



Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation

Advancing Free Trade  
for Asia-Pacific Prosperity



APEC Senior Officials' Report on

# Economic and Technical Cooperation 2018



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

# **2018 Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation**

**SOM Steering Committee on Economic and  
Technical Cooperation**

**November 2018**



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# Letter from the SCE Chair

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2018 APEC Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation.

The work of the SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE) and its fora in 2018 has been guided by the APEC 2018 theme of "Harnessing Inclusive Opportunities, Embracing the Digital Future" and the ECOTECH medium-term priorities.

The SCE continued to guide the work of its fora. A new, standardized fora assessment system began with four assessments completed in 2018. A further seven fora will be assessed in 2019 with 2020 seeing the final five fora assessed. This will allow the SCE to have an entire suite of fora assessments prior to the expiration of Terms of Reference in 2021. The Committee of the Whole discussions were again structured to better identify cross-fora issues and opportunities. Guidelines developed in 2017 have brought a marked increase in cross-fora collaborations amongst SCE fora and between SCE fora and the Committee on Trade and Investment and the Economic Committee and their fora.

2018 also saw SCE further discuss remote areas. This work included a SCE commissioned APEC Policy Support Unit paper on the development and integration of remote areas. Further work has been initiated by member economies in the form of proposed projects and a new sub-fund on Economic Development in Remote Areas.

This Report highlights some of the many activities of the SCE working groups and task forces. These are viewed through the lenses of the ECOTECH medium term priorities and the APEC Strategy for Strengthening Quality Growth, including its focus on institution building, social inclusion and environmental impact. I am pleased to highlight that the efforts of SCE fora in 2018 contributed to the development of key APEC deliverables in the areas of increased food security, human resources in a digital age, gender inclusion, small and medium sized enterprises and innovation, and sustainable tourism, among many others.

Indeed, as the benefits of globalization are questioned by many, we should be encouraged to better highlight our achievements which address the nature, reach and sustainability of inclusive growth that we advocate.

In presenting this Report, I wish to acknowledge the commitment, hard work and contributions of APEC members, the SCE fora and our dedicated fora Chairs and Lead Shepherds.

As the work of the SCE is of course not done, I welcome Malaysia as the incoming SCE Chair, and I look forward to working closely with them.

Sincerely yours,



Mathias Francke  
Chair, SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH

# Executive Summary

In 2018, the SOM Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE) held three meetings in the margins of Senior Officials Meetings (SOM) under the chairmanship of Mr Mathias Francke, Chile Senior Official for APEC and Director of Multilateral Economic Affairs, General Directorate for International Economic Affairs (DIRECON/MFA). The SCE Vice Chair was Mr Lahui Ako, APEC Senior Official for Papua New Guinea. It organized the thirteenth annual SCE Committee of the Whole (SCE-COW) meeting and an informal meeting of SCE fora Chairs and Lead Shepherds. The SCE also conducted its business through intersessional discussion.

The SCE continued facilitating collaboration among APEC fora with numerous cross-fora collaborations amongst SCE sub-fora. In addition, 2018 saw several cross-fora collaborations between SCE sub-fora and sub-fora from both the Committee on Trade and Investment and the Economic Committee.

The SCE continued to refine the format of the SCE-COW and related discussions to encourage greater engagement among the representatives of SCE fora.

The SCE undertook four independent assessments of SCE fora in 2018, and developed plans to assess the remaining 13 fora. The new system generated more consistent and comparable results across fora. The SCE established Fora Assessment Team for 2018 met in the margins of SCE3 to make further recommendations on content, format, and timeline for future assessments.

The SCE continued to contribute toward the implementation of the *Policy on APEC's Capacity Building through Economic and Technical Cooperation*. The SCE and BMC approved streamlined project approval process took effect in 2018.

The SCE continued to play its central role with respect to the administration of SCE fora. Annual Work Plans were approved by the SCE, as were longer-term Strategic Plans as required. Also new Terms of Reference, including sunset clauses have been approved for all fora.

Five APEC economies made financial contributions to the APEC Support Fund (ASF).

A discussion of the above and other highlights and priorities are set out in Section 2.

Section 3 gives an overview of each fora in a table format outlining the projects, both funded by APEC and self-funded by economies, undertaken since the 2017 Report. The table also includes information on how various projects and other initiatives of SCE fora addressed each of the ECOTECH medium term priorities. Furthermore, the table highlights how the activities of SCE fora addressed the key accountability areas of the *APEC Strategy for Strengthening Quality Growth* endorsed by Leaders in 2015. Also found in the table are key achievements of the SCE fora since the 2017 Report.

The Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE) organized the Women and the Economy Forum in September 2018, which included a High Level Policy Dialogue on Women and the Economy and a Public-Private Dialogue on Women and the Economy.

The Health Working Group (HWG) contributed to the 8th APEC High Level Meeting on Health and the Economy.

The Tourism Working Group (TWG) contributed to the 10th Tourism Ministerial Meeting and delivered the 4th State of Tourism report.

The Agriculture Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG) contributed to Food Security Week, which included ABAC Food Security Symposium; a Policy Dialogue on Women in Agriculture and Fisheries; and the 2nd Joint Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group – High Level Policy Dialogue on Agriculture Biotechnology – Oceans and Fisheries Working Group – and Policy Partnership on Food Security meeting.

## **Recommendations**

The following recommendations are proposed to the 2018 APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM):

- 1. Note the 2018 Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation;*
- 2. Welcome the achievements of the SCE Working Groups and Task Forces;*
- 3. Welcome the implementation of a new SCE Standardized Fora Assessment System; and*
- 4. Welcome 2018 contributions to the APEC Support Fund from Australia; China; Japan; New Zealand; and Chinese Taipei.*

# 1. Introduction

In 2018, the SCE was chaired by Mr Mathias Francke, APEC Senior Official for Chile. The SCE Vice Chair was Mr Lahui Ako, Senior Official for Papua New Guinea.

The Committee met on three occasions during 2018 and accomplished the following:

- a. implemented a new, standardized fora assessment system;
- b. together with the Budget and Management Committee (BMC), implemented the new streamlined project funding process to further facilitate capacity-building goals;
- c. further promoted cross-fora collaboration, including the implementation of new guidelines; and
- d. facilitated the work of SCE sub-fora by providing direction on Work Plans, Strategic Plans and Terms of Reference.

The SCE met in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, on 6 March 2018. The SCE endorsed its own work plan (2018/SOM1/SCE/003) and took note of the Report of the Executive Director on the Alignment of Fora Work Plans with APEC's Overall Vision and Objectives (2018/SOM1/SCE/004). The SCE endorsed the new standardized fora assessment report template. The SCE approved the Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Strategic Plan 2018-2022. The SCE approved the Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT) Strategic Plan 2018-2022. The SCE endorsed the revised Terms of Reference of the following fifteen SCE sub-fora (Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group; Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group; Counter-Terrorism Working Group; Energy Working Group; Emergency Preparedness Working Group; Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade; Human Resources Development Working Group; Health Working Group; Mining Task Force; Ocean and Fisheries Working Group; Policy Partnership on Science, Technology, and Innovation; Policy Partnership on Woman and the Economy; Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group; Telecommunications and Information Working Group; and Tourism Working Group) and recommended them to SOM for approval. The SCE endorsed in principle the proposal to hold a policy dialogue as set out in the discussion paper from Papua New Guinea on *Harnessing Growth in the Resources Sector*, while noting the comments of members.

The annual SCE Committee of the Whole (SCE-COW) was held in Port Moresby, on 5 March 2018. It was attended by 20 APEC member economies and 17 convenors or their representatives from SCE fora. This was preceded by an informal meeting of fora Chairs and Lead Shepherds, chaired by the Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat, together with group discussions based on the 2018 host year priorities. These latter discussions, which sought to explore cross-fora issues and opportunities, witnessed particularly active engagement from participants. The SCE-COW approved the annual work plans of 15 of 17 working groups and task forces. The SCE-COW took note of the APEC Secretariat's *Report on Synergies within the ECOTECH Agenda*, together with the comments of members.

The second SCE meeting (SCE2) was held in Port Moresby on 20 May 2018. SCE approved the 2018 Work Plans for Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group and the Transportation Working Group. The SCE endorsed the revised Terms of Reference for Transportation Working Group and



recommended it for SOM approval. The SCE noted an update from Papua New Guinea on *Harnessing Growth in the Resources Sector*. The SCE noted an update from Russia on the initiative: *Bridging the Gap in Economic Development and Integration of Remote Areas for Sustainable Growth in the APEC Region*, with discussion continuing intersessionally. The SCE noted Australia's non-paper on a *Sub-Fund to Support Initiatives on Economic Development in Remote Areas*, with discussion continuing intersessionally.

The third SCE meeting (SCE3) was held in Port Moresby on 18 August 2018. The SCE continued implementing the new standardized fora assessment program and endorsed the schedule of fora to be assessed in 2019 and 2020 recommended by the 2018 Fora Assessment Team comprised of Chile; China; Malaysia; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Singapore; and Chinese Taipei. The SCE endorsed the Secretariat's plan to streamline the 2018 ECOTECH report (2018/SOM/SCE3/002). The SCE endorsed the Transportation Working Group's Strategic Plan. The SCE noted an update from Russia on the initiative: *Bridging the Gap in Economic Development and Integration of Remote Areas for Sustainable Growth in the APEC Region*, with discussion continuing intersessionally. SCE noted the Policy Support Unit (PSU) update on the *Study to Support Initiatives on Economic Development in Remote Areas*. SCE noted the Australia proposal to establish a new *Sub-Fund for Economic Development in Remote Areas* with discussion continuing intersessionally. SCE noted China and Papua New Guinea's co-proposed initiative (with Chile co-sponsoring) on *Poverty Alleviation through Internet and Digital Economy for Inclusive Development*, with discussion continuing intersessionally. The SCE noted Papua New Guinea's update on the outcomes of the *SOM Policy Dialogue on Harnessing Growth in the Resources Sector in the APEC Region*, with PNG requesting discussion and guidance to continue intersessionally.

## 2. 2018 Highlights and Priorities

### 2.1 New, Standardized Fora Assessment System

The Secretariat contracted with Developing Trade Consultants of the United States, to conduct independent fora assessments of four fora: Counter-Terrorism Working Group; Energy Working Group; Human Resources Development Working Group; and Group of Friends on Disability.

The Fora Assessment Team developed a recommendation to SCE on the fora to be assessed in 2019 and 2020. These recommendations were approved at SCE3. The schedule will have all fora assessed by the end of 2020, before the expiration of their Terms of Reference in 2021. The 2018 Fora Assessment Team was comprised of: Chile; Papua New Guinea; and Malaysia, being the SCE Chair, previous chair and subsequent chair for 2019, together with the volunteer members of the People's Republic of China; New Zealand; Singapore; and Chinese Taipei.

### 2.2 Cross-Fora Collaboration

#### a. Increased Cross-Fora Collaboration

Increasing cross-fora collaboration has been under discussion in recent years. A fifth meeting of SCE Fora Chairs and Lead Shepherds (SCE-Committee of the Whole) was held on 5 March 2018 in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Chairs and Lead Shepherds or their representatives from all seventeen SCE fora participated. The presence of Chairs, Lead Shepherds or their representatives increased their interactions with each other and Senior Officials, leading to useful practical suggestions for collaborating with other APEC fora. Also at 2018 SCE-Committee of the Whole, the APEC Secretariat introduced its report, "*SCE Report on Synergies within the ECOTECH Agenda*" (2018/SOM1/SCE-COW/004), which included information on new criteria for scoring concept notes under the streamlined project approval process concerning cross-fora collaboration. As a result, we are witnessing an increasing number of joint or multi-group meetings during SOM clusters. The standardized fora assessment program also measures data and indicators relating to cross-fora collaboration. In addition, there has been a marked increase in the number of cross-fora collaborations amongst SCE fora as well as between SCE fora and the fora of Economic Committee and Committee on Trade and Investment.

#### b. SCE's Cross-Fora Collaboration on Selected Specific Topics

*Policy Partnership for Women and the Economy* - A significant development in 2018 has been the implementation of the new Women and the Economy Sub-Fund. Policy Partnership for Women and the Economy has undertaken a concerted effort of highlighting to other fora the new Sub-Fund, which aims to encourage cross-fora collaboration and integration of gender issues across APEC. These efforts have paid off with nineteen project proposals seeking access to the Sub-Fund from various different APEC fora (Tourism Working Group; Economic Committee; Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group; Energy Working Group; Policy Partnership for Science, Technology and Innovation; Oceans and Fisheries Working Group; Agriculture Technical Cooperation Working Group; Policy Partnership on Food Security; and Human Resources Development Working Group) having been submitted, on issues ranging from promoting women's inclusion in the maritime sector, to looking at the role of structural reform in women's economic empowerment. In total, seven new projects have been approved under the Sub-Fund in 2018.

*Telecommunications Working Group* is collaborating with several other working groups and fora (Emergency Preparedness Working Group; Electronic Commerce Steering Group; Group of Friends on Disability; and Human Resources Development Working Group) on a range of issues including emergency preparedness, disability issues, digital economy measurements, enhancing digital inclusion, creating a safer digital environment, and encouraging multiple stakeholders to develop digital literacy. These efforts advance all three of Papua New Guinea's host year priorities.

*Agricultural Technological Cooperation Working Group* actively collaborated with several other fora and working groups including High Level Policy Dialogue Agricultural Biotechnology; Oceans and Fisheries Working Group; and Policy Partnership on Food Security to hold a joint meeting at SOM3 as part of Food Security Week. This meeting and the associated workshops and symposiums also included participants from the private sector.

## 2.3 Fora Administration

### **a. Making Recommendations to SOM on the Terms of Reference of SCE Fora**

In accordance with the SCE Terms of Reference, the SCE has the mandate to “review the role and operation of Working Groups and Task Forces with a view to making recommendations to the SOM on establishing, merging, disbanding or reorienting” such working groups and task forces. In 2018, the SCE recommended to SOM to endorse the revised Terms of References of 16 fora. As a result, 15 fora have Terms of Reference that expire in 2020-2021. Please see Table 1 for an overview of fora administration.

### **b. Approving Strategic Plans**

In 2018, SCE approved three Strategic Plans: Transportation Working Group for 2018-2020; Counter Terrorism Working Group for 2018-2022; and Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade for 2018-2022.

### **c. Approving Annual Work Plans**

The Terms of Reference of SCE, as reconfirmed in 2016, mandates SCE to “assess and direct realignment of individual work plans of Working Groups and SOM Special Task Groups with the APEC-wide medium-term ECOTECH priorities and annual objectives as outlined in the ECOTECH framework” and stipulates that “to this purpose, all Working Groups and SOM Special Task Groups should submit their strategic and annual work plans to the SCE no later than three weeks prior to SOM I for consideration at the SCE-Committee of the Whole.”

Seventeen work plans were submitted and approved by SCE in 2018: Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group; Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group; Counter Terrorism Working Group; Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade; Emergency Preparedness Working Group; Energy Working Group; Group of Friends on Disability; Human Resources Development Working Group; Health Working Group; Mining Task Force; Oceans and Fisheries Working Group; Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation; Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy; Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group; Telecommunications and Information Working Group; Transportation Working Group; and Tourism Working Group.

At SCE1 in 2018, the Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat presented a report, *Alignment of Fora Work Plans with APEC's Overall Vision and Objectives* (2018/SOM1/SCE/004) which noted that most SCE sub-fora focused their activities to respond to the mandates given to them by the

Leaders and Ministers. Many sub-fora, such as Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group, Counter Terrorism Working Group; Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade; Emergency Preparedness Working Group; Energy Working Group; Human Resources Development Working Group; Health Working Group; Oceans and Fisheries Working Group; Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy; Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group; and Tourism Working Group, specifically cite recent instructions of Ministers. A number of these also refer to 2018 APEC priorities. Most notably, all work plans also make linkages between their specific activities and the relevant ECOTECH Medium Term Priorities, which is facilitated by the new template. It is noted, however, that some work plans may have been developed before the 2018 APEC priorities were widely circulated.

## 2.5 APEC Support Fund

In 2004, Ministers endorsed the Australian proposal to set up the APEC Support Fund (ASF) to serve as a flexible funding mechanism to complement the existing General Project Account (GPA) (previously known as Operational Account) and Trade and Investment Liberalisation and Facilitation Fund (TILF). The ASF aims to meet the capacity building needs for developing economy members in APEC's agreed high priority sectors for economic and technical cooperation. Since its inception, the fund has received contributions from many economies.

Voluntary contributions by APEC members to the ASF in 2018 (as of 30 September 2018) were made or committed by five economies: Australia; China; Japan; New Zealand; and Chinese Taipei.

Australia provided a contribution to the ASF General Fund of USD 441,075, under the 2018 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with the APEC Secretariat, as well as the re-dedication from the uncommitted balance of another sub-fund, which ceased to operate.

China, as part of its five-year commitment to contribute to the ASF, contributed USD 1.8 million in total to the ASF General Fund as well as three sub-funds – Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific and Global Value Chains (FTAAP & GVCs) Sub-fund; Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth (IERG) Sub-fund; and Connectivity Sub-fund.

Japan made a voluntary contribution amounting to USD 1,019,970 to the ASF Energy Efficiency Sub-Fund.

New Zealand provided a contribution to the ASF General Fund of USD 30,376 as well as a contribution to the ASF Sub-fund on Women and the Economy of USD 30,376.

Chinese Taipei contributed USD 350,000 to the ASF General Fund, as well as USD 200,000 to the ASF Human Security Sub-Fund and USD 100,000 to the ASF Sub-Fund on Women and the Economy.

Table 1: SCE Fora Dashboard

Forum	Terms of Reference	Annual Work Plan	Strategic Plan	Annual Fora Report	Fora Assessment
ACTWG	2018-2021	2018	2013-2020	2018	2020
ATCWG	2018-2021	2018	2015-2019	2018	2020
CTWG	2018-2021	2018	2018-2022	2018	2018
EGILAT	2018-2021	2018	2018-2022	2018	2019
EPWG	2018-2021	2018	2017-2020	2018	2019
EWG	2018-2021	2018	2014-2018	2018	2018
GOFD	Expires 2018	2018	nil	2018	2018
HWG	2018-2021	2018	2016-2020	2018	2019
HRDWG	2018-2021	2018	2017-2020	2018	2018
MTF	Expires 2018	2018	2016-2018	2018	2019 <sup>#</sup>
OFWG	2018-2021	2018	2016-2018	2018	2019
PPSTI	2018-2021	2018	2016-2025	2018	2019
PPWE	2018-2021	2018	2015-2018	2018	2020
SMEWG	2017-2020	2018	2017-2020	2018	2019 / 2020 <sup>+</sup>
TELWG	2018-2021	2018	2016-2020	2018	2020
TPTWG	2018-2021	2018	2018-2020	2018	2020
TWG	2018-2021	2018	2015-2019	2018	2019

Notes: # If the MTF mandate is not renewed it will not be assessed in 2019.

+ If MTF's mandate is not renewed, SMEWG will be assessed in 2019 otherwise it will be assessed in 2020.

### 3. SCE Fora in Action

The work of SCE is evident in the number and scope of its 17 fora and the projects overseen by those fora.

For a more thorough examination of the work done by each fora, including most recent plenary meeting statistics, gender makeup of meetings, alignment with ECOTECH Priorities, and efforts to implement quality growth, please refer to the Fora in Action tables that follow. Each working group has a table on the following pages.

The table below containing the number of APEC-funded approved projects by fora.

*Table 2: SCE Fora Projects by Funding Source*

Forum	ASF	GPA	TILF	Total
Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group	1			1
Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group	1			1
Counter Terrorism Working Group				-
Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade	1			1
Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation	7	1		8
Emergency Preparedness Working Group	1	1		2
Energy Working Group	12			12
Group of Friends on Disability				-
Health Working Group	3			3
Human Resources Development Working Group	5	4	2	11
Mining Task Force	1			1
Oceans and Fisheries Working Group	3	1		4
Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy	3	1		4
Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group	5	1		6
Telecommunications and Information Working Group		1		1
Tourism Working Group	1	1		2
Transportation Working Group	3			3
Total*	47	11	2	60

\* Project Approval Session 2 of 2017 and Project Approval Session 1 of 2018.

Name of SCE For a				<b>Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Working Group (ACTWG)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Nil				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2016				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
25-26 February	32	68	18	PS1	-	PS1	-	-
6-7 August	44	56	17	PS2	2 <sup>1</sup>	PS2	-	
5 August (ACT-NET)	39	61	17					
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				Policy Priority 2: <i>Promoting inclusive and sustainable growth.</i> Key area: <i>Harnessing Growth in the Resources Sector.</i> -ACTWG had an active discussion on anti-corruption prevention measures in the Natural Resources Industries. -Members agreed to share experiences and good practices on this topic in future meetings.				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				Regional economic integration; Structural Reform; Human Security; Developing human capital through capacity building				
Implementing Quality Growth				Institution Building; Social Cohesion				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				None				
2018 Key Achievements				-Workshop on Corruption Prevention Mechanism in APEC Economies (24 Feb 2018, PNG) -ACT-NET Training Workshop on Asset Recovery (20-22 March 2018, Thailand)				
Recommendations from Fora Report				None				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
News Releases	1 <sup>2</sup>			Speeches				0
Feature Stories	0			Publications				0
Last Website Update	September 2018							
Media/Outreach Opportunities	Social media, Photos			Next Website Update				March 2019 (After SOM 1)

<sup>1</sup> In PS2 two Concept Notes were presented: one from Chinese Taipei and Chile (not approved by BMC), and the other one from Chile (which approval is pending by BMC).

<sup>2</sup> APEC Modernizes Anti-Corruption Controls (27 February 2018): [https://www.apec.org/Press/News-Releases/2018/0227\\_apec](https://www.apec.org/Press/News-Releases/2018/0227_apec)

Name of SCE For a				Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG)				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Nil				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2016				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
7 August (ATCWG2 2)	49	51	16	PS1	8	PS1	N/A	Pending
9 August (2 <sup>nd</sup> Joint ATCWG-HLPDAB-OFWG-PPFS Meeting)	40	60	18	PS2	8	PS2	Pending	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				Promoting sustainable and inclusive growth; Enhancing food security and sustainable agriculture in response to climate change, Improve agricultural information sharing and cooperation in the region with regard to agricultural technology; Strengthen communications and capacity building in agricultural technology				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				Sustainable growth; Sustainable development; Food security; Capacity building				
Implementing Quality Growth				Through implementation of self-funded projects on Integrated Rural-Urban Development Strategy (ATC 01 2018S) and Promotion of Scientific and Technological Innovation for Food production Chain and Sustainable Development (ATC 02 2018S)				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				PPFS, HLPDAB, OFWG, GOS, PPWE, PPSTI				
2018 Key Achievements				Stated in 2018 ATCWG Fora Report to SCE				
Recommendations from Fora Report				N/A				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
News Releases	N/A			Speeches	N/A			
Feature Stories	N/A			Publications	APEC#218-AT-01.1 (ATC 01 2016A)			
Last Website Update	September 2018							
Media/Outreach Opportunities	FSW 2018			Next Website Update	Q2/2019			



Name of SCE For a				Counter Terrorism Working Group (CTWG)				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Nil				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2018				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
27-28 February	17	82	14	PS1	-	PS1	-	-
7-8 August	24	76	13	PS2	1	PS2	-	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				Nil				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				Human Security: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- APEC Workshop on the Protection of Soft Targets in Tokyo, Japan on 24 – 25 April 2018</li> <li>- Produce an e-booklet with information, recommendations, and the presentations as output of Halting Terrorist Financing: APEC Workshop on Targeted Financial Sanction Regime CTWG 01 2017A</li> </ul>				
Implementing Quality Growth				Nil				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), Tourism Working Group (TWG), Transportation Working Group (TPTWG), SCCP, BMG, TELWG. INTERPOL				
2018 Key Achievements				Endorsed the Updated APEC Consolidated Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy.				
Recommendations from Fora Report				N/A				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
News Releases	-			Speeches		-		
Feature Stories	-			Publications		-		
Last Website Update	2 October 2018							
Media/Outreach Opportunities	-			Next Website Update		October 2019		

Name of SCE For a				<b>Expert Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				<b>Yes</b>				
Related Ministerial Meetings				<b>Nil</b>				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				<b>2013</b>				
<b><u>2018 Meetings</u></b>				<b><u>2018 APEC Funded Projects</u></b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
24-25 Feb	45%	55%	14	PS1	1	PS1	1	110,756
11-12 Aug	33.8%	66.2%	14	PS2	-	PS2	-	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				<p>1. PNG Priorities through the different sectors (Forestry), focusing on what could also be priority to other member economies that we can all work to-gather for an outcome that is of benefit to all member economies.</p> <p>2. the 2018 APEC Theme and Priorities;</p> <p>With PNG's Goals in the resource sector is to develop the Forest Resources in a sustainable manner and can be replenished for the benefit of the current and future generation. Therefore in Alignment of the 2018 Theme and priorities discussion under EGILAT were focused on responsible, sustainable, inclusive and legal trade of timber products using appropriate policies and digital opportunities.</p>				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				<p>In 2018, EGILAT made many progress in the area of sustainable development including through:</p> <p>Compiling the EGILAT Timber Legality Guidance Template.</p> <p>Compiling the Lists of Law Enforcement Points of Contact.</p> <p>Developing the multi-year strategic plan 2018-2022 and decided to continuously focus its efforts on combating illegal logging and associated trade within the APEC region and promoting the trade in legal forest products during the period.</p> <p>Cooperating with relevant APEC fora and other international organizations such as Forest Trends, Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), PNG Forest Industries Association, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) - China, Nature Home China (represented by WWF), Global Timber Forum (GTF), INTERPOL, Forest Trends, and The Nature Conservancy (TNC).</p> <p>Implementing the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Project (EGILAT 01 2018S) on theme of Multistakeholder Dialogue on Corporate Social</li> </ul>				

	<p>Responsibility (CSR) Best Practices to Promote Legal Trade of Wood Products that was organized by Papua New Guinea in 8-9 August 2018 in the margin of SOM3 in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Project (EGILAT 01 2018A) on Implementation of Tools for Combating and Preventing Illegal Logging Activities and Associated Trade was approved in Project Session 1 and has been implementing by Chile.</li> <li>• CN on Enhance Forestry MSMEs Integration into the Global Value Supply Chain and expected to submit in Project Session1, 2019.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Implementing Quality Growth</b></p>	<p>EGILAT agreed to establish a Core Group which consist of the Chair's economy, the host economy, incoming host economy and other volunteers in order to support the work of the Chair and the intersessional discussion on the specific topics. In 2018, it included Indonesia, PNG, Chile, Australia, Canada, China, Japan, Malaysia, Peru, the Philippines and the US.</p> <p>EGILAT tasked the Core Group to work intersessionally to finalize a procedure for selecting the policy dialogue topic for 2019 so that a topic is selected in advance of EGILAT 15. The final selected topic should be included in the work plan for 2019.</p>
<p><b>Cross-Fora Collaborations</b></p>	<p>EGILAT has been working with ACTWG and SCCP in combatting illegal logging and associated trade.</p>
<p><b>2018 Key Achievements</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. EGILAT's Multi-Year Strategic Plan 2018-2022 was endorsed.</li> <li>2. EGILAT agreed to revise the ToR to include the Sunset Clause and Quorum.</li> <li>3. EGILAT has made progress in compiling the EGILAT Timber Legality Guidance Template and 8 economies (Australia, Chile, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Chinese Taipei, and the US) have developed and submitted their respective documents. EGILAT members agreed to post all completed TLGTs on the EGILAT workspace of the public APEC website.</li> <li>4. EGILAT has made progress in compiling the Lists of Law Enforcement Points of Contact. 7 economies (Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, New Zealand, PNG and the US) have developed and submitted their respective documents. EGILAT reaffirmed that the lists will be uploaded on ACS for members' internal use only.</li> <li>5. Chile's project proposal on theme of Implementation of Tools for Combating and Preventing Illegal Logging Activities and Associated Trade" was approved by APEC.</li> <li>6. EGILAT implemented a project (self-funded) on Multistakeholder Dialogue on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Best Practices to Promote Legal Trade of Wood Products.</li> </ol>

<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>		N/A	
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	N/A	<b>Speeches</b>	N/A
<b>Feature Stories</b>	N/A	<b>Publications</b>	N/A
<b>Last Website Update</b>	April 2016		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	N/A	<b>Next Website Update</b>	December 2018

Name of SCE For a				Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG)				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				12 <sup>th</sup> Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (SDMOF) on 25 – 26 September 2018				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2015				
<u>2018 Meetings</u>				<u>2018 APEC Funded Projects</u>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes	Projects	Total \$(US)		
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
24-25 February	30	69	11	PS1	-	PS1	-	
10-11 August	46	53	11	PS2	1	PS2	-	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				<p>Priority two of Promoting Sustainable and Inclusive Growth by among other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Publish a case book consists of case studies of rural infrastructure build back better in the surveyed economies</li> <li>II. Workshop on Tsunami Threat Assessment for Tsunami Warning Centers of APEC Economies</li> <li>III. Workshop on</li> <li>IV. Capacity Building and Emergency Preparedness for Sustainable Development at Agricultural Communities through “Plant Back Better” (PBB)</li> <li>V. 12<sup>th</sup> Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum in Kokopo, Papua New Guinea</li> </ol>				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				<p>All of the above activities are also in line with ECOTEC Priorities :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safeguarding the Quality of Life through Sustainable Growth</li> <li>- Technologies and Innovation</li> <li>- Human Security</li> </ul>				
Implementing Quality Growth				Publication of Casebook of Infrastructure Build Back Better from Natural Disasters				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CTWG, TelWG, LSIF, Health WG</li> <li>- United Nations Development Program, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Pacific Disaster Center</li> </ul>				
2018 Key Achievements				Publication of Casebook of Infrastructure Build Back Better from Natural Disasters				
Recommendations from Fora Report				Economies’ representatives to EPWG are often essential disaster management officials. When disaster strikes in their economies, their priority must be to coordinate				

		relief and reconstruction efforts. These responsibilities sometimes prevent them from traveling for EPWG meetings, particularly for economies that experience monsoons, which occur frequently during the SOM III timeframe. With this constraint in mind, EPWG suggest SCE/SOM consider easing quorum requirements for EPWG.	
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	Yes	<b>Speeches</b>	n/a
<b>Feature Stories</b>	Yes	<b>Publications</b>	Yes
<b>Last Website Update</b>	September 2018		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	Yes	<b>Next Website Update</b>	September 2019

Name of SCE For a				Energy Working Group (EWG)				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Energy MM – 1996, 97, 98, 00, 02, 04, 05, 07, 10, 12, 14, 15				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2018				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
20-24 Nov 2017 (EWG54)	40	60	16	PS1	11	PS1	7	Total* 3,055,125.00
16-17 May 2018 (EWG55)	38	62	19	PS2	11	PS2	11	APEC Funding (2,288,239.50)
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EWG continues to increase its focus on responding to natural and man-made resiliency challenges for energy infrastructure and networks that will contribute improving connectivity and deepening Regional Economic Integration.</li> <li>- Energy access become EWG's priority area. Capacity building activities to improve the analytical, technical, operational and policy capacity of APEC economies will promote inclusive and sustainable growth.</li> <li>- EWG also supported members' structural reform by utilizing workshop of instituting reforms to rationalize or phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.</li> </ul>				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				Through implementing 52 APEC EWG, EWG activities contributed ECOTECH Priorities such as Sustainable Growth and Human Security.				
Implementing Quality Growth				<p>&lt;Environmental Impact&gt;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring the progress of APEC's aspirational goals on energy, including energy intensity reduction goal and renewable energy doubling goal.</li> <li>- Renewable energy: Work exploring roadmap to double the share of renewable energy in the APEC region as well as various technical projects to accelerate wind, biomass and solar energy were completed.</li> <li>- Energy efficiency: Peer review on Energy Efficiency was conducted in Malaysia in March 2018; work on Energy Efficiency for buildings and electrical appliances was progressed.</li> </ul>				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				CTI, SCSC, PPFs, TPTWG, SMEWG, HRDWG, AD and International Organizations**				
2018 Key Achievements				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To renew the ToR of EWG with the inclusion of a sunset clause.</li> <li>- To improve the roadmap for renewable energy doubling goal.</li> <li>- To endorse APEC-SHINE Facility Concept Paper for greater cross-fora collaboration.</li> </ul>				

		- To establish the collaboration with ABAC, PPSTI and TPTWG by participating mutual meetings and projects. - To endorse the proposal of APEC collaboration with IEA and to explore cooperation opportunities with other energy organizations.	
<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>		It is recommended that SCE note the EWG report.	
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	1 (APEC Secretariat)	<b>Speeches</b>	0
<b>Feature Stories</b>	0	<b>Publications</b>	30
<b>Last Website Update</b>	September 2018		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	EWG55 event was published in two Hong Kong, China's local newspaper and a short video clip was broadcasted on HK Cable TV. EWG members/POs' active use of social media, photos	<b>Next Website Update</b>	After EWG56

\*Self-funded Project's total number is 7 and total amount is 546,218 US\$ as of September 2018.

\*\* International Organizations such as ADB, ERIA, IEA, ICA, IMF, IRENA, ISO, OECD, PECC, UNEP, WB, WTO.



Name of SCE For a				<b>Group of Friends on Disability (GOFD)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Nil				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2018				
<b><u>2018 Meetings</u></b>				<b><u>2018 APEC Funded Projects</u></b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
19 May	55	45	15	PS1	1	PS1	-	-
				PS2	1	PS2	NA	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				Promote economic and social inclusion; drive sustainable growth;				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				Human capital development; Inclusive growth;				
Implementing Quality Growth				NA				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				<p>HRDWG; TEL; ECSG; PPWE</p> <p><i>Internet and Training Program for Persons with Disabilities</i>, a GOFD, PPWE, and ECSG collaboration on protecting rights of women and girls with disabilities is scheduled for November 2018.</p> <p><i>The Cross-border E-commerce Platform for Assistive Technology</i> will be improved with consultation from TELWG; GOFD participates in TELWG's Extension of ICT Application for People with Special Needs (Ageing and Disability) and Survey of initiatives in APEC Economies to promote access to ICTs for people with a hearing and/or speech impairment.</p> <p><i>The Report on Advancing Employment for Persons with Disabilities in the APEC Region</i> as an outcome of cross-fora collaboration between GOFD and HRDWG was presented on the 4<sup>th</sup> GOFD meeting.</p>				
2018 Key Achievements				<p>A symposium: <i>Remove Barriers—Make Rights Real, An Investment for Persons with Disabilities in a Digital Age</i>, gathered GOFD members, representatives from other APEC fora, representatives from disability organizations, and distinguished guests.</p> <p><i>The Cross-Border E-commerce Platform for Assistive Technology</i>, an outcome of GOFD project, has been put</p>				

	into use after a launching ceremony held during SOM2. <i>The Policy Research on Advancing Participation of Persons with Disabilities in Internet Economy in the Asia-Pacific Region</i> was published and presented during the 4 <sup>th</sup> GOFD meeting.		
<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>	No		
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	NA	<b>Speeches</b>	No
<b>Feature Stories</b>	NA	<b>Publications</b>	No
<b>Last Website Update</b>	21 September 2018		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	No	<b>Next Website Update</b>	NA

Name of SCE For a				<b>Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Nil				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2018				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
27 Feb and 1 March	47%	53%	19	PS1	6	PS1	5	412,714
				PS2	3	PS2	TBC	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				Focus on implementing the “APEC Framework on HRD in the Digital Age and the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap” in line with Host Economy priorities on HRD in digital age, including the adoption of new APEC Data Science and Analytics Competencies, and the holding of three HRDWG webinars on digital career and technical education.				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				The current HRDWG Strategic Plan include key priority areas aimed to promote sustainable and inclusive human resources development in the APEC region.				
Implementing Quality Growth								
Cross-Fora Collaborations				There are currently 6 HRDWG projects and initiatives in implementation in collaboration with other APEC fora, including EC, GOS, PPWE and HWG.				
2018 Key Achievements				“Recommended APEC Data Science and Analytics Competencies” developed and endorsed; Joint Policy Dialogue with EC on implementing the 2017 AEPR held; further implementation of APEC Education Strategy 2016-2030 and its action plan; cross-fora collaboration (see above).				
Recommendations from Fora Report				Note HRDWG Fora Report				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
News Releases				Speeches				
Feature Stories				Publications			4	
Last Website Update		September 2018						
Media/Outreach Opportunities				Next Website Update			December 2018	

Name of SCE For a				<b>Health Working Group (HWG)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				<b>Yes</b>				
Related Ministerial Meetings				<b>8<sup>th</sup> High Level Meeting on Health and the Economy</b>				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				<b>2014</b>				
<b><u>2018 Meetings</u></b>				<b><u>2018 APEC Funded Projects</u></b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
1-2 March	55	45	14	PS1	10	PS1	4	507,878.76
15 August	57	43	17	PS2	7	PS2	-	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				<p>To promote “Inclusive and Sustainable Growth” the HWG’s mandate was actualized through activities focused on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Achieving universal health coverage by strengthening primary healthcare.</li> <li>2. Mitigating global health threats by action to antimicrobial resistance and tuberculosis.</li> <li>3. Supporting healthy populations.</li> </ol>				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities ( <i>eg. Sustainable Growth</i> )				<p>HWG member economies have completed three workshops, two policy dialogues and one High Level Meeting in 2018 in line with the ECOTECH Priority of Inclusive growth—addressing the social dimension of globalization, health, gender.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APEC Conference on Strategies against the Evolving Threats from Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR): From Awareness to Concrete Action A-TRACTION (Asian Tuberculosis Research and Clinical Trials Integrated Organisational Network)</li> <li>• APEC Conference on Severe Dengue Prevention and Strategies for Reducing Disease Burden</li> <li>• Policy Dialogue on investing in multi-sectoral action on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Tuberculosis (TB).</li> <li>• Policy Dialogue on Mental Health.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> High Level Meeting on Health and the Economy</li> </ul>				
Implementing Quality Growth				<p>Social Cohesion:</p> <p>Different activities towards ending TB in the APEC region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy discussion on TB in the Asia-Pacific Region &amp; subsequent statement on TB</li> </ul>				

			<p>presented at the United Nations High Level Meeting on TB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of an APEC End TB Collaboration Framework</li> <li>• Workshop on A-TRACTION (Asian Tuberculosis Research and Clinical Trials Integrated Organizational Network)</li> <li>• Policy Dialogue on Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis on the margins of the second HWG meeting of 2018</li> </ul>
<b>Cross-Fora Collaborations</b>			<p>In two meetings of 2018, the HWG invited the LSIF, HRDWG, PPSTI, and PPWG for Cross-fora discussions.</p> <p>HWG Co-Chairs were respectively invited to the meetings like LSIF, EPWG and AVG for fora progress presentation.</p>
<b>2018 Key Achievements</b>			<p>Three Workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APEC Conference on Severe Dengue Prevention and Strategies for Reducing Disease Burden</li> <li>• A-TRACTION (Asian Tuberculosis Research and Clinical Trials Integrated Organisational Network)</li> <li>• APEC Conference on Strategies against the Evolving Threats from Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR): From Awareness to Concrete Action</li> </ul> <p>Two Policy Dialogues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health</li> <li>• Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis</li> </ul> <p>One High Level Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> High Level Meeting on Health and the Economy</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>			N/A
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	1	<b>Speeches</b>	0
<b>Feature Stories</b>	0	<b>Publications</b>	0
<b>Last Website Update</b>	1/10/2018		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	2	<b>Next Website Update</b>	anytime

Name of SCE For a				Mining Task Force (MTF)				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Yes				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2014				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
21-22 August (MTF 12)	18	82	11	PS1	-	PS1	-	-
21 August (5 <sup>th</sup> Public Private Dialogue)	18	82	11	PS2	-	PS2	-	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				In 2018, under the overarching theme “Creating New Dynamism, Fostering a Shared Future,” and the Priority “Promoting Sustainable and Inclusive Growth”, APEC focused its efforts on resource sectors such as mining and other extractive industries.				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				-Regional Economic Integration -Sustainable Growth - Technologies and Innovation - Inclusive Growth				
Implementing Quality Growth				yes				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				PPWE, PPSTI, ABAC, IGF Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF)				
2018 Key Achievements				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 2018 MTF members contributed to the implementation of six high quality projects that were approved for APEC funding in 2016 and 2017 to enhance capacity building in mining.</li> <li>- Successful MTF12 held as part of APEC Mining Week</li> <li>- Successful Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) with ABAC held on the margins of MTF12</li> <li>- Member Economies presented their Annual Mining Report</li> <li>- Successful participation of member Economies in the 6th Ministers Responsible for Mining Meeting</li> </ul>				
Recommendations from Fora Report				To note the MTF Annual Fora Report				

<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>		<b>Speeches</b>	
<b>Feature Stories</b>		<b>Publications</b>	
<b>Last Website Update</b>	September 2018		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>		<b>Next Website Update</b>	

<b>Name of SCE For a</b>				<b>Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG)</b>				
<b>SCE-COW Participation in 2018</b>				<b>Yes</b>				
<b>Related Ministerial Meetings</b>				<b>Nil</b>				
<b>Year of Last Fora Assessment</b>				<b>2015</b>				
<b><u>2018 Meetings</u></b>				<b><u>2018 APEC Funded Projects</u></b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Attendance</b>			<b>Concept Notes</b>		<b>Projects</b>		<b>Total \$(US)</b>
	<b>Persons by Gender (%)</b>		<b>Economies (#)</b>					
	<b>Women</b>	<b>Men</b>						
3-4 March	48	52	15	PS1	5	PS1	2	319,416
6-7 Aug	45	55	14	PS2	7	PS2	-	
<b>Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities</b>				Promote food security; drive sustainable growth;				
<b>Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)</b>				Sustainable growth; sustainable development; food security; Blue economy; capacity buliding;				
<b>Implementing Quality Growth</b>				NA				
<b>Cross-Fora Collaborations</b>				CD; PPFS; VWG; TWG; PPSTI; EPWG;				
<b>2018 Key Achievements</b>				Stated in the 2018 Report to SCE				
<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>				No				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
<b>News Releases</b>	NA			<b>Speeches</b>			NA	
<b>Feature Stories</b>	NA			<b>Publications</b>			OFWG 01 2017A	
<b>Last Website Update</b>	April 2018							
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	NA			<b>Next Website Update</b>			NA	



Name of SCE For a				<b>Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation Working Group (PPSTI)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Nil				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2015				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
25-26 Feb	39.1%	60.9%	13	PS1	2	PS1	2	185,000
14-15 Aug	51.2%	48.8%	14	PS2	-	PS2	-	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				<p>PPSTI focused 2018 discussions on embracing digital technologies for inclusive and sustainable development to: 1) foster smart living and healthy aging; 2) promote S&amp;T-focused entrepreneurship among women; and 3) catalyse data sharing for economic resilience. These supported Papua New Guinea’s host year priorities and PPSTI’s goals.</p> <p>PPSTI developed science, technology, and innovation (STI) policy recommendations for APEC members to meet economic goals in the APEC region.</p>				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				<p>Cross-cutting priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Developing human capital through capacity building</li> <li>•Developing and strengthening the dynamism of SMEs</li> <li>•Harnessing technologies for the future and supporting innovation</li> <li>•Inclusive growth—addressing the social dimension of globalization, health, gender</li> </ul> <p>Workstream priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Safeguarding the quality of life through sustainable growth</li> </ul>				
Implementing Quality Growth				<p>PPSTI established closer linkages between PPSTI projects/dialogues and private sector participation and input.</p> <p>PPSTI developed a “Backgrounder” to advertise to private sector and others ways to engage with PPSTI; PPSTI agreed to explore working with the Asia Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) to include the PPSTI Backgrounder on APRU’s website.</p> <p>PPSTI discussed a framework for private sector and academia “Knowledge Partners” to contribute on specific topics identified by PPSTI; PPSTI endorsed for PPSTI members and Principal Advisor to target 1-2 knowledge partners to attend PPSTI13.</p>				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				<p>PPSTI established PPSTI liaisons to other key working groups: Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG), Health Working Group (HWG), Life Sciences Innovation Forum (LSIF), and Oceans and</p>				

	<p>Fisheries Working Group (OFWG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•PPSTI presented at the Chief Science and Equivalent’s Meeting in October 25-26.</li> <li>•PPSTI presented at the SOM3 Multistakeholder Dialogue on APEC Toward 2020 and Beyond.</li> <li>•PPSTI endorsed continuing to explore with other APEC for a long-term partnership.</li> <li>•PPSTI hosted the Energy Working Group (EWG), HRDWG, and organizations at PPSTI11 for a discussion on cross-fora collaboration. EWG’s Lead Shepherd presented at PPSTI11, and PPSTI’s ABAC Principal Advisor presented at EWG’s meeting in Hong Kong, China.</li> <li>•The LSIF Chair presented at PPSTI12’s August 15 Innovation Policy Sharing Seminar</li> </ul>
<p><b>2018 Key Achievements</b></p>	<p>PPSTI developed a PPSTI policy statement on supporting innovation for health incorporating private sector, academic, and research institutions’ contributions at the August 15 Innovation Policy Sharing Seminar on that topic to be considered by APEC Ministers:</p> <p>We encourage business, academia, government and civil society to develop an enabling environment, strong partnerships and promote lifelong learning to foster and apply new technologies and innovations to the challenges of an ageing society. To address these needs Technologies should be developed to be cross disciplinary, inclusive, timely and ethical to maximize the benefits for all APEC economies.</p> <p>PPSTI projects produced and reported on policy recommendations in PPSTI sub-groups in areas of enabling an environment for scientific research and market-based innovation, facilitating STI capacity building, and promoting regional STI connectivity.</p> <p>PPSTI is implementing 8 APEC funded projects, 2 initiatives and proposed 8 new self-funded project in 2018.</p> <p>PPSTI awarded the 2018 APEC Science Prize for Innovation, Research, and Education (ASPIRE) with the theme of “Smart Technologies for Healthy Societies” to Dr. Madhu Bhaskaran from Australia.</p> <p>PPSTI held the Second PPSTI APEC Centres Cooperation Conference (Suzhou, June 2018) by APEC Centre for Technology Transfer and encouraged further collaboration among PPSTI Centres of scientific expertise.</p> <p>PPSTI12 held an Innovation Policy Sharing Seminar titled “Supporting Innovation for Health: Roundtable with the Private Sector.” The Seminar included the framing question: what policies are needed to further spur commercially-viable innovation to support resilient living and healthy aging. Invited speakers from the private sector, academic, and research institutions contributed expertise to the 2018 PPSTI Policy Statement.</p>

		<p>PPSTI endorsed additions to the PPSTI Terms of Reference (TOR) on quorum and the term of PPSTI.</p> <p>PPSTI confirmed APEC Virtual Center for Environmental Technology Exchange as the ninth APEC PPSTI center and endorsed its proposal on changing strategy.</p>	
<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>		N/A	
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	2	<b>Speeches</b>	1
<b>Feature Stories</b>	1	<b>Publications</b>	0
<b>Last Website Update</b>	February 2018		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	Interview with PPSTI chair	<b>Next Website Update</b>	December 2018

Name of SCE For a				<b>Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				<b>High Level Policy Dialogue on Women and the Economy (HLPD) held on 7 September 2018</b>				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2016				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
17-18 May	80%	20%	13	PS1	6	PS1	2	360,820
3-4 September	80%	20%	17	PS2	7	PS2	2	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				Significant focus in 2018 on enhancing opportunities for women and girls in the digital age and closing the digital divide, as per Host priorities – for example the HLPD and Public Private Dialogue were both focused on women and girls in the digital age.				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				PPWE's work is closely aligned with ECOTECH priorities, particularly sustainable and inclusive growth, which is not possible without active efforts to promote women's active participation in the global economy				
Implementing Quality Growth								
Cross-Fora Collaborations				There are currently 9 PPWE projects and initiatives in active implementation in collaboration with other APEC fora, including EC, EWG, CTI, TWG, PPFs, HWG, HRDWG, PPSTI and SCSC.				
2018 Key Achievements				APEC Women and the Economy Dashboard updated; new Women and the Economy Sub-Fund operationalized; 2018 Women and the Economy Statement delivered; new Strategic Plan for 2019 to 2021 agreed; successful Public Private Dialogue on Women and the Economy held; and significant cross-fora collaboration undertaken (see above).				
Recommendations from Fora Report				To note the PPWE fora report.				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
News Releases	Various APEC news releases over the Women and the Economy week			Speeches				1
Feature Stories	BBC feature on APEC BEST Awards. Local PNG coverage of 2018 HLPD.			Publications				6
Last Website Update	September 2018							
Media/Outreach Opportunities	Press conference held with HODs at HLPD.			Next Website Update				December 2018

Name of SCE For a				<b>Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				Nil				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2015				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
26-27 March	42	58	15	PS1	6	PS1	3	PS1 : 350,175 PS2: TBD
12-13 September	52	48	15	PS2	10	PS2	TBD	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				In 2018, under the overarching theme “Creating New Dynamism, Fostering a Shared Future,” APEC continues its efforts to support MSMEs in the region				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				-SMEs/Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration - SMEs/ Tech-Innovation				
Implementing Quality Growth				yes				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				CTI, PPWE, ABAC, WIPO				
2018 Key Achievements				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- implementation of the first phase of the APEC Strategy for Green, Sustainable, and Innovative MSMEs focused on tourism and food sectors</li> <li>- 2018 Annual Stocktake and Mid-term review of progress of Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs.</li> <li>- Finalization of the second phase of APEC MSME Marketplace and initiation of third phase</li> <li>- Advancement in the implementation of the SMEWG Strategic Plan 2017-2020 through projects.</li> </ul>				
Recommendations from Fora Report				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To welcome Boracay Action Agenda stocktake 2018 and Mid Term Review.</li> <li>- To welcome the advancements in the implementation of SME related initiatives and projects</li> </ul>				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
News Releases			Speeches					
Feature Stories			Publications					
Last Website Update			September 2018					
Media/Outreach Opportunities			Next Website Update					

Name of SCE For a				<b>Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TELWG)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				TELMIN – 1995, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2015				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2016				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
2-8 June (TEL57)	29.2% (21)	70.8% (51)	13	PS1	1	PS1	1	55,318
30 September – 5 October (TEL58)	TBD (Total participants: 347)	TBD (Total participants: 347)	19	PS2	-	PS2	-	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				In implementing activities under activities TEL Strategic Action Plan 2016-2020 related to: 1) Develop and support ICT innovation; 2) Promote a secure, resilient and trusted ICT environment; 3) Promote regional economic integration; 4) Enhance the Digital Economy and the Internet Economy and; 5) Strengthen cooperation, TELWG contributed to APEC 2018's overall theme and one of its key priorities, namely "Harnessing Inclusive Opportunities, Embracing the Digital Future" and "Strengthening Inclusive Growth through Structural Reform".				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				Through implementing the TEL Strategic Action Plan 2016-2020, TELWG activities contributed to ECOTECH Priorities such as developing human capital through capacity building, harnessing technologies for the future and supporting innovation, inclusive growth, regional economic integration and human security.				
Implementing Quality Growth				Activities conducted by TELWG related to universal broadband access and inclusive growth support the Key Accountability Area (KAA) of "Social Cohesion" under the 2015 APEC Strategy for Strengthening Quality Growth.				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extension of ICT Application for the People with Special Needs (Ageing and Disability) (Multi-year project, self-funded, Japan) – with GOFD</li> <li>• Survey of initiatives in APEC Economies to promote access to ICTs for people with a hearing and/or speech impairment (Multi-year project, self-funded, Australia) – with GOFD</li> <li>• Earthquakes and Waterfloods Monitoring System with the application of the Internet of Things (IoT) (TEL58, APEC-funded, Russia) – with EPWG</li> <li>• Digital Economy: Strategies and Indicators (TEL58, self-funded, Singapore) – with ECSG</li> </ul>				

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industry Roundtable on Best Practices for Enhancing Citizens' Digital Literacy (TEL58, self-funded, Chinese Taipei) – with HRDWG</li> </ul>	
<b>2018 Key Achievements</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endorsement of the TELWG 2018 Work Plan</li> <li>Completion of the mid-term review of the TEL Strategic Action Plan 2016-2020</li> <li>Activities in 2018: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were seven (7) self-funded projects conducted at TEL57 held in June 2018, one (1) APEC-funded and two (2) self-funded projects to be completed by 2018, two (2) self-funded projects under implementation until 2020, and one (1) annually implemented project. The remaining seven (7) projects were carried out at the TEL58 in October 2018. One (1) APEC-funded project has been approved in principle by the Budget and Management Committee (BMC) for fund disbursement and implementation, with expected completion by 2019.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>		It is recommended that SCE note the TELWG report.	
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	0	<b>Speeches</b>	4
<b>Feature Stories</b>	0	<b>Publications</b>	1
<b>Last Website Update</b>	August 2018		
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	Photos of TEL57 were featured on the APEC2018 website. TEL58 was featured in several major news websites in Chinese Taipei.	<b>Next Website Update</b>	December 2018

Name of SCE For a				<b>Transportation Working Group (TPTWG)</b>				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				<b>Yes</b>				
Related Ministerial Meetings				<b>Nil</b>				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				<b>2013</b>				
<b><u>2018 Meetings</u></b>				<b><u>2018 APEC Funded Projects</u></b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
23-24 April	25%	70%	18	PS1	3	PS1	2	335,430
15-17 October	NA	NA	NA	PS2	5	PS2	1	
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving Digital Connectivity, deepening Regional Economic Integration</li> <li>Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Growth</li> </ul>				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional economic integration</li> <li>Safeguarding the quality of life through sustainable growth</li> <li>Human security</li> </ul>				
Implementing Quality Growth				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting Quality Infrastructure Connectivity through: Implementing the Supply Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan in Transport; and Supporting the APEC Connectivity Blueprint 2015-2025</li> </ul>				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encouraging member economies to continue implementing Women in Transport (WiT) activities</li> <li>Developing a roadmap or guiding principles on Autonomous Driving including Electric Vehicles in partnership with Automotive Dialogue</li> </ul>				
2018 Key Achievements				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endorsing a new TOR, a new Work Plan 2018 and a new Strategic Plan 2018-2020</li> </ul>				
Recommendations from Fora Report				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note the TPTWG's activities and outcomes undertaken from September 2017 to August 2018</li> <li>Note that TPTWG46 will be hosted by Peru in October 15-17 in Lima, 2018 and one TPT-WG meeting will be held by Russia in either late November or early December in 2019</li> </ul>				
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>								
News Releases	NA			Speeches		NA		
Feature Stories	NA			Publications		1		
Last Website Update	2 October 2017							
Media/Outreach Opportunities	NA			Next Website Update		9 November 2018		



Name of SCE For a				Tourism Working Group (TWG)				
SCE-COW Participation in 2018				Yes				
Related Ministerial Meetings				10 <sup>th</sup> Tourism Ministerial Meeting, 1 June 2018, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea				
Year of Last Fora Assessment				2014				
<b>2018 Meetings</b>				<b>2018 APEC Funded Projects</b>				
Date	Attendance			Concept Notes		Projects		Total \$(US)
	Persons by Gender (%)		Economies (#)					
	Women	Men						
29-30 May (TWG52)	55	44	13	PS1	-	PS1	-	-
1 June (TMM10)	38	62	14	PS2	1	PS2	-	
23-25 October (TWG53 <sup>3</sup> )								
Alignment with Host Economy Goals and Priorities				TWG sought to align with the host economy's push for inclusivity and economic opportunities in the digital age in the tourism and travel industry.				
Alignment with ECOTECH Priorities (eg. Sustainable Growth)				The APEC TWG Strategic Plan include key priority areas aimed to promote sustainable and inclusive tourism development in the APEC region.				
Implementing Quality Growth				The APEC TWG Strategic Plan include key priority areas aimed to promote sustainable and inclusive tourism development in the APEC region.				
Cross-Fora Collaborations				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. With CTI through the <i>SME's Integration into Global Value Chains in Services Industry: Tourism Sector, led by Peru.</i></li> <li>2. With the HRDWG, through the <i>APEC Occupational Standards Framework: Test in the Travel, Tourism and Hospitality Industry</i> in May 2018. This project builds on the 2017 APEC TWG project <i>Developing the Tourism Workforce of the future in the APEC Region</i>, led by Australia</li> <li>3. With GOS through the ASCR. TWG is responsible for the following action: <i>Support APEC's work on developing travel and tourism in the region to support sustainable and inclusive growth, building on the work of the APEC Tourism Strategic Plan.</i></li> </ol>				

<sup>3</sup> For updating after TWG53 meeting on 23-25 October.

<b>2018 Key Achievements</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Completion of the <i>APEC Guidelines for Tourism Stakeholders</i> (endorsed June 2018).</li> <li>2. Women in Tourism Dialogue (held in PNG on 28 May 2018).</li> <li>3. Completion of the TWG project <i>Voluntourism Best Practices: Promoting Inclusive Community Based Sustainable Tourism Initiative</i> (Final report and Guidelines published February 2018).</li> </ol>	
<b>Recommendations from Fora Report</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ministers and their representatives at the TMM10 seek the consideration of the APEC Leaders to include in their Leaders' Declaration, a statement that will focus on strengthening the competitiveness of travel and tourism in the APEC region by encouraging tourism investment, MSME's support, employment opportunities, and development of regional occupations standards to better match the needs of the labour market with various aspects of skills training and women inclusive policies.</li> <li>2. TWG will request SCE/SOM Endorsement of the Fourth Annual State of Tourism Report.</li> </ol>	
<b>Communications Products (2018)</b>			
<b>News Releases</b>	3	<b>Speeches</b>	0
<b>Feature Stories</b>	0	<b>Publications</b>	1
<b>Last Website Update</b>	October 2018	Voluntourism Best Practices: Promoting Inclusive Community-Based Sustainable Tourism Initiatives	
<b>Media/Outreach Opportunities</b>	The USA is the lead economy in developing a communications strategy for TWG (in progress)	<b>Next Website Update</b>	After final TWG meetings in 2019

## 4. Recommendations

The following recommendations are proposed to the 2018 APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM):

1. *Note the 2018 Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation;*
2. *Welcome the achievements of the SCE Working Groups and Task Forces;*
3. *Welcome the implementation of a new SCE Standardized Fora Assessment System; and*
4. *Welcome 2018 contributions to the APEC Support Fund from Australia; China; Japan; New Zealand; and Chinese Taipei.*

## **SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation 2018 Work Plan**

### 1. Proposed Work for 2018 in Response to Leaders/ Ministers/SOM Decisions and SCE Priorities.

- Provide policy recommendations that are related to ECOTECH groups, to SOM;
- Coordinate and supervise all ECOTECH-related Working Groups and Task Groups, including reviewing and recommending any fora's ToR revision to SOM;
- Review the operation and effectiveness of the SCE;
- Provide policy guidance on the ECOTECH agenda in the development of sub-fora strategic plans;
- Continue to implement SCE's Decision on New Fora Assessment program;
- Monitor the implementation by sub-fora of previous Independent Assessment recommendations;
- Determine eligibility and score concept notes applying for funding under ASF sub-funds assigned to the responsibility of the SCE; and,
- Consolidate the SCE Fora Reports and prepare annual SOM Report on ECOTECH to Ministers.

### 2. Strengthening coordination among and across sub-fora

- Promote cross-fora collaboration across APEC sub-fora, including through implementation of the 2016 Recommendations on Cross-Fora Collaboration together with the 2017 APEC Guidelines on Promoting Cross-Fora Collaboration;
- Review and consider any possible options to make the SCE and SCE COW arrangements more effective; and,
- Supervise or coordinate cross-cutting issues and specific initiatives assigned to SCE, such as the Mainstreaming Ocean-Related Issues Steering Council.
- Consider options to coordinate the implementation of the 2017 APEC Action Agenda on Advancing Economic, Financial and Social Inclusion in the APEC Region, as directed by Leaders.

### 3. Expected Outcomes/Deliverables for 2018

- Implementation of Standardized Fora Assessment Program, including convening of the Assessment Team for 2018, and developing the assessment schedule for 2019 and beyond.
- Consideration of new ways to strengthen cross fora collaboration through the SCE process;
- Approval of the SCE sub-fora's annual work plans;

- Review and approval of the Strategic Plans for those sub-fora with expiring strategic plans;
- Review and recommendation of the revised ToRs of certain sub-fora to SOM, including in connection with governance reforms agreed by SOM in 2017; and,
- Submission of the annual SOM Report on ECOTECH to Ministers at AMM 2018.

## **SCE Report on Synergies within the ECOTECH Agenda 2018**

### **Background**

1. The SCE has tasked “the Secretariat to undertake a strategic assessment of synergies within the ECOTECH agenda after SOM1 and provide recommendations to SCE2 about gaps that may require SCE attention or direction” (point 7 of *SCE Report on Improving ECOTECH in APEC* (2013/SOM3/030)).
2. The first report by the APEC Secretariat (2014/SOM2/SCE/004) was submitted to the SCE2 in 2014. The second report was presented to the SCE2 in 2015.
3. As has been the case since 2016, the current version of the report is prepared and presented to the SCE Committee of the Whole Meeting (SCE-COW), in the view of helping to facilitate the discussion of cross-fora collaboration at the SCE-COW, given the attendance of sub-fora convenors or their representatives. It is also believed that the discussion of cross-fora collaboration early in the APEC year might have greater impact on the activities of the sub-fora throughout the year.
4. The 2018 report has been rationalised somewhat from recent versions. The current report does not include the tables attached to the previous versions which identified areas of potential cross-fora collaboration according to both sub-fora work plans and annual APEC priorities. For this specific information, one is invited to review the 2018 Work Plans of the SCE sub-fora, the template for which asks sub-fora to specify which other sub-fora or organisations it plans to collaborate with, and how. Similar reporting is sought in the template for annual Fora Reports submitted later in the APEC year.

### **Review of the annual work plans of the SCE fora**

5. The APEC Secretariat analysed fifteen (15) sub-fora work plans: ACTWG, ATCWG, CTWG, EGILAT, EPWG, EWG, HRDWG, MTF, OFWG, PPSTI, PPWE, TELWG and TWG submitted as of 1 March 2018 for approval at the SCE-COW; and draft work plans of HWG and SMEWG pending endorsement at the sub-fora level. The Secretariat analysis came to the following broad conclusions:
  - SCE sub-fora identified close to seventy areas of potential cross-fora collaboration, which represents a steady year-on-year increase.
  - Potential collaboration is being identified with other SCE sub-fora as well as with the sub-fora of the Economic Committee and the Committee on Trade and Investment.
  - The range of potential collaboration partners for each forum also appears fairly diverse, and often differs from project to project. Put another way, collaboration does not appear confined to the same or the more obvious partners.
  - A number of SCE sub-fora identify potential collaboration with external partners, including international and regional organisations such as the United Nations, World Bank, INTERPOL, International Energy Agency, ILO, WHO and OECD, or non-governmental organisations such as the Association of Pacific Rim Universities, Transparency International and The Nature Conservancy, to name but a few.

- Although the number and range of cross-fora collaboration opportunities appears to be increasing, work plans continue to include fairly modest details on the nature and extent of such collaboration.
- Although certain work plans have identified potential collaboration with ABAC and ASEAN, there likely is scope for more frequent collaboration with both entities, together with Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, given their respective roles within the broader APEC process.

### Discussion on how to promote cross-fora collaboration

6. At SCE3 in 2016, SCE members adopted eight recommendations to promote cross-fora collaboration (2016/SOM3/SCE/002):
  - a) *Make appropriate arrangements to facilitate more discussion on the cross-cutting issues and projects in the margins of the annual SCE-COW, including exploring possibilities of having themed discussions on specific cross-cutting areas under the lead of some fora convenors;*
  - b) *Request the APEC Secretariat to facilitate easier access to the annual work plans and other useful documents relevant for cross-cutting issues through centralized specific pages under ACS;*
  - c) *Create discussion boards on specific cross-cutting issues at the request of any SCE COW members on ACS and with the assistance from the APEC Secretariat;*
  - d) *Recommend the SOM to review the protocol on remote participation (2014/SOM2/035) with a view to enable APEC fora to easily utilize such IT facility as remote participation (i.e. Skype for Business) to engage with the other fora in certain circumstances;*
  - e) *Request the BMC Small Working Group to consider an approach to give further priorities to those cross-fora collaboration projects, which are of high priorities to APEC member economies, in the APEC funding approval process;*
  - f) *Encourage the CTI and EC representatives to participate in the SCE COW meeting and in other relevant occasions to discuss any cross-cutting issues in the margins of the SCE COW;*
  - g) *Encourage the fora to continue their efforts to coordinate across the fora through different avenues, including identifying specific areas for collaboration, holding multi-fora meetings or joint sessions in the margins of SOM meetings and using focal persons or Program Directors to coordinate with the other fora; and*
  - h) *Assess the fora on their efforts to collaborate or coordinate with the other fora, when the fora are subject to assessments.*
7. The SCE Chair and the Secretariat together with the SCE sub-fora have been implementing these recommendations since SCE3 of 2016. For instance, reforms have been introduced to the arrangements for the SCE-COW to facilitate the discussion of cross-fora issues and projects. In 2018, a thematic discussion focussed on key sub-fora deliverables and cross-fora opportunities is at the heart of the SCE-COW agenda. The Secretariat maintains all key documents of the SCE sub-fora (ie Terms of References, Strategic Plans, annual Work Plans and annual Fora Reports) on the APEC Collaboration System (ACS). Remote participation is being facilitated when requested, including in the context of 2018 SOM1 cluster meetings. Beginning in 2018, one of the criteria for scoring concept notes under the streamlined project approval process concerns cross-fora collaboration. The CTI and EC Chairs are routinely invited to attend the SCE-COW. We are witnessing an increasing number of joint or multi-group meetings during SOM clusters. The standardized fora assessment program to take effect in 2018 will measure data and indicators relating to cross-fora collaboration, among others.

8. In 2017, APEC Ministers welcomed the adoption of the *APEC Guidelines on Promoting Cross-Fora Collaboration*, which streamline existing best practices and highlight emerging issues in the view of encouraging more effective collaboration APEC-wide.
9. The one area which has witnessed modest progress is in the creation and use of discussion boards on the ACS to facilitate the exchange of information and inter-sessional discussions on cross-cutting issues. It is hoped that the increasing familiarisation with the ACS among sub-fora and member delegations will increase the prospects for its use toward this end.



# Report of the APEC Secretariat Executive Director on the Alignment of Fora Work Plans with APEC's Overall Vision and Objectives

## 2018

### Introduction

1. In line with the recommendations for *Strengthening Economic and Technical Cooperation in APEC* issued in 2010, the APEC Secretariat Executive Director provides an annual report on how SCE sub-fora work plans address APEC's overall vision and objectives.
2. The SCE sub-fora annual work plans are tabled at the annual SCE-Committee of the Whole Meeting (SCE-COW) seeking approval in accordance with the recommendations of the 2010 ECOTECH Report.
3. The 2018 alignment report considers how well the activities set out in the work plans align with the priorities established by Leaders and Ministers and the annual 2018 APEC priorities. The current report is rationalized somewhat from recent versions, with the charts contained in the Annex of recent reports not included. Among other reasons, the information contained in such charts, together with data and indicators on engagement, effectiveness, collaboration and alignment with APEC and ECOTECH priorities, will be collected and presented in a manner allowing for a more comprehensive picture to emerge through the reports generated by the standardized fora assessment program being implemented beginning in 2018. This report seeks therefore to avoid unnecessary duplication or confusion.
4. Recent versions of this report also summarised meeting attendance information including whether quorum of attendance by fourteen economies was being met. New governance requirements agreed by SOM in 2017 (2017/SOM2/002) contemplate rather specific steps being taken in the event quorum is not met by a sub-forum at two successive meetings irrespective of the year. It is therefore assumed that Senior Officials will consider more specific and timely reporting on quorum issues APEC-wide. Again, this report seeks to avoid unnecessary duplication or confusion.

### Status of Work Plan Submission

5. The SCE Terms of Reference stipulate that Working Groups and Task Groups should submit their annual work plans three weeks prior to the annual SCE-COW on the margins of SCE1. The APEC Secretariat analysed fifteen (15) sub-fora work plans: ACTWG, ATCWG, CTWG, EGILAT, EPWG, EWG, HRDWG, MTF, OFWG, PPSTI, PPWE, TELWG and TWG submitted as of 1 March 2018 for approval at the SCE-COW; and draft work plans of HWG and SMEWG pending endorsement at the sub-fora level.
6. The work plans of GOFD and TPTWG were not submitted to the SCE-COW as they were not endorsed by the respective sub-forums.
7. The SCE sub-fora are asked to develop their work plans in accordance with a template approved at SCE2 in 2016. In 2017, guidance was added to the template to encourage identification of gender-related initiatives or aspects thereof.
8. The Secretariat conducted an analysis of the work plans and came to the following general conclusions:

### Alignment of Work Plans with Broader APEC Objectives

- Most SCE sub-fora focused their activities to respond to the mandates given to them by the Leaders and Ministers. Many sub-fora, such as ACTWG, CTWG, EGILAT, EPWG, EWG,

HRDWG, HWG, OFWG, PPWE, SMEWG and TWG, specifically cite recent instructions of Ministers.

- A number of these also refer to 2018 APEC priorities. It is noted, however, that some work plans may have been developed before the 2018 APEC priorities were widely circulated.
- All work plans also make linkages between their specific activities and the relevant ECOTECH Medium Term Priorities, which is facilitated by the new template.

#### **Planning Elements (Cross-fora collaboration, Capacity Building and Expected Deliverables)**

- All submitted work plans identify some degree of collaboration with other sub-fora on cross-cutting topics. The Secretariat presents its analysis in a separate paper.
- Most initiatives and projects have been identified as capacity building, which is in keeping with ECOTECH priorities.
- A number of the work plans responded to the work plan guidance seeking identification of gender-related initiatives or aspect thereof.
- Sub-fora work plans could do a better job of focusing on deliverables, or outputs and outcomes, which advance APEC priorities, rather than on activities and routine administrative issues.
- Reforms to the SCE-COW arrangements have aided a focus on concrete deliverables.

#### **Secretariat Comment**

9. A stronger emphasis on expected deliverables, or outputs and outcomes, in work plan preparation could aide Senior Officials in developing a qualitative understanding of work plan alignment.

## Report by the Fora Assessment Team Meeting on Scheduling 2019 Fora Assessments

The Fora Assessment Team met on 16 August 2018. Understanding that there is intersessional work to continue as to the Fora Assessment Team's recommendations on the format of the standardized report template, time frame to be assessed, the Team has come to an agreement on the sub-fora to be assessed in 2019. They are as follows:

Proposed Fora to be Assessed 2019	Date of Last Assessment	Expiration of Terms of Reference
Experts Group on Illegal Logging & Associated Trade	2013	2021
Mining Task Force #	2014	2018
Tourism Working Group	2014	2021
Emergency Preparedness Working Group	2015	2021
Health Working Group	2015	2021
Oceans and Fisheries Working Group	2015	2021
Policy Partnership on Science and Technology Innovation	2015	2021
Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group +	2015	2021

\*\* Mining Task Force's mandate expires at the end of 2018.

+ Should the Mining Task Force mandate not be extended it will not be assessed, instead Small Medium Enterprises Working Group will be assessed in 2019.

In addition, the Fora Assessment Team recommended that the following fora should be assessed in 2020:

Proposed Fora to be Assessed 2020	Date of Last Assessment	Expiration of Terms of Reference
Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group +	2015	2021
Agricultural Technology Cooperation Working Group	2016	2021

Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group	2016	2021
Policy Partnership for Women in the Economy	2016	2021
Telecommunications and Information Working Group	2016	2021
Transportation Working Group (TPTWG) *	2013	2021

+ Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group is included on the 2020 schedule if it is not assessed in 2019 as discussed above.

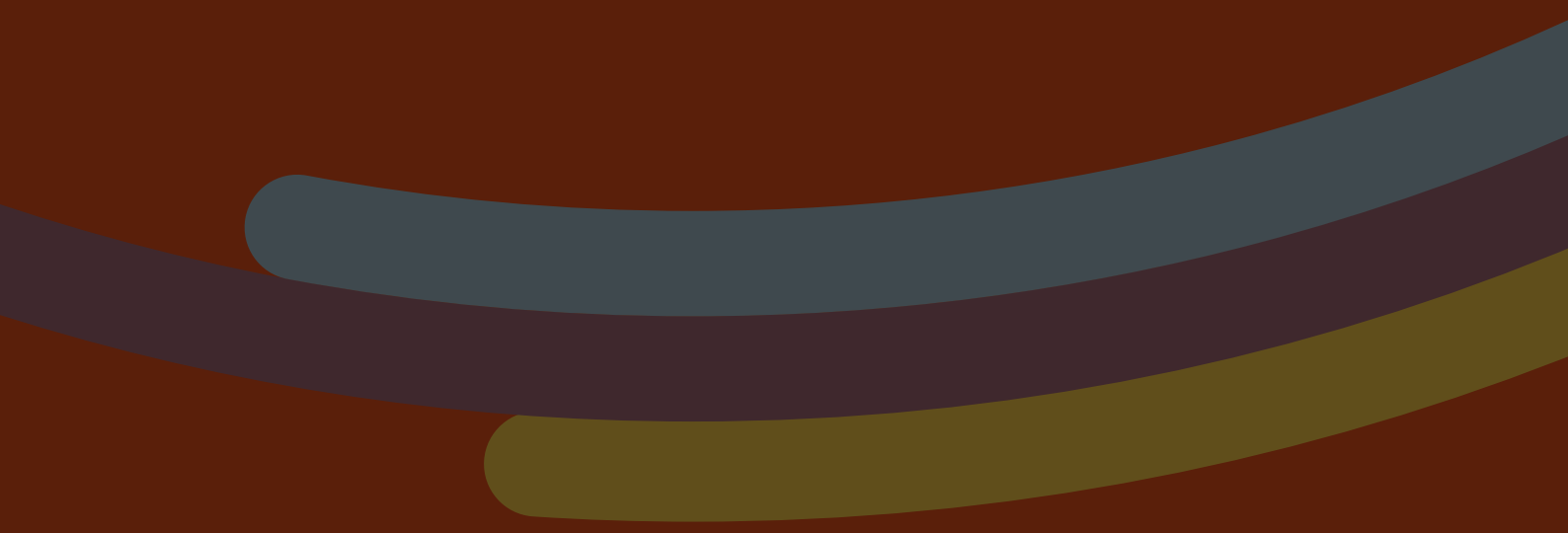
\* Transportation Working Group experienced a major reorganization in 2017. The Secretariat Program recommends another year of operation with the new structure prior to assessment. This will also allow the reorganized TPTWG to move through one complete project cycle prior to assessment.

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ABAC	APEC Business Advisory Council
ACTWG	Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts' Working Group
ACT-NET	Anti-Corruption Authorities & Law Enforcement Agencies
AMM	APEC Ministerial Meeting
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ART	APEC Research and Technology
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASF	APEC Support Fund
ASPIRE	Science Prize for Innovation, Research and Education
ATCWG	Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group
BCP	Business Continuity Plans
BMC	Budget and Management Committee
BMG	Business Mobility Group ( <i>a sub-fora of CTI</i> )
CEEDS	Cooperative Energy Efficiency Design for Sustainability
CSOM	Concluding Senior Officials' Meeting
CTI	Committee on Trade and Investment
CTWG	Counter-Terrorism Working Group
DARE	Data Analytics Raising Employment
EC	Economic Committee
ECOTECH	Economic and Technical Cooperation
EGILAT	Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade
EPWG	Emergency Preparedness Working Group
ESCI	Energy Smart Communities Initiative
ESI	Energy Security Initiative

EWG	Energy Working Group
FMP	Finance Ministers' Process
FOTC	Friends of the Chair
FTAAP & GVCs	Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific and Global Value Chains
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
GOFD	Group of Friends on Disability Issues
GPA	General Project Account
HLPDAB	High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology
HRDWG	Human Resources Development Working Group
HWG	Health Working Group
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IERG	Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth
IOV	Internet of Vehicles
LCMT	Low Carbon Model Town
LEDS	Low Emission Development Strategies
MOI	Mainstreaming Ocean Related Issues Steering Council
MRA	Mutual Recognition Arrangement
MRA-CA	MRA for Conformity Assessment
MRM	Ministers Responsible for Mining
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTF	Mining Task Force
O2O	APEC Online-Offline
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OFWG	Ocean and Fisheries Working Group
PBN	Performance Based Navigation

PMU	Project Management Unit, APEC Secretariat
PPFS	Policy Partnership on Food Security
PPSTI	Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation
PPWE	Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy
PSU	Policy Support Unit, APEC Secretariat
REI	Regional Economic Integration
SCCP	Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures ( <i>a sub-fora of CTI</i> )
SCE	Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation
SCE-COW	SCE Committee of the Whole
SCSC	Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance ( <i>a sub-fora of CTI</i> )
SDMOF	Senior Disaster Management Officials Meeting
SMEWG	Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group
SOM	Senior Officials' Meeting
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
TELWG	Telecommunications and Information Working Group
TFI	Trade Facilitation Initiative
TILF	Trade and Investment Liberalisation Fund
TPTWG	Transportation Working Group
TWG	Tourism Working Group
US-ATAARI	US-APEC Technical Assistance to Advance Regional Integration



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