



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 21-CP-60-GE-WSP-B-PN2100089-001

Date of Issue	15 October 2021
Project Code	21-CP-60-GE-WSP-B
Title	Workshop on Agroecological Systems
Timing and Duration	14–16 December 2021 (three days)
Hosting Country(ies)	Cambodia
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Centre of Cambodia, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation, and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	38
Local Participants	12
Qualifications of Participants	Government officers, agricultural producers, agricultural extension workers, academics, and researchers involved in sustainable food systems and agroecological farming practices
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	22 November 2021

1. Objectives

- a. Introduce elements and principles of agroecological systems for sustainable food production in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- b. Share innovative agroecological models and their adoption in and dissemination among APO member countries.
- c. Discuss the potential of agroecological systems to enhance small-scale farm productivity.

2. Background

Agroecology is an integrated approach that applies ecological and social concepts and principles to the design and management of sustainable agrifood systems. This approach addresses the root causes of agrifood problems in an integrated way and provides holistic, long-term solutions. The key features include an explicit focus on the socioeconomic dimensions of food, strong emphasis on the rights of women, youth, and indigenous people, and keen attention to climate change adaptation by including the diversification of pollination, pest control, nutrient cycling, water regulation, soil fertility, and carbon sequestration methods (Agroecology and Climate Change Rapid Evidence Review, CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, 2021). Agroecology can play a major role in creating sustainable food systems for the benefit of people and the planet, minimizing production costs, increasing the quality and quantity of food, and benefiting small-scale farmers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected farming and supply chains in the form of food shortages and price spikes. More socially inclusive, ecologically resilient, and localized food systems are thus vital to address this situation. According to Altieri (2020), agroecological practices can play an important role by producing safe food which helps in boosting immunity, enriching nature's matrix, revitalizing small farms, creating alternative animal production methods, and enhancing urban agriculture.

Social actors are mobilizing to promote agroecological practices to meet the major sustainability challenges of food security, halting biodiversity loss, offering employment, and climate change adaptation. This workshop will explore key principles of successful agroecological models among APO member countries and how small-scale farming can minimize supply and demand risks while promoting safety standards and other quality requirements. It will also examine successful agroecological models among APO 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:

- Elements and principles of agroecological systems in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Agroecological practices for adaptation to climate change and resource depletion

Day 2:

- Policies to support agroecological transitions
- Food safety management and quality requirements

Day 3:

- Successful innovative agroecological models and practices

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.

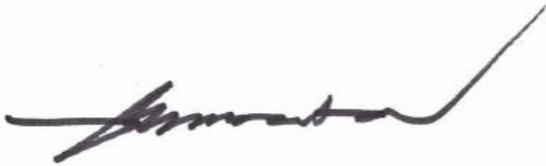
The participants are required to attend all sessions. This full participation is a prerequisite for receiving the APO certificate of attendance.

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 'Mochtan', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General