



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 366

<b>Date of Issue</b>	26 July 2024
<b>Project Code</b>	24-IP-13-GE-WSP-A
<b>Title</b>	Workshop on Advancing Gene Editing in the Agrifood Sector
<b>Timing</b>	25 September 2024–27 September 2024
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Venue City(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Modality</b>	Online
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	50
<b>Local Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Closing Date</b>	13 September 2024
<b>Remarks</b>	Not Applicable

<b>Objectives</b>	Understand gene-editing applications in the agrifood sector; learn from best practices in product design, development, and market introduction; and discuss strategies and actions for advancing gene-editing applications in APO members.
<b>Rationale</b>	Adoption of innovations such as gene-editing technologies must be accelerated in the agrifood sector to improve agricultural productivity to meet growing food demand while contributing to environmental sustainability. This project will contribute to Smart Transformation under the APO's Vision 2025.
<b>Background</b>	<p>Gene editing represents a significant advance in agricultural biotechnology, offering a precise method to enhance plant, fish, and animal breeds to improve the quality and productivity of agricultural products. According to the FAO (2022), it can contribute to increasing crop yields, enhancing nutritional profiles, and bolstering environmental resilience. Gene editing allows for more precise modifications compared with traditional breeding methods, potentially reducing the time and cost associated with developing new varieties or breeds.</p> <p>In the Asia-Pacific region, where genetically modified crops have seen limited adoption due to time, cost, and market requirements, gene editing could be particularly beneficial due to its lower development costs and potentially more straightforward regulatory processes. For developing countries, this technology offers an opportunity to tailor agricultural products to meet specific national needs, addressing issues like food security and nutrition while considering socioeconomic impacts and environmental sustainability.</p>
<b>Topics</b>	Overview of gene-editing technologies; Supporting policies and regulations; Case studies; and Applications in the Asia-Pacific.
<b>Outcome</b>	Participants understand how gene-editing technologies could benefit the agrifood sector and identify possible applications in APO members.
<b>Qualifications</b>	Government officials, policymakers, senior researchers, and executives of farmers'/agribusiness associations involved in the development and adoption of innovations in the agrifood sector for food security and agricultural productivity.

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



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