



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

<b>PN Issue Date</b>	28 November 2019
<b>Project Code</b>	19-RP-03-GE-RES-A
<b>Title</b>	APO Productivity Databook and Database
<b>Timing and Duration</b>	November 2019–October 2020 (one year)
<b>Venue</b>	Participating member countries
<b>Closing Date for Nominations</b>	31 January 2020

## 1. Objectives

- a. To monitor productivity trends and provide analysis of the most up-to-date socioeconomic performance of APO member and reference economies;
- b. To update the APO Productivity Database (PDB) with the latest estimates for APO member and reference economies;
- c. To provide forecasts on economic growth and labor productivity in APO member countries;
- d. To publish the 2020 edition of the *APO Productivity Databook*; and
- e. To publish the *APO Productivity Outlook*.

## 2. Background

Monitoring productivity trends and analyzing socioeconomic performance indicators for assessing potential growth are mandates of the APO as the sole organization in the Asia-Pacific devoted to productivity. The APO conducts annual research projects on productivity measurement and developed a comprehensive productivity database. The *APO Productivity Databook* and PDB are published as research outputs. The *APO Productivity Databook* presents detailed analytical reports on recent and long-term productivity and economic performance in the Asia-Pacific and reference economies. Sets of productivity indicators, measures, and data under an internationally harmonized measurement framework are included. They provide a useful reference on the quality of economic growth through cross-country comparisons at different development stages. The international comparisons and analyses of detailed data enable the APO to offer evidence-based policy advisory services to member countries, contributing to sustainable socioeconomic development.

As part of long-term efforts to support member countries in productivity policy making, preparation for the 2020 editions of the *APO Productivity Databook* and PDB are underway. To provide greater support to member countries in setting policies and realistic targets, a detailed forecast of productivity growth in APO member countries will be initiated in 2020. The *APO Productivity Outlook*, which details future projections of the productivity performance of APO member countries at aggregate, sectoral, and key industry levels, along with policy implications and a database covering major productivity indicators, will be published. The *APO Productivity Databook* and *APO Productivity Outlook* serve as main sources of productivity statistics for policymakers in the Asia-Pacific.

## 3. Scope and Methodology

### Scope

- a. Sources of economic growth, covering labor, capital, and total factor productivity (TFP);
- b. Industry origins of economic growth, including sector-based analyses of productivity;
- c. Analyses of labor quality changes to reflect accurate productivity levels;
- d. Analyses of energy productivity and the carbon intensity of energy to assess sustainable development status;
- e. Analyses of outputs, labor, and capital inputs for APO members that have not yet developed growth accounting frameworks for TFP measurement;
- f. Maintaining and updating the Asian Economic Productivity Map; and
- g. Forecasts of economic growth and labor productivity in APO member countries and their productivity outlook.

### Methodology

One-year research by experts.

## 4. Qualifications of National Experts

To ensure continuity and maximize knowledge accumulation, national experts from the APO Productivity Databook and PDB research projects in 2019 will be given priority for this project. NPOs are expected to nominate the same experts, subject to their availability.

The qualifications of national experts for the *APO Productivity Databook* are:

- a. Government statisticians from national statistics offices or central banks of member countries with comprehensive knowledge of national accounts, labor statistics, and industry data.

- b. Sufficient English proficiency to communicate with the APO Secretariat and the chief expert on technical statistical issues.
- c. Given the degree of professional knowledge required for the statistical data collection and level of technical expertise required to analyze responses to the APO questionnaires involved in this project, the APO Secretariat may also directly invite national experts from suitable departments/divisions handling national accounts data in consultation with the NPOs concerned.

## 5. Chief Experts

One chief expert will be appointed by the APO to lead the team of researchers and national experts. The chief expert will assume management, advisory, and supervisory roles in the project and be responsible for producing the 2020 edition of the *APO Productivity Databook*.

One chief expert will be appointed by the APO to lead the team of researchers to develop the *APO Productivity Outlook*.

## 6. Financial Arrangements

### To be met by the APO

- a. Honoraria for the chief and national experts to be paid upon completion of the project; and
- b. All assignment and relevant research costs, including for additional data collection and purchases when applicable.

### To be met by the host country for expert meetings and research missions

All local implementation costs.

## 7. Actions by Member Countries

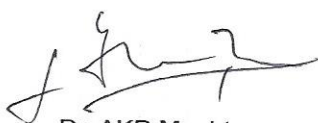
- a. Member countries are requested to nominate candidate national experts for the *APO Productivity Databook* by 31 January 2020, in line with the provisions in section 4.
- b. Each nomination should be accompanied by the candidate's biodata on the standard APO form in duplicate along with a passport-sized 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.

## 8. Actions by the APO Secretariat

- a. Under normal circumstances, candidates who are selected will be informed of their acceptance at least four weeks prior to the start of the project.
- b. If some candidates do not meet the criteria or are unable to participate after selection, or if some member countries fail to nominate any candidate, the APO will request additional nominations or advice on potential candidates.

## 9. Project Preparation

The selected national experts for the *APO Productivity Databook* will be given instructions by the chief expert via e-mail and sent the APO Productivity Measurement Questionnaires and accompanying explanatory notes detailing the data requirements for the project. The national experts will provide relevant data based on the questionnaires and instructions. The chief expert will assess the data and information submitted by the national experts and report to the APO Secretariat on the performance of each.



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Secretary-General