



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 20-RP-27-GE-CON-B-457

Date of Issue	10 September 2020
Project Code	20-RP-27-GE-CON-B
Title	Conference on Strategies for Strengthening National Innovation System
Timing and Duration	10 December 2020 (one day)
Hosting Country	Sri Lanka
Modality	Digital Multicountry (DMC)
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Secretariat (NPS), Sri Lanka and the APO Secretariat
Participating Countries	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Republic of China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, and Vietnam
Overseas Participants	250
Local Participants	50
Closing Date for Nominations	4 November 2020

1. Objectives

- a. To provide government officials with the latest, most relevant information on strategies to strengthen national innovation system (NIS); and
- b. To suggest and discuss a platform for public service innovation in conjunction with novel ideas from the private sector, academia, and other stakeholders in the process.

2. Background

Innovation is now widely recognized as the basis for new jobs, growth, productivity, and competitiveness, and efforts are being made to achieve higher levels of innovation within the Asia-Pacific and beyond. Around the world, governments are committed to promoting innovation, especially in the area of industrial policy. Historically, countries moving up the international value chain go from a factor-driven economy based largely on the costs of labor and raw materials, through an investment-driven economy based on the efficiency gains of increased investment in productive processes, to an innovation economy based on competition in new ideas, products, and processes.

For countries to sustain their productivity growth over the long term, governments must offer support by creating functional innovation systems. Innovation systems are networks of knowledge creators (research and education bodies), knowledge adopters (industry), and government. Financial institutions, including venture capital investors, also play an important role in financing and integrating innovation. There are various strategies for doing this, from public funding of basic research, to fostering talent and skills through education and improving worker mobility, to promoting firm competition. Discourse on creating an enabling environment for innovation suggests that inclusive platforms where all actors freely exchange ideas are helpful. This has implications for how government innovation system could manage and interact with stakeholders including the public to increase the relevancy and practicality of the innovations adopted. Inclusive innovation methods are applicable to APO member countries at all stages of socioeconomic development.

This conference is being organized to allow key stakeholders to learn from experts, share knowledge on strengthening NIS, and reflect on adapting strategies from across and outside the region to promote innovation-driven productivity of the APO vision.

3. Modality of Implementation

- a. This conference will be conducted online using videoconference applications.
- b. The resource speakers and participants will participate the conference virtually using their own devices, applications, and Internet connections.
- c. The duration of the session will be up to three hours.
- d. The APO Secretariat will inform the resource speakers and participants of the applicable videoconference application and link to the virtual sessions.
- e. The videoconference link will be provided exclusively to resource speakers and participants in this conference and should not be shared.

4. Scope and Methodology

The conference will consist of plenary thematic sessions with expert presentations, and panel discussion sessions. The tentative program is given below:

Date/Time	Activity
Thursday, 10 December	Opening session Presentation of resource papers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolution of NIS: Structures, catalysts, working mechanisms trends, and development • National digital transformation for boundaryless growth • IT as a bridge between government and stakeholders • Human resource strategies for administrative innovation in governments • Experimental government and innovation labs Panel discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation ecosystem and strategic networks Closing session

5. Qualifications of Candidates

Present Position	Policymakers and government officials from science, technology, R&D, and innovation agencies as well as agencies and departments involved in higher education, technical and vocational education, and reskilling; or representatives of government enterprises involved in R&D, technology, advanced industries, and business innovation; staff from National Productivity Organizations (NPOs)
Work Experience	Two years of experience or more in the position described above.
Education	University degree or equivalent qualification from a recognized university or similar tertiary institution.
Computer Literacy	Familiarity and competency in connecting to virtual meetings, including independently undertaking trouble shooting in the event of poor or lost connections.
Language	Proficiency in English, both written and spoken.

6. Requirements

- a. Have necessary devices comprising a computer, web camera, microphone, and speaker or headphones.
- b. Access to Internet connections suitable for videoconferencing. Stable, wired LAN connections are preferred.
- c. Follow the instructions of the moderators/presenters in asking questions, joining discussions, and answering questions.
- d. Participate in the entire conference.

7. Financial Arrangements

- a. The APO will meet the assignment costs for international resource persons.
- b. The host country will meet the assignment costs of local resource persons.

8. Actions by Member Countries

- a. Each participating country will nominate 10 or more candidates in order of preference.
- b. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

- c. All nominations must be endorsed by an APO Director or Alternate Director and submitted by a Liaison Officer or designated officer.
- d. Each nomination must be accompanied by the APO biodata form and uploaded to the APO Document Management System (DMS)/Fleekdrive by the NPO. The biodata form is available on the APO website.
- e. Late nominations will not be accepted. When a nomination requires the approval of higher authorities and requires a longer time, the member country concerned should send the name(s) of the nominee(s) before or by the deadline, indicating that approval will follow.
- f. If a selected participant becomes unable to participate, the NPO concerned should inform the APO Secretariat and the host country promptly.

9. Actions by the APO Secretariat

- a. Selection of candidates will be at the discretion of the Participant Selection Committee of the APO Secretariat.
- b. Selection of candidates will be completed and announced three weeks prior to the start of the project.
- c. Slots that become available due to withdrawal of a selected candidate(s) or lack of nominations by a member country may be filled by alternates to be selected on a merit basis.
- d. The APO Secretariat will inform NPOs of the final program, platform, and link of the virtual meeting, as well as the schedule for technical coordination when applicable, two weeks prior to commencement of the project.

10. Dress Code

Participants are required to wear appropriate business attire during the conference.



Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General