



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

19 March 2018

1. **Project Code** 18-RP-01-GE-RES-C-01
2. **Project Activity** Establishment of the APO Future Intelligence Center
3. **Project Reference** Project Notification 18-RP-01-GE-RES-C dated 13 March 2018
4. **Duration** 15 February 2018 – 14 February 2019 (one year)
5. **Venue** Tokyo, Japan
6. **Implementing Organization** APO Secretariat
7. **Background**

Artificial intelligence (AI) is now being incorporated in a wide range of human activities and fields of endeavor, ranging from agriculture, banking, and transportation to many others. AI, together with robotics, is addressing the challenges of elderly care, reducing traffic accidents and deaths, and enabling real-time disaster responses to dangerous situations like earthquakes and nuclear power plant meltdowns, to name a few examples.

On the business side, AI is used to access big data at the right time and in the right format to generate beneficial insights for decision makers and business planners. For knowledge workers, the automation of time-consuming, menial tasks helps free them for more strategic, impactful work that can lead to improvements in every aspect of a business. AI has great potential for improving productivity and creating growth by automating tasks across a broad cross section of industries.

According to a 2016 Forrester research, while there are concerns that widespread applications of AI could result in short-term displacement of labor, it is believed that the long-term economic benefits outweigh the immediate costs, and the key to minimizing the impact on jobs is to educate workers in how to use AI so they can focus on high-value skills. New types of jobs and processes will be created, and different skills will be required with the increased use of AI.

Given all these transformative paradigm shifts in business as well as other aspects of human activities, the APO will endeavor to support member countries in keeping pace with the new trends by advancing public understanding of AI and related state-of-the-art technologies. For this purpose, it will establish the APO Future Intelligence Center (AFIC) to strengthen its capacity-building and advisory services to member countries, especially in the areas of strategic foresight and scenario planning.

8. Objectives

- a. To strengthen the capability of the APO Secretariat in strategic planning including foresight and scenario planning by integrating AI and sound analytics in its systems; and
- b. To establish the AFIC to provide member countries with access to customized horizon scanning, forecasting, and relevant information for strategic planning and policymaking.

9. Financial Arrangements

To be borne by the APO

- a. One-year subscription to Shaping Tomorrow Limited services for up to **50 user licenses** at **£12,000 (75% discount from the 2017 subscription rate)**; and
- b. All local implementation costs.



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