



ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION

PROJECT NOTIFICATION

5 July 2017

1. **Project Code** 17-RP-10-GE-RES-B
2. **Title** Research on Science, Technology, and Innovation Policies in Member Countries and Implications for Productivity Enhancement
3. **Timing and Duration** November 2017–November 2018 (one year)
Coordination Meeting:
21–23 November 2017 (three days)
Vientiane, Lao PDR
4. **Venue** APO Secretariat
5. **Number of Participating Countries** One chief expert and up to nine national experts from the Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. Other member countries with special interest in this project may nominate candidates upon consultation with the APO Secretariat.
6. **Closing Date for Nominations of National Experts** 13 October 2017
7. **Objectives**
 - a. To determine the key trends impacting science, technology, and innovation (STI);
 - b. To review collaborative linkages among STI actors and recent developments in STI policy (STIP); and
 - c. To publish an STI Outlook focusing on future STI systems and policy implications to strengthen scientific, technological, and innovative performance in APO member countries.
8. **Background**

Scientific advances, technological changes, and innovative value creation are important drivers of productivity and economic growth. Effective STI systems can absorb technical know-how, strengthen scientific capabilities, improve firm innovation, and lead to sustainable growth. STIPs need to be well designed and implemented to enable STI to contribute their full economic potential.

Recently, various socioeconomic, environmental, technological, and political trends stemming from powerful driving forces have been influencing the development of societies and

economies. More specifically, demographic changes, natural resources and energy degradation, climate change, the spread of digital and disruptive technologies, etc. are altering the patterns of people's lives and work at all levels. The emerging trends originating from those forces not only are promising but also carry significant risks for the future. They pose challenges to the direction and pace of STI activities as well as the status and efficacy of STIPs. Governments should consider adopting forward-looking perspectives in STIP design and analysis to enable the economies to be more responsive to those trends.

As part of APO efforts to support informed policymaking, this research is being conducted to provide member countries with the latest trends impacting STI and future of STI systems. This research will also involve cross-country comparative analyses of STIP priorities, assessment of the effectiveness of the instruments used to monitor STI performance, and review of key strengths and weaknesses of STI systems. The final report will present future STI systems, provide policy insights for efficient interventions to strengthen economies, and make recommendations to encourage stronger linkages among STI players.

9. Scope and Methodology

Scope

- 1) Coordination meeting of experts: A meeting will be held 21–23 November 2017 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The tentative topics of discussion to be covered in this meeting are:
 - a. The research framework and methodology (data sources, data collection, data analysis);
 - b. Key trends impacting STI systems;
 - c. Review of collaborative linkages among STI actors;
 - d. Analysis of recent developments in STIPs and their impact on productivity growth;
 - e. Future of STI systems;
 - f. Policy implications to strengthen technological and innovative performance; and
 - g. The final report format.
- 2) Conducting in-country research: Each national expert will gather and analyze data under the guidance of the chief expert based on the agreed research methodology and framework. The experts will be responsible for analyzing the data and preparing a report for review and acceptance by the chief expert and APO.

Methodology

The research will employ one chief expert who will lead the team of national experts in performing the study.

Chief expert's tasks:

- a. Developing the guidelines and formulating the overall framework for the research;
- b. Presenting the research framework, methodology, and outline of the report structure and format during the coordination meeting;
- c. Providing support and advice to the national experts in conducting the research including data collection and data analysis;
- d. Reviewing the draft of the national experts' reports to ensure the quality of the work; and
- e. Preparing the final report and submitting it to the APO Secretariat by the deadline.

National experts' tasks:

- a. Data collection at national level following the methodology, framework, and timeline agreed upon during the coordination meeting;
- b. Writing country reports on the analyses and findings based on the data gathered;
- c. Submitting the report following the agreed format to the chief expert and the APO within the time frame; and
- d. Cooperating with the chief expert to ensure the quality and consistency of the final report.

10. Qualifications of National Experts

The national experts are expected to possess the following qualifications:

Present Position	Researchers or policy analysts who have sufficient background in and knowledge of STIPs.
Experience	At least five years of experience in the position described above.
Education	University degree or higher in STIP analysis or a related field from a recognized university/institution.
Language	Sufficient English proficiency to communicate with the APO Secretariat and chief expert on matters related to the research and excellent writing skills.
Health	Physically and mentally fit to commit him/herself to a one-year period of research.
Age	Candidates who fit the above profile are typically between 35 and 50 years of age.
Other	A strong commitment to undertaking and completing the research within the time frame is necessary; published articles, books, or substantive reports on STIP are desirable.

11. Qualifications of the Chief Expert

The APO will appoint a chief expert for this project to guide the group of national experts in undertaking the research. The APO-appointed chief expert must possess the following:

- a. Extensive knowledge of STIPs with publications in English on those topics is desirable;
- b. Excellent English writing and presentation skills, as the final report will be written in English; and
- c. Strong commitment to undertaking and completing the research project within the given time frame and producing the consolidated analysis of all national reports.

12. Financial Arrangements**To be borne by the APO**

- a. Honoraria for the chief and national experts to be paid upon completion of the final research report;

- b. All assignment costs for the chief and national experts including daily subsistence allowances, miscellaneous expenses, and round-trip international airfare by the most direct route between the international airport nearest to the experts' place of work and Vientiane for attending the coordination meeting for the research;
- c. Travel insurance coverage against accident and illness for the entire duration of the coordination meeting and travel; and
- d. Local implementation costs for the meeting package including meeting room rental and required equipment.

To be borne by experts or participating countries

- a. Any expenses incurred by the experts for extra stay at the venue before and/or after the official project period due to early arrival, late departure, or any other reason must be borne by the experts attending the coordination meeting; and
- b. All local implementation costs incurred by the national experts when conducting the research and related activities at the national level.

13. Actions by Member Countries

- a. Member countries included in the research are requested to submit appropriate nominations (preferably more than two for consideration) by 13 October 2017, in line with the provisions in section 10.
- b. Each nomination should be accompanied by the candidate's biodata on the standard APO form in duplicate along with a passport-sized photograph. In addition to the standard APO form, nominees should also prepare a list of publications, research, and/or consulting projects they have undertaken in this field. A nomination lacking any of these documents will not be considered.
- c. The selection of national experts will be based strictly upon their professional qualifications and experience, academic background, and commitment to this research.

14. Preparatory Work by National Experts

The selected national experts will be instructed to prepare a preliminary report. The preliminary findings will be presented at the coordination meeting in Vientiane and will form the basis for further deliberations and development of the research framework. The detailed guidelines for the preliminary reports will be provided later.



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Secretary-General