



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

PN Issue Date	9 January 2020
PN Revision 1 Issue Date	13 March 2020
Project Code	20-AG-04-GE-WSP-B
Title	Workshop on Policy Initiatives for Attracting Youth and Preventing Attrition in Agriculture
Timing and Duration	13–17 July 2020 (five days)
Venue	Malang, East Java, Indonesia
Implementing Organization(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ministry of Agriculture, R.I.2. Ministry of Manpower, R.I.
Maximum Number of Overseas Participants	18
Maximum Number of Local Participants	6
Target Country(ies)	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Republic of China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, IR Iran, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam
Closing Date for Nominations	30 April 2020

Change History of Project Notification: 20-AG-04-GE-WSP-B

Revision	Date of Issue	Clause	Modifications
Revision 1	11 March 2020	Timing and Duration	At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture R.I., based on local conditions in the host country, the timing has been changed from 22-26 June to 13–17 July 2020.
		Venue	At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture R.I., and based on appropriateness for the project topic, the venue has been changed from Makassar, South Sulawesi to Malang, East Java, Indonesia.
		Closing Date for Nominations	Based on the change in project timing, the nomination deadline has been changed from 3 April to 30 April 2020.

1. Objectives

- a. To review recent policy initiatives and schemes to attract the young generation to rural areas and promote young talent in agriculture to revitalize rural economies;
- b. To share emerging trends in agriculture and discuss insights on systematic facilitation and institutional support for creating an enabling environment for youth agrientrepreneurship; and
- c. To recommend a holistic policy ecosystem to meet the needs of stakeholders engaging the youth and rural communities and develop strategic action plans for sustainable, inclusive rural development.

2. Background

Shrinking young populations in rural areas is an issue of immense importance in both developed and developing countries. Youth outflux to cities affects rural economies so seriously that some villages in APO member countries may face extinction in a couple of decades if no corrective action is taken. That outflux also causes overpopulation problems in urban areas such as insufficient housing, unemployment, hunger, and hygiene issues. Therefore, maintaining balanced demographics and appropriate population sizes in both rural and urban areas is essential for sustainable growth.

With the emergence of Industry 4.0, more sophisticated applications of digital technologies are being adopted in agriculture. Today, farming no longer relies mainly on manual labor but incorporates mechanical operations combined with real-time digital information. Digitally savvy young people are greatly needed to contribute to transforming the agricultural ICT environment. For example, agricultural produce is vulnerable to natural conditions such as weather, soil, and water but recently controlled-environment agriculture has resolved such limitations and raised quality standards for agrifood products.

Across agrifood supply chains, young people are becoming innovative entrepreneurs under new business models as producers, distributors, marketers, and sellers. Some develop disruptive supply chains that engage small farmers and secure their markets to promote the inclusive, sustainable growth of rural communities. Others create new products from unconventional agricultural resources such as seaweed and insects for food and feed. Youth startups are transforming previously wasted low-quality fruit and vegetables into new, value-added food items.

According to the UN, “youth” is defined as those aged between 15 and 24 years. Systematic management of the youth population in the Asia-Pacific region is extremely important as it is home to over 60% of the world total (750 million), and agriculture is experiencing the fastest decrease in youth participation. Therefore, attracting talented young people to agriculture has been a core agenda item for governments globally, and efforts are being made to understand the specific characteristics of young people, how to make working environments for them more conducive, and the best methods to nurture their talents. Some APO member countries provide incentives to attract young people to rural areas and retain them in agriculture. This workshop will review policies and initiatives in Asia and beyond to discuss public support and enabling government schemes for increasing youth participation in agriculture.

3. Scope and Methodology

The workshop will consist of presentations by resource persons, sharing of country experiences by participants, group exercises, and site visits.

The tentative program of this project is given below:

Date/Time	Tentative Activity
Sunday, 12 July 2020	Arrival of participants in Malang, East Java

Date/Time	Tentative Activity
Day 1: Monday, 13 July	<p>Opening session</p> <p>Session 1: Understanding youth and trends in agriculture</p> <p>Presentation 1: Youth/millennial characteristics, agribusiness opportunities for youth, and youth empowerment in agriculture</p> <p>Presentation 2: Recent trends in agribusiness and agritechnologies, agricultural digitization, and emerging young entrepreneurs and startups</p> <p>Session 2: Establishing an enabling environment for attracting youth to agriculture</p> <p>Presentation 3: Snapshots of government policies for attracting the young generation to agribusinesses and rural areas</p> <p>Presentation 4: Facilitating and enhancing access to land</p> <p>Presentation 5: Increasing access to agrisupply chains and urban markets</p>
Day 2: Tuesday, 14 July	<p>Session 2: Continued</p> <p>Presentation 6: Increasing access to finance and emerging solutions for financial procurement</p> <p>Presentation 7: Entrepreneurship and agribusiness support services</p> <p>Presentation 8: Creating youth entrepreneurship ecosystems in agriculture</p> <p>Session 3: Systematic management of youth talent</p> <p>Presentation 9: ICT-based agricultural extension systems and training young talent in rural areas</p> <p>Presentation 10: Leveraging collective action: youth groups/organizations for farming and agribusiness development</p> <p>Presentation 11: Governments' role in facilitating interactions and competition among agrientrepreneurs</p>
Day 3: Wednesday, 15 July	Field visits to companies/organizations/institutes
Day 4: Thursday, 16 July	<p>Session 3: Continued</p> <p>Presentation 12: Rethinking policy on youth in agriculture: identifying government support mechanisms for agricultural development</p> <p>Session 4: Country presentations by participants</p>
Day 5: Friday, 17 July	<p>Session 5: Group breakout session</p> <p>Discussion on policy development and management of young talent to increase the workforce in agriculture</p> <p>Presentation of group discussion output</p> <p>Program evaluation by participants, resource persons, and implementing organizations</p> <p>Formulation of follow-up action plans by individual participants</p> <p>Summing-up and closing session</p>
Saturday, 18 July	Departure of participants

4. Qualifications of Candidates

Participants are expected to possess the following qualifications:

Present Position	Senior public officials from ministries and/or local governments working for policy development on youth talent/workforce management in agriculture; leaders of young entrepreneurs' organizations; and consultants and academics engaged in sustainable agriculture and rural development, preferably focusing on attracting young people to rural communities and demographic management in rural areas.
Experience	At least three years of experience in the position described above.
Education	University degree or equivalent qualification from a recognized university/institution.
Language	All proceedings of the project are conducted in English, and participants are frequently required to make oral and written presentations. They must therefore be proficient in spoken and written English. Those who are not proficient in English will not be accepted.
Health	Physically and mentally fit to attend an intensive project requiring participants to complete a number of individual and group activities and strenuous fieldwork. It is therefore recommended that member countries do not nominate candidates likely to suffer from physical and mental stress.
Age	Candidates who fit the above profile are typically between 30 and 50 years of age.
Attendance	Participants are required to attend the entire program.

5. Requirements

The participants are required to undertake preparatory work such as writing country papers prior to departure for the project venue.

All participants are required to prepare and submit action plans to the APO and share them with their NPOs within 10 working days after attending the project. The participants are also required to submit postproject follow-up reports six months after project completion to document the achievement of outcome(s) of the project. NPOs will monitor the follow-up actions and report submission by participants.

The Guidelines for Project Preparatory Work will be provided in the project circular, and the Postproject Activity Guidelines are given in Attachment 1.

5-1. Repeat Participants (who attended previous APO projects and are applying for another)

- a. In the Candidate's Biodata form (application form), candidates are required to provide details of follow-up actions taken after attending a previous APO project(s) and outcomes (benefits) of those activities.
- b. Candidates are also required to state in the Candidate's Biodata form whether they submitted a report on their follow-up actions.

5-2. All Participants

- a. In the Candidate's Biodata form, candidates are required to list their expectations from the project and planned postproject actions/activities. This is a tentative list, which participants are free to revise or replace after attending the project (as in item b below).
- b. All participants are required to develop and submit final follow-up action plans within 10 working days of project completion, in the format to be provided by the APO Secretariat later.
- c. All participants are required to submit reports on the follow-up actions taken within six months (or a period specified for a particular project) of project completion.

- d. The reports on follow-up actions are separate from the trip reports participants usually submit to their organizations/NPOs immediately after returning from project venues. The report format will be provided before project completion.

6. Financial Arrangements

6-1. Airfare

The APO will meet the cost of round-trip economy-class international airfare between the international airport nearest to the participants' place of work and Malang, East Java, Indonesia.

Participants should note that the arrangements for the purchase of air tickets should follow the "Guide on Purchases of Air Tickets for APO Participants," which will be sent to the selected participants and is also available on the APO website and from APO Liaison Officers in member countries.

6-2. Insurance Coverage

Participants' insurance premiums: All participants should be fully insured against accident and illness (including hospitalization and death) for a principal sum equivalent to USD10,000.00 for the entire duration of the project and travel and must submit to the APO Secretariat a copy of the comprehensive travel insurance certificate before participation. Such insurance should be valid in the host country. This insurance requirement is in addition to existing government insurance coverage in some member countries. Neither the APO nor the implementing organization will be responsible for any eventuality arising from accident, illness, acts of war, force majeure, or any unexpected events beyond human control such as those related to natural disasters.

6-3. Cost Sharing

Subject to the conditions stated in the Financial Arrangements section, the following table shows the cost-sharing arrangements between the APO, host country, and participants or participating countries.

Cost item	Cost to be met by		
	Participants or participating countries	Host country	APO
Round-trip economy-class international airfare (refer to paragraph Airfare for conditions)	No	No	Yes
Participating Country Expenses (PCEs)	NA	NA	NA
Hotel accommodation in Malang, East Java	No	Yes	No
Per diem allowance in Malang, East Java	No	Yes	No
Transportation costs to and from hotel and airport in Malang, East Java	No	Yes	No
Insurance coverage in Indonesia (refer to paragraph Insurance Coverage)	Yes	No	No
Any expenses related to visa fees and airport taxes	Yes	No	No
All expenses incurred by participants for any reason including but not limited to:	Yes	No	No
a. Stopovers			
b. Extension of stay			
c. Early arrival or late departure			
d. Flight cancellation			

Cost item	Cost to be met by		
	Participants or participating countries	Host country	APO
Any cancellation charges for expenses such as airfare and accommodations incurred by the APO or host country after issuance of Letters of Acceptance	Yes	No	No
Assignment costs of international resource persons	NA	No	Yes
Assignment costs of local resource persons	NA	Yes	No
All local implementation costs including but not limited to:	NA	Yes	No
a. Meeting rooms b. Documentation c. Preparatory costs			

7. Actions by Member Countries

- a. Each participating country is requested to nominate three or more candidates in the order of preference. Please ensure that candidates nominated meet the qualifications specified under the section Qualifications of Candidates above.
- b. No form of self-nomination will be accepted. All nominations must be endorsed and submitted by an APO Director, Alternative Director, Liaison Officer, or their designated officer.
- c. Please note that nomination of a candidate does not necessarily guarantee that he/she will be selected. Selection is at the discretion of the selection committee of the APO Secretariat. A basic criterion for selection is the homogeneity of the participants in terms of qualifications and work experience. Nonselection therefore does not mean that the candidates concerned are not competent enough. Sometimes candidates are not selected because they are overqualified for a project.
- d. Each nomination should be accompanied by the necessary documents. A nomination lacking any of these documents may not be considered:
 - I. The Biodata Form should be entered in the Document Management System (DMS)/Fleekdrive. The form can be downloaded from the APO website (www.apo-tokyo.org). The Biodata Form (Ver. 1.1) in the Excel (xlsx) format should be uploaded to the specific project folder in nominees' member country folders in DMS/Fleekdrive.
 - II. The APO Medical and Insurance Declaration/Certification Form must be completed and submitted with candidates' biodata at the time of nomination through DMS/Fleekdrive. Please note that self-declaration is sufficient for candidates without any of health conditions or illnesses listed on the reverse side of the medical form. However, for all others, medical certification by a licensed physician on the reverse side of the medical form is required.
- e. Member countries are requested to adhere to the nomination deadline given on page 1. The APO Secretariat may not consider late nominations as they have in the past resulted in considerable difficulties to the implementing organization in its preparatory work for the project.
- f. For member countries where nominations are required to be approved by higher government authorities and require a longer time, APO Liaison Officers/NPOs are urged to send the names of nominees on or before the deadline, indicating that government approval will follow.
- g. If a selected participant becomes unable to attend, he/she should inform the APO Liaison Officer/NPO in his/her country immediately and give the reason for withdrawal. The NPO concerned

is requested to transmit that information to the APO Secretariat and the host country promptly.

- h. NPOs are requested to inform the selected participants that they are not to bring family members or to engage in any private business activities during the entire duration of the project.
- i. Each selected participant should be instructed to arrive at the venue one day before the start of the official project. Also, he/she is expected to return home upon completion of the official project because he/she is visiting the host country for the specific purpose of attending this APO workshop.
- j. NPOs should inform participants that they must attend the entire program of the project.
- k. NPOs should assist the APO and/or host country in collecting amounts corresponding to cancellation charges arising from withdrawal or no-show of a participant.

8. Actions by the APO Secretariat

- a. Under normal circumstances, candidates who are selected will be informed of their acceptance at least four weeks prior to the start of the project.
- b. If some candidates fail to qualify or be unable to participate after selection, or if some member countries fail to nominate any candidate, their slots may be filled by alternates from the same or another member country on a merit basis.

9. Project Preparation

The participants are required to prepare a short paper prior to departure for the project venue. In preparing the paper, they are expected to follow the "Guidelines for the Preparation of Country Papers" to be provided later.

10. Postproject Actions

All participants are required to prepare action plans and share the plans with their NPOs. The APO also requests participants to submit progress reports six months after completion of the project. In addition, participants taking part in training-of-trainers courses must also submit a report summarizing a training project that they conducted following the action plans to the APO and NPOs within six months after project completion.

11. Evaluation of Participants

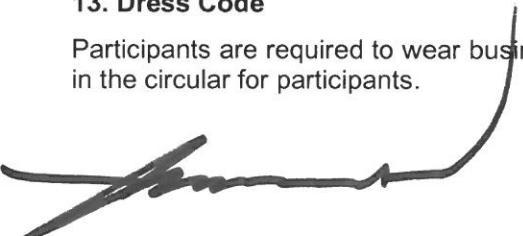
If the conduct/attendance/performance of a participant is not satisfactory, these will be reported to the APO director concerned.

12. Guide for Participants

Other conditions for participation are given in the *APO Guide for Participants*, which is available from APO Liaison Officers/NPOs in member countries and on the APO website (www.apo-tokyo.org).

13. Dress Code

Participants are required to wear business attire during the project. Other instructions will be provided in the circular for participants.



Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General



Attachment 1

POSTPROJECT ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

The follow-up actions by participants after project attendance determine the extent of multiplier effects (outcomes) of APO projects in member countries. The APO has therefore established an interdepartmental Participant Selection Committee to ensure selection of the most appropriate candidates. A key consideration is whether individuals are in a position, have the ability, and are willing to undertake follow-up actions after project attendance.

Each participant is required to undertake follow-up actions after attending an APO project based on his/her learning from it and report on those activities to the NPO of his/her country and the APO Secretariat, following the guidelines below:

Examples of Follow-up Activities

The examples below are suggestions and are not meant to limit participants' choices of follow-up actions:

- a. An official report on project attendance to participants' organizations, or NPOs, or both;
- b. Newspaper/magazine articles based on learning from the project;
- c. Application of knowledge, skills, techniques, or technologies for improving job performance and/or organizational capacity;
- d. Delivering a presentation or lecture on the project topic;
- e. Conducting a workshop/seminar/conference/forum on the project topic;
- f. Improving training/teaching/extension materials related to the project topic; and
- g. Sharing project findings with colleagues, professional groups, or others.