



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 22-IP-04-GE-CON-A-PN2200026-001

Date of Issue	20 March 2022
Project Code	22-IP-04-GE-CON-A
Title	Conference on Agricultural Insurance and Farm Risk Management
Timing and Duration	15 June 2022 (one day)
Hosting Country(ies)	Thailand
Modality	Digital Multicountry
Implementing Organization(s)	Thailand Productivity Institute and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	100
Local Participants	30
Qualifications of Participants	Policymakers, senior officials of private and state agricultural insurance companies, researchers, academics, and extension personnel in charge of and providing advisory and consultancy services on agricultural insurance and farm risk management
Nomination of Participants	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
Closing Date for Nominations	9 May 2022

1. Objectives

- a. Enhance participants' knowledge of the principles, mechanisms, and management of agricultural insurance to improve productivity and farm risk management.
- b. Review policies on agricultural insurance in member countries and share successful models including smart, digital solutions for agricultural insurance and farm risk management.
- c. Understand national agricultural risk profiles and insurance schemes necessary for farming community protection, particularly in situations like the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Background

Agriculture is an important but high-risk sector due to dependency on weather and climate. Farmers in Asia must cope with severe droughts, floods, typhoons, frosts/freezes, and other eventualities that are increasing with climate change. Previously, agricultural insurance was mostly considered as a measure to cope with damage or loss when crops, plantations, livestock, and fisheries were damaged or lost due to natural disasters. However, the COVID-19 pandemic added to farmers' risk exposure, endangered food security, and brought the importance of agricultural insurance to the forefront.

Agricultural insurance plays a significant role in a holistic risk management system that includes maintaining farm health and safety. Farm-based measures cannot protect against severe threats like typhoons, floods, tsunamis, and droughts. Such disasters require market-based, institutionalized insurance protection mechanisms. Overall, not only does agricultural insurance protect farmers from financial collapse but also ensures national food security through farm risk management. It plays an important role in reducing the vulnerability of national food systems to acute shocks, subsequently contributing to resilience and sustainability.

In this way, agricultural insurance helps meet the UN SDGs by enhancing the resilience of farmers and communities in adverse circumstances and in adapting to new challenges like climate change or pandemics. For dissemination and promotion purposes, ISO 31000:2018 Risk-Management Guidelines could serve as a useful reference for developing management strategies to identify and mitigate risk in the agriculture sector. Recognizing the importance of local context and conditions, it is also important to codify and share the best practices of risk management initiated by farmers themselves.

Governments can support farmers and entire agricultural value chains by proactively promoting efficient agricultural insurance systems. This conference will be a platform for policymakers and practitioners to discuss ways to build agricultural insurance systems in member countries considering opportunities and challenges in current agriculture, climatic and nonclimatic perspectives, and farm risk management practices.

3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

The duration of the sessions will be around four hours. The indicative topics of the presentations are:

- Agricultural insurance: Focus on farm risk management strategies, food security, and climatic and nonclimatic factors like the COVID-19 pandemic
- Farm risk management system standards and applications
- Best practices and schemes of agricultural insurance and reinsurance policies

The detailed program and list of speakers will be provided two weeks prior to the sessions with announcement of the names of the selected participants.

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 for overseas resource persons.

- b. The host country will meet the assignment costs of local resource persons and 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.



Dr. AKP Mochtan
Secretary-General

**IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES FOR APO DIGITAL MULTICOUNTRY PROJECTS
(CONFERENCES/OBSERVATIONAL STUDY MISSIONS/TRAINING COURSES/WORKSHOPS)**

(Effective from 8 October 2021)

1. Modality of Implementation

- a. The sessions will be conducted virtually.
- b. The duration of each day's sessions will be around three hours for observational study missions, training courses, and workshops.
- c. The duration of sessions will be around four hours for conferences.
- d. The APO Secretariat will inform resource persons and participants of the link to the virtual sessions.
- e. The link will be exclusive to resource persons and participants and should not be shared.

2. Requirements of Participants

- a. Competent in connecting to virtual meetings, including independently undertaking troubleshooting in the event of poor or lost connections.
- b. Proficient in English, both written and spoken.
- c. Have necessary devices comprising a computer, web camera, microphone, and speaker or headphones.
- d. Access to internet connections suitable for videoconferencing. Stable, wired LAN connections are preferred.
- e. Follow the instructions of moderators/presenters in asking questions, joining discussions, and answering questions.
- f. Wear appropriate business attire during the sessions.

3. Actions by Member Countries

- a. Each participating country should nominate three or more candidates in order of preference for observational study missions, training courses, and workshops, and five or more candidates for conferences.
- b. All nominations must be endorsed by an APO Director or Alternate Director and submitted by a Liaison Officer (LO) or designated officer. Self-nominations will not be accepted.
- c. Nominations should reach the Secretariat before the deadline.
- d. Each nomination must be accompanied by the APO biodata form and uploaded to the APO Document Management System/Fleekdrive by NPOs. LOs are requested to notify the Secretariat once biodata forms have been uploaded. The biodata form is available on the APO website.
- e. If a selected participant becomes unable to participate, the NPO concerned should inform the APO Secretariat and host country promptly.

4. Actions by the APO Secretariat

- a. Selection of candidates will be at the discretion of the Participant Selection Committee of the APO Secretariat.
- b. Selection of candidates will be completed and announced two weeks prior to the start of the sessions.
- c. Slots that become available due to withdrawal of a selected candidate(s) or lack of nominations by a member country may be filled by alternates to be selected on a merit basis.

- d. The APO Secretariat will inform NPOs of the final program and link to the virtual sessions one week prior to commencement.

5. Participating Country Expenses (PCEs)

- a. PCEs apply to selected participants from large, profit-making organizations in training courses and observational study missions.
- b. The PCE rate is fixed at USD150.00 per participant.
- c. The APO Secretariat will notify NPOs concerned before issuing Letters of Acceptance to participants.
- d. Invoices will be sent to NPOs concerned at the end of the year.