



Comment board



Executive Managing Director **Dr. Sung-Seob Yun**,
R&D Department, Pharma Foods International
Co., Ltd., Japan.

Expert, Technical Expert Service for Biotechnology Industrialization International Trend Development Seminar, Republic of China, 21–22 October 2009.

“It was my pleasure to be invited to the seminar on behalf of biotechnology companies in Japan. I presented some suggestions for bioventure companies in view of research fields, sales activities in related markets, and cutting-edge research trends. Without this opportunity, I would never have had a chance to know how hard the APO is working for productivity improvement and what difficulties it is facing. I think that it is the same for the national productivity organizations of all Asian countries. The experience I had in Taichu as well as the questions raised during the seminar expanded my research perspective and interest. Every single part was valuable for me. I think that it is very important for all of us to share the positive side of activities to improve productivity by holding this kind of event. The productivity issue is significant, particularly for Asian countries. I believe that this could serve as the driving factor to emerge from poverty. I would like to pay more attention to the topic of productivity enhancement in routine work. I thank everyone who provided me with this opportunity to attend the seminar where I gained worthwhile experience.”

Productivity Executive **Shalini Mathaven**, *National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC), Mauritius.*

Participant, training course on Development of Productivity Practitioners: Basic Course, South Africa, 7 September–2 October 2009.

“The course was extremely interesting and helpful, especially for those working in the productivity sector. The productivity tools that were taught could be used and applied quite easily. There is no requirement for high levels of investment to apply them in actual worksites. In addition, they can be implemented at all levels including private, industry, and national organizations.

This was proven during the in-plant diagnosis program when participants conducted productivity analysis and consulting for an actual company. The training course equipped us with all the necessary tools to conduct the diagnosis effectively. During the practice, we learned how to perform real consultancy work including onsite surveys, interviews with management and staff, and presentation of our findings to the management. We also needed to learn how to work in groups since we had to spend some time in dealing with group dynamics instead of focusing on working on the program itself. I am currently working to apply tools such as 5S and quality circles in the NPCC. I will also undertake study and research to find the best way to implement other tools that I learned about during the course.”

Project Manager **Simon Moritz Henschel**, *Sunlabob Renewable Energy Ltd, Lao PDR.*

Participant, seminar on Technology Innovation for Renewable Energy, Republic of China, 14–18 September 2009.

“I attended the seminar to acquire knowledge on the latest technological innovations and renewable energy developments that are taking place in other Asian countries and to share my experience of working in the renewable energy sector in my country. The seminar brought together professionals from countries with very different economic situations. All of these professionals were experts in the renewable energy sector, which led to captivating discussions. Of particular interest to me were presentations on sustainable/renewable energy off-grid solutions, energy efficiency measurements, and new technologies. Upon my return to Lao PDR, I disseminated the knowledge obtained at the seminar to various departments within my company. Future plans include sharing the expertise and lessons learned from other Asian countries with policymakers responsible for renewable energy, which is still in its infancy. I would like to thank the APO and China Productivity Center for their support and excellent program planning and management, particularly finding the ideal balance between theoretical and practical input, including field visits and group work.”