**PPSTI-EDNET Joint Session**

*13 May 2017,National Convention Centre, Room 343, Hanoi, Viet Nam*

**SUMMARY REPORT**

The PPSTI-EDNET Joint Session was held in Hanoi, Viet Nam on13 May 2017.

Delegates from 19 member economies including Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada;Chile;China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; the Philippines; Russian Federation; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; the United States and Viet Nam as well as PPSTI Chair, EDNET Coordinator, PPSTI Vice Chair, EDNET Co-Chair, ABAC Principal Advisor, Program Director from APEC Secretariat, and representative ofthe Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) attended the session.

Ms. Lisa Brodey, PPSTI Chair, and Dr. Wang Yan, EDNET Coordinator, chaired the meeting.

**Welcome Remarks and Introduction**

Welcome remarks were delivered by Mr. Chen Linhao, PPSTI Vice Chair, Dr. Wang Yan, EDNET Coordinator, and Mr. Pham Chi Cuong, Viet Nam’s EDNET Co-chair.

EDNET Coordinator remarked onpotential cooperation between education and science, emphasizing the importance of science and research in achieving innovation.

Viet Nam’s EDNET Co-chairhighlighted the significance of the partnership of PPSTI and EDNET to cope with the problems and challenges in the digital age.

**Session 1. Teaching and Learning of STEM**

Delegates from China;Japan and Malaysia presented on their proposed projects relating toteaching and learning of STEM

China delivered a presentation on a self-funded project entitled "A Study on Standards and Evaluation System of STEAM Curriculum Based on Students’ Science Literacy", focusing on investigating the current implementation of STEAM curriculum in APEC economies.

Chile inquired the condition of China's theoretical framework of the project. China responded that the aim of this project is to collect data on the basis of mutual understandings among member economies and a theoretical framework will be established later.

Mr. Nicolas Brooke, ABAC Principal Advisor expressed his willingness to engage in and promote the project, at the same time he suggested to strengthen the cooperation with the academia.

In response to Viet Nam’squestion on why “A” was added into STEM as STEAM, China emphasized the importance of adding “arts” into STEM two years ago and the involvement of arts as a paramount way to promote inter-discipline competencies as well as soft skills of students. After the discussion, Vietnam expressed their willingness to join the research cooperation.

Japan presented on a proposed project“APEC STEM Education for Economic Growth,”a project co-led by Japan and Thailand, and briefedonforthcoming project activities.

Chinese Taipei highlighted the importance of the quality of teachers.

Thailand shared the related experience and welcomed cooperation from Japan, Chinese Taipei onSTEM education.

China suggested sharing of findings and experiences in this process.

EDNET Coordinator affirmed productive collaboration between Japan and Thailand and encouraged long-term partnerships among member economies.

Chile; China;Papua New Guinea;Chinese Taipei;ThailandandVietnam co-sponsoredthe project.

Malaysia delivered a presentation on “Strategy in Building Partnerships for Innovative Growth,”proposing establishing, collaborative network and talent hub, focusing on manufacturing, services, health & wellness and Halal in the future.

The United States introduced the “Workshop on Women and STEM,” scheduledthe next day, notingthat the outcomes of the Workshop could contribute to work of both PPSTI and EDNET.

**Session 2. Science, Technology and Innovation in Higher Education**

Delegates from China;Japan and Malaysiapresented their proposed projects relating to science, technology and innovation in higher education.

Australia reported on the Second Phase of The APEC Guiding Principles for Research Integrity Project, which will enable economies to establish common definitions for key research integrity issues before collaboratively developing a set of high-level guiding principles for the region’s research community.

Viet Nam commented the importance of setting a set of standards of science and education for APEC economies in studies and researches, which will further promote the cooperation in Asia-Pacific region.

The Philippines highlighted the importance of research integrity and academic mobility. China emphasized the increasing significance of cooperation between researchers and related guiding principles and expressed support for the project.

China presented a proposed project “Foster International Technology Transfer (ITT) Professionals” for the APEC STI Cooperation and Connectivity, calling for joint actions in fostering ITT in APEC region and inviting participants from both groups to join the PPSTI APEC ITT Workshop in July in Suzhou, China.

Indonesia expressed thanks and support to China and other economies for their efforts in this field.

Australia expressed the pleasure of being involved in the original events in April and pointedout that according to the context of the White Book – functionary, practices, strategies, and case studies in international collaboration – it is better to name it as a “Tool Box”.

United States delivered a presentation the “APEC Project Data Analytics Raising Employment(DARE),”which aims to improve employer-driven competencies to address skill shortages in the digital age, calling for support from EDNET to develop such competencies.

Chile expressed the appreciation for the openness of the experts from other economies.

China recognized the increasing challenges of unemployment and the gap between skill development and the demands of labor market. Mentioning China’s project "APEC Training in Medical Big Data", China suggested two projects to cooperate with each other with more joint actions including the collaboration in higher educational programs. In response, the United States proposed future academic training and joint research actions. The United States expressed the appreciation to APRU and APEC Study Center for sending many experts to join the project.

Viet Nam delivered a presentation entitled "Viet Nam STEM Alliance - A Case Study of Social Innovation for STEM Development" – promote affordable STEM education resources in Viet Nam, sharing concrete experiences and information on science technology and innovation.

The PPSTI Chair and Vice Chair affirmed best practices of Viet Nam in the social innovations for STEM.

**Session 3. Discussion: How to enhance cross-fora cooperation between PPSTI and EDNET?**

In this session, member economies discussed issues about cross-fora cooperative actions including nomination of Cross-fora Coordinator for PPSTI-EDNET and a Joint Policy Statement.

In her remarks, EDNET Coordinator addressed the urgent demand for mutual knowledge of ongoing activities and sharing information of collaborative projects between PPSTI and EDNET.

Canada expressed strong interests in engaging in cross-fora projects.

The United States proposed to set up a cross-foravirtual platform to share resources between PPSTI and EDNET.

The Program Director expressed support for creatingsuch virtual space for PPSTI and EDNET to share information and experience.

**Nomination of Cross-fora Coordinator for PPSTI-EDNET**

To better exchange the information among PPSTI and EDNET, setting up a Cross-fora Coordinator was proposed. As no nomination was made by member economies, PPSTI Chair suggested EDNET Coordinator play the role alternatively and it was endorsed by all the delegates.

**Joint Policy Statement**

Program Director explained that the joint policy statement is the first draft for discussion.

EDNET Coordinator explained the purpose of Joint Policy Statement, which is to share basic ideas and thoughts about how to push forward cooperation between PPSTI and EDNET, noting that the endorsement of this statement is up to each economy's consideration and the statement itself is still open for revision.

PPSTI Co-Chair highlighted the meaningfulness of policy recommendations of PPSTI and EDNET.

Chile inquired about the further stepsof implementation of thestatement.

The United States suggested alternative ways other than the statement for promoting cross-fora collaboration giving existing joint meetings and joint-projects, partly as policy statement might face complicationson ministerial level.

PPSTI Chair remarked that the statement is a statement of intention of bringing together education, science, technology, and innovation.

Program Director noted that APEC Secretariat support cross-fora cooperation without necessarily institutionalizing it through APEC Secretariat.

The United States proposed to collaborate through existing mechanism, for example,throughjoint work plans rather than creating another formal statement.

**Wrap-up Session**

PPSTI chair summarized the contents and outcomes of the session.

EDNET Coordinator remarked to maintain current momentum for cross-fora collaboration through various ways including common virtual space, cross-fora coordinator, joint work plan, joint meeting/session and collaborative projects and institutionalize collaboration when and where appropriate.

EDNET Coordinator invited the delegates to thank the notetakers Xing Pengyuan and Liu Nianhong for their work.