

2011 APEC Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation Summary



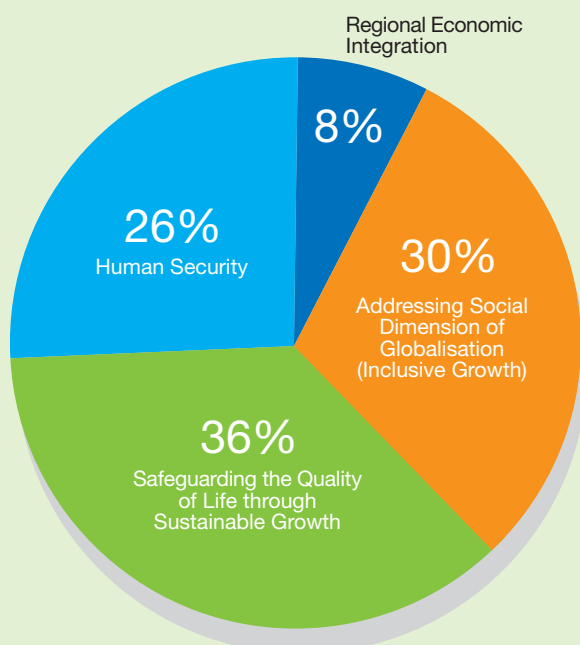
**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

APEC economies engage in Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) to attain sustainable growth and equitable development in the Asia-Pacific region, to reduce economic disparities among members, and to improve overall economic and social well-being.

In 2011, the APEC Senior Officials' Meeting Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE) - the main coordinating body of APEC's ECOTECH agenda - met on three occasions at the margin of APEC Senior Officials' Meetings (SOM) in the United States - first in Washington, DC; then in Big Sky, Montana and in San Francisco, California.

Topics of discussions included the implementation of ongoing independent assessments, various policy issues concerning different working groups, and the APEC Growth Strategy.

ECOTECH Projects by Priorities (from October 2010 to September 2011)



Recommendations to the 23rd APEC Ministerial Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii in 2011:

1. Endorse the 2011 SOM Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation;
2. Welcome the progress of work on strengthening APEC ECOTECH activities and enhancing fora accountability and communications, in particular the creation of the Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy, Ocean and Fisheries Working Group, APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade and the Policy Partnership on Food Security;
3. Welcome the achievements of the Working Groups and SOM Task Forces and welcome the ongoing improvements that have been achieved through the Program of Independent Assessment of all SCE fora; and
4. Welcome 2011 contributions to the APEC Support Fund from Australia, Japan and Russia.

With the endorsement of the new framework to guide ECOTECH activities in APEC, from 2010, the SCE reports annually against five medium-term priorities. These priorities for APEC's economic and technical cooperation are:

- Regional Economic Integration;
- Addressing Social Dimension of Globalization (Inclusive Growth);
- Safeguarding the Quality of Life through Sustainable Growth;
- Structural Reform; and
- Human Security.

The SCE met all of its commitments outlined in its annual work-plan. Its key achievements include the creation of three new groups: the Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy, the Ocean and Fisheries Working Group, and the APEC Experts' Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade. A new Policy Partnership on Food Security was also created by APEC Senior Officials in 2011.

Advancing Free Trade for Asia-Pacific Prosperity

APEC Member Economies: Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; United States of America; and Viet Nam.

Following successful implementation of independent assessments of five APEC working groups and task forces in 2011, the SCE also conducted a review of the process of independent assessments with recommendations to be implemented in 2012.

The SCE also considered and approved the annual work-plans of 16 working groups and task forces, upgraded the Anti Corruption and Transparency Task Force (ACT) to a working group, and considered revised medium-term and strategic work plans of the Counter Terrorism Task Force, the Industrial Science and Technology Working Group, the Human Resources Development Working Group and the Tourism Working Group.

The SCE assessed and ranked all project proposals of SCE working groups/task forces applying for APEC funding ahead of presentation to the Budget Management Committee (BMC).

Section 3 of the 2011 SCE report provides a review on the progress of the APEC Growth Strategy. This update serves as a follow-up to APEC Leaders' request that Senior Officials conduct "annual progress reviews on APEC's relevant work programs while finding ways to take stock of progress, and making any needed adjustments in the work programs to maximize APEC's efforts to promote the Five Growth Attributes."

The SCE consists of the following groups:

- **Groups:** Anti-Corruption and Transparency (ACT), Agricultural Technical Cooperation (ATCWG), Emergency Preparedness (EPWG), Energy (EWG), Human Resource Development (HRDWG), Health (HWG), Illegal Logging and Associated Trade, Industrial Science and Technology (ISTWG), Ocean and Fisheries (OFWG), Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE), Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEWG), Telecommunications and Information (TEL), Transportation (TPTWG), and Tourism (TWG).
- **Special task forces:** Counter-Terrorism (CTTF) and Mining (MTF).

The APEC Senior Officials' Meeting Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE)

The SCE coordinates and manages APEC's Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) agenda. It prioritizes activities in accordance with Leaders' and Ministers' directives; it oversees the work of SCE working groups; and it provides policy guidance on ways to contribute to APEC's ECOTECH goals.

Section 4 of this report highlights some of the projects undertaken by various SCE working groups and task forces to support economic and technical cooperation among member economies.

Notably, during the period from October 2010 to October 2011, these groups have registered 86 ECOTECH - related projects. These include 67 projects approved by the BMC for APEC funding and 19 self-funded projects initiated and implemented by individual economies and/or groups of economies. The SCE itself had one APEC funded project and one self-funded project during this period.

Section 5 of the 2011 SCE Report outlines in detail key achievements of the various working groups and task forces under the SCE, as well as ongoing efforts to strengthen the implementation of APEC's economic and technical cooperation agenda.