
Dear Sir,

We invite your kind attention to NPC [https://www.npcindia.gov.in/NPC/User/InternationalServices](https://www.npcindia.gov.in/NPC/User/InternationalServices) with regard to above Asian Productivity Organization (APO) project. The project notification and the APO bio data form are available on the above mentioned page and the same are also attached herewith. The duly filled in single copy of Performa enclosed (in excel form only) of the suitable officers for participation as per the para (Qualifications for Participants) of the project notification may kindly be forward to reach us latest by 14th September, 2020. In this regard, the following points may be noted.

- **Financial Arrangement**

  The round trip economy class International airfare by the most route from the International airport nearest to the participant’s place of work, hotel accommodation and the per diem allowances charges of the participants at the venue will be met by APO Secretariat. Tokyo, Japan (host country)/APO, as per project notification issued by APO.

  However, the travel insurance and visa fees are to be borne by the participant.

  In case of withdrawal of participation from the said program, subsequent to selection, the cancellation charges towards hotel accommodation, airline ticket etc. will borne by the participants/participants organization.

- **Fees and Charges**

  An Application fees (NON-REFUNDABLE) of Rs. 500/- + 18% GST for MSME Sector, Trade Unions and NGO’s and Rs. 1000/- + 18% GST for others is payable along with the nomination form, for each participant.

  In case of selection by APO, NPC will charge Rs. 3,000/- + 18% GST for MSME Sector, Trade Unions and NGO’s, Rs. 12,000/- + 18% GST for profit making organizations and Rs. 6,000/- + 18% GST for others per participant is payable towards handling charges and membership fee for the APO Alumni Association of India (AAAI).

  The requisite amount can be paid through a demand draft/cheque/ECS drawn in favour of National Productivity Council, New Delhi. In this regard, the bank account of NPC details is attached herewith. Kindly e-mail the details of the ECS/RTGS/NEFT payment made, mentioning the name of applicant in remarks, to mayank.verma@npcindia.gov.in, isq@npcindia.gov.in, rk.rawat@npcindia.gov.in Please note, in the absence of application fee, the nomination will not be considered.
• Nomination Procedure

All nominations should be routed through proper channel and as per the attached APO bio data form. The nominations received after the last date will not be considered. It is the responsibility of the candidates to complete all the official formalities required by their organizations/department before proceeding abroad.

It is requested to send nominations by e-mail to mayank.verma@npcindia.gov.in, isg@npcindia.gov.in, rk.rawat@npcindia.gov.in (application in prescribed excel format) and one hard copy by post along with the covering letter of the competent authority on company’s letter head. All information pertaining to nominations will be treated as confidential and classified. The nominated officers may be invited as a faculty in programs on the relevant subject/s, organized by NPC.

We look forward to receiving of nominations from your esteemed organization.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(K.D. Bhardwaj)
Director & Head (Int'l Serv.)
for Director General
e-mail: isg@npcindia.gov.in
Ref. No. 20-IN-99-GE-WSP-A-PN2000031-002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PN Issue Date</th>
<th>03 July 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Code</td>
<td>20-IN-99-GE-WSP-A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Workshop on Women’s Empowerment for Productivity Gains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timing and Duration</td>
<td>7-11 December 2020 (5 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing Organization(s)</td>
<td>APO Secretariat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Country(ies)</td>
<td>All Member Countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Number of Overseas Participants</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Number of Local Participants</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Date for Nominations</td>
<td>7 October 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Objectives

a. To learn about recent initiatives and best practices to eliminate gender disparity and unconscious bias to promote equality and encourage female labor force participation (FLFP) in productive economic activities;
b. To understand the basic concepts of productivity tools and methodologies such as kaizen, 5S, 7W, 4M+1E, etc. with a special focus on gender parity and FLFP; and
c. To discuss the future direction of and develop individual action plans for women’s empowerment for productivity gains in participants’ countries.

2. Background

UN Sustainable Development Goal No. 5 (SDG 5) calls for gender equality and improving the livelihoods of marginalized women at the bottom of the pyramid. Enhancing FLFP in economic activities for productivity growth is also high on the international agenda, such as under the UN SDGs and Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration. Studies have shown that the rate of untapped productive potential of women is almost double that of men globally. Underutilized or unutilized women’s capital potential lowers national competitiveness if unaddressed. Over the years, many developed countries have committed to improving FLFP by systematically removing the hurdles, including entrenched social perceptions and career glass ceilings, women face. Japan has also implemented socially progressive measures to create a conducive environment where women can shine and where more working mothers can take on leadership positions with the appropriate policy and social support.

Even as International Women’s Day is celebrated every 8 March, it is worth noting that challenges remain despite the supportive policies currently adopted. According to the International Labour Organization, the ratio of women in management and other leadership positions remained at only 27.1% worldwide. More can be done at the government, business, and community levels to ensure that working women’s potential is effectively harnessed for overall productivity gains in national economies.

In this connection, there is a large potential for greater women’s participation across APO member countries. This demographic must be empowered with both established and more recent productivity tools. This will result in raising their labor productivity and enhancing overall GDP growth. The APO Secretariat is therefore hosting this workshop, with the support of the Japan Productivity Center, in order to showcase some of the best practices of women’s empowerment practices and productivity tools in Japan.

3. Scope and Methodology

The tentative topics to be covered are:

a. Women’s empowerment in the workplace for productivity enhancement;
b. Japan’s recent initiatives and best practices to eliminate gender disparity and unconscious bias to promote equality and to encourage FLFP in productive economic activities; and

c. Basic concepts of productivity tools and methodologies such as kaizen, 5S, 7W, 4M+1S, etc.

The workshop will consist of resource persons’ presentations, case studies, discussions, site visits, and the preparation and presentation of individual action plans.

The tentative program of this project is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06-December-2020</td>
<td>Arrival of participants in Tokyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-December-2020</td>
<td>Opening session. Resource persons’ presentations and case studies in Japan on Women’s Empowerment in the Workplace for Productivity Enhancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-December-2020</td>
<td>Resource persons’ presentations on productivity tools and methodologies, dialogues, and discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-December-2020</td>
<td>Site visits to relevant companies/organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-December-2020</td>
<td>Site visits to relevant companies/organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-December-2020</td>
<td>Individual action plan preparation and presentation Summing-up and closing session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-December-2020</td>
<td>Departure of participants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Qualifications of Candidates

The participants are expected to possess the following qualifications:

**Present Position**: Government officials involved in development strategies for women’s empowerment and involvement of female entrepreneurs in productivity improvement initiatives; and senior representatives of industrial associations or company leaders seeking to increase FLFP rates.

**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. Requirement (applicable to those who attends [certain project type])

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 to 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. The 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 Tokyo, Japan.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost item</th>
<th>Cost to be met by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Participants or participating countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round-trip economy-class international airfare (refer to paragraph on Airfare for conditions)</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating Country Expenses (PCEs) (refer to paragraph on Participating Country Expenses (PCEs)</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel accommodation at the Venue</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per diem allowance at the Venue</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation costs to and from hotel and airport at the Venue</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance coverage in the host country (refer to paragraph on Insurance Coverage)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:
- a. Stopovers
- b. Extension of stay
- c. Early arrival or late departure
- d. Flight cancellation | Yes | No | No
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 | No | Yes
All local implementation costs including but not limited to:
- a. Meeting rooms
- b. Documentation
- c. Preparatory costs | NA | No | Yes

### 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 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 project.

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
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.