



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 612

Date of Issue	12 May 2025
Project Code	25-IP-01-GE-OSM-A
Title	Multicountry Observational Study Mission on Smart Manufacturing and Digital Supply Chains
Timing	13 August 2025–15 August 2025
Hosting Country(ies)	Republic of China
Venue City(ies)	Taichung
Modality	Face-to-face
Implementing Organization(s)	China Productivity Center
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	38
Local Participants	12
Closing Date	16 June 2025
Remarks	Not Applicable

Objectives	Gain insights into the latest advances in and implementation of smart manufacturing (SM) technologies; explore digital supply chains; and learn about the integration of digital technologies in supply chain management.
Rationale	Digital transformation is rapidly reshaping the manufacturing sector and supply chains on an extraordinary scale. In this era of fast-paced change and uncertainty, it is essential for policymakers in member economies to offer optimal support and resources to help enterprises adapt to digitalization. This will enhance supply chain resilience and strengthen the competitive edge in the global market.
Background	<p>Global supply chains are the backbone of manufacturing. They have faced disruptions from events like the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical tensions, and natural disasters, highlighting the need for further digitalization. It is vital for firms to pick up early signals of uncertainties, thereby gaining sufficient time to orchestrate operations and resources to withstand disruptions (ADB, 2023). The IoT enables the creation of digital threads providing real-time insights into not only equipment performance and production status but also supply chain logistics. AI algorithms can be used for predictive maintenance, quality control, and production optimization as well as predicting future demand and potential constraints in supply chains and determining root causes of quality issues outside manufacturing such as in supply chains (APO, 2024).</p> <p>The ROC, the APO Center of Excellence on SM, will show how enterprises can maximize digitalization in their operations. This study mission will also allow participants to gain insights into how digital technologies are enhancing manufacturing efficiency and building resilient, future-ready supply chains.</p>
Topics	SM technology overview; Policies, strategies, and initiatives to support SMEs in SM; Digital supply chain management; Green supply chains; Case studies; and Site visits to manufacturing companies.
Outcome	Enhanced understanding of SM, insights into digital supply chain integration, identification of best practices and strategies that can be adapted and implemented, strengthened collaboration and networking, and action plans for adoption.
Qualifications	SME executives, representatives of industrial associations, consultants and productivity practitioners with experience in digital upgrading in SMEs, and government officials and policy research officers involved in strategies for SME development and digitalization.

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



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