



## Asian Productivity Organization (APO)

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# Press Release

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## Japan to share future city best practices with Asia-Pacific

TOKYO—Twenty-five senior government officials from ministries, agencies, and municipal offices involved in urban development and eco/sustainable city initiatives are scheduled to convene in Tokyo, 17–21 November 2014. Representing 13 APO member countries from across the Asia-Pacific region and Myanmar, the delegates along with observers from the Republic of Palau will be part of the Multicountry Observational Study Mission on Future City Initiatives project funded by the Government of Japan and organized by the Asian Productivity Organization.

Experts from the University of Tokyo and Amita Holdings Co., Ltd. will lead discussions on future city initiatives and best practices. The mission will include visits to Kitakyushu Eco Town center, Kitakyushu Resources Recycling Plant, Cluster Energy Management Systems, Kyotango Resource Recycling Plant, Kyotango City Hall, and several creative city initiative sites in Yokohama including BankART Studio. This mission will also provide a platform for Japanese firms and municipalities to interact with APO delegates for potential future collaborations.

The main objective of the mission is to share Japan's sustainable/creative city initiatives based on the latest technologies and public-private partnerships. The delegates will be able to observe best practices for future city development and identify possible options for rapid transfer to their own countries throughout the Asia-Pacific, especially in terms of local/national policies and projects.

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### **About the APO**

The Asian Productivity Organization (APO) is the sole nonprofit international organization in the Asia-Pacific devoted to productivity. Established in 1961 as a regional intergovernmental organization, the APO contributes to the sustainable socioeconomic development of the Asia-Pacific through productivity enhancement. The current membership comprises 20 economies. Three strategic directions guide the APO: strengthen NPOs and promote the development of SMEs and communities; catalyze innovation-led productivity growth; and promote Green Productivity. The main activities of the APO are capacity building of institutions and human resources development in the industry, service, and agriculture sectors.