



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.:21-CP-26-GE-WSP-B-PN2100056-001

Date of Issue	23 August 2021
Project Code	21-CP-26-GE-WSP-B
Title	Workshop on the Circular Economy in the Agroindustry Sector
Timing and Duration	12–14 October 2021 (three days)
Hosting Country(ies)	Malaysia
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	Malaysia Productivity Corporation and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	19
Local Participants	12
Qualifications of Participants	Policymakers and government officials, executives of farmers'/agribusiness associations, farm managers, and academics and consultants working on the agroindustry sector and circular economy
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	21 September 2021

1. Objectives

- a. Introduce the concept of the circular economy to maintain productivity in agroindustry.
- b. Learn about best practices of the circular economy in agroindustry.
- c. Enhance sustainable management in agroindustry such as applications of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) to reduce waste.

2. Background

The circular economy is a sustainability-based development approach that is gaining ground as an alternative to the long-practiced, linear mass-production, mass-consumption, and mass-waste development model. The circular economy promotes the 3Rs concepts. It advocates eliminating unused products to become waste, using waste as a resource to the extent possible, and disposing properly of waste that cannot be used as a resource. In this way, the circular economy limits the consumption of natural resources and reduces environmental burdens. In Japan, the Circular Society Creation Promotion Basic Law was enacted in 2000 to promote the reduction and recycling of waste in various sectors including agroindustry.

Agroindustry produces waste in various forms. Unsold harvest and livestock manure are examples of on-farm waste that could be transformed into compost used for crop production. Food waste in the retail and household sectors could be reduced by limiting purchases and recycling unconsumed commodities into compost. Supermarket chains and innovative farmers are gradually increasing the use of farm and food waste for composting. For example, some Japanese supermarket chains operate their own farms and utilize such compost for crop production. The harvested products are then sold to consumers in their retail outlets. In addition, the use of food wrapping and containers is reduced by introducing ecobags and recyclable packaging.

Promotion of the circular economy in agroindustry is important to enhance sustainable practices in conventional agriculture. The APO combines this initiative with the perspectives and benefits of the concept of Green Productivity, which shares many similarities with the circular economy approach. This workshop will discuss various approaches to adopting the circular economy in agroindustry along with best practices with the aim of achieving sustainable growth in the sector in member countries.

3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

The duration of each day's sessions will be around three hours comprising presentations by experts, group discussions, and other relevant learning methods. The indicative topics of the presentations are:

Day 1:

- Concept of the circular economy in the agroindustry sector
- Models of circular agriculture

Day 2:

- Models of circular food business
- Policies promoting the circular economy in the agroindustry sector

Day 3:

- Best practices of the circular economy in the agroindustry sector

The detailed program and list of speakers will be provided two weeks prior to the sessions with announcement of the names of the selected participants.

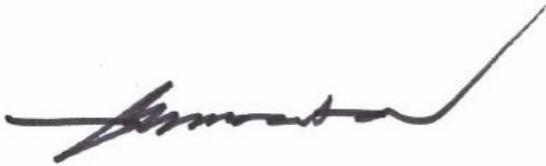
The participants are required to attend all sessions. This full participation is a prerequisite for receiving the APO certificate of attendance.

4. Financial Arrangements

- a. The APO will meet the assignment costs of overseas resource persons and honorarium for up to two local resource persons.
- b. The host country will meet the costs for a virtual site visit(s), either broadcast live or recorded as applicable.

5. Implementation Procedures

Please refer to the implementation procedures for APO digital multicountry projects circulated with this document.

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