



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-IN-11-GE-RES-A-PN2200040-001

<b>Date of Issue</b>	11 April 2022
<b>Project Code</b>	22-IN-11-GE-RES-A
<b>Title</b>	Productivity Analysis Series
<b>Timing and Duration</b>	April–December 2022 (nine months)
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Modality</b>	Digital Multicountry
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Qualifications of National Experts</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Qualifications of Chief Expert</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Nomination of National Experts</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Closing Date for Nominations of National Experts</b>	Not Applicable

## 1. Objectives

- a. Analyze productivity issues and challenges posed by the pandemic and compile best practices of productivity enhancement policies during a globally challenging time.
- b. Examine emerging challenges in the productivity movements of APO members and identify new opportunities for postpandemic rebound and regrowth.
- c. Expand partnerships and create synergy with national research institutes in identifying effective, innovative methods for recovery and drawing policy recommendations for consideration by APO members.

## 2. Background

In its role as a regional adviser and think tank, the APO has conducted various research projects to examine productivity trends and the economic growth performance of its members. Those cross-country research projects resulted in key findings and recommendations that served as insights for productivity-enhancing policymaking in APO members. However, in the fast-changing environment affecting productivity, and given the diverse stages of economic development of the members, more in-depth analyses and effective advisory services on country-specific situations are needed.

With that background, the APO is embarking on this *Productivity Analysis Series* project, which is a collaboration in analyses and publication of current productivity issues with national institutes specializing in productivity and economic development studies in APO members. These national institutes are well versed in local situations and have a good understanding of key policy issues to be addressed. They represent a vital component to assist governments in policy formulation for productivity and economic growth. Tapping the expertise of these institutes will enable the APO to stay abreast of the latest productivity trends and challenges at national level. The collaboration will also widen networks and strengthen partnerships of National Productivity Organizations (NPOs), giving them greater leverage as policy partners of their governments.

In 2022, the majority of APO members will attempt to rebound from the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and revitalize their economies. The *Productivity Analysis Series* will focus on, but not limited to, productivity issues and challenges posed by the pandemic as well as best practices of productivity policy during this challenging time. The expected key outcome is to identify policy priorities to revive productivity growth to the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level in APO members.

## 3. Scope and Methodology

### Scope

- a. Changes in the national landscape: Emerging national economic and social trends
- b. Productivity issues and challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic
- c. Best practices of productivity enhancement policies
- d. New opportunities for rebound and regrowth
- e. Evidence-based productivity-enhancing policy advisory

### Methodology

- a. Research proposal submission: Institutes in APO members interested in publishing in the *Productivity Analysis Series* are invited to submit proposals through their NPOs by 31 May 2022. Proposals should analyze a specific national issue, best practices of productivity policy, and new challenges and opportunities for productivity enhancement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Proposals should include an overall report outline, research methodology, data sources, and expected research findings. Guidelines on proposal outlines will be circulated separately.

- b. Research proposal review and selection: Proposals will be reviewed in June 2022 and the selected ones will be announced in July 2022.
- c. In-country research: Institutes whose research proposals are selected will collect and analyze data, write reports, and submit final drafts to the APO Secretariat by 31 October 2022. After submission of the research reports, the APO Secretariat in consultation with external experts may give comments and request revisions.
- d. Publication: The final reports will be published in the *APO Productivity Analysis Series*.
- e. Presentation of research findings: The final published reports will be presented to relevant stakeholders and policymakers in APO members.

#### **4. Tasks of the Research Institutions**

- a. Work with the APO Secretariat in developing and finalizing the research framework.
- b. Finalize the methodology and outline of the report structure in cooperation with the APO Secretariat.
- c. Collect data for the research (including communicating with the original data owners) and analyze them based on the agreed framework and methodology.
- d. Update the APO Secretariat on the status of research reports within the agreed time frame.
- e. Prepare final reports and submit them to the APO Secretariat by the deadline.
- f. Support the Secretariat during the process of confirming the research findings with APO members.
- g. Provide support for dissemination of the research findings after report completion.

#### **5. Qualifications of the Research Institutions**

The APO Secretariat will invite and select appropriate research institutions with the following qualifications:

- a. Extensive, specialized knowledge in productivity and economic trends, quantitative and qualitative analyses, thematic issues of productivity at aggregate and sectoral levels, and economic and productivity advisory, with a track record of experience and publications in English.
- b. Experience in providing consulting services to governments.
- c. Excellent English writing skills.
- d. Strong commitment to undertaking and completing the research project within the given time frame.

#### **6. Financial Arrangements**

##### **To be met by the APO**

Honoraria for the research institutions to be paid upon publication of the final reports.

##### **To be met by the research institutions**

All implementation costs incurred by research institutions when conducting the study.

## 7. Actions by APO Members

- a. Interested APO members are requested to nominate candidate research institutes before the deadline.
- b. Each nomination must be accompanied by a research proposal and uploaded to the APO Document Management System (DMS)/Fleekdrive by the NPO.

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