

Productivity measurement in government

Although previous APO training courses focused on techniques for measuring and improving productivity in the industry and service sectors, the first training course on Productivity Measurement in the Government Sector was held in Lahore, Pakistan, 13–17 December. The course was hosted by the National Productivity Organisation, Pakistan, at the Faculty of Management Sciences, University of Central Punjab. Opening the gathering, Mr. Hassan Akhtar Mokhal, Minister for Management and Professional Development, Government of Punjab, noted that a course of this type was needed to assist governments in the Asia-Pacific region to their measure productivity. He added that, if widely understood and accepted, such indicators of performance could potentially help governments not only to measure productivity but also serve as the basis for improved services in the sector.

Seventeen participants from 12 member countries attempted to determine appropriate approaches and guidelines for the measurement of productivity in government and to formulate methods to increase productivity in the sector. Discussion topics included: Conceptual issues related to productivity measurement in the government sector; Methodology for and approaches to productivity measurement in the government sector; Initiatives and approaches to



Participants in the training course

improve productivity in the government sector; and Setting goals for productivity improvement.

Dr. Abdul Wahab, Deputy Director General, and Mrs. Rauzah bt. Zainal Abidin, Manager, Public Sector Productivity, NPC, Malaysia served as experts in the course. Guest speakers from Pakistan included Mr. Syed Hussain Haider, Principal Management Consultant, Research and Development Centre, University of Central Punjab; and Mr. Asad-Ullah Khan Sumbal, Project Coordinator, Punjab Resource Management Centre, Lahore. 🌐