



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 743

<b>Date of Issue</b>	8 December 2025
<b>Project Code</b>	25-RC-04-GE-COE-C
<b>Title</b>	Development and Strengthening the Programs of the Centers of Excellence (COE)
<b>Timing</b>	1 January 2025–31 December 2026
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Venue City(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Modality</b>	Hybrid
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	National Productivity Organizations and APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Local Participants</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Closing Date</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Remarks</b>	This PN supersedes the version issued on 27 January 2025 (Reference No. 515) to update the program timing and to remove closing dates mentioned in the “Remarks”.

<b>Objectives</b>	Establish COE within APO members by identifying and developing key competencies to enhance productivity; promote innovation, knowledge and technology transfer to continuously improve practices, strengthen existing COEs in specialized domains; encourage collaboration and best practice sharing; evaluate and assess COE performance to ensure sustained excellence and measurable success in their focus areas.
<b>Rationale</b>	Creating a collaborative environment to spread the know-how and best practices of one APO member to others is a key methodology for improving productivity. By consolidating the expertise throughout the Asia-Pacific, the COE Program facilitates regional cooperation and serves as a catalyst for knowledge sharing, skill development, and exchanging productivity know-how.
<b>Background</b>	<p>The APO COE Program both enhances the competitiveness of individual members and creates a network for sharing successful productivity initiatives, thus accelerating overall development in the region. It brings together experts and resources in specific fields to drive innovation, efficiency, and excellence among APO members to collectively contribute to overall growth, competitiveness, and adaptability in the Asia-Pacific region. The COE development model is delivered in a “1-3-1”-year three-phase life cycle: designation; delivery; and replication.</p> <p>In 2025, the COE Program focuses on disseminating practices and technologies developed by COE, enhancing the collaboration and networking among COE through international platforms. Strengthening the capacity and assessing the status of existing COE’s performance to determine their next stages while identifying and developing new COE in required areas of excellence will also be conducted.</p>
<b>Topics</b>	Promoting innovation, technology as well as knowledge transfer and sharing excellence related to specific focus areas through research, training, mentoring, workshops, benchmarking, pilot projects, and study missions; Developing and publishing training kits, manuals, and case studies; Organizing a forum for experience sharing and expanding cooperation among COE; and Assessing existing COE to determine their status in line with the COE guidelines.
<b>Outcome</b>	Increased organizational and individual capacity of COE to build and disseminate know-how and technology in their areas of excellence, enhanced collaboration and networking among COE, and new COE created on focus areas supporting the APO Vision 2025.
<b>Qualifications</b>	Organizations/institutions that have demonstrated outstanding competence and acted as catalysts in promoting best practices in COE focus areas as well as those appointed by the Governing Body to be APO COE.

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



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