



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-IP-17-GE-OSM-B-PN2200060-001

Date of Issue	02 September 2022
Project Code	22-IP-17-GE-OSM-B
Title	Multicountry Observational Study Mission on Productivity and Innovation for the Digital Economy
Timing and Duration	20–22 December 2022 (three days)
Venue and Hosting Country(ies)	Seoul, Republic of Korea
Modality	Face-to-face
Implementing Organization(s)	Korea Productivity Center
Participating Country(ies)	Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam
Overseas Participants	40
Local Participants	10
Qualifications of Participants	Policymakers and government officials, representatives of government enterprises, and staff of public organizations working on e-government systems, digital public services, national innovation programs, management information systems, and economic planning
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	20 October 2022

1. Objectives

- a. Explore innovation adoption to improve productivity performance in the digital economy.
- b. Study the strategies and policies required for advancing the digital economy.
- c. Examine the best practices of organizations in the digital economy and how they impact productivity performance.

2. Background

Harnessing the benefits of the digital economy has become an imperative for innovation, growth, productivity, and social prosperity (OECD 2016, *Innovation and the Digital Economy*). Technologies, smart applications, and other innovations in the digital economy are being widely promoted to improve services in a wide range of areas, including health, agriculture, public governance, taxation, transport, education, and the environment.

Digital technology adoption is evident across Asia. Applications for online purchase, transportation, and delivery services are widely used and changing the retail landscape, urban transport, and other services. The impacts of the digital revolution on the economy are vast and continuing to grow. Among APO members, the Republic of Korea (ROK) has recently adopted the Digital New Deal policy to improve the investment and regulatory environment supporting the digital economic transformation, thereby widening and deepening digitalization progress in the country.

This observational study mission aims at enabling participants from targeted members to undertake onsite study of the experiences, best practices, policies, and strategies of innovation adoption in organizations and public services in the ROK to enhance their productivity performance in the digital economy.

3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

The program comprises presentations by resource persons, group discussions, a field visit(s), and other relevant learning methods. The indicative program schedule is given below:

Day 1:

- Status of economic digital transformation
- Site visit: Innovation and productivity in the digital economy

Day 2:

- Site visit: Korean Digital New Deal policy
- Site visit: Example of digital transformation in the economic sector

Day 3:

- Site visit: Digital transformation of the public sector
- Group work and discussion

The detailed program and list of resource persons will be provided one month prior to the program 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

4.1. To be met by the APO

- a. All assignment costs of overseas resource persons and honorarium for up to two local resource persons.
- b. Airfare:

- Round-trip economy-class international airfare by the most direct route between the international airport nearest to the participants' place of work and project venue for those from NPOs, SMEs, and public-sector and nonprofit organizations.
- Arrangements for air tickets for participants will be made by designated travel agents endorsed by NPOs.

c. Accommodation and Per Diem Allowances:

- Hotel accommodations and per diem allowances for 40 overseas participants for up to four days.

4.2. To be met by participants

a. Participants from profit-making organizations attending training courses or observational study missions, except those from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Lao PDR, Mongolia, and Nepal:

- Round-trip international airfare between the international airport nearest to the participants' place of work and project venue.

- Participating Country Expenses at USD200.00/person.

b. For All Participants:

- Travel insurance with a minimum coverage value of USD10,000.00 to cover accident, illness, hospitalization, death, and specific expenses related to COVID-19 such as medical treatment, extension of stay due to quarantine, and flight rescheduling/cancellation, if applicable. Participants are required to submit copies of insurance certificates to the APO Secretariat prior to departure.
- All expenses related to PCR testing, visa fees, and airport taxes.
- Any expenses incurred for stopovers on the way to and from the project venue as well as for extra stay at the project venue before and/or after the official project period because of early arrival or late departure, for example, due to either limited available flights or any other reason.
- Any cancellation charges for airfare and hotel accommodations arising from withdrawals after letters of acceptance have been issued by the APO.

4.3. To be met by the implementing organization

a. Transportation expenses of participants between the airport and hotel designated for the project.

b. All other local implementation costs.

5. Implementing Procedures

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



Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General