



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 259

Date of Issue	19 January 2024
Project Code	24-RC-01-GE-CBD-A
Title	Management of the APO Accreditation and Certification Program
Timing	1 January 2024–31 December 2024
Hosting Country(ies)	APO Secretariat
Venue City(ies)	Not Applicable
Modality	Hybrid
Implementing Organization(s)	APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	Not Applicable
Local Participants	Not Applicable
Closing Date	Not Applicable
Remarks	Not Applicable

Objectives	Manage the APO Accreditation and Certification Program to ensure that Accreditation Body (APO-AB) standards meet the needs of APO-accredited certification bodies (CBs) and NPOs aspiring to be CBs; review progress of accredited CBs and ensure that they comply with the APO standards; and extend cooperation among CBs by facilitating a mutual recognition agreement (MRA) among APO members.
Rationale	The APO Accreditation Program aims to enable NPOs to be CBs in productivity specialist-related schemes. To meet the need for more CBs, the APO-AB continuously reviews and updates the accreditation management system covering requirements, procedures, certification schemes, and technical expertise.
Background	<p>The APO is a regional catalyst for improving productivity in the Asia-Pacific. The APO-AB strategizes its action plans to align activities and outputs with the overall goals of the APO Vision 2025. The APO Accreditation and Certification Program is one initiative to support members in productivity efforts through accreditation of CBs for operating the APO certification of persons schemes for productivity specialists.</p> <p>The APO Accreditation and Certification Program focuses on developing, implementing, and reviewing all activities related to accreditation and certification to cater to the needs of CBs, tap new opportunities, and adhere to international standards.</p> <p>By 2023, seven CBs had been accredited by the APO-AB, and the APO will continue to enhance the capabilities of NPOs in 2024. This program will help maintain APO-AB standards by developing a group for conducting CB assessments, reviewing the progress of accredited CBs, and facilitating an MRA among accredited CBs.</p>
Topics	APO-AB Council meetings; Assessment of CBs; Development of assessors; Development of an MRA by the Technical Working Group; APO CB workshop; and Promotion and progress review of CBs.
Outcome	The APO-AB accreditation management system will be strengthened; CBs will remain updated on the latest standards and procedures; an MRA among APO CBs will be developed; and more candidates will be certified by APO-accredited CBs.
Qualifications	Not Applicable.

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



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