

**INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF THE  
SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES WORKING GROUP (SMEWG)**

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or APEC Secretariat	Suggested Action to be taken by SCE or SMEWG	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by SMEWG	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS TO SMEWG</b>				
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 1.</b> In the next strategic plan, consideration should be given to “tightening” the scope by focussing more on the three priority areas identified in the current strategy.		As per the recommendation.	When updating its Strategic Plan	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 2.</b> The SMEWG Strategic Plan should be used to provide greater guidance for the activities that are carried out.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 3.</b> Greater number of projects should be sponsored which focus on best practice policy amongst APEC economies.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : Funding APEC projects are decided in accordance with the procedures as set forth in the Project Guidebook.	SMEWG may want to give priority scores to such projects prior to its submission to SCE.	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 4.</b> The format and process of reporting at the SMEWG meetings on “best practice” should shift to a more genuine dialogue process.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 5.</b> The impact of workshops should be improved through the use of a range of technologies wherever possible.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	

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<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 6.</b> As part of the project design and implementation, consideration should be given to having as one output an APEC publication and/or a depository of the material on a suitable website.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 7.</b> For publications considered likely to have great appeal to MSMEs, consideration should be given to translation into other languages besides English.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 8.</b> The Guidebook on APEC Projects should provide a more detailed description and guidance on how to measure outputs.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : PMU should be alerted on this. PMU is already offering training sessions at SOM cluster meetings.	As per the recommendation.	2015/2016	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 9.</b> For measuring results the Guidebook on APEC Projects should break down outputs into several subcategories	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : PMU should be alerted on this.	As per the recommendation.	2015/2016	

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<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 10.</b> To measure more accurately the impact of projects carried out, on a regular basis an independent assessment should be done of one or more projects.	<u>APEC Secretariat</u> : additional funding may be necessary, which is not provided by APEC.	Take note of the importance of impact evaluation.	2016	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 11.</b> It is recommended, where appropriate, that the Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE) is consulted on SMEWG project proposals.		As per the recommendation	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 12.</b> The cross cutting thematic issues of GVC and cross cutting issues such as gender and youth, should be used to capture synergies between different fora.		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 13.</b> Greater dialogue should be established with the private sector		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	
<b>Recommendation to SMEWG 14.</b> Consideration should be given to helping less developed economies who wish to participate more through the implementation of projects and activities		As per the recommendation.	Ongoing	

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<b>RECOMMENDATIONS TO SMEWG</b>				
<p><b>Recommendation to SMEWG 15.</b>                      Consideration should be given to adjusting the SMEWG ToR to include the possibility of economies declining to chair after they have postponed their responsibility for a year.</p>		<p>As per the recommendation</p>	<p>2016</p>	
<p><b>Recommendation to SMEWG 16.</b>                      The current KPIs should be reviewed.</p>		<p>As per the recommendation.</p>		