



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-CL-40-GE-OSM-A-PN2200092-002

Date of Issue	21 September 2022
Project Code	22-CL-40-GE-OSM-A
Title	Multicountry Observational Study Mission on Digital Farming for Small-scale Farmers
Timing and Duration	16–17 November 2022 (two days)
Hosting Country(ies)	Republic of China
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan, China Productivity Center, and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	57
Local Participants	12
Qualifications of Participants	Policymakers and government officials, representatives of agricultural producers' and business associations, academics, and consultants working on the promotion of agriculture, development of agricultural technologies, and agricultural extension
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	28 October 2022

1. Objectives

- a. Introduce digital technologies for adoption by small-scale farmers.
- b. Present successful models of the use of digital technologies on small-scale farms.
- c. Examine methods to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of small-scale farmers.

2. Background

Digital technologies such as mobile technologies and remote-sensing services are spreading in the agriculture and food sector (FAO, 2022). Compared with large-scale farmers, small-scale ones have more difficulty in introducing such technologies due to their costs. In order to avoid unnecessary investment, small-scale farmers need to have clear objectives when adopting digital technologies and consider the balance between their costs and benefits.

Agriculture faces various challenges. This includes global warming, which decreases harvests and reduces crop quality. Consumers' preference for fresher, appealing produce poses another challenge as it leads to increased use of pesticides. Recently, the pandemic and restrictions on human contact and movements have been added to the challenges. Digital technologies provide advantages such as labor saving, higher-quality harvests, and more efficient farm management. Automated irrigation systems enable remote control of water levels in paddy fields via smart phones, thus saving time on monitoring and adjusting water intake. Precise data collection on the crop growth environment by remote sensors contributes to analysis of the best environmental conditions for crop growth, producing better-quality harvests with minimum pesticides. Farm management apps record data related to daily farm work, and some agricultural vehicles can automatically transmit location data to such apps. The data can be stored in cloud systems and used to make effective farm management plans.

Participants will have opportunities to learn about various successful models of digital technologies used on small-scale farms in the ROC and other members. This will enhance understanding of the importance of installing digital technologies for small-scale farmers and selecting the most appropriate ones for optimal farm management.

3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

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

Day 1:

- Overview of digital technologies for small-scale farmers in the ROC
- Digital equipment and technology applications for small-scale farmers

Day 2:

- Applications of smart technology on a poultry farm
- Applications of digital technology in fishery operations

The detailed program and list of resource persons will be provided one week prior to the sessions.

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 for overseas 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.

5. Implementation Procedures

Please refer to the implementation procedures for APO digital multicountry projects circulated with this document.



Dr. Indra Pradana Singawinata
Secretary-General