



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No. 20-AG-07-GE-WSP-B-PN2100003-001

Date of Issue	21 January 2021
Project Code	20-AG-07-GE-WSP-B
Title	Workshop on Advanced Food Manufacturing Technologies
Timing and Duration	17–19 March 2021 (three days)
Hosting Country(ies)	Thailand
Modality	Digital Multicountry (DMC)
Implementing Organization(s)	Thailand Productivity Institute (FTPI) and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	19
Local Participants	12
Closing Date for Nominations	11 February 2021

1. Objectives

- a. Acquire knowledge and information necessary to manage food manufacturing SMEs;
- b. Share technical information on advanced food manufacturing; and
- c. Familiarize participants with best practices in advanced food manufacturing by SMEs.

2. Background

Food manufacturing is an important part of agrifood value chains. This can be seen in the share of processed food in total food consumed, which has risen over time (FAO 2017). Thanks to processed food, consumers can save time on cooking, preserve food longer, and enjoy new tastes. In addition, processed food offers consumers more choice in their diets. As a result, the demand for agricultural products as raw materials has been increasing and the local food-processing industries have been growing, too.

The development of food manufacturing creates employment multipliers in rural areas and towns, thereby increasing farmers' incomes and promoting rural economies. The increases in processing volume led to the diffusion of small enterprises (FAO 2017). Many SMEs are involved in the food manufacturing industry. Therefore, the economic benefits from expanded food manufacturing can be widely shared among local SMEs and farmers.

Food manufacturing technologies have been evolving to meet modern consumers' demands. For example, retort and freeze-dried foods. These foods cater to the busy consumers' demands. The quality and taste of these foods have been improved, and their varieties widen. Modern consumers can therefore enjoy better taste and variety of processed foods.

Food-processing machinery and equipment are also evolving, contributing to faster and cheaper production of processed foods. Therefore, to promote the food manufacturing business, entrepreneurs need to understand the various food-processing technologies to develop products that meet the consumers' demands regarding quality, price, and convenience.

Developing productive and safe food value chains is a core area of engagement of the APO. The productivity of food manufacturing is particularly important to promote the rural economy in APO member countries. Such inclusive engagement and shared prosperity are among the top priorities of the APO. This workshop will familiarize participants with comprehensive knowledge, tools, and advanced techniques in food manufacturing including marketing and best practices which are necessary to improve productivity in food manufacturing enterprises.

3. Modality of Implementation

- a. The sessions will be conducted virtually.
- b. The duration of each day's sessions will be around three hours.
- c. The APO Secretariat will inform the resource persons and participants of the link to the virtual sessions.
- d. The link will be exclusive to resource persons and participants and should not be shared.

4. Scope and Methodology

The sessions will consist of the following:

Day/Date	Activity
Wednesday, 17 March 2021	Presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Startups and SMEs in Food Manufacturing Group Workshop

Thursday, 18 March 2021	Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Practices of Advanced Food Manufacturing • Advanced Food Manufacturing Technologies Group Workshop
Friday, 19 March 2021	Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Food Manufacturing in Thailand • Challenges and Opportunities in Advanced Food Manufacturing in Thailand Group Presentations

5. Qualifications of Candidates

Participants must be competent in connecting to virtual meetings, including independently undertaking troubleshooting in the event of poor or lost connections. They must also be proficient in English, both written and spoken. Specific requirements are as follows:

- a. Government officials, policymakers, executives of farmers'/agribusiness associations, SMEs entrepreneurs, academics, and consultants on agrifood supply chains.
- b. Two years of experience or more in the position described above.

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 all sessions.

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 and for a virtual site visit(s), either broadcast live or recorded as applicable.

8. Actions by Member Countries

- a. Each participating country will nominate three 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 two weeks prior to the start of the sessions.
- 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 and link of the virtual sessions one week prior to commencement.

10. Dress Code

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. AKP Mochtan', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General