PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Reference No.: 355

Date of Issue	2 April 2024
Project Code	24-RC-23-GE-COE-C-IN01
Title	Development of a Need and Readiness Assessment Survey on the Adoption of Industry 4.0 and Artificial Intelligence Tools and Technologies for SMEs toward Responsible Digital Transformation
Timing	15 April 2024–15 May 2024
Hosting Country(ies)	India
Venue City(ies)	Not Applicable
Modality	Online
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Council, India and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	India
Overseas Participants	Not Applicable
Local Participants	Not Applicable
Closing Date	Not Applicable
Remarks	This is a strengthening program for the Center of Excellence (COE) on IT for Industry 4.0 through development of a need and readiness assessment survey for SMEs to be used by NPC officers responsible for COE activities.

Objectives	Support the APO COE on IT for Industry 4.0 in developing a need and readiness assessment survey for the adoption of Industry 4.0 and AI tools and technologies for digital transformation of SMEs; and develop an assessment model and roadmap to disseminate, test, and measure readiness for the adoption of AI tools and technologies of SMEs in APO members.
Rationale	The COE on IT for Industry 4.0 helps improve productivity through capacity building of technology startups to demonstrate projects and research activities by widespread dissemination of the use of IT applications in Industry 4.0. Development of a need and readiness assessment survey will expand the knowledge and capacity of NPO officers in APO members to assess the needs and readiness of SMEs for adopting applications of Industry 4.0 and AI tools and technologies, contributing to their successful integration in the smart manufacturing sector.
Background	To scale up COE performance, a hybrid in-country consultation and training of trainers on Artificial Intelligence Tools and Technologies for SMEs for Responsible Digital Transformation was organized by the NPC, India, 8–19 January. The objectives were to equip NPC officers to train professionals in AI applications for smart manufacturing and strengthen the capacity of the APO COE on IT for Industry 4.0. Sixty-five NPC and regional branch staff attended. The survey will be used in SMEs in all APO members.
Topics	Development of a need and readiness assessment survey on adoption of Industry 4.0 and AI tools and technologies by SMEs; Survey, roadmap, and assessment model components; Pilot testing in SMEs in India; and Report on the assessment model.
Outcome	NPC officers can conduct need and readiness assessment on adoption of Industry 4.0 and AI tools for smart manufacturing by SMEs; capacity of the COE is strengthened; and know-how is disseminated to other APO members by NPC trainers.
Qualifications	NPC officers responsible for conducting COE activities.

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

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