief expert and related costs for conducting the research including data collection.

To be borne by participating countries

- a. None.

10. Actions by Member Countries

- a. NPOs in member countries may be requested to cooperate with the chief expert and research team if they need information and data, and/or clarification of information and data, and/or visits to organizations and institutions to conduct the research.



Mari Amano
Secretary-General