

Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG) Proposed Work Plan for 2022

Introduction

In 2022, the Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG) will continue to conduct its activities in line with its Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 to enhance the capacity of agriculture and its related industries to contribute to economic growth, food security, social well-being, and recovery from the impact of COVID-19 on the agri-food systems in the region. The ATCWG will also align its activities with the APEC 2022 Thailand theme “Open. Connect. Balance.,” particularly the concept of bio-circular-green (BCG) economy model and devote itself to help develop an inclusive and sustainable APEC region.

The ATCWG will strengthen the cooperation among APEC members on the innovation and extension of agricultural technologies and the facilitation of agricultural trade and investment in the region, addressing the challenges of digital transformation in agriculture, climate change adaptation and mitigation, food loss and waste reduction, empowerment of smallholder, women and youth farmers, and sustainable agriculture and rural development, among others. The Group aims to follow the guidance of the Putrajaya Vision 2040 to foster *“an open, dynamic, resilient and peaceful Asia-Pacific community by 2040, for the prosperity of all our people and future generations”* as well as the Aotearoa Plan of Action. Simultaneously, the ATCWG will strive to work jointly with the Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS) in achieving the APEC Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 with *“an open, fair, transparent, productive, sustainable and resilient APEC food system that ensures people always have access to sufficient, safe, affordable, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”*

Furthermore, the ATCWG will continue to support the implementation of the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth in conducting its activities. To realize the Roadmap, the ATCWG aims to achieve Key Action Areas particularly in *“Empowering women through access to capital and markets”*, *“Support women’s education, training and skills development and access in a changing world of work”* and *“Advancing women’s economic empowerment through data collection and analysis”*.

1. Governance in 2022

1.1 The ATCWG will keep track to the guidance of the ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025.

1.2 The ATCWG will follow the ATCWG Terms of Reference (ToR) 2022-2025.

1.3 The ATCWG will support the implementation of the Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030.

1.4 The ATCWG will follow the guidance of the Aotearoa Plan of Action.

2. Expected Outcomes/Deliverables for 2022

2.1 Hold the 26th ATCWG Annual Meeting

The 26th ATCWG Annual Meeting is currently scheduled to be held physically in August, 2022 during the SOM 3 cluster. The exact date is yet to be confirmed. There are also plans to resume holding joint meetings with the PPFS and other related fora.

In this meeting, member economies are expected to share their previous outcome of the projects they conducted starting from 2021, the latest agricultural innovations and policies, as well as possible upcoming ATCWG projects.

2.2 Hold the APEC-GRA Joint Workshop on Enhancing Livestock GHG Inventory Methodology (Hosted by New Zealand)

In order to share knowledge on the latest practices and technologies for livestock GHG inventories, and promote the positive role that increasing agricultural productivity can have on reducing GHG emissions; New Zealand will hold the APEC-GRA Joint Workshop on Enhancing Livestock GHG Inventory in 2022.

This workshop aims to build capacity in measuring and quantifying livestock GHG emissions. The workshop will: 1) introduce recent advancements in livestock GHG inventory methodologies; 2) facilitate discussion on livestock production system development and on the climate change challenges they face; 3) demonstrate the role of robust science to support economies to track progress toward meeting their Nationally Determined Contributions; and 4) identify steps to build regional and national capacity.

Overall, this workshop will increase the ability of economies to capture livestock inventories to more accurately reflect national circumstances and farm production systems, and improvements gained through better management practices, improved genetics and breeding technologies and innovative mitigation technologies.

2.3 Hold the APEC Workshop on the Application of Electronic Veterinary and Phytosanitary Certificate (Hosted by Chinese Taipei)

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the development of electronic veterinary or phytosanitary certificate (e-certificate) system that can effectively minimize trade impact on animal and plant products during the pandemic.

In this connection, Chinese Taipei would like to host a webinar in October 2022 on the application of e-certificate to share successful experiences of applying and developing e-certificate system through international organizations (i.e. IPPC ePhyto) or in-house system. This webinar also aims to discuss the secureness of temporary measures like QR code and whether it could be equivalent to paper/e-certificate. This project boosts digital connectivity and is in line with the APEC 2022's priority to restore connectivity in all dimensions.

2.4 Hold the Workshop on Sharing Good Practices on Sustainable Agricultural Development through the Principle of Sufficiency Economy (Hosted by Thailand)

Thailand would like to conduct a 2-day Workshop on Sharing Good Practices on Sustainable Agriculture Development through the Principle of Sufficiency Economy in between April and June this year virtually.

This workshop aims to exchange best practice on sustainable agriculture, provide the policy recommendations for the development of sustainable agriculture to achieve the food security and strengthen the balance of economic growth and environmental sustainability. This event aligns with the Putrajaya Vision 2040 and the ToR of ATCWG 2022-2025.

2.5 Hold the Virtual Workshop: Tackling Climate Change Challenges with Agricultural Innovation (Hosted by the United States)

The United States is planning to hold a self-funded Virtual Workshop: Tackling Climate Change Challenges with Agricultural Innovation this year to strengthen member economies' awareness and understanding, and facilitate discussion of tools and approaches for mitigating the effects of climate change in agriculture sector. This workshop also will encourage member economies to support supply chain resilience and enhance economic prosperity in the APEC region.

2.6 Hold the Virtual Workshop on a Greater Understanding of Food Loss Reduction Practices at the Farm/Producer Level (Hosted by the United States)

The United States is planning to hold a self-funded Virtual Workshop on a Greater Understanding of Food Loss Reduction Practices at the Farm/Producer Level this year. This workshop intends to incorporate perspectives from multiple APEC economies and draw on previous work on sustainable and innovative agriculture production.

2.7 Hold the Seminar on Promoting Rural Development and Prosperity for All Our People in APEC Region (Hosted by China)

Rural development holds immense untapped potential for the prosperity of humanity, and in particular for developing economies in the APEC region. The Putrajaya Vision 2040 aims for “an open, dynamic, resilient and peaceful Asia-Pacific community by 2040, for the prosperity of all our people and future generations”. The Implementing Plan of the Putrajaya Vision 2040, Aotearoa Plan of Action, also emphasizes that “cooperate to further develop APEC’ work on other groups with untapped economic potential, such as those from remote and rural communities”. Rural development and prosperity can promote prosperity for all our people. China is planning to hold a Seminar on Promoting Rural Development and Prosperity for All Our People in APEC Region this year to enhance the better understanding of the comprehensive policies and best practices for the sustainable rural development and betterment of the people in rural and remote regions to better support the APEC ATCWG Strategic Plan 2021-2025, the Putrajaya Vision 2040 and the La Serena Roadmap through identifying, promoting, exchanging, training and implementing comprehensive rural policies and best practices especially in the area of sustainable agriculture, food security and safety, promotion of innovation and application of digital technologies, and enhancing social well-being of rural communities.

2.8 Hold the Virtual Workshop on Agricultural Technological Cooperation for Improving Soil Quality and Food Productivity. (Hosted by China)

China is planning to hold a self-funded workshop aiming at responding to “APEC Food Security Roadmap toward 2030” and “the Sixth Ministerial Food Security Meeting”. And it intends to provide a platform for forum to discuss and share information on how to use modern agricultural technology, such as smart agriculture, to improve agricultural productivity and to strengthen scientific and technological communication for the forum. The themes of the workshop include soil protection, black soil quality improvement, protection and utilization

of cultivated land, conversion of Saline-alkali land into arable land.

2.9 Hold the Workshop on Agricultural Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the Digital Economy Era (hosted by China)

China is planning to hold a self-funded workshop on Agricultural Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the Digital Economy Era. This project aims to discuss how digital economy and agricultural informatization could foster youth in agriculture to be more engaged in agricultural entrepreneurship and innovation, which further could boost the rural revitalization in a more inclusive way.

3 Itemized Work Plans for 2022

Title	Summary of Specific Plans	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans and to ABAC recommendations)	ECOTECH Priorities and/or Host Year Priorities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
26 th ATCWG Annual Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review 2021 ATCWG activities Discuss possible ATCWG activities aligning with the 2022 APEC priority themes of the Thailand year Economies to brief the meeting on their latest agricultural innovations and policies, as well as projects which were implemented in 2021 and those have been planned to apply in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ATCWG Terms of Reference (ToR) 2022-2025 The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 of “an open, dynamic, resilient and peaceful Asia-Pacific community by 2040, for the prosperity of all our people and future generations”. The Aotearoa Plan of Action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth The priorities of APEC 2022: Open Trade and Investment to All Opportunities/Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	PPFS
APEC-GRA Joint Workshop on Enhancing Livestock GHG Inventory Methodology (ATC 01 2020S)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a workshop on enhancing livestock GHG inventory The expected themes of the seminar/workshop are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> introduce recent advancements in livestock GHG inventory methodologies; facilitate discussion on livestock production system development and on the climate change challenges they face; demonstrate the role of robust science to support economies to track progress toward meeting their Nationally Determined Contributions; identify steps to build regional and national capacity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fifth Food Security Ministerial Meeting, regarding climate change on the development of agriculture The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth The priorities of APEC 2022: Open Trade and Investment to All Opportunities/Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	GRA
APEC Workshop on the Application of Electronic Veterinary and Phytosanitary Certificate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A 1-day or 2-half days virtual workshop will be held for member economies This project will provide a forum for APEC member economies to discuss the issues and challenges in the application of electronic veterinary or phytosanitary certificate (e-certificate) in order to enhance the use of e-certificate in the region and to minimize the trade impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will provide a better support measure to prevent the spreading of important animal and plant diseases and pests, and ensure a sound agricultural production environment and food security in the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth The priorities of APEC 2022: Open Trade and Investment to All Opportunities/Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	PPFS

Title	Summary of Specific Plans	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans and to ABAC recommendations)	ECOTECH Priorities and/or Host Year Priorities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
	Asia-Pacific region.			
Workshop on Sharing Good Practices on Sustainable Agricultural Development through the Principle of Sufficiency Economy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To organize a 2-day virtual workshop for economies; 2. To exchange best practice on sustainable agriculture, 3. To provide the policy recommendations for the development of sustainable agriculture 4. To achieve the food security and strengthen the balance of economic growth and environmental sustainability.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 ● The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 ● La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth ● The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth ● The priorities of APEC 2022: Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	PPFS
Virtual Workshop: Tackling Climate Change Challenges with Agricultural Innovation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To organize a virtual workshop for economies; 2. To strengthen member economies' awareness and understanding, and facilitate discussion of tools and approaches for mitigating the effects of climate change in agriculture sector. This workshop also will encourage member economies to support supply chain resilience and enhance economic prosperity in the APEC region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The instruction of the 5th APEC Ministerial Meeting on Food Security: embracing innovation, emerging technologies and digital opportunities ● The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 ● The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 ● La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth ● The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth ● The priorities of APEC 2022: Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	PPFS
Virtual Workshop on a Greater Understanding of Food Loss Reduction Practices at the Farm/Producer Level	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To organize a virtual workshop for economies; 2. To have a better understanding of food loss reduction practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 ● The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 ● La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth ● The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth ● The priorities of APEC 2022: Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	PPFS
Seminar on Promoting Rural Development and Prosperity for All Our People in APEC Region	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To organize a seminar for economies 2. To conduct desk review and research on the comprehensive policies and best practices for the sustainable rural development 3. To hold focus group discussion and key informants' interview on policies, surveys on good practices, expert reviewing and deliverable publishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 ● The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 ● The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth ● The priorities of APEC 2022: Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting 	PPFS

Title	Summary of Specific Plans	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans and to ABAC recommendations)	ECOTECH Priorities and/or Host Year Priorities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
			Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects	
Virtual Workshop on Agricultural Technological Cooperation for Improving Soil Quality and Food Productivity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To organize a virtual workshop for economies; 2. To discuss and share information on how to use modern agricultural technology, such as smart agriculture, to improve agricultural productivity. 3. To discuss topics on soil protection, black soil quality improvement, protection and utilization of cultivated land, conversion of Saline-alkali land into arable land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 ● The Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030 ● The Sixth Ministerial Food Security Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth ● The priorities of APEC 2022: Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	PPFS
Virtual Workshop on Agricultural Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the Digital Economy Era	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To organize a virtual workshop for economies; 2. Form a database of youth experts and entrepreneurs in APEC region 3. Enhance the youth capability in rural development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The instruction of the 5th APEC Ministerial Meeting on Food Security: embracing innovation, emerging technologies and digital opportunities ● The ATCWG Strategic Plan for 2021-2025 ● La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth ● The APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tech-Innovation/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration/Sustainable Growth ● The priorities of APEC 2022: Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions/ Promoting Balance, Sustainability, and Inclusivity in All Aspects 	PPFS