



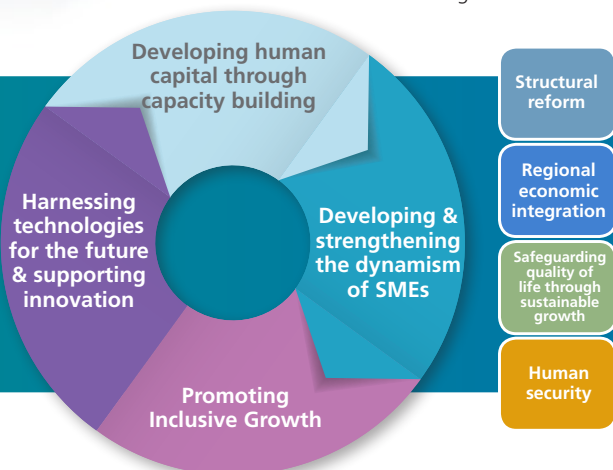
Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation

Advancing Free Trade  
for Asia-Pacific Prosperity

# Ensuring Balanced, Sustainable, Inclusive, Innovative and Secure Growth

## 2014 APEC Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation

Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) is aimed at attaining sustainable growth and equitable development in the Asia-Pacific region, reducing economic disparities among economies and improving economic and social well-being of all citizens in the APEC region. The Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE) consists of 16 working groups and task forces that implement projects to achieve these goals in a wide range of areas.



### New ECOTECH Priorities Set

This year, new medium-term priorities were developed to guide ECOTECH's projects moving forward. The highest priority will focus on developing human capital in order to strengthen the skills and experience of institutions and people within the region. In addition, recognizing the important role small and medium enterprises (SMEs) play in the regional economy, promoting the development and dynamism of SMEs is the second key priority.

## Highlights of ECOTECH Achievements in 2014

In 2010, APEC Economic Leaders agreed upon a Growth Strategy aimed at ensuring that economic growth in the region was more balanced, inclusive, sustainable, innovative, and secure. ECOTECH has undertaken work to promote all five goals during 2014. Key projects and accomplishments are highlighted below.



### Balanced Growth

- **Improving SME Business Ethics** has resulted in codes of ethics being adopted and implemented by around 60 biopharmaceutical and medical device industry associations and their member companies from 19 economies across the Asia-Pacific, representing more than 14,000 firms.
- **The Role of Taxation in Tourism** was assessed across APEC economies to help develop policies to promote travel and tourism growth in the region.

### Inclusive Growth

- **The Advanced Co-Incubation Training Forum** enhanced the skills of business incubator managers to nurture startup companies. Training focused on financing and investment, new market entry and technology commercialization, soft landing and internationalization collaboration know-how.
- **APEC Startup Accelerator (ASA)** organized an Accelerator Leadership Summit, One-on-One Mentoring Session, and the Intel APEC Challenge to help promote entrepreneurship and assist the region's startup companies identify funding. As a result, some start-ups were acquired by large companies. The "APEC Intel Challenge 2014" was held with thirty-five startups and helped improve their visibility in Silicon Valley.



- **Promoting Women in Transportation** is an initiative working to expand women's participation in the transportation sector.
- **The Small-Scale Fisheries Project** addressed the welfare of small-scale fishers and raised awareness of an ecosystem approach for fishing practices to ensure food security and sustainability.

### Sustainable Growth

- **Biogas from Agricultural Waste:** This initiative focused on implementing biogas technology and building an adaptation strategy for energy recovery from agricultural waste. In order to promote technical exchanges and technology transfer, a database and knowledge bank was established to share the demand and supply of technologies and equipment as well as link to experts in the field who could provide technical consultancy.
- **Energy Efficiency:** A series of feasibility plans for low carbon model town projects to enhance energy efficiency was conducted for a number of cities in the region. Other projects included capacity building and training for rooftop solar PV installers, lighting design best practices, smart grids and smart communities, and peer review of energy efficiency.
- **Reducing Marine Pollution:** In order to reduce marine pollution from ships, this initiative helps increase APEC member economies' ability to effectively enforce the 1973 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from ships. The target audience for capacity building and training on effective enforcement is port-state control officials, criminal investigators, and prosecutors.
- **Sustainable Tourism Destinations:** A step by step approach for government and private industry to develop sustainable tourism destinations was developed, including a tourism indicators user manual and a tourism sustainability assessment tool.



### Secure Growth

- **ACT Network of Anti-Corruption and Law Enforcement Authorities (ACT-NET)** was established this year to develop an inter-economy network connecting anti-corruption and law enforcement agencies responsible for investigations and prosecutions of corruption, bribery, money laundering, and illicit trade and the identification and return of the proceeds of those crimes.
- **Niigata APEC Action Plan** on Food Security was implemented to improve regional food security, including capacity building and training projects on food safety risk assessment and principles for responsible agricultural investment to ensure all stakeholders benefit such as local communities, small farmers and investors.
- **Counter-Terrorism** initiatives undertaken in 2014 include anti-bus terrorism capability, developing trusted traveler characteristics, countering financing of terrorism, and major events security.
- **The SME Business Continuity for Disaster Resilience** project trained more than 250 regional experts to provide hands-on business continuity advice for small and medium enterprises to minimize disruptions due to a disaster.
- **Emergency Preparedness Education** courses were implemented for teachers, school administrators and students including safety protocols, evacuation plans and the science of disasters.



### Innovative Growth

- **The APEC Technology Commercialization Program** was implemented to intensify cooperation among government, private sector and academia with the aim of promoting joint scientific research and technology innovation, dissemination and commercialization.
- **The Internet of Things** initiative is working to develop a policy framework for enabling the deployment of the "internet of everything" from machine-to-machine communication and integrating smart devices in everyday life and work.



## ECOTECH Projects in Action

### ECOTECH Projects 2014



### ECOTECH Projects by Priority Area (2010-2014)

- Regional economic integration
- Human security
- Inclusive growth
- Sustainable growth
- Structural reform

