

## Asian Productivity Organization "The APO in the News"

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EMB PARTICIPATES IN TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON GREEN PRODUCTIVITY IN MALAYSIA

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The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), a line bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), recently participated in a training entitled "Training of Trainers and Consultants in Green Productivity" held at the Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) in Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia and organized by the Asian Productivity Organization (APO).

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The training course involved the introduction of the concept, tools and strategies on Green Productivity (GP) which is based on the integration of two important developmental strategies: productivity improvement and environmental protection. The main driving force for GP is to ensure ecological sustainability in development activities by achieving a better environmental performance through the reduction of the environmental impact/s of any organization's activities, goods and services and at the same time increase in its profitability through improvements in productivity thus giving an enhanced competitive edge to businesses in the age of globalization.

The GP practices follow a plan-do-check-act (PDCA) cycle and focus on the application of productivity and management tools (such as Total Quality Management, 5S, etc.) together with the implementation of environmental management programs such as waste and emission prevention, energy conservation, pollution control, and environmental management systems. For more information on the concepts, strategies and tools for GP, please visit the APO website for GP-related publications at *http://www.apo-tokyo.org/publications/files/gp-hb\_gp.pdf*.

GP has been successfully implemented in APO member-countries through various demonstration programs and has been found to be very useful and beneficial. Some of the successful demonstration projects documented reveal that environmental protection and economic productivity can work together. Examples of these demonstration projects can be found at <u>http://www.apo-tokyo.org/publications/files/gp\_demo\_project-2000.pdf</u>.

The training course also introduced and discussed Material Flow Cost Accounting (MFCA) which is a management tool covered under ISO 14051:2011. MFCA is a tool that identifies areas for improvement in an operation in terms of raw material, energy and waste management thereby promoting resource conservation, waste minimization and reduced financial costs. Under the MFCA, the flow and stocks of materials are traced and quantified and the costs associated with these flow and stocks are determined. The resulting information using MFCA can be used by organizations to reduce the environmental impacts of their operation as well as to seek opportunities to improve their process and reduce operational costs. For more information on MFCA and its applications, please visit <u>http://en.propharm.co.jp/asia/220/</u>.

The EMB-DENR participant to this training was Ms. Michico Venus A. Navaluna, Supervising Environmental Management Specialist and currently designated as Chief, Compliance Monitoring and Validation Section of the EMB's Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Division. She is also the Assistant Environmental Management Representative of the EMB's implementation of its Environmental Management System.###



The participants were featured in one of the local newspapers in Malaysia during their visit in a printing company as part of the case study on Green Productivity.