



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 377

<b>Date of Issue</b>	24 April 2024
<b>Project Code</b>	24-RC-15-GE-RES-A
<b>Title</b>	Research on Emerging Trends in APO Member Countries
<b>Timing</b>	24 April 2024–31 December 2024
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Venue City(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Modality</b>	Online
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	Open
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Local Participants</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Closing Date</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Remarks</b>	The submission dates for research proposals are as follows: Phase I: 15 June 2024 Phase II: 30 September 2024 For more details, please refer to the attached Implementation Procedures.

<b>Objectives</b>	Examine emerging trends across different sectors in APO members, identify the impacts of those trends on productivity and growth dynamics at both national and regional levels, and identify potential policy responses to the trends to enhance the APO's role as a regional adviser for its members.
<b>Rationale</b>	In its role as a regional catalyst for improving productivity, the APO must analyze emerging trends, government development priorities, and focuses of NPOs to identify new productivity tools and techniques, provide evidence-based policy advisory, and undertake capacity-building activities.
<b>Background</b>	Emerging social, technological, economic, environmental, and political trends have the potential to disrupt and transform markets, governments, and society in the near future (APO Emerging Trends Report, 2020). Organizations must be able to address those trends to meet their goals and thrive.  APO Productivity Data and Productivity Readiness indices show that members' productivity performance varies significantly and is vulnerable to the impacts of emerging trends. Therefore, country-specific trends should be investigated holistically, looking not only at challenges posed but also at emerging opportunities to optimize value. Consequently, the APO analyzes trends affecting the growth aspirations of its members using a comprehensive approach for informed decision-making by governments, enterprises, and individuals.
<b>Topics</b>	Social trends; Technological trends; Environmental trends; Economic trends; Political trends; and Implications for regional and national productivity performance.
<b>Outcome</b>	Analytical reports on emerging trends in APO members, early identification of issues and prospects, strengthened role of the APO as a think tank and regional adviser on productivity, and expanded partnerships with researchers for broad-based growth and development analysis.
<b>Qualifications</b>	Researchers, policy analysts, or research institutions/think tanks with proven experience in thematic areas defined in the implementation procedures and excellent report preparation skills.

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



Dr. Indra Pradana Singawinata  
Secretary-General

## IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES FOR THE EMERGING TRENDS IN APO MEMBER COUNTRIES SERIES

### 1. Methodology

- a. Proposal submission: Researchers, policy analysts, or research institutions/think tanks in APO member economies interested in publishing in the *Emerging Trends in APO Member Countries* series are invited to submit proposals by 15 June 2024 or 30 September 2024 for phases I and II, respectively. Proposals may focus on one or more thematic areas stipulated under “topics” in the project notification and should be applicable to all APO members. In addition, trends that are specific to a group of APO member economies or one APO member economy should be identified in the proposals. Proposals should include an overall report outline, thematic areas of focus, research methodology, data sources, and expected contributions. Proposals should not exceed 1,000 words excluding references.
- b. Research Topic:  
Expected coverage under each topic includes but is not limited to:
  - Social trends: Population, demography, employment, health, housing, education, motivation, culture, entrepreneurship, and other related topics;
  - Technological trends: Technology adoption in different economic sectors, ICT adoption and infrastructure, R&D, and other related topics;
  - Environmental trends: Policies and practices, climate issues, pollution, and other related issues;
  - Economic trends: Real sector developments (agriculture, manufacturing, services, labor force), economic and social infrastructure, national accounts statistics and productivity data, external sector (international trade, tourism, migrant remittances, capital flows, FDI, other balance of payment items), fiscal sector (government revenue, expenditure, debt), monetary and financial sectors (interest and exchange rates, banking sector), and other related topics; and,
  - Political trends: Government policies, leadership and change, foreign relations, and other related topics.
- c. Arrangement for selected proposals: Proposals will be reviewed and acceptance will be notified by 15 July 2024 for phase I and 31 October 2024 for phase II. An interview by the APO Secretariat may be part of the review process to be arranged online for research proposals that pass the first screening process.
- d. Researchers, policy analysts, or research institutions/think tanks whose proposals are selected will collect and analyze information and data, write reports, and submit full draft manuscripts to the APO Secretariat by 15 August 2024 for phase I and 31 November 2024 for phase II.
- e. Review: After submission of the reports, the Chief Expert and APO Secretariat may give comments and request revisions. The Chief Expert will recommend whether the APO Secretariat should publish the report.
- f. Publication: Upon the recommendation of the Chief Expert, the final reports will be published in the *Emerging Trends in APO Member Countries* series.

### 2. Qualifications of Report Authors

The APO Secretariat will select appropriate researchers, policy analysts, or research institutions/think tanks with the following qualifications as report authors:

- a. Extensive, specialized knowledge and experience in the thematic areas, national policy development and implementation, and a track record of publications.
- b. Excellent report preparation skills in English including analytical writing, formatting, and information presentation in graphical and tabular format.
- c. Strong commitment to undertaking and completing the project within the given timeframe.
- d. The basic criteria for reviewing the proposals include areas of focus, issues and trends identified, report structure and style, and relevance of the final output to APO members and the Secretariat.

### **3. Qualifications of the Chief Expert**

Extensive experience in undertaking qualitative and quantitative international research projects, engagement in national policy development, and preparation of analytical reports in fields relating to social, technological, economic, environmental, and political trends, with a high level of proficiency in English.

### **4. Tasks of Report Authors and the Chief Expert**

#### **Report authors**

- a. Work with the APO Secretariat in developing the report structure and coverage following the approved proposal.
- b. Collect information and data for the study (including obtaining necessary approvals from original data owners), analyze them, and derive insights based on the approved framework and methodology in the proposal.
- c. Prepare the final report and submit it to the APO Secretariat by the deadline.
- d. Support the APO Secretariat during the process of confirming the research findings with APO member economies.
- e. Revise the report according to comments from the APO Secretariat and Chief Expert.
- f. Provide support for dissemination of the research findings after report completion.

#### **Chief Expert**

- a. Review reports submitted to ensure that they meet objectives and are of the appropriate quality for publication.
- b. Provide comments to the report authors to improve their reports if necessary.

### **5. Financial Arrangements**

#### **To be met by the APO**

- a. Honoraria for the chief expert and report authors to be paid upon completion and publication of the final report.

#### **To be met by experts or participating APO member economies**

All implementation costs incurred by report authors when conducting the studies.

### **6. Actions by APO Members**

- a. Promote this research project among relevant stakeholders such as researchers, policy analysts, and research institutions/think tanks.

**7. Actions by Interested Report Authors**

- a. Interested researchers, analysts, and research institutions/think tanks may submit their proposals with CVs of key personnel involved directly to the APO Secretariat via email to [smudyanselage@apo-tokyo.org](mailto:smudyanselage@apo-tokyo.org) with a copy to [asato@apo-tokyo.org](mailto:asato@apo-tokyo.org).

**8. Actions by the APO Secretariat**

- a. Coordinate all arrangements related to publishing the *Emerging Trends in APO Member Countries* series.