



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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Agenda Item: 5.1

Ocean and Fisheries Working Group Strategic Plan 2016-2018

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: OFWG Lead Shepherd



**First SOM Steering Committee on Economic and
Technical Cooperation Meeting
Lima, Peru
1 March 2016**

Strategic Plan 2016-2018

Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG)

1. Vision Statement

Well-managed ecosystems, fisheries and aquaculture that provide optimal economic value to support and improve the livelihood of communities and food security in APEC member Economies.

2. Mission Statement

OFWG's mission is to support APEC's mission to foster sustainable economic growth, development and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. The OFWG economies will do this by working to facilitate free and open trade in the region and promoting sustainable use of fisheries, aquaculture, and marine ecosystem resources and related goods and services. The OFWG will promote cooperation amongst its members, governments, academia, private industry, and regional and international organizations to advance this process. *The OFWG will continue to implement the directives of the Seoul Oceans Declaration (2002), the Bali Plan of Action (2005), the Paracas Declaration and Action Agenda (2010) and the Xiamen Declaration (2014) through research, capacity building, information and best practices sharing and dissemination, and cooperation with other APEC fora.*

APEC's Mission:

"APEC is the premier Asia-Pacific economic forum. Our primary goal is to support sustainable economic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region.

We are united in our drive to build a dynamic and harmonious Asia-Pacific community by championing free and open trade and investment, promoting and accelerating regional economic integration, encouraging economic and technical cooperation, enhancing human security, and facilitating a favorable and sustainable business environment. Our initiatives turn policy goals into concrete results and agreements into tangible benefits."

3. Objectives

The OFWG seeks to accomplish the following objectives with the implementation of this Strategic Plan:

1. Maximizing access to the economic benefits derived from sustainable use of the ocean.
2. Promoting the conservation of the marine environment and the sustainable use of fisheries, aquaculture and ocean ecosystems in the APEC region to ensure long-term economic benefits.
3. Enhancing the understanding of the role of oceans, sustainable fisheries, responsible development of aquaculture and sustainable use and management of marine resources to regional food security.
4. Enhancing the understanding of the impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems and environment
5. Enhancing the understanding of the impact of natural disaster on the aquaculture and seafood supply chain.
6. Improving the understanding of oceans and marine ecosystems and their economic and social value.

7. Promoting activities within APEC which are in accordance with the common view of Blue Economy as agreed at OFWG 3.
8. Enhancing sectoral public and private partnerships, including the participation and communication in OFWG work.
9. Enhancing cross-fora collaboration to support the mainstreaming of ocean-related issues in APEC.

4. Critical Success Factors / Key Performance Indicators

The following conditions will directly impact the ability of the OFWG to successfully achieve its Vision and implement its Mission Statement:

- 4.1. Recognition by APEC Economies and partners of the importance of achieving sustainable use of fisheries, aquaculture, and marine ecosystem resources in order to maximize the long-term economic and social benefits associated with these resource;
- 4.2 Communication, coordination and commitment among APEC economies and partners to: develop and implement collaborative solutions to fisheries, aquaculture, and marine ecosystem resource management challenges in the APEC region and develop strategies to promote ecosystem-based management;
- 4.3. Broad understanding of the fundamental and strategic role of sustainable fisheries, aquaculture and marine resources in regional food security;
- 4.4 Broad understanding of the physical and economic impacts of climate change on fisheries, aquaculture, marine ecosystems, and local communities, and, commitment to a coordinated approach to mitigate and adapt to these impacts;
- 4.5 Ongoing commitment to develop and exchange scientific information, build institutional capacity, and apply best practices and appropriate international instruments to contribute to the sustainable development and protection of the marine environment;
- 4.6 Support for OFWG operations, including: broad participation and adequate resources from APEC economies dialogue, cooperation and partnerships with other APEC fora, regional and international organizations, and the private sector where interests intersect.
- 4.7 Commitment to increasing the understanding of the common view of the Blue Economy in the APEC region and efforts of sustainable use and management of marine resources.
- 4.8 OFWG Project proposals and projects that: have broad application throughout the APEC region; tie directly to APEC’s core mission; and follow the “Results Chain,” as detailed in Section 6 of this document.

A set of Key Performance Indicators will allow the OFWG to gauge the progress made to achieve the proposed objectives of the Strategic Plan. The following table identifies four priority areas of the OFWG work, based on guidance received from Oceans Ministers, and one additional priority area designed to address improving the functionality and effectiveness of our newly formed working group.

Priority Area	Objectives	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
1.Free and Open Trade and Investment	- Maximize access to the economic benefits derived from sustainable use of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased trade and investment opportunities that promote sustainable use of fisheries, aquaculture and ocean ecosystem resources; • Improved value chain for small scale fishermen and aquaculture operators;

	ocean.	Increased income and job opportunities, particularly for economically susceptible groups and communities
2.Sustainable Development and Protection of the Marine Environment	- Promote the conservation of the marine environment and the sustainable use and management of fisheries, aquaculture and marine ecosystems in the APEC region to ensure long-term economic benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased support for development of collaborative solutions to fisheries, aquaculture, and marine ecosystem resource management challenges in the APEC region; ▪ Increased exchange of scientific information and implementation of best practices; ▪ Increased capacity for development and implementation of appropriate tools to ensure sustainable management (e.g., ecosystem-based management, coastal and marine spatial planning, and marine protected areas); ▪ Support the capacity building on ecosystem based marine management
	▪	▪

Priority Area	Objectives	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
3. Food Security	-Enhancing the understanding of the role of the oceans, sustainable fisheries, responsible development of aquaculture and sustainable use and management of marine resources to regional food security.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased capacity of OFWG economies to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing; Advanced efforts on inclusive growth (e.g., small scale fisheries and resource-limited aquaculture) - Promoting the capacity building activities on ecological aquaculture technology , sea vegetable producing and processing technology, etc.
4. Climate Change and natural disaster	-Enhancing the understanding of climate change impacts on the oceans and marine ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased capacity of OFWG economies to take appropriate measures to respond to and adapt to the impacts of climate change on coastal communities, fisheries and aquaculture;
5. Natural disaster/Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Resilience	Enhance the understanding of the impact of natural disaster on the aquaculture and seafood supply chains, as well as coastal communities' economic well-being.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen the role of ocean-related cooperation across APEC on emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and related issues, including with the Emergency Preparedness Working Group
6. Blue Economy	-Improve the understanding of the oceans, marine ecosystems and their economic and social value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the sharing of information on related research on Blue Economy development in APEC region - Strengthen the cooperation among APEC members on Blue Economy assessment methodology establishment
	- Promoting activities within APEC which are in accordance with the common view of Blue Economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage discussion on ways to APEC can advance sustainable development and conservation of ocean and coastal resources and ecosystems. Promote APEC members' efforts, especially regarding small-scale practices, to highlight ways in which sustainable development and conservation of ocean and coastal resources fosters economic growth, and - Facilitate the cooperation between different Blue Economy pilot areas and sharing of best practices
7. OFWG Operations	-Enhance public and private sector partnerships, including participation and communication in OFWG work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification of cross-cutting themes for cooperative work and partnerships ▪ Increased support for joint projects/work and increased horizontal coordination with appropriate APEC fora (such as the SMEWG); ▪ Improved communication/coordination with other

	-Enhance cross-fora collaboration to support the mainstreaming of ocean-related issues in APEC.	<p>APEC fora and sub-fora, regional and international organizations, and the private sector where interests intersect, including the designation of liaisons to other APEC fora and sub-fora where appropriate;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhanced cross-fora collaboration, including an increased level of public and private sector participation in OFWG meetings; ▪ Increased opportunities for focused dialogue, cooperation and partnerships with public and private sector stakeholders on a variety of topics; ▪ A more active role by the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center as a cooperation platform for APEC economies.
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5. Prioritized Implementation Schedule

The following table takes the objectives identified in Section 4 and provides a series of proposed actions to achieve those objectives (Note: these include actions which have been endorsed by OFWG, as well as proposed as future work under consideration, and also initiatives which are on-going). For each action, a start and finish date are identified and possible resources are listed.

Objectives should be consistent with the critical factors or key performance indicators

Objective/Activities	Start Date	Completion Date	Lead Economy/fora	Key Performance Indicators/Outputs
<p>#1 Maximize access to the economic benefits derived from sustainable use of the ocean.</p> <p><u>Action 1:</u> Capacity building activities for exchanging best practices to combat Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing.</p> <p><u>Action 2:</u> Capacity building activities for exchanging best practices about the effects harmonization and compliance agreements have on trade and investment in fisheries and aquaculture.</p> <p><u>Action 3:</u> Capacity building to improve the value chain for small scale fisheries and aquaculture.</p> <p><u>Action 4:</u> Capacity building to implement quality tools for small scale fisheries and aquaculture</p> <p><u>Action 5:</u> Promote the implementation of activities to enhance the understanding of</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>XXX 2016</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>June 2013</p>	<p>XX 2018</p> <p>XXX 2018</p> <p>XXX 201</p> <p>June 2017</p> <p>December</p>	<p>Papua New Guinea, New Zealand</p>	

tariff and non-tariff barriers for fisheries and aquaculture products.	January 2016	2018		
<p>#2 Promote the conservation of the marine environment and the sustainable use of fisheries, aquaculture and ocean ecosystems in the APEC region to ensure long-term economic benefits.</p> <p><u>Action 1:</u> Promote the exchanging of information on best practices, and the development of reports to disseminate information.</p> <p><u>Action 2:</u> Developing a Manual of Good Practices to Improve the Supply Chain of marine products aiming to maintain health of the fish stock, strengthening food security and enhancing trade in the Asia Pacific Region.</p> <p>Action3 Capacity building activities for better understanding of ecosystem based marine management: Training course on Marine Spatial Planning (TBC – if under OFWG 04 2013S then endorsed, if new then will require endorsement by OFWG)</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>XX 2018</p> <p>September 2016</p> <p>November 2016</p>	<p>Peru</p> <p>China</p>	
<p>#3 Enhancing the understanding of the role of the oceans, sustainable fisheries, responsible development of aquaculture and marine resources to regional food security.</p> <p><u>Action 1:</u> Implement the Food Security Action Plan of the OFWG;</p> <p><u>Action 2:</u> Promote approaches about existing trade benefits for fisheries and aquaculture products that foster food security.</p> <p>Action 3: Training Workshop on Coastal Eco-Aquaculture Model for Sustaining Food Security (OFWG 03 2015 S)</p>	<p>January 2016</p> <p>January 2016</p> <p>January 2016</p>	<p>XX 2018</p> <p>XX 2018</p> <p>December 2016</p>	<p>China</p>	

<p>#4 Enhancing the understanding of climate change impacts on the oceans and marine ecosystems.</p> <p><u>Action 1:</u> Develop an action plan for enhancing cross-fora collaboration for prevention, adaptation and mitigation of climate change impacts on the oceans and marine ecosystems.</p>	January 2016	December 2016	Peru	
<p>#5 Enhance the understanding of the impacts of natural disasters on the aquaculture and seafood supply chains, as well as coastal communities economic well-being.</p> <p>Action 1: Establish more active liaison with the Emergency Preparedness Working Group</p> <p>Action 2: Share results of OFWG projects related to understanding the impacts of natural disasters with groups within and outside of APEC</p>	May 2016 January 2016	Ongoing Project to project basis		
<p>#6 Improve the understanding of the oceans, marine ecosystems and their economic and social value.</p> <p><u>Action 1:</u> Update the APEC's Marine Sustainable Development Report</p> <p>Action 2: Raise the Public Marine awareness through through a series public education and publicity activities (TBC)</p>	January 2018 January 2016	December 2018 December 2018	China	
<p>#7 Promoting activities within APEC which are in accordance with the common view of Blue Economy.</p> <p><u>Action 1:</u> Develop a baseline study to learn APEC economies' policies regarding the Blue Economy.</p> <p>Action 2: Hold the forth APEC Blue Economy Forum (OFWG 02 2015 S)</p>	XXX2016 January 2016	XXX 2018 December 2018	China	•
<p>#7 Enhance public and private sector partnerships, including participation and communication in OFWG work.</p>				•

<p><u>Action 1:</u> Support the activities of APEC marine sustainable development center</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>On-going</p>		
<p>#8 Enhance cross-fora collaboration to support the mainstreaming of ocean-related issues in APEC.</p>				
<p><u>Action 1:</u> Discuss specific ways to increase the effectiveness of the OFWG and enhance its role in APEC. Identify future actions.</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>On-going</p>		
<p><u>Action 2:</u> Discuss ways to improve the effectiveness of OFWG projects and possible alternatives for APEC funding. Discuss other tools/mechanisms for achieving OFWG goals and identify future actions;</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>On-going</p>		

6. APEC Projects

Well- designed APEC projects contribute to advance towards its objectives and to accomplish its vision. Many activities are likely to be necessary to achieve any objective.

Keep in Mind: The “Results Chain”

1. Activities: Things that are currently being carried out (e.g. organize a workshop, conduct research) that produce=>
2. Outputs: Things that can be measured (e.g. workshop attended by 50 participants; research that identified capacity building needs) that generate=>
3. Outcomes: Changes in behavior or systems (e.g. 25 workshop participantes implemented new procedures; capacity needs filled and workers fuller trained and employed) that lead to=>
4. Objectives/Impacts: That are measurable changes (new procedures increased office efficiency by 20%; more productive workforce generated higher output and real incomes) that advance APEC toward its=>
5. Goal of strong, sustainable, inclusive, and balanced economic growth in the APEC region.
6. **Cross-fora collaboration to support the mainstreaming of WG in APEC.**