PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 20-AG-15-GE-WSP-A-453

Date of Issue	1 September 2020
Project Code	20-AG-15-GE-WSP-A
Title	Workshop on Smart Resource Productivity Management
Timing and Duration	16-18 November 2020 (three days)
Hosting Country	The APO Secretariat
Modality	Digital Multicountry (DMC)
Implementing Organization(s)	The APO Secretariat
Participating Countries	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	19
Local Participants	12
Closing Date for Nominations	1 October 2020

1. **Objectives**

   a. To enhance participants' understanding of recent advances in monitoring farm conditions and managing the productivity of agricultural resources such as water and soil;

   b. To share the best practices of smart resources management among the APO member countries; and

   c. To share recent advances in digital services and their implications for how the public sector can contribute to social and economic development.

2. **Background**

Agricultural production depends on the use of resources. In some areas and some seasons, water is scarce, making the effective use and allocation of water critical in improving crop productivity. Land fertility is another important factor in agriculture. With continuing crop production, land fertility decreases. On the other hand, too much fertilizer input endangers crop growth. Resources should be used economically, and management at minimum cost is important to obtain maximum profit. Therefore, resource overuse should be avoided in crop production.

Improving agricultural productivity while conserving and enhancing natural resources like water and soil fertility is essential to increase global food supplies on a sustainable basis. Smart management is needed, including applications of sensing, digital, and web-GIS technologies. Artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled water and liquid fertilizer supply systems, sensors of soil moisture and sunlight in greenhouse horticulture, precision agriculture, remote pest sensing, and analysis of crop growth conditions by drone technology can save inputs while achieving agricultural sustainability and enhanced productivity.

In Japan, these technologies are widely applied, and its research is advanced. Recently, not only agricultural companies but also others such as an information system and a telecommunication company are entering into the smart agricultural businesses in Japan which are expected to further accelerate the productivity in resource management.

Through this workshop, the participants are expected to exchange ideas to improve their productivity through learning from experts, interactive discussions, and learning from the best practices of Japanese companies in managing the resources in a most systematic way. The 3 days' workshop is one of APO initiative in promoting the advanced technologies in transforming agricultural sector in member countries.

3. **Modality of Implementation**

   a. This workshop will be conducted online using videoconference applications.

   b. The resource speakers and participants will participate the workshop virtually using their own devices, applications, and Internet connections.

   c. The duration of each day's session will be up to three hours.

   d. The APO Secretariat will inform the resource speakers and participants of the applicable videoconference application and link to the virtual sessions.

   e. The videoconference link will be provided exclusively to resource speakers and participants in this workshop and should not be shared.

4. Scope and Methodology

The workshop will consist of interactive lectures, case studies, and discussions. The tentative program is given below:

Date/Time	Activity
Monday, 16 November	Presentations: • Concept of precision agriculture • Resource productivity management by precision agriculture
Tuesday, 17 November	Presentations: • Concept of next generation • Resource productivity management by next generation greenhouse • Resource productivity management by farm management system
Wednesday, 18 November	Group discussion Group presentations

5. Qualifications of Candidates

Present Position	Government officials, policymakers, executives of farmers' associations, and academics and consultants involved in planning for the sustainable, productive use of agricultural resources.
Work Experience	Three years of experience or more in the position described above.
Education	University degree or equivalent qualification from a recognized university or similar tertiary institution.
Computer Literacy	Familiarity and competency in connecting to virtual meetings, including independently undertaking troubleshooting in the event of poor or lost connections.
Language	Proficiency in English, both written and spoken. Participants will be required to make presentations and engage in discussions.

6. Requirements

a. Have necessary devices comprising a computer, web camera, microphone, and speaker or headphones.

b. Access to Internet connections suitable for videoconferencing. Stable, wired LAN connections are preferred.

c. Follow the instructions of the moderators/presenters in asking questions, joining discussions, and answering questions.

d. Participate in the entire workshop.

7. Financial Arrangements

a. The APO will meet the assignment costs for international 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.

8. **Actions by Member Countries**

    a. Each participating country will nominate three or more candidates in order of preference.

    b. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

    c. All nominations must be endorsed by an APO Director or Alternative Director and submitted by a Liaison Officer or designated officer.

    d. Each nomination must be accompanied by the APO biodata form and uploaded to the APO Document Management System (DMS)/Fleekdrive by the NPO. The biodata form is available on the APO website.

    e. Late nominations will not be accepted. When a nomination requires the approval of higher authorities and requires a longer time, the member country concerned should send the name(s) of the nominee(s) before or by the deadline, indicating that approval will follow.

    f. Selection of candidates will be at the discretion of the Participant Selection Committee of the APO Secretariat.

    g. If a selected participant becomes unable to participate, the NPO concerned should inform the APO Secretariat and the host country promptly.

9. **Actions by the APO Secretariat**

    a. Selection of candidates will be completed and announced three weeks prior to the start of the workshop.

    b. Slots that become available due to withdrawal of a selected candidate(s) or lack of nominations by a member country may be filled by alternates to be selected on a merit basis.

    c. The APO Secretariat will inform NPOs of the final program, platform, and link of the virtual meeting, as well as the schedule for technical coordination when applicable, two weeks prior to commencement of the workshop.

10. **Dress Code**

Participants are required to wear appropriate business attire during the workshop.

Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General