



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 21-RC-11-GE-RES-A-PN2100009-003

Date of Issue	26 March 2021
Project Code	21-RC-11-GE-RES-A
Title	APO Productivity Outlook
Timing and Duration	February–October 2021 (nine months)
Hosting Country(ies)	Not Applicable
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	Not Applicable
Local Participants	Not Applicable
Closing Date for Nominations	Not Applicable

1. Objectives

- a. Fine-tune the methodology for forecasting sectoral productivity outlooks.
- b. Analyze the prospects of productivity increases in the manufacturing sector.
- c. Provide evidence-based policy implications for enhancing productivity in the manufacturing sector in APO member economies.

2. Background

In its role as a think tank, the APO has conducted annual research to monitor productivity trends and economic growth performance in its member countries. The APO Productivity Databook has been published annually for a decade to provide details on recent and long-term aggregate productivity performance. The data contained serve as key information for economists and development planners in setting targets for future growth.

This study on the outlook for sectoral productivity is being initiated to step up efforts to support policymakers. The APO Productivity Outlook publication will provide in-depth insights on productivity prospects in key sectors to track the quality of economic growth. Cross-country comparative analyses of factors, levels, and growth rates of sectoral productivity will be included. Economic impact forecasts for various sectors based on input-output analysis will be another element. This new series will supplement the APO Productivity Databook as the leading source of productivity statistics in the Asia-Pacific region. It will also contribute to evidence-based sectoral productivity policymaking by APO member governments.

The inaugural 2021 edition of the APO Productivity Outlook will focus on the manufacturing sector, the backbone of Asian economies in terms of competitive, sustainable growth and employment. To draw implications for the future of manufacturing in the region, effects such as production and valued-added inducement, forward and backward linkages, and employment inducement will be analyzed.

3. Modality of Implementation

- a. All project implementation, coordination, and dissemination activities will be conducted virtually.
- b. Dissemination and discussion sessions with resource persons/relevant stakeholders from member countries will be organized on 1 September 2021. The duration will be around three hours.
- c. The APO Secretariat will inform the resource persons of the link to the virtual dissemination and discussion sessions.
- d. The link will be exclusive to resource persons and should not be shared.

4. Scope and Methodology

Scope

- a. Sectoral productivity and employment.
- b. Value-added methods.
- c. Changes and factors in labor productivity.
- d. Employment growth decomposition.
- e. Input-output analysis.
- f. Economic impacts of the manufacturing sector.
- g. Effects of production and value addition.

- h. Forward and backward linkage effects.
- i. Employment inducement effects.

Methodology

- a. Cross-country desk research: The APO Secretariat will identify a partner research institution and form a research team to conduct the study within nine months. The research team will collect, process, and analyze data for the report.
- b. Dissemination of research findings: The penultimate draft report will be presented in a dissemination session for feedback from resource persons/relevant stakeholders in member countries. The session will be held virtually on 1 September 2021 as below.

Presentations

- Research overview
- Research framework
- Methodology and scope
- Research findings

Discussion

- Feedback on research findings

5. Tasks of the Research Institution

- a. Assisting and working with the APO Secretariat in developing the overall research framework.
- b. Finalizing the research methodology and outline of the report structure with the APO Secretariat.
- c. Collecting data for the research (including communicating with the original data owners) and analysis based on the agreed framework and methodology.
- d. Preparing the final report and submitting it to the APO Secretariat by the deadline.
- e. Providing support for dissemination of the research results after report completion.

6. Qualifications of the Research Institution

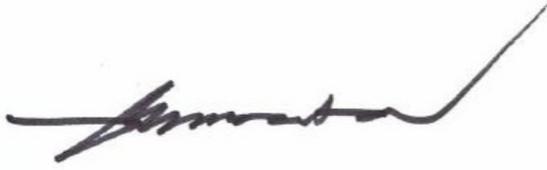
The APO Secretariat will invite and select an appropriate research institution with the following qualifications:

- a. Extensive, specialized knowledge in productivity measurement and analysis, with a track record of experience and publications in English on productivity statistics and analysis at aggregate and sectoral levels.
- b. Experience in providing advisory services to governments.
- c. Excellent English writing skills as the APO Productivity Outlook report will be written in English.
- d. Strong commitment to undertaking and completing the research project within the given time frame.

7. Financial Arrangements

To be met by the APO

Honoraria for the research institution to be paid upon completion of the final report.

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

Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General