



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 311

Date of Issue	14 February 2024
Project Code	24-RC-24-GE-RES-A
Title	Research on Government Rightsizing and Restructuring to Improve Bureaucratic Efficiency in APO Member Economies
Timing	29 February 2024–31 December 2024
Hosting Country(ies)	Not Applicable
Venue City(ies)	Not Applicable
Modality	Online
Implementing Organization(s)	APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	Not Applicable
Local Participants	Not Applicable
Closing Date	31 May 2024
Remarks	The above closing date is for the nomination of national experts.

Objectives	Provide a comparative analysis of rightsizing and restructuring reforms undertaken by the governments of participating member economies; assess the extent of rightsizing reform success in terms of increasing the productivity and performance of public-sector organizations; and provide recommendations on strengthening rightsizing and restructuring initiatives to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector.
Rationale	In an era of global crises, rising inflation, and changing geopolitical order, among other uncertainties, governments worldwide are increasingly facing fiscal constraints and economic uncertainties. These have prompted fundamental reforms to achieve more disciplined financial management and the delivery of better-quality public services. A notable reform is rightsizing and restructuring government operations as part of strategies for good governance and improved bureaucratic efficiency. This is in line with the APO's continued efforts to promote public-sector productivity among members.
Background	<p>Rightsizing and restructuring in the public sector are reforms under the new public management theory and good governance, embodying the principles of streamlining, downsizing, and rationalization. This reorganization of the bureaucracy can lead to higher productivity and greater citizen satisfaction.</p> <p>In APO member economies, rightsizing and restructuring are keys to improving bureaucratic efficiency and overall productivity. In collaboration with the APO Center of Excellence on Public-sector Productivity, this research will examine various approaches and assess their impact on public-sector efficiency and effectiveness in achieving the desired socioeconomic outcomes. It will also explore recent advances in public administration and public-sector management to make recommendations supporting overall governance reforms focusing on rightsizing and restructuring of the bureaucracy in APO members.</p>
Topics	Public-sector rightsizing and restructuring; Principles of and approaches to rightsizing and restructuring; Rightsizing and restructuring reforms for effective bureaucracy and good governance; and Implications of rightsizing and restructuring for productivity performance in the public sector.
Outcome	A report detailing rightsizing and restructuring implementation, processes, and effects on public-sector productivity performance in APO members, including comparative analyses and recommendations for improvement of the systems adopted by public-sector organizations.
Qualifications	Policy analysts or academic researchers specializing in government rightsizing and restructuring reforms covered in the research with proven research experience and publications in English.

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



Dr. Indra Pradana Singawinata
Secretary-General

Implementation Procedures for APO Research Projects (Chief and National Experts)

1. Methodology

- a. In-country research: Each national expert will collect and analyze data and write a preliminary report based on the research framework circulated prior to the coordination meeting. The reports will be finalized after the coordination meeting.
- b. Coordination meeting of experts: A coordination meeting to finalize the research methodology and framework will be organized. The preliminary reports detailing country-specific situations will be presented in this meeting for feedback from other experts. The virtual sessions will be around three hours each day.

2. Qualifications of Experts

Chief expert

Extensive experience in undertaking international research projects on government rightsizing and restructuring reforms and effects on productivity performance, conducting national-level need analysis, and publishing reports in English on those topics.

National experts

Policy analysts or academic researchers specializing in government rightsizing and restructuring reforms and effects on productivity performance with a track record of experience, three or more years in the position, and excellent English writing and presentation skills.

3. Tasks of Experts

Chief expert

- a. Develop the overall framework and guidelines for the research.
- b. Present the research framework, methodology, and report structure during the coordination meeting.
- c. Review the drafts and provide feedback to the national experts to ensure the quality of the work.
- d. Provide support and advice to the national experts in conducting the research.
- e. Prepare the final report and submit it to the APO Secretariat by the deadline.

National experts

- a. Collect data at national level following the methodology and framework provided.
- b. Write country reports on the analyses and findings based on the data collected.
- c. Present the preliminary reports during the coordination meeting.
- d. Revise the reports following the agreement during the coordination meeting and reflect the comments of the chief expert and APO Secretariat.
- e. Cooperate with the chief expert to ensure the quality and consistency of the final report.
- f. Submit the reports following the agreed format to the chief expert and APO Secretariat by the deadline.

4. Financial Arrangements

To be met by the APO

- a. Honoraria for the chief and national experts.
- b. All assignment and relevant research costs.

To be met by experts or participating members

All local implementation costs incurred by national experts when collecting data at the national level.

5. Actions by Participating APO Members

- a. Participating members are requested to nominate at least two candidate national experts before the deadline for the selection.
- b. Each nomination must be accompanied by the APO biodata form and uploaded to the APO Document Management System (DMS)/Fleekdrive by the NPO.

6. Actions by the APO Secretariat

- a. Identify and invite a chief expert to lead the research until its completion.
- b. Coordinate all arrangements related to the research activities.