



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 20-RP-07-GE-DON-C-PN2100064-002

Date of Issue	25 August 2021
Project Code	20-RP-07-GE-DON-C
Title	Strengthening the Center of Excellence on IT for Industry 4.0 (India)
Timing and Duration	September–December 2021 (four months)
Hosting Country(ies)	India
Modality	Virtual and/or face-to-face
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Council, India and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	Not Applicable
Overseas Participants	Not Applicable
Local Participants	Not Applicable
Closing Date for Nominations	Not Applicable

1. Objectives

- a. Strengthen the capabilities of the APO Center of Excellence (COE) on IT for Industry 4.0.
- b. Scale up the outreach of activities of the APO COE on IT for Industry 4.0.
- c. Promote the adoption of IT for Industry 4.0 technologies in SMEs of APO member countries.

2. Background

At the 50th session of the Governing Body in 2008 in Tehran, IR Iran, the need for setting up COE in areas in which NPOs have unique strengths to intensify regionwide productivity promotion was identified by APO Directors. As a result of this initiative, five COE have been established to date. The COE on IT for Industry 4.0 under the auspices of the National Productivity Council, India was the fourth COE appointed.

Launched in June 2017, the COE on IT for Industry 4.0 has functioned as a knowledge center on IT and its applications in Industry 4.0. It has conducted various studies to map out the status of IT for Industry 4.0 in the region, facilitated bilateral support and cooperation with other member countries, and made continuous efforts to recommend strategies on digitization and digitalization leveraging Industry 4.0 technologies to other APO members.

In 2021, efforts to scale up the activities of the COE and to promote the adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies in SMEs are continuing. The focus is on emerging trends such as digitization and digitalization strategies for transformation, the Industrial Internet of Things across sectors, and Industry 4.0 architecture implementation in SME manufacturing systems. The usage of the Bharat 4.0 Digital Readiness Assessment Tool developed by the COE to identify the starting point of the digital transformation journey will also be advocated. Support for manufacturing SMEs in member countries in applying the digital innovation process guide, and in enhancing digital technology capabilities through different case studies will be provided.

Those programs will enhance the outreach to a wider public to enhance the visibility of the COE on IT for Industry 4.0, thus gaining more support from other principal stakeholders of the Government of India for the formation of strategic partnerships. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the various capacity-building and best practice-sharing programs will primarily be conducted by utilizing virtual platforms in addition to the traditional face-to-face modality when possible.

3. Modality of Implementation

Activities under the strengthening of the COE on IT for Industry 4.0 will be implemented through the virtual and/or face-to-face modality, depending on the prevailing pandemic-related situation and in consultation with India as the host country.

Virtual

Activities under the strengthening of the COE on IT for Industry 4.0 will be conducted virtually as long as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to prevail.

Face-to-face

Activities under the strengthening of the COE on IT for Industry 4.0 will be carried out in the face-to-face modality if the COVID-19 situation permits.

4. Scope and Methodology

Scope

- a. Key trends in Industry 4.0
- b. Bharat 4.0 Digital Readiness Assessment Tool
- c. Key performance indicators and roadmap for Industry 4.0 in SMEs
- d. Digital innovation process for Industry 4.0 in SMEs

- e. Key success factors for Industry 4.0 applications

Methodology

- a. Convene webinar and workshop sessions.
- b. Develop and publish publications such as training materials, course modules, and assessment tools to enhance the applications of IT for Industry 4.0.

The tentative activities and duration are given below:

- Workshop on the Development of Training Modules for Industry 4.0 Readiness Assessors (five days in September 2021)
- Workshop on Bharat 4.0 Digital Readiness Assessment Tool (five days in October 2021)
- Webinar on Enhancing Capabilities in Digital Technologies for Industry 4.0 in SMEs (three days in October 2021)
- Webinar on Digital Innovation Process for SMEs (three days in November 2021)

5. Financial Arrangements

- a. The APO will meet the assignment costs of overseas resource persons and expenses for the development of publications.
- b. The host country will meet the local implementation costs and all other costs not covered above.



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