



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 179

Date of Issue	1 August 2023
Project Code	23-CP-52-GE-WSP-A
Title	Workshop on Improving Agricultural Productivity through Mechanization
Timing	6 November 2023–9 November 2023
Hosting Country(ies)	Pakistan
Venue City(ies)	Lahore
Modality	Face-to-face
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Organization, Pakistan
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	19
Local Participants	6
Closing Date	15 September 2023
Remarks	Not Applicable

Objectives	Understand the latest technologies and measures for mechanization in agriculture; learn about policies and frameworks to support mechanization on small farms; discuss issues, opportunities, and challenges; share good practices; and make recommendations for possible mechanization options on small farms in APO members.
Rationale	Small farmers often face a lack of resources and labor, making it difficult for them to perform efficient farming operations. Mechanization is a key factor for improving productivity through automation of agricultural processes and complementing labor. Improving agricultural productivity through mechanization is aligned with the Smart Transformation goal in the APO Vision 2025.
Background	<p>Farmers need to choose the most appropriate power source for any operation depending on the work to be done and on who is performing it. The level of mechanization should meet their needs effectively and efficiently (FAO, 2023).</p> <p>Small farmers play an important role in most developing countries and communities. Mechanization makes agricultural processes more efficient, resulting in improved quality and increased yields. It also contributes to environmental sustainability by supporting the efficient use of natural resources such as water and land.</p> <p>However, developing countries face difficulties in mechanization due to a lack of information and skills, limited resources, insufficient infrastructure, and weak cooperative work systems involving machinery and labor.</p> <p>This workshop will examine the benefits and potential of mechanization, review case studies of mechanization appropriate for small farming operations, and analyze opportunities to improve agricultural productivity through mechanization in APO members.</p>
Topics	Overview of mechanization technologies and tools suitable for small farmers; Policies and frameworks to assist mechanization for small farmers; Business models that reduce labor loads and improve productivity; Financing and support systems for mechanization; and Case studies of opportunities and challenges for mechanization.
Outcome	Enhanced knowledge and understanding of the effectiveness of agricultural mechanization, appropriate machinery for agriculture and supporting policies based on local farming conditions, and cost-benefit analysis of machinery use in APO members.
Qualifications	Representatives of small farmers' associations, government officials, small farm owners, farm machinery SMEs, academics, and consultants working on agricultural machinery and mechanized farming.

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



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