



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-IP-01-GE-OSM-A-PN2200086-001

<b>Date of Issue</b>	02 September 2022
<b>Project Code</b>	22-IP-01-GE-OSM-A
<b>Title</b>	Multicountry Observational Study Mission on Industry 4.0 Digital Industrial Platforms
<b>Timing and Duration</b>	23–25 November 2022 (three days)
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	Singapore
<b>Modality</b>	Face-to-face
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	Singapore Productivity Centre
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	38
<b>Local Participants</b>	12
<b>Qualifications of Participants</b>	Government officials and policy research officers involved in industrial policy, development strategies for the SME and manufacturing sectors, and productivity improvement initiatives and senior representatives of industrial associations
<b>Nomination of Participants</b>	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
<b>Closing Date for Nominations</b>	1 October 2022

## 1. Objectives

- a. Provide references on digital platforms and networks for business digital upgrading.
- b. Observe good practices for SME digital transformation ecosystem.
- c. Discuss strategies and policies to facilitate industry digitalization in APO members.

## 2. Background

Digital platforms and industry networks play the roles of integrating technology building blocks, industrial applications, and stakeholders in the ecosystem for business transition toward Industry 4.0. While the IoT and cloud platforms assist exchanges of data and technical information, industry networks convey know-how, experiences, and resources to foster innovation-based environments for digital upgrading. Building secure, strong platforms and networks that facilitate technical and resource exchanges among businesses is crucial for comprehensive, sustainable digital transformation.

According to the 2021 IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking, Singapore has been one of the earliest and fastest among APO members in preparing for and responding to the Industry 4.0 movement, with strategic policies facilitating businesses and specific strengths in cultivating talent, connecting partners, and developing technological frameworks. Pursuing development in advanced manufacturing, AI, and workforce upgrading, various initiatives, such as the Smart Nation, Smart Industry Readiness Index, SME Go Digital, and Digital Government Blueprint, have been deployed and complement each other to support digital transformation in all dimensions. Industry networks and technological platforms are also established to connect stakeholders in the ecosystem to facilitate interlinked upgrading.

This study mission aims to examine the creation, functions, implications, and sustainability of such platforms and networks by observing existing strategies and practices in Singapore and discussing their effectiveness.

## 3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

The program comprises presentations by resource persons, group discussions, field visit(s), and other relevant learning methods. The indicative program schedule is below.

Day 1:

- Building a conducive ecosystem for digital upgrading
- Strategies and initiatives from Singapore for digital transformation
- Observational visits to authorities facilitating SME digital upgrading

Day 2:

- Understanding digital IoT and cloud platforms
- Observational visits to demonstration smart factories
- Group discussion and findings

Day 3:

- Digital transformation for SMEs: Challenges and prospects
- Observational visits to companies conducting or facilitating digital upgrading
- Group discussion and recommendations

The detailed program and list of resource persons will be provided a month prior to the program with announcement of the names of the selected participants.

The participants are required to attend all sessions. This full participation is a prerequisite for receiving the APO certificate of attendance.

## **4. Financial Arrangements**

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

- a. All assignment costs of overseas resource persons and honorarium for up to two local resource persons.
- b. Airfare:
  - Workshop and Conference: Round-trip economy-class international airfare by the most direct route between the international airport nearest to the participants' place of work and project venue.
  - Training Course and Observational Study Mission: Round-trip economy-class international airfare by the most direct route between the international airport nearest to the participants' place of work and project venue for those from NPOs, SMEs, and public-sector and nonprofit organizations.
  - Arrangements for air tickets for participants will be made by designated travel agents endorsed by NPOs.
- c. Accommodation and Per Diem Allowances:
  - Hotel accommodations and per diem allowances for overseas participants for up to four days.

### **4.2. To be met by participants**

- a. Participants from profit-making organizations attending training courses or observational study missions, except those from Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Lao PDR, Mongolia, and Nepal:
  - Round-trip international airfare between the international airport nearest to the participants' place of work and project venue.
  - Participating Country Expenses at USD200.00/person.
- b. For All Participants:
  - Travel insurance with a minimum coverage value of USD10,000.00 to cover accident, illness, hospitalization, death, and specific expenses related to COVID-19 such as medical treatment, extension of stay due to quarantine, and flight rescheduling/cancellation, if applicable. Participants are required to submit copies of insurance certificates to the APO Secretariat prior to departure.
  - All expenses related to PCR testing, visa fees, and airport taxes.
  - Any expenses incurred for stopovers on the way to and from the project venue as well as for extra stay at the project venue before and/or after the official project period because of early arrival or late departure, for example, due to either limited available flights or any other reason.
  - Any cancellation charges for airfare and hotel accommodations arising from withdrawals after letters of acceptance have been issued by the APO.

### **4.3 To be met by the implementing organization**

- a. Transportation expenses of participants between the airport and hotel designated for the project.
- b. All other local implementation costs.

## 5. Implementation Procedures

Please refer to the implementation procedures for APO multicountry projects circulated with this document.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mochtan', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Dr. AKP Mochtan  
Secretary-General