

PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 699

Date of Issue	9 September 2025
Project Code	25-CP-30-GE-OSM-A
Title	Multicountry Observational Study Mission on Principles and Best Practices of the Sufficiency-based Circular Economy
Timing	10 December 2025–12 December 2025
Hosting Country(ies)	APO Secretariat
Venue City(ies)	Tokyo
Modality	Face-to-face
Implementing Organization(s)	APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	40
Local Participants	Not Applicable
Closing Date	28 October 2025
Remarks	The study mission will be held in Tokyo, Japan, and hosted by the APO Secretariat.

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Objectives	Gain insights into approaches adopted by Japanese enterprises in strengthening ESG parameters; understand the best practices in adoption of the 3R (reduce, reuse, and recycle) principle in Japan leading to a sufficiency-based circular economy; and participate in EcoPro 2025 to observe environmentally friendly technologies and possibly network with exhibitors.
Rationale	Given the need to adopt strategies to mitigate climate change, leverage digital technologies for carbon accounting, and adopt productivity enhancement techniques such as the 3Rs to transition to circularity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, this observational study mission (OSM) aligns with the APO Green Productivity 2.0 initiative to achieve a net-zero future and meet the UN SDGs.
Background	Among major economies in the Asia-Pacific, Japan and the ROK are frontrunners in setting ambitious net-zero targets for 2050. Focusing on ecoproducts and services, strategies for responsible production and consumption, and adopting environment-friendly technological interventions are key aspects of national action plans in the pursuit of a carbon-neutral future. As APO members are at different levels of socioeconomic development, efforts in developed economies can act as references for replication after customizing to meet local needs and constraints.
	This OSM is a platform for participants to gain firsthand understanding of the implications of emerging trends and technological interventions in Japan focused on economic and industrial growth with the least environmental impact. Exposure during the OSM will foster efforts in other APO members to design frameworks for overall socioeconomic development.
Topics	Leveraging digital technologies for strengthening ESG parameters; The journey to environment-conscious business growth; Participation in EcoPro 2025; Key aspects of international circular economy standards; Discussions with industry leaders on circular business transition; and Site visit to observe implementation of 3R principles.
Outcome	Participants have a better understanding of practical solutions by adopting environment-friendly products and technologies in value streams and act as references in efforts to decouple industrial growth from environmental degradation.
Qualifications	Government officials, policymakers, senior representatives of industrial associations, academics, and think-tank personnel working on carbon emission reductions, ESG, ecoproducts and technology, climate change mitigation, 3R strategies and policies, net-zero emissions, and meeting the UN SDGs.

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

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