**APEC Study Centers Consortium 2016 Conference**

May 5th – 6th, in Arequipa City, Arequipa - Peru

**Call for Presentations**

“Q*uality Growth and Sustainable Development*” is the main theme of APEC Peru 2016 and the corresponding APEC Leaders Meeting to be held in Lima in November this year. The global challenges we are facing like climate change, extreme weather events or health and food security, require us to think in new ways for achieving prosperity and sustainable development. Prosperity is no longer based on the mere accumulation of material wealth but in quality growth and human development. While strengthening regional economic integration in APEC by attaining the Bogor Goals and by advancing towards the eventual realization of the FTAAP, it is also fundamental to discuss how to improve the quality of growth and ensure human development. This would enhance the academic contribution to a greater and better focused impetus for concerted actions among APEC economies.

In that sense, initiatives to be discussed in the ASCC 2016 Conference will be focused in the following 5 (five) priority areas:

1. **Regionalism, Multilateralism and Convergence**

* Moving towards the FTAAP and Strengthening Regional Economic Integration in APEC
* Promoting Greater Dialogue on -and Transparency and Predictability in- Investment Regimes and Policies in APEC economies
* Improving the efficiency of supply chains and connectivity in the region
* Multilateralism and Open Regionalism in APEC

1. **Human Capital  and Development**

* Cross-border education, Science and Technology-Based Education
* Employability and Skills for Work
* Sponsoring study and career development
* Educational, Scientific, Technological and Innovative Capabilities

1. **Food Trade and Food Security**

* Sustainable food chains.
* Sustainable landscapes and climate smart agriculture
* Related Investment and Infrastructure needs and initiatives
* Services related to food trade
* Inclusive and green growth in food availability

1. **Improving MSME’s capabilities**

* Innovation for Sustainable and Green MSMEs
* Improving MSMEs’ access to financing
* Internationalization of MSMEs and Global Value Chains
* MSME’s role in Poverty Reduction

1. **Climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction**

* Adapting Economies and their Infrastructure to Climate Change
* Marine and Forest Ecosystem Conservation
* Promoting Trade in Environmental Goods
* Adapting Farming and Fishing Communities to Changing Weather Patterns
* Mitigation and prevention of natural disasters

The ASCC 2016 Conference is organized by the Network of Peruvian APEC Study Centers – the Red Peruana de Estudios del Asia Pacífico (REDAP) - counting with a direct support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, and will be held on May 5th – 6th in Arequipa City. This is a great opportunity for academics to discuss and share ideas on the aforementioned topics as well as to identify areas for regional collaboration undertakings among APEC Study Centers (ASCs). Outcomes of the conference may serve as inputs to the different APEC working fora and hopefully integrated in the APEC Ministerial and Leader’s statements.

To those who are interested in joining the conference as speakers, we encourage them to submit their abstracts before March 18th. The abstract of each presentation (maximum 300 words) should be submitted in our web page after registration here. Meanwhile, you can email Esthefany Herrera (herrera.ear@gmail.com) and Luciano Quispe (luciano0903@gmail.com) to ask for more information and details about the conference.

We hope you can join us in the ASCCC 2016. Your support and participation are crucial to a successful and fruitful conference.

**Indicative Timeline**

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| March 18th | Submission of Abstract of the proposed presentation |
| March 31th | Selection of presentations in the conference |
| April 29th | Submission of full papers or power points |
| May 5th | Day 1 of Conference |
| May 6th | Day 2 of Conference |