

## FUNDING CRITERIA FOR ALL APEC-FUNDED PROJECTS IN 2012

In assessing APEC-funded projects in 2012, priority should be given – pursuant to instructions from Leaders and Ministers – to funding capacity-building activities, with special emphasis on developing economies, in accordance with the following rankings. These criteria will be used for ranking all of APEC's funded projects.

**Rank 1: Projects that specifically and significantly contribute to promoting regional economic integration via free and open trade and investment**

This includes projects related to:

- Next generation trade and investment issues
- Strengthening multilateral trading system and supporting FTAs/RTAs
- Promoting innovation policy
- Promoting greater alignment in regulatory approaches, including through standards, regulatory coherence and cooperation, technical regulations, conformity assessment, risk assessment
- Trade facilitation and supply chain performance
- Environmental goods and services
- Cooperation in information technology and digital economy
- Investment
- Services
- Ease of doing business
- Promotion and development of SMEs and entrepreneurship

**Rank 2: Projects that directly support the Action Plan in the APEC Leaders' Growth Strategy**

This includes, but is not limited to, projects closely related to:

### **Sustainable Growth**

- Energy security
- Renewable energy development, alternative energy sources
- Reducing energy intensity and promoting energy-efficient technologies
- Phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies
- Low-emissions development strategies (LEDS)
- Facilitating trade in remanufactured goods
- Conservation, sustainable management, and rehabilitation of forest resources, combating illegal logging and associated trade
- Green jobs education and training
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Sustainable development of oceans and their crucial role in climate change and food security

### **Secure Growth**

- Food security and agricultural technology cooperation
- Food safety
- Emergency preparedness and natural disasters
- Strengthening health system
- Counter terrorism initiatives/anti-money laundering activities
- Fighting corruption and improving governance and transparency

### **Inclusive Growth**

- Human resources development
- Women and the economy

**Other issues connected with Innovative Growth**

- Education
- Research cooperation

**Balanced Growth**

- Implementation of the APEC New Strategy for Structural Reform (ANSSR)
- Strengthening financial markets (including financial regulatory systems and capital market development), financial inclusion and ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability

**Rank 3:** Projects that are **linked to other priorities** identified by Leaders and Ministers but are less closely linked to regional economic integration via free and open trade and investment

For example:

Activities which contribute to balanced, inclusive, sustainable, innovative and secure growth in the longer-term, such as:

- Youth issues
- Initiatives which support trade recovery (e.g. the APEC Trade Recovery Programme)
- Tourism

**NOTES**

**Cross-cutting issues:** All projects should maximise: developing human capital; building linkages between APEC economies; gender equality; engagement of other APEC fora, ABAC, the private sector and other multilateral organisations; multi-year capacity building opportunities; and the spectrum of capacity building models and activities, although the extent to which projects incorporate these methodologies will not affect their priority rankings.

**Prioritisation within a rank:** In the event that there are more project proposals than available funding for initiatives within a particular rank, projects will be prioritized in accordance to the degree to which they contribute to its rank's objective (and therefore to APEC's overall objective of furthering the goal of economic integration via free and open trade and investment).