



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

PN Issue Date	30 May 2019
Project Code	19-RP-22-GE-RES-B
Title	Research on Education for Future Industry
Timing and Duration	November 2019–October 2020 (one year) Coordination Meeting: 19–21 November 2019 (three days) Taipei, Republic of China
Venue	APO Secretariat
Number of Chief/National Experts	Two chief experts and up to six national experts from the Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. However, other member countries with special interest in this project may nominate national expert candidates upon consultation with the APO Secretariat. The selection of the national experts will be based on the criteria outlined in section 4 below.
Closing Date for Nominations of National Experts	9 September 2019

1. Objectives

- a. To develop an overall framework for understanding the different arrangement for developing curricula to meet future industry requirements for a skilled workforce in the region;
- b. To identify strategies and proposals to support education initiatives for human resource development in response to the future needs and challenges faced by different industries; and
- c. To publish an outlook on skilling requirements for future industry across different member economies;

2. Background

The future of industry will be driven by many trends interacting in complex ways including automation, globalization, population ageing, urbanization, and the rise of the green economy. A report from Nesta and the Oxford Martin School estimates that roughly seven in ten people are currently in jobs for which the future is uncertain – although occupational redesign and workforce retraining may promote growth and reduce job-related volatility.

These changes are likely to create new demands for skills in the labor force in Asia and the Pacific, which means that existing education and skilling systems will need to be made future-fit. Research from the World Economic Forum (WEF) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) showed that interpersonal skills, higher-order cognitive skills and systems skills will be central in the 21st century industry. To equip the current and next generation of workers to meet the demands of future industry, member governments must explore new ways of delivering education and skills training to their citizens.

Several different arrangements, including public—private—academic (PPA) partnerships, have been investigated or implemented in the Asia-Pacific and beyond to deal with these issues, often requiring cooperation among the public and private sectors and academia. Therefore, the APO will undertake this research to explore initiatives to develop education curricula and the roles of each partner under these different arrangements to meet the skill requirements for future industry.

3. Scope and Methodology

Scope

PPA partnership concepts and practices; education and curriculum development under PPA partnerships; and future human resources requirements of industries.

- 1) Coordination meeting of experts: A meeting will be held 19–21 November 2019 in Taipei, Republic of China. The tentative topics of discussion to be covered in this meeting are:
 - a. The research framework and methodology (data sources, data collection, data analysis);
 - b. Industries of the future;
 - c. Requirements, skills, and qualifications for the industries of the future;
 - d. Different arrangements for curriculum development and education for future industry;
 - e. Policy implications for national strategies on human capital development; and
 - f. The final report format.
- 2) Conducting in-country research: Each national expert will gather and analyze data under the guidance of the chief expert(s) based on the agreed research methodology and framework. The experts will be responsible for analyzing the data and preparing a report for review and acceptance by the chief expert and APO.

Methodology

Coordination meeting to discuss the research concept and methods, presentation of pre-meeting assignments, conducting research at the national level, and report preparation.

The research will employ up to two chief experts who will lead the team of national experts in performing the study.

Chief experts' tasks:

- 1) Developing the guidelines and formulating the overall framework for the research;
- 2) Presenting the research framework, methodology, and outline of the report structure and format during the coordination meeting;
- 3) Providing support and advice to the national experts in conducting the research including data collection and analysis;
- 4) Reviewing the draft of the national experts' reports to ensure the quality of the work; and
- 5) Preparing the final report and submitting it to the APO Secretariat by the deadline.

National experts' tasks:

- 1) Data collection at national level following the methodology, framework, and timeline agreed upon during the coordination meeting;
- 2) Writing country reports on the analyses and findings based on the data gathered;
- 3) Submitting the report following the agreed format to the chief expert and the APO within the time frame; and
- 4) Cooperating with the chief expert to ensure the quality and consistency of the final report.

4. Qualifications of National Experts

The national experts are expected to possess the following qualifications:

Present Position	Researchers from the education sector or academic institutes specializing in education and reskilling policy, human capital development, or industrial policy; and government officials, researchers, or policy analysts who advise governments in areas related to and have sufficient background in national strategy for human capital development and knowledge of the industries of the future.
Experience	At least five years of experience in the position described above.
Education	University degree or higher in labor policy, human resources development, or a related field from a recognized university/institution.
Language	Sufficient English proficiency to communicate with the APO Secretariat and chief expert on matters related to the research and excellent writing skills.
Health	Physically and mentally fit to commit him/herself to a one-year period of research.
Age	Candidates who fit the above profile are typically between 35 and 50 years of age.
Other	A strong commitment to undertaking and completing the research within the time frame is necessary; published articles, books, or substantive reports on national strategy for human capital development or human resources for the industries of the future are desirable.

5. Qualifications of Chief Experts

The APO will appoint two chief experts for this project to guide the group of national experts in undertaking the research. The APO-appointed chief experts must possess the following:

- 1) Extensive knowledge of future industry, related trends in technology and work, and national strategies for human resources development with publications in English on those topics;
- 2) Excellent English writing and presentation skills, as the final report will be written in English; and
- 3) Strong commitment to undertaking and completing the research project within the given time frame and producing the consolidated analyses of all national reports.

6. Financial Arrangements

To be met by the APO

- 1) Honoraria for the chief and national experts to be paid upon completion of the final research report;
- 2) All assignment costs for the chief and national experts including daily subsistence allowances, miscellaneous expenses, and round-trip international airfare by the most direct route between the international airport nearest to the experts' place of work and Taipei for attending the coordination meeting for the research; and
- 3) Local implementation costs for the meeting package including meeting room rental and required equipment.

To be met by experts or participating countries

- 1) Any expenses incurred by the experts for extra stay at the venue before and/or after the official project period due to early arrival, late departure, or any other reason must be met by the experts attending the coordination meeting; and
- 2) All local implementation costs incurred by the national experts when conducting the research and related activities at the national level.

7. Actions by Member Countries

- 1) Member countries included in the research are requested to submit appropriate nominations (preferably more than two for consideration) by 9 September 2019, in line with the provisions in section 4.
- 2) Each nomination should be accompanied by the candidate's biodata on the standard APO form in duplicate along with a passport-sized photograph. In addition to the standard APO form, nominees should also prepare a list of publications, research, and/or consulting projects they have undertaken in this field. A nomination lacking any of these documents will not be considered.
- 3) The selection of national experts will be based strictly upon their professional qualifications and experience, academic background, and commitment to this research.

8. Preparatory Work by National Experts

The selected national experts will be instructed to prepare a preliminary report. The preliminary findings will be presented at the coordination meeting in Taipei, Republic of China and will form the basis for further deliberations and development of the research framework. The detailed guidelines for the preliminary reports will be provided later.



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