



PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Reference No.: 639

Date of Issue	20 June 2025
Project Code	24-CL-13-GE-WSP-A
Title	Workshop on Policies for Gender Equality and Competitive Female Labor
Timing	24 September 2025–26 September 2025
Hosting Country(ies)	Sri Lanka
Venue City(ies)	Not Applicable
Modality	Online
Implementing Organization(s)	National Productivity Secretariat, Sri Lanka and APO Secretariat
Participating Country(ies)	All Member Countries
Overseas Participants	38
Local Participants	12
Closing Date	25 August 2025 NPO Pakistan Closing date: 11 August 2025
Remarks	Not Applicable

Objectives	Promote understanding of the importance of gender equality and female participation in the labor market; introduce practical knowledge for establishing agencies promoting gender equality and female participation in the labor force; and provide recommendations on necessary policies and plans for gender equality in the workplace and promoting sustainable growth.
Rationale	According to the IMF (2022), gender equality goes hand-in-hand with macroeconomic and financial stability, which also promotes economic growth and improves efficiency in both the public and private sectors. Equal opportunities in the labor market can contribute to increased productivity and a more competitive economy.
Background	<p>There is a strong link among gender equality, productivity, and national economic competitiveness. Countries with greater equality between genders are more productive, have higher levels of economic growth, and better development outcomes. However, in the world of work, women everywhere tend to experience higher unemployment, unfair treatment, working poverty due to lower wages, precarity in employment, and higher informal-sector employment rates caused by various reasons and backgrounds.</p> <p>As the APO Vision 2025 promotes social inclusion including promotion of female participation in the labor market, this workshop offers an opportunity to explore ways to eliminate gender inequality in the workplace, allowing women to contribute more to the economy and earn decent livelihoods, especially in APO members. It will also promote a better understanding of the current situation around gender issues and the incorporation of measures to create opportunities for women in employment policies and plans.</p>
Topics	Links between gender equality, productivity, and national economic competitiveness; Current issues and challenges in gender equality and competitive female labor such as pay and promotion gaps; Measures to create opportunities for women in employment policies and plans; and Cases from countries with greater equality between genders and their outcomes.
Outcome	Understanding the relationships among gender equality, productivity, and economic competitiveness including different levels of gender equality indicators in APO members and policy proposals that address the challenges and opportunities in promoting gender equality and competitive female labor.
Qualifications	Government officials and policy researchers involved in public programs and policy for gender equality, and representatives of industrial associations, professional groups, and productivity practitioners engaged in promoting female participation and gender issues.

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



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Secretary-General