



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-CP-18-GE-TRC-A-PN2200021-001

Date of Issue	20 May 2022
Project Code	22-CP-18-GE-TRC-A
Title	Training Course on Smart Sustainability Assessment Tools and Techniques for Improving Agrifood Industries
Timing and Duration	12–15 July 2022 (four days)
Hosting Country(ies)	Cambodia
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Centre of Cambodia, Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation, and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	38
Local Participants	12
Qualifications of Participants	Government officials, project planning managers of agribusiness companies, academics, researchers, and consultants in charge of planning/evaluating farm and agribusiness projects
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	27 June 2022

1. Objectives

- a. Train participants in the use of smart sustainability assessment tools and techniques for improving the performance of agrifood industries.
- b. Examine strategies, approaches, and policies to develop business plans for agrifood SMEs.
- c. Share successful agribusiness enterprise models using smart sustainability assessment tools and techniques.

2. Background

Efforts to achieve socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable development are progressing. Agrifood-sector stakeholders are actively contributing by improving productivity, protecting natural resources, and minimizing the environmental impacts of farming and agribusiness operations as seen from their sustainability assessment performance that covers environmental integrity, economic resilience, social well-being, and good governance from production to processing and distribution.

Sustainability assessment has emerged as an important policy tool for both government and private business. The assessment can be in the form of self-evaluation by agribusiness enterprises or reporting to business partners, consumers, or authorities. One of the guidelines for performing the assessment is the FAO's Sustainability Assessment in Food and Agriculture Systems (SAFA) Guidelines (Version 3.0). Tools have been developed following the SAFA Guidelines, enabling farms and companies to assess their sustainability in a credible, transparent, comparable manner. They include the Sustainability Monitoring and Assessment RouTine tools of the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture and the Life Cycle Assessment tool for analysis of potential environmental impacts of products or services during their entire life cycle.

This course will familiarize participants with smart sustainability assessment tools and techniques for improving the performance of agrifood industries, particularly SMEs. It will also discuss sustainability assessment from the perspective of the APO's Green Productivity concept, covering resource recycling, green energy, green factories, and agroinnovation for green agrifood industries.

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 course are:

Day 1:

- Importance of sustainability assessment in agrifood enterprises
- Key concepts, guidelines, and challenges of sustainability assessment
- GP and sustainability assessment

Day 2:

- Smart sustainability tools and techniques
- Group work

Day 3:

- Smart sustainability tools and techniques
- Group work

Day 4:

- Global initiatives and status of sustainability tools and assessment systems
- Successful models of assessing sustainability performance in agribusiness enterprises with the emphasis on SMEs

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 of overseas resource persons and honorarium for up to two local resource persons.
- b. The host country will meet the costs 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 'Dr. AKP Mochtan', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General