



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-CP-21-GE-TRC-A-PN2200101-002

Date of Issue	01 November 2022
Project Code	22-CP-21-GE-TRC-A
Title	Training Course on Foresight for Public-sector Organizations
Timing and Duration	13–16 December 2022 (four days)
Hosting Country(ies)	Sri Lanka
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Secretariat, Sri Lanka, and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	38
Local Participants	12
Qualifications of Participants	Policymakers and government officials, representatives of government enterprises, staff of public organizations, or senior officials/consultants on the public sector from NPOs who are in charge of organizational planning
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	30 November 2022

1. Objectives

- a. Equip participants with the fundamentals of strategic foresight and scenario planning for public-sector organizations.
- b. Provide policymakers and senior government officials with practical approaches to using scenarios.
- c. Introduce the roadmapping method to link scenarios with organizational strategy and planning processes.

2. Background

The world has seen myriad challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Governments are now more concerned than ever about the future and planning for disruptions before they occur. Thinking about the future and imagining what is to come are difficult because of the accelerated pace of change and increased uncertainty. Governments and organizations are therefore emphasizing the use of foresight in policymaking. This involves exploring and preparing for diverse possible developments in efforts to future-proof strategies, identify new potential opportunities and challenges, and design innovative ways of improving well-being under rapidly evolving circumstances.

In 2015, the Global Centre for Public Service Excellence defined foresight as “a strategic long-term planning tool for developing countries,” including processes of anticipation which identify opportunities and threats in mid- to long-term versions of the future. Foresight also encourages innovation, strategic evaluation, and the proactive shaping of the future.

The APO has undertaken strategic foresight and scenario planning projects to support member countries, especially the public sector and NPOs, in their capacity-building initiatives, specifically in addressing strategic challenges. This course will equip participants with tools and techniques that can be used by governments to address the challenges of long-term planning in the face of uncertainty and accelerating change combined with complex adaptive systems thinking, becoming anticipatory, and remaining agile in the future.

3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

The duration of each day’s sessions will be around three hours comprising presentations by resource persons, group discussions, and other relevant learning methods. The indicative topics of the presentations are

Day 1:

- Fundamentals of foresight
- Approaches and methodologies for practicing foresight
- Future thinking and the generic foresight process

Day 2:

- Scenario planning
- Horizon scanning
- Foresight in the public sector

Day 3:

- Identifying critical uncertainties
- Building future scenario worlds
- Communicating scenarios

Day 4:

- Implications of scenarios for public policy, programs, and innovation
- Group presentations of scenarios

The detailed program and list of resource persons will be provided one week prior to the sessions.

The participants are required to attend all sessions. This full participation is a prerequisite for receiving the APO certificate of attendance.

4. Financial Arrangements

- a. The APO will meet the assignment costs of international resource persons and honorarium for up to two local resource persons.
- b. The host country will meet the costs for a virtual site visit(s), either broadcast live or recorded as applicable.

5. Implementation Procedures

Please refer to the implementation procedures for APO digital multicountry projects circulated with this document.



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