



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 164

<b>Date of Issue</b>	30 June 2023
<b>Project Code</b>	23-CL-20-GE-WSP-A
<b>Title</b>	Workshop on Policies for Engaging Persons with Disabilities in Agriculture
<b>Timing</b>	3 October 2023–5 October 2023
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Venue City(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Modality</b>	Online
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	40
<b>Local Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Closing Date</b>	8 September 2023
<b>Remarks</b>	Not Applicable

<b>Objectives</b>	Discuss rights-based disability inclusion and its relevance in the agriculture sector; introduce a universal programming framework approach to make agriculture disability inclusive; and examine disability-inclusive policies in agriculture to increase productivity in APO member economies.
<b>Rationale</b>	Most persons with disabilities (PWDs) live in rural areas, and many are small farmers depending on agriculture for their livelihoods (UN FAO, 2019). They face barriers in becoming economically self-reliant and are often ignored in mainstream policies. This workshop will emphasize policies for the inclusion of PWDs in agriculture and productivity enhancement under the APO Vision 2025.
<b>Background</b>	<p>In 2019, the UN reported that 80% of 1 billion PWDs worldwide lived in developing countries. Roughly 650 million were in the Asia-Pacific region, with the majority in rural areas and primarily dependent on agriculture for food and livelihood security.</p> <p>A major cause of disability in rural areas is malnutrition caused by extreme poverty and food insecurity (IFAD, 2020). In addition, more farmers are being disabled by accidents due to mechanization and commercialization in the agriculture sector. Violence and armed conflict are other major causes of disability among rural dwellers. Rural residents with disabilities must confront major barriers to achieve food security and sustainable livelihoods.</p> <p>It is essential to empower farmers with disabilities, including women, and make them economically self-reliant by developing the skills to become independent, small-scale entrepreneurs. This workshop will examine policies for engaging PWDs in agriculture and increase inclusive productivity levels in APO member economies.</p>
<b>Topics</b>	Introduction to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; Barrier analysis: Introduction to approaches in disability-inclusive programming; Best practices of successful, inclusive agricultural programs with PWD inclusion; and Applying barrier analysis principles to agricultural programming scenarios using case studies.
<b>Outcome</b>	Participants acquire an understanding of rights-based disability inclusion and a universal programming framework approach to include PWDs in agricultural policy initiatives, including the role and contribution of PWDs in productivity enhancement in agriculture.
<b>Qualifications</b>	Policymakers, officials of government agencies and public institutes, academics, and senior representatives of farming associations and NGOs involved in engaging and empowering PWDs in agriculture and allied activities.

Please refer to the implementation procedures circulated with this document for further details.



Dr. Indra Pradana Singawinata  
Secretary-General