

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

SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION 2016 FACT SHEET

APEC's Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) seeks sustainable growth, equitable development, reduction of economic disparities and improvement of economic and social well-being.



2016 APEC Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation

In 2016, SCE sought and acted on its objective to deliver efficient and effective fora assessment system by reviewing the current Independent Assessment. The review led to the "Decisions by the SCE on Fora Assessment", which was adopted at the SCE meeting in August 2016. It instructs the SCE and the Secretariat to develop a standardized program for assessment in 2017, which will be used for annual assessment starting 2018. SCE also actively participated in the implementation of the APEC Capacity Building Policy as well as took concrete steps to improve cross-fora collaboration. SCE also approved seven strategic plans and recommended the approval of the revised Terms of References of seven groups, including Mainstreaming Ocean-Related Issues Steering Committee to extend its mandate by two more years.

Highlights and Priorities:

Review of Independent Assessment

The Third 2016 SCE Meeting approved the Decisions on Fora Assessment. It entails the new Fora Assessment system that is expected to bring more consistency through a standard annual program and more organizational view through engagement of the small team of SCE members.

Cross-fora Collaboration

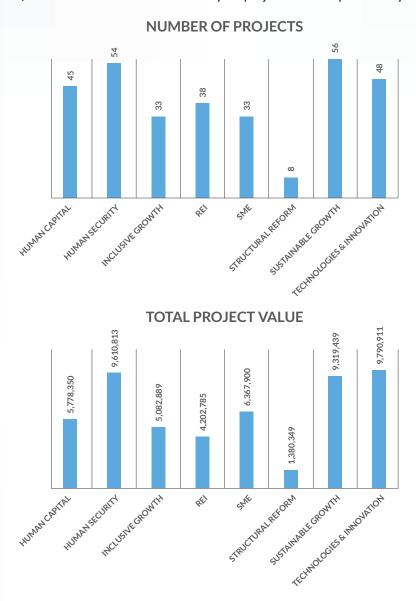
SCE has been focusing on further promoting cross-fora collaboration for the last couple of years. Based on the inputs from the delegates, SCE made several recommendations to improve the overall coordination across the fora, through off-line meetings at the SCE-Committee of the Whole meeting and various online facilities.

APEC Capacity Building Policy

The procedural decision to follow up on the APEC Capacity Building Policy was adopted by SCE's third meeting in 2015, which was endorsed by SOM. SCE has been working with the Budget Management Committee-Small Working Group to incorporate the Capacity Building Policy in the Project Guidebook, streamline project management procedures and project financing issues.

ECOTECH Projects 2016

A total of 54 projects of SCE fora were approved. APEC committed to fund these projects with a total value of USD 6,986,603, which was a slight increase compared to the last reporting period. Out of the 54 projects, three projects received funding from the TILF Special Account, nine projects were funded by the GPA, and 42 projects were funded by the ASF. In addition, SCE Fora approved 88 self-funded projects between 2015 and 2016. The total value of the projects, including self-funded projects, stand at USD 22,101,592. In addition, there are also five SCE fora multi-year projects currently underway.



SCE for a members continue to implement projects that advance all of ECOTECH's medium-term priorities:

- Developing Human Capital
- Empowering Small Businesses
- Harnessing Innovation
- Promoting Inclusive Growth
- Advancing Regional Economic Integration
- Strengthening Structural Reform
- Ensuring Quality Growth
- Safeguarding Human Security



Learn more about the work of the APEC Economic and Technical Committee http://www.apec.org/Groups/SOM-Steering-Committee-on-Economic-and-Technical-Cooperation.aspx

