

# राष्ट्रीय उत्पादकता परिषद्

(वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अन्तर्गत)

उत्पादकता भवन, 5-6, इंस्टीट्यूशनल एरिया,  
लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली -110 003



National Productivity Council

# NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL

(Under Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

Utpadakta Bhavan, 5-6, Institutional Area,  
Lodi Road, New Delhi - 110 003

No. 31513/21  
Dt. 15-07-2021

**Sub: 21-CP-03-GE-WSP-A: Workshop on Blockchain Solutions for SME Productivity Enhancement from 25-27 August 2021 Digital Multicountry (DMC). (Visit [www.npcindia.gov.in/NPC/User/InternationalServices](http://www.npcindia.gov.in/NPC/User/InternationalServices) for detailed Project Notification)**

Dear Sir,

We invite your kind attention to NPC [www.npcindia.gov.in/NPC/User/InternationalServices](http://www.npcindia.gov.in/NPC/User/InternationalServices) with regard to above Asian Productivity Organization (APO) project. The project notification and the APO bio data form are available on the above mentioned page and the same are also attached herewith. The duly filled in **single copy** of Performa enclosed (in excel form only) of the suitable officers for participation as per the para (**Qualifications for Participants**) of the project notification may kindly be forwarded to reach us latest by **12<sup>th</sup> August 2021**. In this regard, the following points may be noted.

- **Fees and Charges** An Application fees (NON-REFUNDABLE) of **Rs. 500** for MSME Sector, Trade Unions and NGO's and **Rs. 1000/-** for others is payable along with the nomination form, for each participant.

The requisite amount can be paid through a demand draft/cheque/ECS drawn in favour of National Productivity Council, New Delhi. In the regard, the bank account of NPC details is attached herewith. Kindly e-mail the details of the ECS/RTGS/NEFT payment made, **mentioning the name of applicant in remarks** to [mayank.verma@npcindia.gov.in](mailto:mayank.verma@npcindia.gov.in), [isg@npcindia.gov.in](mailto:isg@npcindia.gov.in), [rk.rawat@npcindia.gov.in](mailto:rk.rawat@npcindia.gov.in) Please note in the absence of application fee, the nomination will not be considered.

- **Nomination Procedure** all nominations should be routed through proper channel and as per the attached APO bio data form. The nominations received after the last date will not be considered. It is the responsibility of the candidates to complete all the official formalities required by their organizations/department for participating in the program. It is requested to send nominations by e-mail to [mayank.verma@npcindia.gov.in](mailto:mayank.verma@npcindia.gov.in), [isg@npcindia.gov.in](mailto:isg@npcindia.gov.in), [rk.rawat@npcindia.gov.in](mailto:rk.rawat@npcindia.gov.in) (application in prescribed excel format) and one hard copy by post along with the covering letter of the competent authority on company's letter head. All information pertaining to nominations will be treated as confidential and classified. The nominated officers may be invited as a faculty in programs on the relevant subjects organized by NPC.

We look forward to receiving of nominations from your esteemed organization.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(K.D. Bhardwaj)  
Director & Head (Int'l Serv.)  
for Director General  
e-mail: [isg@npcindia.gov.in](mailto:isg@npcindia.gov.in)



## PROJECT NOTIFICATION

Ref. No.: 21-CP-03-GE-WSP-A-PN2100055-001

<b>Date of Issue</b>	14 July 2021
<b>Project Code</b>	21-CP-03-GE-WSP-A
<b>Title</b>	Workshop on Blockchain Solutions for SME Productivity Enhancement
<b>Timing and Duration</b>	25–27 August 2021 (three days)
<b>Hosting Country(ies)</b>	Republic of Korea
<b>Modality</b>	Digital Multicountry
<b>Implementing Organization(s)</b>	Korea Productivity Center and APO Secretariat
<b>Participating Country(ies)</b>	All Member Countries
<b>Overseas Participants</b>	19
<b>Local Participants</b>	12
<b>Qualifications of Participants</b>	Policymakers, government officials, and representatives of government organizations and enterprises, especially SMEs and startups, working on improving productivity and fostering innovation through digital transformation
<b>Nomination of Participants</b>	All nominations must be submitted through National Productivity Organizations of member countries
<b>Closing Date for Nominations</b>	12 August 2021

## 1. Objectives

- a. Share case studies on the adoption of blockchain technology for productivity enhancement.
- b. Explore potential applications of blockchain technologies and solutions for SMEs.
- c. Examine the future of blockchains in improving firm-level operational efficiency and effectiveness.

## 2. Background

Blockchains are regarded as the next generation of disruptive technologies after the internet. They have many applications and hold vast promise for every business, society, and individual. This groundbreaking digital revolution is expected to transform entire value chains by leveraging state-of-the-art decentralized digital ledger technologies. Blockchains are also positioned as great enablers for improving the productivity of SMEs.

Among APO member countries, Japan and India, according to Statista, were regarded as leaders in blockchain technology development worldwide in 2018. Other APO members have also made notable progress. As of 13 October 2017, interbank payments were permitted in Singapore using the blockchain concept through a partnership between the Monetary Authority of Singapore and a consortium of financial institutions. In the ROK, a new government initiative introduced the country's own cryptocurrency, the S-coin, in 2018, and the passage of legislation in March 2020 to ensure the transparency of its trading was one of the world's first comprehensive cryptocurrency laws. One of the country's largest technology companies, Kakao, has also continued to invest in blockchain initiatives.

In April 2021, six blockchain associations across ASEAN and Australia virtually signed a Memorandum of Understanding to create the ASEAN Blockchain Consortium. The associations are from Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, the Labuan territory in Malaysia, Thailand, and Australia. This collaboration aims to raise awareness and adoption of blockchains and digital assets and engage with regulators. In 2017, the Central Bank of Malaysia published an initial research paper on central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) and their use. The Bank of Thailand published a joint report with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority in January 2020, concluding that CBDCs have significant potential to prevent risks and reduce costs compared with traditional banking intermediaries.

Blockchain technology has been adopted across the banking, financial service, and insurance industries but also in traditional areas such as shipping and logistics. All countries, however, must address the challenges and anticipate the wide-ranging implications of blockchains, and prioritizing targets, resources, and policy measures is critical. It is thus necessary to establish a holistic understanding of blockchain solutions and develop strategies in response to the opportunities and challenges.

In preparation for a wider application of this innovative technology in the new business normal, the APO organized a Conference on Blockchain Solutions for Productivity in February 2021, which attracted more than 100 participants. This workshop will build on the earlier conference to present case studies on the adoption of blockchain technologies for productivity enhancement while exploring potential applications and solutions for SMEs and future methods for those technologies that improve firm-level operational efficiency and effectiveness. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, these topics will be increasingly relevant in the new business normal.

## 3. Scope, Methodology, and Certificate of Attendance

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

### Day 1: Understanding Blockchain Technology

- Blockchain concepts and methodologies
- Blockchain data management
- Blockchain storage and retrieval management

#### Day 2: Blockchain Technology

- Blockchains and smart contracts for SMEs
- Blockchains as a service (BaaS) for SMEs
- Blockchain security for SMEs

#### Day 3: Blockchain Applications

- Blockchains and insurance, payments, and cryptocurrencies
- Blockchains and energy
- Blockchains and healthcare

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 of overseas 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.



Dr. AKP Mochtan  
Secretary-General