

Program calendar

August

Indonesia

Study meeting on Financing of SMEs, 5-8 August.

- ▶ Objectives: To analyze the results of the research on Financing for SMEs conducted in 2007; and identify best practices and formulate practical, innovative recommendations for strengthening SME financing in member countries.
- ▶ Participants: Senior government officials responsible for SME policy formulation, senior managers, NPO heads, senior researchers, and academics with professional knowledge of or direct involvement in the area of SME financing.

Pakistan

Regional workshop on Biomass Utilization for Industrial Boilers, 18-23 August.

- ▶ Objectives: To build the capacity of industries, especially SMEs, to collect, store, process, and use biomass as fuel in industrial boilers; and create a pool of professionals in the target countries (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka).
- ▶ Participants: Industry (especially SME) managers, energy professionals, biomass specialists, boiler users or manufacturers, and energy consultants.

Sri Lanka

Seminar on Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Improving the Productivity of Irrigation Systems, 25–30 August.

- ▶ Objectives: To review the present status of PPPs in irrigation system management in member countries; enhance the understanding of participants of the issues, challenges, and opportunities in PPPs for irrigation management; and share the best examples of PPPs and identify lessons for their adaptation to country-specific situations.
- ▶ Participants: Senior officials or researchers in the public or private sector, senior managers of water companies, and senior representatives of water users' associations with experience in participatory irrigation management.

e-Learning course

Toyota Production System (based on the Global Development Learning Network of the World Bank platform).

Phase 1: 18–20 June for Indonesia, I.R. Iran, Malaysia, Philippines, and Thailand;

Phase 2: 4–6 August for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, and Vietnam; and Phase 3: 11–13 August for Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

- ▶ Objectives: To understand the methodology of the Toyota Production System, its application, and critical success factors to enable participants to use the knowledge in setting up flexible production systems for small-quantity production in their own processes.
- ▶ Participants: Quality personnel, trainers/consultants, and senior/midlevel managerial and technical personnel from industry involved in manufacturing, production systems, and automation.

Kindly contact your NPO for details of the above activities, including eligibility for participation. The project details along with the address of your NPO are available from the APO Web site at www.apo-tokyo.org.