



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

PN Issue Date	6 September 2019
PN Revision 1 Issue Date	27 January 2020
Project Code	19-AG-32-SPP-DON-C
Title	Special Program for Capacity Building of Sustainable Food Value Chains for Enhanced Food Safety and Quality in Asian Countries: Second Year
Timing and Duration	September 2019–October 2020
Venue	Selected member countries
Implementing Organization(s)	NPOs and similar organizations
Participating countries	APO member countries (to be selected)
Closing Date for Applications	Dates for specific projects will be given in the Project Implementation Plans (PIP) in consultation with the selected member countries

Change History of Project Notificaion: 19-AG-32-SPP-DON-C

Revision	Date of Issue	Clause	Modifications
Revision 1	27 January 2020	Timing and Duration	Duration has been extended from up to August 2020 to up to October 2020.

1. Objectives

- a. To assist targeted APO member economies in developing food safety, quality, and innovation (FSQI) frameworks to modernize food value chains (FVCs);
- b. To establish demonstration model companies/organizations to showcase modern food safety and quality (FSQ) processes and results of improvements in a tangible, practical manner, while assisting NPOs and key institutions in building the capacity to provide consultancy and training services through their complete involvement in such projects;
- c. To provide key stakeholders with firsthand exposure to advanced knowledge and technology, best practices, and successful models of enhancing FSQI in FVCs; and
- d. To contribute to enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of agrifood sectors in targeted member countries through building reliable, safe, sustainable FVCs.

2. Background

An FVC is a network of stakeholders involved in growing, processing, and selling the food that consumers eat, from farm to fork. They include producers, processors, distributors, food service companies, consumers, and supporting groups such as shippers and suppliers as well as governments, NGOs, research groups, and regulators who monitor and regulate the entire FVC from producers to consumers.

Enhancing FVCs is a crucial global strategy to achieve food security by ensuring FSQ. FVCs also increase competitive advantage through collaboration in ventures that link all value chain stakeholders. In advanced FVCs, strategic partnerships are developed among interdependent businesses that collaborate in a sequence of value-adding stages, resulting in a collective competitive advantage. In an FVC, different business enterprises work together to produce and market products and services effectively and efficiently. FVCs allow agrifood businesses to respond to the marketplace by linking production, processing, transportation, storage, and marketing activities to consumer demand.

FVCs are receiving increasing attention because the focus in developing Asian countries has shifted from the eradication of hunger and poverty to better, safer food to respond to the increasing demand of the expanding middle class for higher quality. Consumers are also more concerned about whether their food is produced and handled along the value chain in environmentally friendly and socially acceptable ways.

Advanced technologies play a crucial role in building reliable, safe, sustainable FVCs. For example, digital technologies such as the cloud, Internet of Things (IoT), big data, and artificial intelligence (AI) can help in developing efficient, effective FVCs. Applications of blockchain technology to FVCs can help develop fool-proof, reliable food traceability systems.

This is a three-year program consisting of capacity-building projects on promoting FSQ in FVCs in Asian countries. The program is funded by a special cash grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

3. Scope and Methodology

Specific projects will be organized in close consultation and coordination among participating member countries and the APO.

Scope

Tentative topics to be covered in projects under this program are:

- a. Advanced Food Safety Management and Technology
Innovative FSQ management systems, successful FSQI models, modern food traceability systems, etc.
- b. Advanced Farming Technologies
Good Agricultural Practices, Good Aquaculture Practices, responsible fisheries, precision

- c. agriculture, organic agriculture, etc.
- c. Modern Food-manufacturing and -processing Technologies
Food-processing facilities, quality control technologies, etc.
- d. Advanced, Convenient Distribution Systems
High-end cold chains, temperature-controlled distribution centers, freshness-preserving technologies, consumer data management, etc.
- e. Applications of digital technologies for modernizing FVCs to enhance FSQ such as blockchains, the IoT, and AI with big data

Methodology

The main activities of the program are national projects in selected APO member countries, which include workshops, training courses, and conferences. International experts selected by the APO will be assigned as resource persons for the projects.

In the second year, the following types of projects addressing specific issues related to FVCs will be organized in the targeted APO member countries:

- a. National conferences;
- b. National workshops;
- c. National training courses;
- d. Consultancy services for developing national FSQI frameworks and establishing demonstration model companies/organizations; and
- e. Preparation of study materials such as e-learning courses, textbooks, and manuals.

4. Financial Arrangements

To be met by the APO

- a. Appropriate per diem allowances to cover meals and incidental expenses of participants and hotel accommodations for participants from outside the project venue, if necessary.
- b. Local implementation costs such as conference rooms and honoraria for local resource persons, interpreters' fees, training material costs, local transportation costs for field visits, etc.
- c. All assignment costs of APO resource persons, if necessary.

To be met by the requesting country

- a. Other expenses not covered by the APO.

5. Procedures for National Project Implementation

- a. The requesting country will prepare a project proposal using the application forms attached and submit it to the APO. The proposal with estimated expenses should reach the APO Secretariat at least three months prior to the proposed project timing.
- b. The details of the proposed project including financial arrangements will be approved by the APO after consultation with the requesting country.
- c. A PIP will be issued by the APO to the NPO of the requesting country.
- d. A temporary advance (50% of the total estimated cost) may be remitted to the requesting country if necessary.
- e. The proposed project will be carried out.
- f. A project report summarizing the implementation of the project and a statement of expenses related to the project will be submitted to the APO.
- g. Receipts will be submitted and accounts settled.
- h. The project is then completed.

Further detailed implementation procedures and financial arrangements for each project other than those stated above will be decided after consultation between the NPO and APO within the initially agreed-upon budget.



Dr. AKP Mochtan

Secretary-General

Project Proposal**Special Program for Capacity Building of Sustainable Food Value Chains for Enhanced Food Safety and Quality in Asian Countries****Requesting Country:****Project Title:** (for example, national conference, national workshop, national training course, etc. on title of project)

1. Objectives:
2. Background:
3. Linkage with the Special Program:
4. Scope and Methodology:
Scope
Methodology
5. Qualifications of Participants: