



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

**Advancing Free Trade  
for Asia-Pacific Prosperity**

# Economic and Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building

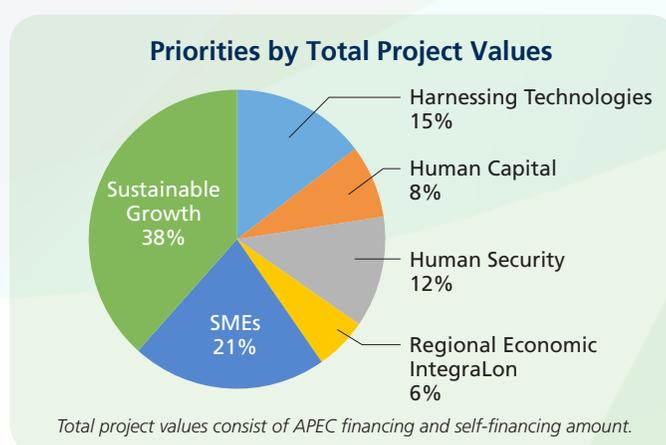
2015 APEC Senior Officials' Report on  
Economic and Technical Cooperation

Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) is aimed at sustainable growth, equitable development, reduction of economic disparities and improvement of economic and social well-being. In 2015, the Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE) developed APEC's Capacity Building Policy to guide APEC's activities. Sixteen fora reported various projects and initiatives to SCE in line with 2015 APEC priorities and the new Medium-Term Priorities.

## APEC's Capacity Building Policy

Operational Principles	Guidance on Approving APEC Projects	Further Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• long-term</li> <li>• needs/opportunities driven</li> <li>• internal and regional replicability</li> <li>• consistency</li> <li>• transparency</li> <li>• innovation</li> <li>• iterative</li> <li>• inclusiveness</li> <li>• enabling</li> <li>• cost-effectiveness</li> <li>• result-based</li> <li>• evaluation</li> <li>• continuity and sustainability</li> <li>• collaborative</li> <li>• aligned</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• effectively encourage a holistic approach</li> <li>• promote modalities that are conducive to sustainable and cost-effective outcomes</li> <li>• invite and incorporate multi-disciplinary inputs and analysis</li> <li>• incorporate a broader perspective from an early stage of planning</li> <li>• ensure transparency and cost-efficiency through simple process and minimization of duplication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Management Committee to establish a small working group to explore options to implement certain aspects of the policy</li> <li>• the small group to hold its first meeting in the margins of SOM1 of 2016</li> <li>• the small group to consider whether to, and when, to hold a joint session with SCE</li> </ul>

## ECOTECH Projects by Numbers



## In Action: ECOTECH Medium-Term Priorities

### Developing Human Capital Through Capacity Building

- High Level Policy Dialogue on Human Capacity Building and the first High Level Policy Dialogue on Science and Technology in Higher Education were held in Papua New Guinea and the Philippines respectively.
- A number of projects for developing human capital specifically on women's issues are being implemented, including Roundtable discussion on Gender Responsive Economic Action for the transformation of Women (GREAT Women Project) in the Information Communication Technology Platform; Assisting Women-owned SMEs' Access to Global Markets; Innovation for Women and Economic Development-Facilitating Women's Livelihood Development and Resilience with ICTs; the Individual Action Plan for the Enhancement of the Ratio of Women's Representation in Leadership; Women's Entrepreneurship in APEC (WE-APEC) network Workshop; and Good Practices of Women's Entrepreneurship in the Process of Disaster Reconstruction.

### Developing and Strengthening the Dynamism of SMEs

- Emergency-preparedness and resiliency of SMEs were hot topics this year. Improving Natural Disaster Resilience of APEC SMEs to Facilitate Trade and Investment is a multi-year project that seeks to upgrade preparedness and capacity-to-respond at SME levels.
- As a part of APEC Accelerator Network (AAN) Initiative, the Accelerator Network Directory was published in early 2015.
- The SME Technology Entrepreneurship Conference in July 2015 was held to bring start-up entrepreneurs together with venture capital firms and innovators.
- The Second Business Ethics for SMEs Forum was held in August 2015 in the continued efforts to build ethics capacity of SMEs.
- An APEC SME Finance Forum was organized in Iloilo, the Philippines in September 2015 to connect SMEs with government representatives and with finance mechanisms and instruments.
- A couple of workshops under the project Facilitating SME Trade through Better Understanding of Non-Tariff Measures were held in June and September respectively.

### Harnessing Technologies for the Future and Supporting Innovation

- Knowledge sharing in science and technology continued through a number of activities, including an Innovation Policy Sharing Seminar; the 9th APEC Cooperation for

Earthquake Simulation (ACES) International Workshop; APEC Climate Symposium; Getting Connected (TV White Space); Internet of Things (IOT); and Over The Top (OTT) Service.

- Perspectives from SMEs and women were also incorporated in such projects as SME Technology Entrepreneurship Conference and APEC Women's Business and Smart Technology Seminar.

### Inclusive Growth

- A workshop on Using Health Technology Assessment for Universal Health Coverage was held in the margins of SOM3 2015.
- SCE fora jointly held a cluster of events under the project of Healthy Women, Healthy Economics in Manila, The Philippines in August 2015, which sought to increase female labor force participation across the APEC region.
- A workshop was held to develop women's entrepreneurship in APEC (WE-APEC) network, in Singapore in June 2015.
- APEC Women and the Economy Dashboard was developed to provide a snapshot on the women's participation in economy.
- Women in Transportation Task Force was formed within the Transportation Working Group with a view to promoting women's participation in the economy.

### Regional Economic Integration

- Information sharing through a centralized data bank for engineers is the object of the project, Strengthening Mobility and Promoting Regional Integration of Professional Engineers in APEC Economies.
- A workshop and public-private dialogue on Enhancing the Trade and Investment Environment for Mining through the APEC Mining Sub-Fund was held in August 2015.
- Initiatives to facilitate SME's participation in global markets include: Supply Chain Capacity Building; Assisting Women-Owned SMEs' Access the Global Market; Facilitating SME Trade through Better Understanding of NTMs in the Asia Pacific Region; and Harmonisation of Standards for the Movement of Data Across APEC Economies.

### Structural Reform

- A project, Harmonisation of Standards for the Movement of Data across APEC Economies, underway. It seeks to develop an engagement platform for national standard bodies, SME representatives, governments, and regulators across APEC.
- A workshop on Assessment of the Role of Taxation in Promoting Travel and Tourism

Growth in the APEC Region was held in Boracay, the Philippines in May 2015.

### Safeguarding the Quality of Life Through Sustainable Growth

- Challenges from climate change prompted diverse activities in SCE fora, including a Scientific Workshop on Measurement and Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases in Livestock System for Green Production and Environment of APEC Members; APEC Climate Symposium; Assessments of Climate Change Impacts and Mapping of Vulnerability to Food Insecurity under Climate Change to Strengthen Household Food Security with Livelihoods' Adaptation Approaches; Low Carbon Model Town Projects; Voluntary Peer Review on Inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidy; and Carbon Capture and Storage Capacity Building Workshops.
- Adoption of Timber Legality Information Sharing Template as well as APEC Policy Guidelines on Identifying the Scope of Illegal and Associated Trade. This is seen as a potential information exchange tool.
- Establishing Guidelines for the Mining Sub-fund made applications possible for funding mining-related projects from the project approval session 2 of 2015.
- Two projects were implemented on the marine environment preservation. These are:
  - a) Preparedness, Response and Assessment of Oil Spill in the APEC Region, Phase I; and
  - b) Change on Oceans and Fisheries Resources. An initiative to set up a Virtual Working Group on Marine Debris made progress.

### Human Security

- Disaster management and preparedness were highlighted through a number of events and activities, such as the 9th APEC Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum; two workshops on Community Based Disaster Risk Management and Application of Big Data and Open Data to Emergency Preparedness; Preparedness, Response and Assessment of Oil Spill in the APEC Region, Phase I; the 9th APEC Cooperation for Earthquake Simulation (ACES) International Workshop; and a workshop on ICT for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management.
- Under the Energy Security Initiative, APEC economies exchanged information and discussed how to address short- and long-term energy security challenges and build resiliency into their energy systems in a sustainable manner within APEC.
- A workshop on Developing Smart Traveller Programmes to Facilitate International Travel in the APEC Region was implemented.