



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-CP-07-GE-WSP-A-PN2100097-001

Date of Issue	28 January 2022
Project Code	22-CP-07-GE-WSP-A
Title	Workshop on the Internet of Things in Agriculture and Food Supply Chain Management
Timing and Duration	9–11 March 2022 (three days)
Hosting Country(ies)	APO Secretariat
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	40
Local Participants	Not Applicable
Qualifications of Participants	Senior government officials, policymakers, executives of agrifood SMEs and associations, senior academics, and consultants in charge of developing and implementing Internet of Things and blockchain systems for agriculture and food supply chains
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	28 February 2022

1. Objectives

- a. Share the latest Internet of Things (IoT) innovations in agrifood supply chains.
- b. Learn good practices from examples of how IoT applications mitigated supply chain disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- c. Discuss strategies and actions for advancing the IoT to build resilient supply chains in the agrifood sector.

2. Background

Agrifood supply chains involve multiple stakeholders, materials, and steps. Stakeholders include farmers, processors, distributors, retailers, and consumers from different geographic locations. The materials vary from raw materials such as a vegetable from a single source to processed ones such as precooked meals with multiple sources. The steps include farm production, harvesting, sorting, storing, processing, distributing, retailing, and consumption. Due to these multiple factors, information on products is sometimes lost such as where they were produced, how they were processed, or what they contain. Such losses of information hamper quality control and safety management and may reduce product value.

Because of such complexity in steps and stakeholders, the COVID-19 pandemic caused disruptions to agrifood supply chains. They include poor handling of crops in production due to the shortage of labor, poor connections in transportation caused by border controls, and food waste at stores due to supply-demand imbalances.

By adopting the IoT in agrifood supply chains, information from farm to fork is now accessible, traceable, and sharable among stakeholders in easier, cheaper, and quicker ways. This information makes supply chains more productive by reducing losses and adding value to products. These benefits have contributed to mitigating supply chain challenges during the pandemic while most countries in the Asia-Pacific are attempting to build crisis-resilient agrifood supply chains.

The APO held a workshop in March 2021 on Empowerment of Small-scale Farmers in Adopting Internet of Things Technologies to share key concepts and the necessary enabling environment for the adoption of the IoT. This workshop will provide further insights on the IoT in the agrifood sector with the emphasis on mitigating disruptions and building crisis-resilient agrifood supply chain systems.

3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

The duration of each day's sessions will be around three hours comprising presentations by experts, group discussions, and other relevant learning methods. The indicative topics of the presentations are:

Day 1:

- Overview of IoT innovations in agrifood supply chains
- The role of the IoT in agrifood supply chains under the COVID-19 pandemic

Day 2:

- Case studies of IoT applications to mitigate pandemic-related agrifood supply chain disruptions in Asia-Pacific countries

Day 3:

- Group exercise and discussion on how to advance IoT applications to establish crisis-resilient agrifood supply chain systems in the Asia-Pacific

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.

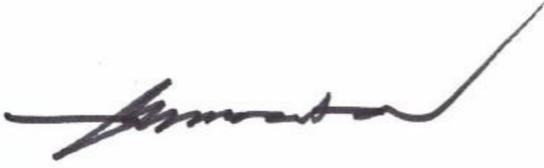
The participants are required to attend all sessions. This full participation is a prerequisite for receiving the APO certificate of attendance.

4. Financial Arrangements

The APO will meet the assignment costs for overseas and 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 dark ink, appearing to read 'Mochtan', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General