



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 21-IP-11-GE-CON-A-PN2100062-001

Date of Issue	02 August 2021
Project Code	21-IP-11-GE-CON-A
Title	Conference on Urban Agroecology and Food Security
Timing and Duration	9 September 2021 (one day)
Hosting Country(ies)	Philippines
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	Development Academy of the Philippines and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	100
Local Participants	30
Qualifications of Participants	Policymakers and government officials, executives of farmers'/agribusiness associations, and academics and consultants working on agriculture, agribusiness, or urban development
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	25 August 2021

1. Objectives

- a. Introduce the concept of urban agroecology and its multifunctional roles.
- b. Explore best practices and models of urban agroecology which can be replicated as a response to challenges in food security.
- c. Promote the concept/system of fresh fruit and vegetable production from urban agriculture.

2. Background

Agricultural activities must be in sync with the natural environment. Crops depend on photosynthesis, and farmers attempt to maintain the best environment for growth. In urban areas, creating such harmony is even more critical given the limitations of the natural environment. For this reason, the benefits of urban agriculture go beyond crop production alone and include ecological aspects, giving rise to the term “urban agroecology.”

Urban agroecology has multiple roles. It supplies fresh produce grown near consumption areas, allows urban dwellers to experience agriculture, provides open space to accommodate evacuees during times of disaster, and offers green spaces for relaxation. In Japan, urban agriculture comprises 10% of national produce sales and is recognized as an important element in food security. Japan enacted the Urban Agriculture Promotion Law in 2015.

Although urban agriculture may not provide all the solutions to economic and food security dilemmas, activities related to urban agroecology have the potential to promote fresh, nutritious food production at a reduced cost, therefore enabling greater self-sufficiency in food. These benefits have created a renewed focus on urban agroecology.

With the COVID-19 pandemic prolonging constraints on the production, transport, and access to fresh, nutritious food, more resilient systems that promote local capacities such as urban agriculture are urgently needed. This conference will discuss innovative concepts and practices of urban agroecology and opportunities to promote it in APO member countries.

3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

The duration of the sessions will be around four hours. The indicative topics of the presentations are:

- Concept, trends, and roles of urban agroecology in the global context
- Opportunities and challenges in developing and promoting urban agroecology
- Best practices of urban agroecology and strategies for implementation

The detailed program and list of speakers will be provided two weeks prior to the sessions with announcement of the names of the selected participants.

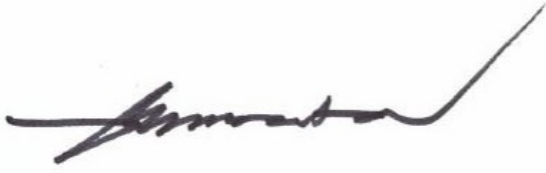
The participants are required to attend all sessions. This full participation is a prerequisite for receiving the APO certificate of attendance.

4. Financial Arrangements

- a. The APO will meet the assignment costs for overseas resource persons.
- b. The host country will meet the assignment costs of local resource persons and for a virtual site visit(s), either broadcast live or recorded as applicable.

5. Implementation Procedures

Please refer to the implementation procedures for APO digital multicountry projects circulated with this document.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mochtan', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General