

PROJECT NOTIFICATION

20 March 2018

1.	Project Code	18-AG-39-GE-NFP-C
2.	Project Title	National Follow-up Program (NFP)
3.	Timing	1 June–31 December 2018
4.	Venue	Member countries
5.	Implementing Organizations	NPOs in member countries

6. Objectives

To provide technical and financial assistance to NPOs or partner organizations in co-creating and conducting national follow-up projects following specific multicountry projects; to support member countries in intensifying the transfer of knowledge and best practices on productivity topics covered in multicountry projects; and to enhance the visibility of the APO in member countries.

7. Background

The APO has been implementing two main categories of projects: multicountry (Categories A and B); and individual country (Category C). The former involves the participation of all member countries (A) or a selected number of countries (B). Category C projects are designed to meet the specific requirements of a member country and include the following: Technical Expert Services; Development of Demonstration Companies; Bilateral Cooperation between NPOs; Individual-country Observational Study Missions; Institutional Strengthening of NPOs; and the Two-tiered Project-based Approach. Despite implementing these types of projects, several NPOs have raised concerns about the limited opportunities their countries have to participate in multicountry (A and B) projects, especially countries with huge populations and where stakeholders generally are not proficient in English. Thus, this program was designed to provide equal opportunities for all countries to have better access to and benefit from APO projects dealing with subjects that are the most relevant to their needs. Through this program, it is expected that each country will have better access to APO technical and financial support and expand the reach of APO projects to wider groups of stakeholders.

8. Scope and Implementation Procedures

Scope

a. Training of the staff of NPOs and other productivity-related organizations/stakeholders in member countries in the core tools, techniques, technologies, methodologies, and best practices for productivity improvement taken up in a multicountry project;

- b. Disseminating information related to new knowledge and information on various aspects of productivity improvement; and
- c. Providing financial support to enable NPOs and partner organizations to co-create and conduct a national follow-up activity to a multicountry project through a conference, forum, training course, or workshop focusing on the core topics of an implemented multicountry project. The duration of NFP projects is normally from two to five days depending on the nature of the program and number of participants.

Implementation Procedures

In general, each country is entitled to at least one NFP project each year. The proposed project should be deemed as a follow-up to any of the multilateral projects implemented in 2017 and 2018. By the third quarter of the year, each country should have submitted proposals or indicated interest in submitting one for the year to allow proper allocation of the program budget. When member countries submit proposals, they should consider the number of NFP projects they wish to implement during the year and prioritize their applications. If some countries are not able to submit a proposal by the third quarter of the year, or have expressed a lack of interest in utilizing the program during the year, the Secretariat will consider proposals submitted by other countries or invite additional proposals from other countries. All projects supported under the NFP 2018 should be completed by 31 May 2019. If a country was not able to submit its proposal for the current year, it may submit the application under the NFP 2019.

- a. Application
 - 1. NPOs or partner organizations in member countries, through the initiative of participants who attended a multilateral project within the prescribed period, are eligible to submit project proposals to be supported under the NFP. If the partner organization is not the NPO, it must submit the proposal through the NPO for endorsement to the APO Secretariat. The proposal should follow the prescribed format (Attachments 1 & 2). The application proposal should be submitted electronically.
 - 2. The proposal should provide the required information shown in Attachment 1 & 2 to avoid delays in evaluation and processing.
 - 3. The implementation date of the project should be at least three months from submission of a proposal to enable the Secretariat to process the proposal and contact the suggested international expert.
 - 4. The overseas expert to be engaged should be chosen from among those who were involved in the multicountry project.
- b. Processing of applications

Applications can be submitted at any time within the year provided that they are received by the APO Secretariat at least three months prior to the proposed implementation date. All applications will be reviewed immediately upon receipt and feedback will be provided to the concerned NPO or partner organization.

c. Approval process

When a proposal meets the requirements of the NFP, a Project Implementation Plan (PIP) will be prepared and processed as usual for the final approval of the Secretary-General. Once the PIP is issued, the concerned NPO/partner organization may proceed with implementation.

d. Proactive role of the Secretariat

The Secretariat will take a proactive role in designing and coordinating NFP projects after the implementation of a multilateral project.

e. Designation of focal person

The NPO/partner organizations should assign an officer as the focal or official contact person for the project to facilitate close coordination with the Secretariat.

f. Acknowledgment of the APO's role

The NPOs/partner organizations implementing NFP projects should acknowledge the APO for supporting the activity. This acknowledgment may take the form of displaying the APO logo prominently on banners and other promotional materials, displaying the APO flag, etc. and through appropriate statements to the media. Photographs or copies of such displays and statements should be sent to the APO Secretariat with the project completion report.

g. Cancellation policy

If the project is cancelled after issuing the Letter(s) of Assignment for the international expert(s) for reasons attributed to the NPO/partner organization, any costs incurred such as air tickets and hotel cancellations should be borne by the party concerned.

9. Financial Arrangements

In general, NFP projects should be implemented on a cost-sharing arrangement between the APO and the concerned NPOs/partner organizations in member countries. The NPOs/partner organizations are expected to bear a portion of the total project costs such as for local experts. Considering the limited financial support from the APO, NPOs/partner organizations are expected to generate counterpart resources to supplement the APO grant.

To be borne by the APO

The APO will bear the costs for assigning overseas expert(s) and provide financial support to meet the following costs:

- a. Rental cost of function room and equipment (meals and translation/interpretation fees are not included in the meeting package);
- b. Meeting kit including requisite stationery such as paper and pens;
- c. Preparing and compiling training material sets including reference papers and presentation materials for all participants; and
- d. Transportation costs for site visits, if any.

To meet the above costs, the APO will bear a maximum of USD10,000.00. Upon issuance of the PIP, the APO will advance up to 50% of the estimated cost (not more than USD5,000.00), if necessary, as requested by the NPO/partner organization at least one month prior to the start of the project.

To be borne by the member country

NPOs/partner organizations will bear the following costs:

- a. All local implementation costs not covered by the APO, including costs for local surface transportation of participants and the assigned overseas expert(s); and
- b. Administrative costs of the project, including personnel costs and other costs related to preparation and coordination work.

NPOs/partner organizations will settle the entire account by providing all necessary bills and receipts issued by third parties to the APO within one month after completion of the project. The final applicable payment will be based on the actual expenditure and review of the report submitted by the NPO/partner organization as required.

10. Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of NPOs/partner organizations and the APO are:

NPOs/Partner Organizations

- a. Organize NFP projects following specific multicountry projects to intensify the transfer of knowledge and best practices on topics covered in multicountry projects to create a pool of trained stakeholders, i.e., government officers, policymakers, planners, executives and managers of private-sector companies and NGOs, and practitioners;
- b. Assign a local coordinator for managing the project;
- c. Engage local participant(s) who attended the reference multicountry project(s);
- d. Assign local resource persons;
- e. Provide administrative and logistic support not covered by the APO;
- f. Request institutes and enterprises to host site visits and offer their facilities for conducting practical exercises, if necessary; and
- g. Inform the APO of the impact and outcomes of the project and submit an impact evaluation report six months after implementation.

APO

- a. Assign overseas resource person(s);
- b. Assist NPOs/partner organizations in finalizing the project content in consultation with the resource person(s); and
- c. Provide partial financial support for implementation of the project.

11. Actions by Member Countries (before and after NFP Projects)

Before

a. Member countries wishing to propose NFP projects are requested to follow the prescribed format (Attachments 1 & 2) for preparing and submitting the project proposals. The proposals should be submitted electronically.

b. The timing of projects and their contents must be discussed with the APO and resource speakers.

After

- a. NFP projects are expected to create a pool of trained government officers, policymakers, planners, executives and managers of private-sector companies and NGOs, and practitioners in member countries who can act as trainers and promote productivity in various fields. Upon completion of a project, the NPO/partner organization concerned will submit a comprehensive report with specific follow-up activities and recommendations to promote them at national level to contribute to the national productivity movement.
- b. NPOs/partner organizations are required to submit an evaluation report to the APO within one month after NFP project completion.
- c. To inform the APO of the impact of NFP projects, NPOs concerned are requested to submit an impact evaluation report six months after project implementation using the format to be provided by the Secretariat.

Santhi Kanoktanaporn Secretary-General

Attachment 1

18-AG-39-GE-NFP-C

National Follow-up Program (NFP) 1 June–31 December 2018

SUGGESTED OUTLINE OF NATIONAL FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM (NFP) PROJECT PROPOSAL

1. Project Title

Please provide the title of the project.

2. Reference

Please cite the multicountry project code/title (e.g., 17-AG-12-GE-WSP-B: Advanced Agribusiness Management Course for Executives and Managers).

3. Timing and Duration

Please specify the target dates of implementation and the number of days.

4. Venue

Please specify the name of the venue and location.

5. Implementing Organizations

Please specify the name(s) and address(es) of the partner/implementing organization(s).

6. Number of Participants

Please specify the target number of participants.

7. Objectives

Please state the objective(s) of the project.

8. Background

Please provide a brief description of the project and its relevance to the development goals of the country/sector/community. Please explain how this project can address the needs of the target stakeholders/participants.

9. Tentative Scope and Methodology

Please describe the tentative topics to be covered and the methodology to be used.

10. International Experts

Please specify the number/required expertise/qualifications of the international experts.

11. Participants

Please describe the qualifications/affiliations of target participants.

12. Provisional Program of Activities

Please provide the tentative daily program of activities.

13. Financial Arrangements

Please specify the cost items of the project and indicate the cost to be borne by the APO, by the NPO/partner organization, and/or by the implementing organization(s).

14. Procedures for Project Implementation

Please describe implementation arrangements by the NPO/partner organization or implementing organization(s) and other partners.

15. Project Outputs and Outcomes

Please describe the anticipated outputs of the project and how will they be used.

16. Follow-up Action Plan

Please describe the follow-up actions the NPO/partner organization and/or implementing organization(s) plan to undertake after project completion.

Attachment 2

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR THE [PROJECT TITLE]

Sr. no.	Item (select only the applicable items)	Detailed breakdown (unit price, number of persons, number of days, etc.)	Cost (US\$)			
			Total	APO share ¹	NPO share	Partner org. share
1.	Rental cost (function room, equipment, etc.)					
2.	Conference package (papers, pens, etc.)					
3.	Reproduction of conference materials					
4.	Transportation for site visits, if any					
Total						
¹ All	costs charged to the APO s	hould be properly documented w	vith official th	hird-party rec	eipts.	J