



APO certifying productivity practitioners from 2015

The development of certified productivity practitioners is a high-priority need for NPOs. Based on that need, the APO devised the Development of Productivity Practitioners: Basic and Advanced (DPP: Basic and Advanced) courses. In 2013, the APO Secretariat hosted an expert meeting to explore the feasibility of developing a certification system. In 2014, DPP: Basic, implemented by the Development Academy of the Philippines, and DPP: Advanced, implemented by the Malaysian Productivity Corporation, were selected for the pilot certification scheme starting from 2015. Certification involves three stages:

Stage 1: All potential participants in the face-to-face DPP: Basic and Advanced training courses must first enroll in and pass the self-learning e-courses on the same subject. The self-learning e-courses are available on the APO e-learning website (<http://www.apo-elearning.org/moodle19/>).

Stage 2: After passing the examination, participants in the face-to-face courses carry out productivity improvement assignments in their countries within three to six months.

Stage 3: The participants submit project reports on productivity enhancement (PREP) to the APO Secretariat for review, and a registration-based certificate is given to successful ones. All APO-certified productivity practitioners are registered on the APO website.



Certification stage 2 face-to-face course participants engrossed in their individual assignments.

The certified practitioners will be able to identify, use, and explain basic productivity tools and other approaches to improve productivity; adopt an integrated framework to diagnose productivity problems and develop and implement solutions; and provide training, consulting, and promotional services to NPO clients. Those certified must be able to diagnose the current productivity performance of any organization and then adopt and implement appropriate solutions for improvement. Therefore, NPOs only nominate emerging professionals expected to work as productivity practitioners and who can submit PREP (for basic guidelines and application forms, go to <http://www.apo-tokyo.org/wedo/Certified>).

So far, 20 participants from 14 APO members have applied for certification. While all passed the self-learning e-course (stage 1), one failed stage 2. Therefore 19 are in stage 3 and working hard on their projects. Thirteen APO resource speakers/experts for DPP: Basic and Advanced courses have been recognized by the APO as honorary certified productivity practitioners, and their profiles can be accessed at <http://www.apo-tokyo.org/wedo/Certified/roster-of-apo-certified-productivity-practitioners/>.

“With the APO certification scheme, the ‘new face’ of the DPP: Basic course makes it even more exciting this year,” enthused productivity consultant and APO-certified productivity practitioner Nina Maria Estudillo from the Philippines. APO Senior Program Officer K.D. Bhardwaj noted that, “This scheme will expand to cover other areas, creating a widely recognized APO certificate brand.” 🌱

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