



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 568

<b>Date of Issue</b>	6 March 2025
<b>Project Code</b>	25-RC-24-GE-RES-A
<b>Title</b>	Research on the Gig Economy in APO Members
<b>Timing</b>	1 April 2025–31 December 2025
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Venue City(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Modality</b>	Hybrid
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Local Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Closing Date</b>	23 May 2025
<b>Remarks</b>	The above deadline is for nomination of national experts.

<b>Objectives</b>	Analyze the impact of the gig economy on productivity trends; assess key forms of gig work and worker characteristics in different economies; examine regulatory frameworks that support workers in the gig economy; and provide policy recommendations to align the growth of the gig economy with sustainable economic development and workforce resilience.
<b>Rationale</b>	The gig economy represents a significant shift in employment patterns, driven by digital platforms and flexible work models, and it is rapidly transforming labor markets. While it has enabled innovation and access to diverse talent pools, it also challenges traditional productivity metrics by creating fragmented work environments and inconsistent worker protections.
<b>Background</b>	The gig economy, rooted in the rise of digital platforms in the early 2000s, has enabled on-demand services and freelance work, offering flexibility and new income opportunities but also raising concerns about income instability, social protections, and equitable growth (WEF, 2020). While it has created pathways for entrepreneurship and expanded labor market access, it has also deepened socioeconomic divides, leaving many workers vulnerable in the absence of robust policy frameworks. These dynamics have presented barriers to sustainable productivity, including inconsistent income streams, skill mismatches, hindrance to skill development, and regulatory gaps. These challenges call for a systematic analysis to uncover how the gig economy both supports and disrupts productivity growth. Understanding the gig economy's impact on productivity, innovation, and inclusive growth in APO members is necessary to foster a resilient, equitable economic ecosystem.
<b>Topics</b>	Trends in the gig economy; Impact of the gig economy on productivity; Effects on and transformation of the labor market; Key forms and characteristics of gig work; Regulatory frameworks for gig work; and Workforce adaptability and strategies for a sustainable gig economy.
<b>Outcome</b>	Comprehensive analyses of gig economy trends, major forms of gig work in different sectors and their characteristics, and impacts on productivity, including policy recommendations for optimizing the gig economy for more inclusive, sustainable growth and economic resilience of APO members.
<b>Qualifications</b>	Experts must have strong backgrounds in and knowledge of labor economics, workforce productivity, and policy analysis, with proven research experience on socioeconomic trends through publications in English.

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



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Secretary-General