

FUNDING CRITERIA FOR ALL APEC-FUNDED PROJECTS IN 2016

In assessing APEC-funded projects in 2016, 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 demonstrate a direct link to promoting regional economic integration via free and open trade and investment

This includes projects related to:

- Supporting the Multilateral Trading System and the Bogor Goals
- Trade and Investment Facilitation and Liberalization, including infrastructure development and PPPs.
- Next Generation Trade and Investment Issues
- Ease of Doing Business
- Services trade, including the implementation of the APEC Services Cooperation Framework
- Regional Economic Integration initiatives, including the Beijing Roadmap for APEC's Contribution to the Realization of the FTAAP
- MSME Modernization and insertion in GVCs, including industries that promote green growth and green jobs, and implementation of the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs and the Iloilo Initiative
- Food production, processing, supply chain and trade, including food safety and security, sustainable agriculture, sustainability of these activities and rural development, technical cooperation and new technologies, as well as implementation of the Food Security Roadmap Towards 2020 and the Food security Business Plan
- Ocean-related issues for economic growth; including Blue Economy; fisheries; as well as aquaculture and the implementation of the Plan of Action on Food Security and Blue Economy; conservation and sustainable development of marine and coastal resources, including reduction of marine debris.
- Human capital development, including implementation of the Strategic Plan on Capacity Building to Promote the Trade and Investment Agenda, cooperation on education, skills development, science and technology and capacity building, alignment of education and training to the regional labor market needs and youth employment
- Activities outlined in the Global Value Chains (GVCs) Blueprint
- Supply Chain Connectivity
- Structural Reform , including overcoming the MIT and the implementation of the RAASR
- Financial integration, fiscal transparency and financial resiliency and implementation of the Cebu Action Plan
- Connectivity, including the implementation of the APEC Connectivity Blueprint on enhancing physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity
- Standards, conformity assessment, technical regulations, regulatory cooperation, and regulatory coherence, including good regulatory practices
- Protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights, including trade secrets
- Internet Economy, including the implementation of APEC Initiative of Cooperation to Promote Internet Economy
- Information technology and digital economy, including e-commerce, ICT infrastructure and digital trade
- Travel facilitation for enhancing mobility, green tourism
- Building sustainable and resilient communities
- Emergency preparedness and disaster management, including activities relating to the efficient movement of capital, goods, services and people as well as the implementation of the APEC Disaster Risk Reduction Framework.

Rank 2: Projects that directly support the APEC Strategy for Strengthening Quality Growth

This includes projects related to the implementation of the APEC's Strategy for Strengthening Quality Growth:

Balanced Growth

- Macro-economic policy coordination and information sharing
- Financial markets (including financial regulatory systems and capital market development), financial inclusion and ensuring long-term fiscal sustainability

Inclusive Growth

- Women and the Economy (if not otherwise related to a Rank 1 Priority issue).
- Inclusion of people in situation of disability in the economy
- Issues related to reducing economic disparities among APEC economies and to help members to participate in the regional trade and investment liberalization opportunities
- Activities/issues related to addressing the social dimension of globalization, including health and gender, aging population and vulnerable groups

Sustainable Growth

- Energy efficiency, energy security and energy resiliency including the development of low carbon technology and alternative energy sources
- Urbanization to growth, including smart city and live-friendly cooperation
- Conservation, sustainable management, and rehabilitation of natural resources, including land, water, forest, among others; combatting illegal logging and associated trade
- Sustainable development in mining
- Activities/issues related to safeguarding the quality of life through sustainable growth

Secure Growth

- Counter terrorism
- Strengthening growth security through disaster risk reduction to enhance resilience against natural calamities.
- Health and health systems, including the implementation of Healthy Asia-Pacific 2020
- Anti-corruption, good governance and transparency, including anti-money laundering activities

Innovative Growth

- Innovation policy and research cooperation, including harnessing new technologies for the future
- Science and technology and ICT approaches in disaster preparedness, risk reduction, response and post-disaster recovery and cooperation in search and rescue

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
This includes projects related to:

- Youth cooperation
- Other related-issues/activities that cannot be directly linked to Rank 1 and Rank 2 projects

NOTES

Cross-cutting issues: All projects should apply the **Policy on APEC's Capacity Building through ECOTECH, in particular its Operational Principles, and maximize:** regional economic integration; developing human capital; building linkage between APEC economies; gender equality; engagement of other APEC fora, ABAC, the private sector and other multilateral organizations; 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 ranking.

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 the APEC's further objective of the furtherance of the goal of economic integration via free and open trade and investment).*