



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 423

<b>Date of Issue</b>	5 July 2024
<b>Project Code</b>	24-RC-18-GE-RES-A
<b>Title</b>	Research on the Women's Empowerment Index in the Agriculture Sector
<b>Timing</b>	8 July 2024–31 December 2024
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Venue City(ies)</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Modality</b>	Online
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	Not applicable
<b>Local Participants</b>	Not applicable
<b>Closing Date</b>	2 September 2024
<b>Remarks</b>	The above deadline is for nomination of national experts.

<b>Objectives</b>	Study the roles and involvement of women in the agriculture sector among APO members including productivity performance; identify structural, social, and economic barriers women in the agriculture sector face; and examine ways to increase women's engagement, contributions, and well-being while promoting gender equality in the agriculture sector.
<b>Rationale</b>	Agriculture in the Asia-Pacific faces challenges in increasing output with land-, climate-, and labor-related constraints. Women in the agriculture sector also face barriers against full participation. Empowering women in the sector can help to achieve the APO goal of inclusive productivity by catalyzing agricultural productivity.
<b>Background</b>	<p>Women make up 40–50% of the agricultural labor force in East and Southeast Asia and around 30% in South Asia, with 70% of working women in South Asia employed in the agriculture sector (FAO, 2022). However, women's contributions to food production, processing, and marketing as informal or unpaid family workers are often underestimated. Rural communities often do not facilitate full economic and social participation of women based on traditional social customs. However, technological and economic advances enable and require the full participation of women in agricultural activities.</p> <p>Studies have shown that empowering women in agriculture in developing economies by improving their access to resources, information, and finances and recognizing their decision-making capability can increase national agricultural productivity. Further, it has ripple effects on women's and children's welfare.</p>
<b>Topics</b>	Analysis of women's roles in agriculture and food systems; Educational and health standards; Access to agricultural resources and inputs, land ownership, extension services, social security, credit, and markets; Use of digital technology; Decision-making, participation, and leadership in organizations; Areas for improvement; and Recommendations.
<b>Outcome</b>	Country-specific and broad-based analysis report covering the current status of women in agriculture, areas for improvement, and recommended strategies and policy interventions for empowering women in the agriculture sector.
<b>Qualifications</b>	Researchers or policy analysts with research or work experience in gender-related issues, agriculture-sector issues, and/or farmers' organizations, and publications in English on related topics.

Please refer to the implementation procedures circulated with this document for further details.



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