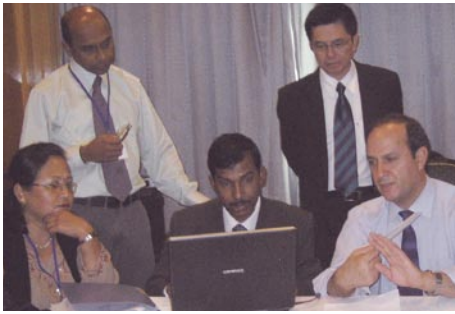




Comment board



Prof. Yazdani (seated R)

Professor Saeed Yazdani, University of Tehran Karaj, IR Iran.

Participant, workshop on the Development of Competitive Supply Chains in Agribusiness, Vietnam, 23–27 November 2009.

“It was indeed a great opportunity for me to participate in the workshop.

I benefited greatly from the workshop’s deliberations and the discussion of various aspects of supply chains. The workshop presented the collected, analyzed data and conclusions on the performance of selected agribusiness supply chains from an APO research project conducted in 2007 and 2008. Those findings became the basis of our discussion to formulate action plans and a roadmap for their adoption. I am sure that all of the participants will use this invaluable experience in our own countries to benefit the agriculture sector. The workshop gave me confidence and encouraged me in my plan to establish an MBA program in Agriculture and Food Science at my university. This would be the first such course in IR Iran. We are now trying to obtain the necessary permission from the Ministry of Science, Research, and Technology and are hoping to accept students from October 2010. I am quite sure that this subject will be very attractive in IR Iran and will be successful. Another big benefit I gained from the workshop was the opportunity to establish a network with great experts. I met with good colleagues from Pakistan, India, and Malaysia. They shared their experiences with me, and I will surely make use of their academic services in the future.”

Consultant Atsushi Kaneko, Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd. Japan.

Participant, study meeting on Knowledge Management Measurement, Republic of China, 17–20 November 2009.

“I am a knowledge management (KM) consultant in Japan. The measurement of KM activities is one the biggest issues for many Japanese companies since it helps evaluate and verify the KM activities that are implemented. I attended the meeting to obtain new perspectives on KM measurement to support companies seeking these answers. At the meeting, I learned more about the various aspects to be considered in measuring KM practices. In particular, the framework presented by Dr. Serafin Talisayon, an APO resource speaker from the Philippines, which includes societal and environmental dimensions, was very impressive. In addition, the study meeting gave me an opportunity to make new connections with KM practitioners and leaders from different countries and understand the current situation of KM activities in those countries. All the information learned from the meeting will be fully utilized in providing guidelines and solutions for my clients in their KM implementation.”

Quality Services Officer Lusiana Rabeka Rauqueqe Nuqanuqa, Training and Productivity Authority of Fiji.

Participant, training course on the Development of Productivity Practitioners (DPP): Advanced Program, Malaysia, 2–20 November 2009.

“The DPP: Advanced course added to my knowledge gained from the basic course that I had attended in Manila in 2007. The basic course introduced me to productivity and quality tools like 5S, quality circles, and suggestion schemes. Learning advanced tools such as the balanced scorecard, business process reengineering, Six Sigma, knowledge management, and lean production systems increased my understanding and appreciation of these methodologies as ways to assist organizations to raise their standards. The course comprised informative lectures from experienced facilitators, an interactive workshop, and the practical component of plant visits. As a whole, it has equipped me with improved capacity as a productivity consultant and trainer. This will enable me to help Fijian organizations and companies identify opportunities for improvement and formulate solutions for achieving organizational excellence and competitiveness.”