



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

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

2008

Printed by



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

The APEC Secretariat

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SOM Committee on ECOTECH

November 2008

Printed electronically, November 2008

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APEC Secretariat
35 Heng Mui Keng Terrace Singapore 119616
Tel: (65) 68919012 Fax: (65) 68919013
Email: info@apcc.org
Website: www.apcc.org

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APEC#208-ES-01.3 ISSN 0219-8932

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CONTENTS

A Letter from the SCE Chair	iii
Executive Summary	1
1. Introduction	3
2. 2008 Highlights and Priorities	5
2.1. Strengthening the policy guidance role of SCE	5
2.2. Enhancing APEC's collaboration with Multilateral Organisations.....	5
2.3. Enhancing public-private partnership	6
2.4. Improving capacity building activities in APEC:.....	7
- Identifying further opportunities for capacity-building in APEC;	
- SCE coordination with other fora on capacity-building activities;	
2.5. Ongoing reform.....	7
- Completion of 2006–2007 APEC SCE Fora Review	
- Independent assessment of SCE Fora	
3. APEC Projects in Action	9
Implementation of the APEC-wide ECOTECH priorities	
3.1. Developing human capital.....	12
3.2. Developing stable and efficient markets through structural reform	13
3.3. Strengthening economic infrastructure	13
3.4. Facilitating technology flows and harnessing technologies for the future.....	14
3.5. Safeguarding the quality of life through environmentally sound growth	14
3.6. Developing and strengthening the dynamism of small and medium enterprises (SMEs)	15
3.7. Integration into the global economy	16
3.8. Human security and counter-terrorism capacity building.....	17
3.9. Promoting the development of knowledge-based economies	18
3.10. Addressing social dimension of globalisation.	19
4. Key Outcomes	21
4.1 Key achievements of SCE fora	21
4.2 Strengthening implementation of APEC's ECOTECH activities	28
Recommendations	29
Annexes	
Annex 1: SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation Terms of Reference	31
Annex 2: SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation 2008 Work Program.....	33

Annex 3: SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Policy Criteria for 2008–09 Projects.....	35
Annex 4: Proposal on Strengthening Economic and Technical Cooperation in APEC.....	37
Annex 5: APEC and Multilateral Organisations Strategies for Enhancing Engagement.....	43
Annex 6: Independent Assessment of the ECOTECH Implementation of APEC Working Groups and SOM Task Forces: Gender Focal Point Network SCE Recommendations	51
Annex 7: Finalisation of the Strategic Review of the APEC Tourism Working Group.....	59
Annex 8: 2006 SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation Review of For a	73
Annex 9: Summary of ECOTECH Projects	77
Annex 10: Revised Schedule of the Independent Assessment of Working Groups and Task Forces.....	79
Abbreviations and Acronyms.....	81

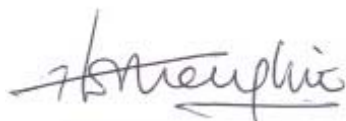
A Letter from the SCE Chair

For the SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH, 2008 has been a productive year with considerable progress in many areas including the completion of the SCE Fora Review, the implementation of the independent assessments, work on enhancing APEC's collaboration with multilateral organisations, efforts to strengthen ECOTECH activities in APEC, and exploration of new methods of capacity building. More details on the key achievements over the past year are provided in this report.

In 2008, the SCE embarked on the important task of reforming and strengthening its policy role. SCE recently instructed its various subfora to undertake a stocktake of their capacity building activities. This will provide a clearer picture of the capacity building underway and help identify possible gaps and needs in APEC. To complement this stocktaking exercise, there also needs to be strong guidance from SCE to its subfora to maximise the limited resources available and to ensure that priorities are given to ECOTECH activities that are most relevant to APEC's main objectives. In this regard, SCE will be working on developing a framework to guide ECOTECH activities next year. Although significant progress has been made so far, there is still a lot of work ahead of us. But with strong commitment from SCE members, I believe that we will be able to accomplish this task and develop a forward-looking, longer-term workplan on capacity-building in the coming year.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the hard work put in by the various subfora and member economies, and thank them for all the contributions they made to fulfilling APEC's ECOTECH objectives. I would also like to welcome Japan as the new Chair of the SCE in 2009 and wish them well in guiding the SCE towards new successes.

With best regards,



Ho Meng Kit
Chair, SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH

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Executive Summary

The SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH, chaired by Mr Ho Meng Kit, Deputy SOM of Singapore, met three times during the year 2008. The committee successfully met commitments outlined in the SCE's 2008 workplan. Key achievements include development of the strategic direction for strengthening the policy guidance role of SCE, development of strategies for enhancing the cooperation between APEC and other multilateral organizations, implementation of the SCE Fora Review and the independent assessments of six APEC working groups and task forces.

In 2008, SCE has completed the implementation of 12 recommendations of the SCE Fora Review. Key outcomes include:

- Endorsed new TOR for all working groups and task forces to reflect the requirements of the new Guideline for Terms of Reference
- Agreement that Tourism Working Group (TWG) to remain an independent working group subject to further review in 2010
- Completion of the independent assessment of the Marine Resource Conservation Working Group (MRCWG) and the Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN).

SCE also endorsed the extension of the mandates of ACT, TFEP, and CTF until 2011, 2010 and 2010 respectively.

In 2008, SCE gave priority to reforming and strengthening its policy role to ensure it is able to provide effective and relevant policy guidance and recommendations to SOM and all fora. SCE has prepared a proposal on strategic approach to ECOTECH with focus on three elements: (a) top-down framework to guide APEC ECOTECH activities, (b) strategic and long-term approach towards capacity building and (c) leveraging on APEC's partnerships with other multilateral organisations and private sector. As the first step, it was agreed that SCE fora to undertake a stocktake of their capacity-building needs and the outcome of this stocktake will be considered at SCE1 in 2009. Another proposal on the implementation of capacity building in APEC is currently under consideration.

SCE also endorsed a strategic paper on enhancing APEC's engagement with multilateral organisations.

SCE explored the possibility of twinning arrangements as a part of future capacity building activities initiated by various APEC fora and agreed to consider one-to-two pilot projects in 2009.

In 2008, SCE and its fora undertook 77 APEC-funded ECOTECH projects. Section 3 highlights some of the projects undertaken by various APEC fora in 2008 to support economic and technical cooperation.

Section 4 highlights key achievements of various APEC working groups and task forces.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are proposed to the 20th APEC Ministerial Meeting:

1. Endorse the *2008 SOM Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation*;
2. Endorse the strategies for enhancing APEC's engagement with multilateral organisations.

3. Welcome the progress of work on strengthening SCE's Policy Agenda and encourage economies to continue to actively participate in this process; welcome Peru's proposal on capacity building;
4. Welcome the achievements of the Working Groups and SOM Task Forces and welcome the ongoing improvements that will be achieved through the Program of Independent Assessment of all SCE Fora; and
5. Note the new contributions to the APEC Support Fund from Hong Kong, China and Russia.

1. Introduction

In 1998, the SOM Sub-Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation was established with the mandate to “assist SOM in improving the management and coordination of ECOTECH activities among APEC fora”. The Sub-Committee was later elevated to the SOM Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (ESC) in 2002. In 2006, as part of the APEC reform process, the ESC was transformed into the SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE) with an enhanced mandate to strengthen the prioritisation and effective implementation of ECOTECH activities by various APEC fora. The Terms of Reference of the SCE appears in Annex 1.

In 2008, the SCE was chaired by Mr Ho Meng Kit, Deputy SOM of Singapore. The SCE met on three occasions during the year to assess:

- (a) the implementation of the remaining issues of the 2006 APEC Fora Review and ongoing independent assessments;
- (b) the progress of work on strengthening SCE’s policy role to ensure it is able to provide effective and relevant policy guidance and recommendations on ECOTECH to Ministers, Senior Officials and APEC fora; and
- (c) how to enhance APEC’s collaboration with other multilateral organisations.

The first SCE meeting and the third meeting of the SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH – Committee of the Whole (SCE-COW) were held on 27 and 28 February 2008 in Lima, Peru. The SCE and COW representatives had a constructive discussion on the need for more coordination and consultation among the various SCE related fora to identify synergies in their work and avoid duplication. SCE reviewed progress of the remaining issues of the ongoing SCE Fora Review, and endorsed its 2008 workplan (Annex 2). As part of its mandate to rank and approve projects, the SCE endorsed policy criteria for 2008–2009 projects to guide the Budget and Management Committee and the Secretariat in approving funding (Annex 3). SCE approved revised Terms of Reference and 2008 workplans submitted by working groups and task forces. SCE endorsed the extension of the mandates of Task Force for Emergency Preparedness (TFEP) to 2010 and Anti-Corruption and Transparency Task Force (ACT) to 2011.

The second meeting of the SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH took place in Arequipa, Peru on 26 May 2008. Key points of discussion included: strengthening ECOTECH in APEC, a draft strategy paper on APEC’s engagement with multilateral organisations, and the implementation of 2007 and 2008 independent assessments. SCE endorsed a new template for the annual SCE Fora Report with the view to increasing the utility of the report. SCE endorsed the recommendation of Tourism Working Group for it to remain as an independent working group subject to further review in 2010.

The third SCE meeting was held in Lima, Peru on 19 August 2008. The meeting agreed to complete the independent assessment of the Gender Focal Point Network with a list of agreed actions to be implemented by the GPFN and to endorse the extension of the mandate of the Counter-Terrorism Task Force until 2010. SCE members also approved the Chair’s proposal for SCE fora to undertake a stocktake of their capacity building activities to provide a clearer picture of the capacity building gaps and needs in APEC. Based on these inputs, SCE can develop a forward-looking comprehensive ECOTECH workplan for APEC. SCE3 reviewed an Australia-funded study on the feasibility of twinning arrangements within APEC. It was agreed that twinning arrangement presented a good way to build capacity and that the SCE could kick-start the process with one-to-two pilot projects. The Annual SCE Fora Report was also endorsed at the meeting.

This year, the Committee successfully met commitments outlined in the SCE’s 2008 Workplan. Key achievements include development of the strategic direction for strengthening the policy guidance role of SCE, development of strategies for enhancing the cooperation between APEC

and other multilateral organizations, implementation of the SCE Fora Review and the independent assessments of six APEC working groups and task forces.

As mandated, the SCE has been reporting annually on the implementation of various ECOTECH activities and key initiatives under the 10 ECOTECH priorities endorsed in 2006 when Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the Manila Declaration. In 2008, a total of 77 APEC-funded ECOTECH projects were implemented by the SCE, working groups and task forces. A simple analysis of the implementation of the ECOTECH projects is presented in Section 3.

In 2008, there were eight additional ECOTECH projects from APEC's other Committees: five (5) projects of the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI), one (1) project of the Economic Committee (EC) and two (2) projects from the Finance Minister's Process (FMP), all of which received funding from the Operational Account and APEC Support Fund. To facilitate the BMC's approval process, these projects were ranked against SCE Policy Criteria together with other projects of the SCE Fora. The outcomes of these CTI, EC and FMP projects will be reported in their respective reports to Leaders and Ministers.

Section 4 outlines key achievements of the SCE fora and ongoing efforts to strengthen the implementation of APEC's economic and technical cooperation. The final section provides conclusions and recommendations to the 20th APEC Ministerial Meeting.

2. 2008 Highlights and Priorities

2.1. Strengthening the policy guidance role of SCE

In 2006, an extensive review of all working groups and SOM task forces was undertaken and subsequently implemented in 2007 and completed this year. SCE will continue to implement the reform recommendations, the ongoing rolling review of fora activities, and undertake the program of independent assessments. This will help APEC's ECOTECH agenda be more focused, and will reduce duplication and strategically align expertise and skills to ensure better outcomes for APEC.

Having successfully completed the first phase of the reform of SCE and its groups, in 2008 SCE gave priority to reforming and strengthening its policy role to ensure it is able to provide effective and relevant policy guidance and recommendations to Ministers, SOM and all fora. The SCE Chair prepared a proposal on strategic approach to ECOTECH with focus on the following three elements:

1. APEC's ECOTECH activities should directly address the capacity-building needs of member economies and be guided by a top-down, goal-oriented framework;
2. APEC should explore the feasibility of multi-year ECOTECH projects and adopt a more strategic, longer-term approach toward capacity-building; and
3. APEC should enhance and leverage on APEC's partnerships with other multilateral organisations as well as private sector and ABAC.

As a start, it was agreed at SCE3 2008 that SCE fora undertake a stocktake of their capacity-building needs and submit the outcome of this stocktake to the Secretariat prior to the SCE-COW meeting on the margins of SOM1 2009. The SCE endorsed proposal is attached as Annex 4.

Another proposal on the implementation of capacity building in APEC, which was developed by Peru, continues to be under consideration by the SCE. The proposal suggests giving APEC an additional role to further promote capacity building, by creating a space within APEC's framework to provide support and assistance to interested economies in the process of designing, seeking funds for and implementing more long term and results-oriented projects that would directly benefit our communities.

2.2. Enhancing APEC's collaboration with Multilateral Organisations

In August 2003, the first APEC/IFIs Roundtable Discussion on Economic and Technical Cooperation was held in Phuket with the participation of representatives from the World Bank and Asia Development Bank. As a result of the roundtable, APEC and the WB's Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) signed a Letter of Intent in July 2004 to conduct a series of pilot projects utilising GDLN's facilities to disseminate training programs to a wider audience. The second Policy Dialogue between APEC, IFIs and OECD was held in Gyeongju in September 2005. The outcome of the dialogue is a series of recommendations on "The Way Forward" for collaboration with IFIs and other international organisations.

To build on above-mentioned previous work and take further steps to implement "The Way Forward", in 2007 SCE3 in 2007 endorsed a joint Australian and Peruvian initiative on greater engagement with multilateral organisations. Australia engaged a consultant to undertake a survey on the extent of cooperation between APEC fora and multilateral organisations. The survey's objective was to find out what works well and areas that could be strengthened to promote engagement. Its findings were presented at SCE1 and the final report circulated in late April 2008. Building upon this survey, a strategy paper on ways to further strengthen APEC

Multilateral engagement was drafted and discussed by SCE members. (Annex 5). The paper, which was endorsed by SCE, offers three key strategies:

- Cultivating high level interaction between the heads of multilateral organisations and APEC Ministers;
- Drawing upon the lessons learned from successful cases of engagement with multilateral organisations; and
- Establishing effective methods of engagement by improving program development, coordination and tasking.

As a next step, a Policy Discussion on “Enhancing APEC’s Engagement with Multilateral Organisations” will be held alongside the SCE-Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting in February 2009 in Singapore. Representatives from OECD, IMF, ADB, WB, ASEAN and the UN will be invited to the event.

2.3. Enhancing public-private partnership

“We affirm the central role of the business sector in the APEC process. ...This vision of community requires that all sectors of society develop a stake in the success of APEC. We therefore commit ourselves to foster greater public-private sector partnership in APEC...” – 1996 Leaders’ Declaration

APEC is unique in having institutionally mandated input from the private sector. Public-private partnership is essential for the achievement of APEC’s goals and is considered a way forward by many APEC fora to effectively implement work in areas as diverse as anti-corruption, counter-terrorism, agriculture, health, tourism, education, infrastructure development, trade promotion, e-commerce, customs, finance, small and medium enterprises and emergency preparedness.

In the past years, APEC has made significant progress towards promoting public-private partnership through: ABAC’s submitting its annual recommendations to Leaders, fora inviting private sector officials to attend their meetings and share their views, organising policy dialogues on areas of mutual interest, and developing working relationship with business sector. Currently, discussions or activities on ways to enhance public – private partnership is taking place in many APEC fora.

ISTWG ‘subgroup B’ on Connecting Research and Innovation is maintaining its cooperation with business sector in developing and implementing its projects. **TEL** members are discussing public-private partnership in rural community capacity building and in addressing cyber security issues and incident response. **CTTF** is discussing the project on *Effective Public-Private Partnership Development in Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade* aimed at exploring areas where the further application or extension of public-private partnerships domestically or regionally could be potentially valuable. **MRCWG** is looking into enhancing private-government linkage across APEC member economies on marine resource conservation activities. **HWG** involved ABAC in organising a May 2008 *E-Inet Virtual Symposium* where business partners co-presented with their Ministry of Health counterparts on cooperative pandemic preparedness planning. Similarly, three ABAC members participated in the SMEWG’s *Pandemic Preparedness for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Train the Trainer Workshop* in March 2008. **TFEP** invited ABAC and the business community to participate in a range of its activities, including the *Vietnam Dialogue* and the *2008 Emergency Management CEOs’ Seminar*. In **EWG**, Energy Business Network actively participated in the *APEC Energy Trade and Investment Roundtable* held in September 2008. EWG also organised an *Energy Business Forum* during the group’s meeting.

The **TWG** has developed a strong cooperative and collaborative working relationship with private sector organisations in tourism, including the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), United Nation World Tourism Organisation (UNTWO) and World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), for mutual benefit. Collaboration extends from sharing information on various issues

affecting the tourism industry to jointly undertaking projects in the region. Currently, TWG is actively engaged with WTTC, seeking its experience and expertise on the importance, usefulness of, and obstacles to, developing a *Tourism Satellite Account* and how best to address the issue of climate change.

2.4. Improving capacity building activities in APEC

- *Identifying further opportunities for capacity-building in APEC*

In response to the SFOM Chair's suggestion, the SCE agreed to explore the possibility of merit-based work-attachment arrangement as a part of future capacity building activities initiated by various APEC fora. A research on the feasibility of twinning arrangement within APEC was conducted by Australia and its outcomes were presented at SCE3. SCE members agreed that twinning arrangements (e.g. work placements and secondments) presented one way to build capacity in the Asia Pacific and that the toolkit prepared by Australia could be used for this purpose. To kick-start the process, SCE decided to consider 1-2 pilot projects in 2009 and has asked its groups to consider development of such pilot projects.

- *SCE coordination with other fora on capacity-building activities*

The 3rd SCE-COW meeting was convened at in February 2008 with the participation of SCE members, chairs/lead shepherds and representatives of working groups, task forces, other APEC fora and ABAC. The meeting was an occasion for chairs/lead shepherds to interact and discuss issues of common interest. Representatives from APEC fora presented their forum's priorities and activities, and discussed the linkages between fora to APEC Leaders' and Ministers' priorities. Discussion revealed more areas of synergies than may not have been apparent in the past.

To assess and rank all ECOTECH-related projects, SCE endorsed the policy criteria for 2008 – 2009 project proposals. Given the limited amount of funds available, having policy criteria provides SCE with a tool to prioritise ECOTECH activities and direct funding into areas of priority. For better guidance on how to best respond to the Leaders' and Ministers' ECOTECH agenda, SCE also provided working groups and task forces with a template for annual workplan development, as well as a template for their submissions to the annual SCE Fora Report.

2.5. Ongoing reform

- *Completion of 2006–2007 APEC SCE Fora Review*

In line with *Recommendation 4* of the SCE Fora Review, in 2007 an independent assessment was undertaken on the Marine Resource Conservation Working Group (MRCWG) to identify how the MRCWG and Fisheries Working Group would collaborate on areas of mutual interest and become more closely link with broader APEC priorities. The review was successfully completed. Based on the review, the SCE recommended that:

- At this time APEC should not implement a merger of the MRCWG and FWG and the issue of a possible merger between FWG and MRCWG will be reconsidered following the independent assessment of FWG in 2011.
- MRCWG should give serious consideration to making sure that its activities clearly contribute and are linked to APEC core goals, as each APEC Fora needs to continually justify its contributions to the core APEC trade and investment liberalization and facilitation agendas.
- MRCWG can clarify the role it plays in the policy arena through the Terms of Reference of the group.

- MRCWG should report to SCE regularly on its progress of implementing these recommendations.

Recommendation 5: The independent review of the Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN) was successfully completed. A list of SCE recommendations to ensure substantive outcomes related to gender integration in APEC has been endorsed by SOM (Annex 6).

Recommendation 9: The final report of the Strategic Review of Tourism Working Group (TWG) was endorsed by the 32nd TWG meeting and reported to Tourism Ministerial Meeting in April 2008 (Annex 7). The implementation of its recommendations is in progress. The SCE endorsed the TWG's recommendation for it to remain as an independent working group, subject to further review in 2010.

Recommendation 11: Final Terms of Reference (TOR) of Health Working Group (HWG) has been finalised and endorsed.

Recommendation 12: All working groups and task forces have revised their TORs to reflect the requirements of the new Guideline for Terms of Reference which was endorsed by the Ministers in September 2007. In 2008, the new TORs of SCE-related fora have all been endorsed by the Senior Officials.

List of the Recommendations of 2006 SCE Fora Review appears in Annex 8.

- *Independent Assessments*

In 2008, the SCE completed its review of the independent assessments of the Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN) and Marine Resources Working Group (MRCWG), and commenced a review of three other fora. These include the Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL), Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Task Force (ACT) and Energy Working Group (EWG). The review of Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working group (ATCWG) and High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (HLPDAB) is underway and will be considered by the SCE next year.

3. APEC Projects in Action

Since 2007, the SCE is mandated to report annually against ten APEC's ECOTECH priorities which were endorsed in 2006 when Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the Manila Declaration. The priorities for APEC's economic and technical cooperation are:

- Developing human capital;
- Developing stable and efficient markets through structural reform;
- Strengthening economic infrastructure;
- Facilitating technology flows and harnessing technologies for the future;
- Safeguarding the quality of life through environmentally sound growth;
- Developing and strengthening the dynamism of small and medium enterprises (SMEs);
- Integration into the global economy;
- Human security and counter-terrorism capacity building;
- Promoting the development of knowledge-based economies; and
- Addressing social dimension of globalisation.

In 2008, APEC working groups and task forces undertook 91 ECOTECH-related projects. These include 77 projects approved by the Budget and Management Committee and 14 self-funded projects initiated and implemented by individual economies and/or groups of economies. Out of 77 projects, 7 projects received funding from TILF Fund, 26 projects are funded by Operational Account and 44 projects by the APEC Support Fund. APEC-funded projects are summarised in Table 1. The following section highlights some of the projects undertaken by various APEC fora in 2008 to support economic and technical cooperation.

A table of projects by fora is included in Annex 9.

Table 1: ECOTECH 2008 Projects by Priority

Priority	Number of Projects	%
1. Developing Human Capital	16	20.7%
2. Developing stable and efficient markets through structural reform	3	3.9%
3. Strengthening economic infrastructure	2	2.6%
4. Facilitating technology flows and harnessing technologies for the future	5	6.4%
5. Safeguarding the quality of life through environmentally sound growth	16	20.7%
6. Developing and strengthening the dynamism of SMEs	5	6.4%
7. Integration into the global economy	6	7.7%
8. Human Security and Counter-Terrorism capacity building	17	22.0%
9. Promoting the Development of Knowledge-based Economies	5	6.4%
10. Addressing Social Dimension of Globalisation	2	2.6%
Total	77	

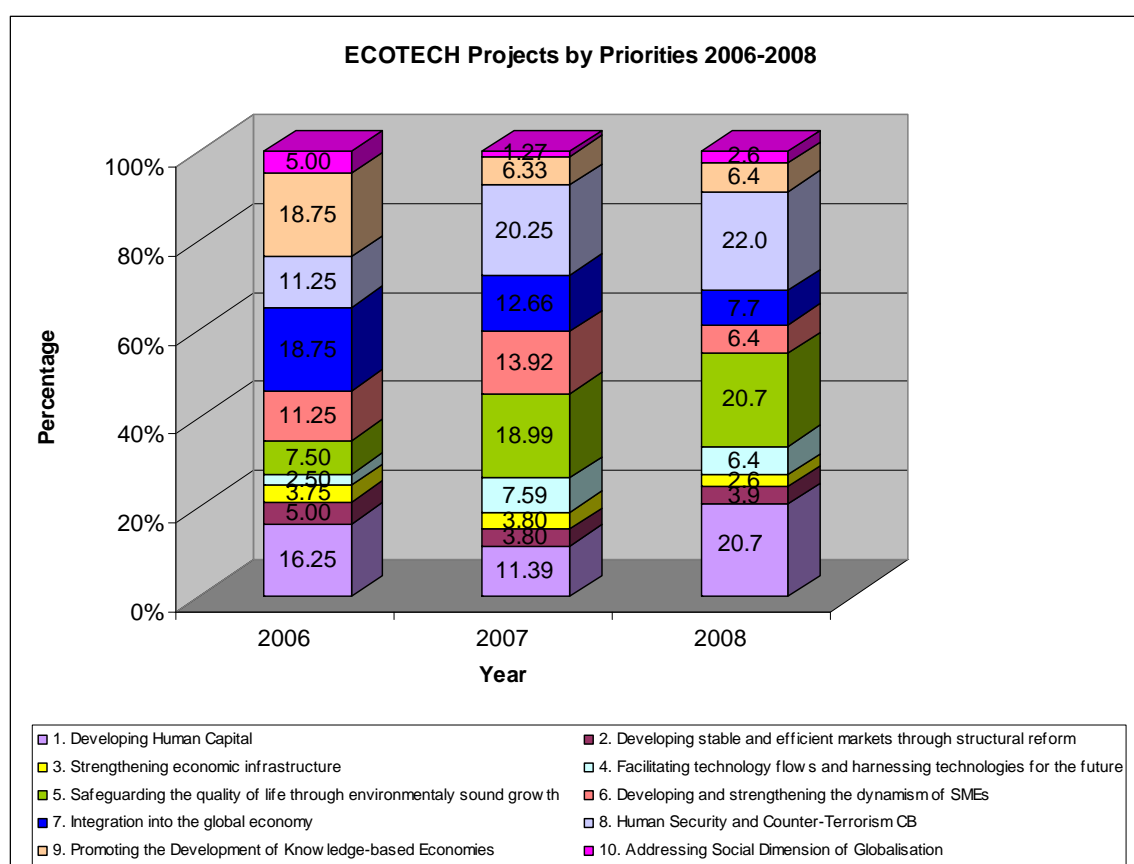
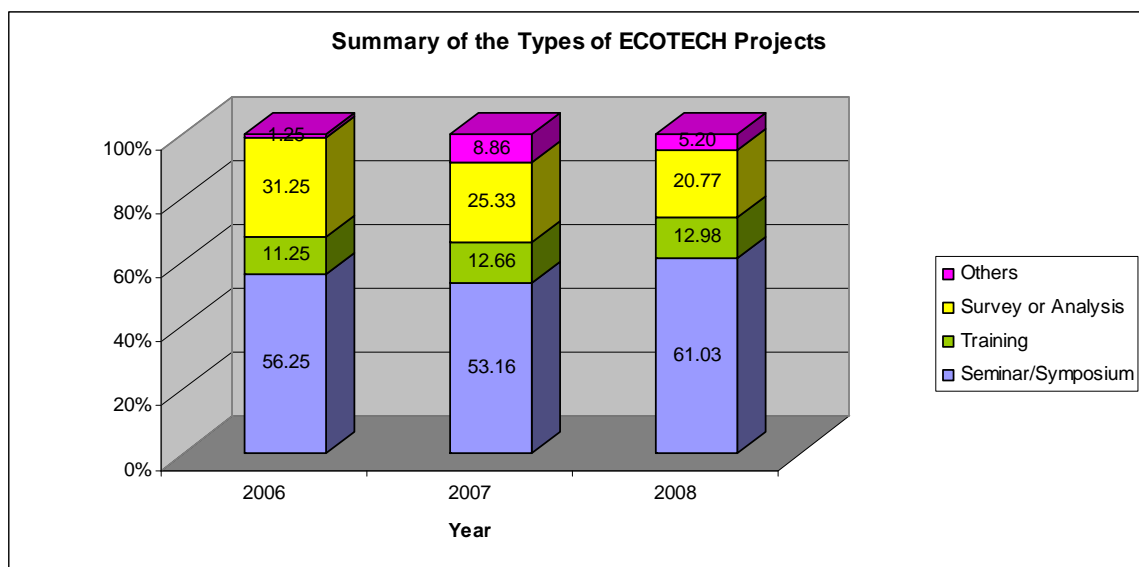


Table 2: Summary of the Types of ECOTECH Projects

Type of activity	Number of projects	%
Seminar/Symposium	47	61.03
Training	10	12.98
Survey or Analysis and Research	16	20.77
Others	4	5.20
Total	77	



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APEC-WIDE ECOTECH PRIORITIES

3.1. Developing human capital

A large number of projects undertaken by APEC fora support the priority of human resource development and these were not confined to just the Human Resource Development Working Group (**HRDWG**). Activities to help capacity building for human capital in member economies focus on different areas of expertise – from agriculture, energy, and education to science and technology.

The 4th APEC Education Ministerial was held in June 2008 in Peru. The **HRDWG** has also undertaken a vocational training project in collaboration with local Japanese firms for unemployed local residents. Apart from this, the group reported two other projects contributing towards the attainment of this priority namely (a) review of High Performance Workplace Systems to improve workplace productivity and reinforce the importance of promoting training, and (b) a project on *Ensuring Sustainable Growth in the 21st Century through Workforce Development*.

TPTWG has organised a seminar on *Management of Security, Safety and Emerging Technology in Global Intermodal Transportation and Supply Chain Systems* (October 2008, Vietnam) and carried out a *Survey of Workforce Development Needs*. The survey was developed based on the existing needs for workforce development in APEC economies and identified the gaps in management skills and competencies relating to intermodal and intelligent transport systems. This data would be used to update the Intermodal Skills Seminar and expand the development of a train-the-trainer program.

MRCWG reported various capacity building workshops and seminars initiated to transfer knowledge to developing economies on marine conservation. These include MRC 01/2008 which is a capacity building workshop on *Petroleum-based Organic Chemicals and Marine Environmental Safety* (Korea), and a capacity building workshop on *Marine Environmental Conservation and Sustainability for Developing Economies of APEC* (Korea).

CTTF streamlined and rationalised the *Counter-Terrorism Action Plan* to strengthen it as a tool for identifying capacity building needs. The group also annually prepares a *Summary Report of Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Needs* to assist the group in developing suitable projects.

GFPN organised the *Third Gender Analysis Workshop* which supported the capacity building efforts among APEC officials on the advancement of gender issues and the promotion of women.

TWG reported three ongoing projects in support of developing human capital comprising of (a) project on capacity building on *Tourism Satellite Account* as a basis for promoting liberalisation and facilitation on tourism services, (b) project to help training on the application of *APEC Skill Standard Concept and System* and (c) a project on *Capacity Building for Community-based Tourism* as a vehicle for poverty reduction and dispersing economic benefits at the local level in developing member economies.

ISTWG has conducted activities to expand researcher mobility and increase public interest in Science and Technology (S&T), particularly among young people and women, with due regard to skill development and to education and training needs in the areas of industrial science and technology. In order to increase the participation of women and ethnic communities in S&T, the ISTWG has attached importance to gender and minority concerns in its activities. The group also reported on a number of activities supporting this priority, including (a) *APEC S&T Mentoring Centre for the Gifted in Science* to build an infrastructure for science educators, scientists and the gifted/talented students in science for international cooperation; (b) two consecutive training projects from the Geological Survey of Japan; and (c) an ongoing project on *APEC ISTI Database* which contains information on R&D expenditures, R&D outputs, and human resources, etc, among APEC member economies.

SMEWG's capacity building activities are being implemented in accordance with the Private Sector Development Agenda which was launched in 2007. The Agenda promotes better regulatory and business practices by using the World Bank's Ease Doing Business indicators as a guide for best practice. The group conducted surveys and organised symposia on "Establishing a Business" (Australia, March 2007); "Paying Taxes" (Chinese Taipei, April 2008); and "Obtaining Business Licenses" (Peru, August 2008).

The APEC Digital Opportunity Center (ADOC) was initiated by Chinese Taipei at 2003 AELM. From 2004 to 2008, 41 training centers have been set up in 7 economies and more than 54,000 people have been trained by these centers. In total, the ADOC project costs over 7.5 million USD.

3.2. Developing stable and efficient markets through structural reform

Although most of the activities supporting structural reform are undertaken by the Economic Committee, its sub-groups, and by the Finance Ministers Process, SCE fora do have projects contributing to the achievement of this ECOTECH priority.

MTF for example identified in its work plan *inter alia* "fostering investment in the APEC minerals sector through the pursuit of clear and predictable investment policies; the fostering of regular exchange concerning experiences with regulations affecting the minerals sector; and, the promotion of transparency".

ATCWG has organised a seminar *Sharing Experiences of Structural Adjustment Policies in Agricultural Sector* (ATC 01/2008A) in March 2008, in Australia. APEC economies shared experiences in implementing policies in the agricultural sector to manage structural adjustment resulting from reforms to domestic policy arrangements, trade reform or changing market conditions. The seminar brought together the lessons learnt and key elements for success and enhanced identification of effective policy responses, including appropriate risk reducing measures.

ACT organised a seminar on anti-corruption and administrative reform issues. The seminar was held in Hanoi in June and gathered public officials, law enforcement and anticorruption agencies as well as business community. The seminar developed a broad area of issues related to administrative reform including the links with the fight against corruption, the role of anticorruption agencies, private sector best practices and public finance reform.

3.3. Strengthening economic infrastructure

TEL and TPTWG are the two main SCE fora undertaking activities to strengthen economic infrastructure. However, other groups like MTF and CTTF have also made contributions to work under this priority.

MTF is undertaking a study focusing on the means of attracting investment to the mining sector. **CTTF** has been implementing the *Secure Trade in the APEC Region* (STAR) initiative which aims to secure and enhance the flow of goods and people through measures that protect cargo, ships, international aviation and people in transit. The *STAR VI Conference* was held in Lima in August. The task force endorsed a best practices document on the *Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure*. CTTF endorsed the *Workshop on Aviation Security* proposed by Viet Nam which is aimed at facilitating the conduct of internal audits and investigations by economies in compliance with ICAO standards and recommended practices. The objective is to improve and sustain the integrity of aviation security systems in APEC economies; and to share experiences in establishing domestic aviation security quality control programs. The workshop will take place in Ha Noi, Viet Nam in 2009.

3.4. Facilitating technology flows and harnessing technologies for the future

In 2008, six fora reported activities supporting the development of industrial science and technology in the Asia Pacific.

ISTWG reported five activities including: (a) an ongoing project on linking research and innovation: sharing challenges, policy initiatives and success stories to set up a framework for future innovation policy discussion and project activity; (b) 2008 *APEC R&D Management Training Program* during 23-29 April in Seoul with the theme "Connecting Research and Innovation"; (c) *Forum on S&T Resource Share and Collaboration Mechanism* in China from 21-22 November 2007. The forum has laid a solid foundation for APEC technology transfer, promoted integration of S&T resource among APEC economies and sped up new and high technology transfer to the market and effective establishment of technology transfer platform; (d) research on "converging technologies to combat emerging infectious diseases" with emphasis on road mapping converging technologies to combat emerging infectious diseases; (e) *Workshop on Life Cycle Assessment* for APEC member economies to help economies share knowledge and information and discuss its application and innovation for global sustainability.

TPTWG has been implementing several activities to facilitate transfer of technology between APEC economies. These include (a) *ISPS Assistance Program: Port Security Visit program* to share information on measures to respond to new and emerging transport security, safety and environmental challenges; (b) *APEC Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Technological Innovation Summit* and *the 12th Meeting of the GNSS Implementation Team* (Bangkok, 26-27 May 2008) provided a forum for economies to obtain updated information on GNSS technology and its application in all transport modes (land, air and maritime transport). TPTWG completed a study on the uptake of new technologies in the screening of cargo at ports.

EWG is implementing a project to promote the use of efficient motors in member economies by aligning test methods and energy performance standards. It also aims to facilitate the use of a single common test method and promote appropriate performance and efficiency endorsement levels amongst member economies. A report is due in September 2008. EWG Expert Group on New and Renewable Energy Technologies (EGNRET) will organise workshop on "recent advances in utility based financial mechanisms that support renewable energy and energy efficiency" in October to provide APEC decision makers with recent advances in the best practices for energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings. This project will underline opportunities to reduce the consumption of energy in residential, commercial, industrial and public buildings.

MRCWG has two projects specifically sought to facilitate and transfer the know-how of using satellite in the design, development and monitoring of marine-related economies by providing free satellite images to the less developed APEC economies which did not have resources otherwise to do so.

ATCWG organised *11th Workshop on Technical Cooperation, Capacity Building, Risk Assessment and Emerging Issues in Agricultural Biotechnology* in Lima, Peru, on 21-25 February 2008. The workshop covered emerging areas of research and development in agricultural biotechnology; public perception and communication of agricultural biotechnology; and public-private partnerships in agricultural biotechnology. The main outcome of the workshop was an agreement by the member economies to pursue a program of work that would facilitate regulatory harmonization. Another activity is the *International Symposium on Agricultural and Bio-fuel Policy* held, in Bangkok, Thailand, on 25-26 February 2008 to enhance information sharing on agricultural and biofuel policies.

3.5. Safeguarding the quality of life through environmentally sound growth

SCE fora have been pro-active in their development of new activities related to sustainable development in response to the 2007 APEC Leaders' Declaration on Climate Change, Energy

Security and Clean Development. Seventeen new projects in this area have been approved by the BMC for the year 2008.

Progress has been made by **FWG** and **MRCWG** on *Bali Plan of Action Stock-Take*. The two groups also discussed on sustainable aquaculture, combating illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and improving energy efficiency in the fishing industry. MRCWG has three projects with objective to protect the marine eco-system and environment while encouraging sustainable growth. These include (a) a project on understanding the economic benefits and cost of controlling marine debris in the APEC region; (b) a project on marine ecosystem identification and mapping in the Asia Pacific region and (c) development of an *APEC Strategy on Sustainable Aquaculture*.

ATCWG reported the organisation of workshop on *Capacity Building for Development and Implementation of Risk Management System on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (October 2008).

ISTWG The APEC Climate Center (APCC) generates and distributes most up-to-date and optimized climate prediction information & technology and also contributes to the capacity building of climate monitoring and predicting of member economies. It currently focuses on developing application models which can be applied to climate-sensitive industries. APCC is working in setting up an *Early Warning System* by combining more efficient prediction technologies with comprehensive monitoring climate state efforts using near real-time satellite data. The working group has an ongoing project on Carbon Accounting in selected APEC economies to facilitate entry into carbon trading markets. ISTWG will also have a new self-funded project – “*APEC Clean Development Conference – the Current Applications and Future Promotion of Green Chemistry for Sustainable Development*” which aims to develop a “green chemistry” network to facilitate the uptake of methods which lead to industrial production with reduced environmental impacts. The conference is scheduled to be held in Hsinchu, Chinese Taipei from 15 -17 December 2008.

As a follow-up to the *Seminar on Aviation Emissions* held in August 2007 in Singapore, and the *2nd APEC Seminar on Practical Measures to Manage Aviation Emissions* held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in April 2008, **TPTWG** established an Aviation Emissions Task force to identify practical measures to limit aviation greenhouse gas emissions.

EWG has a series of projects implemented by the Expert Group on Clean Fossil Energy (EGCFE) and the APEC Biofuel Task Force (BTF) that contribute to environment-friendly growth. Some examples are: (a) a project to address the urgent need to optimise the performance of older coal-fired power plants through cost-effective upgrading, refurbishment, and improvements - the summary findings of this project will be presented to the *EGCFE Clean Fossil Energy Technical and Policy Seminar* in November 2008; (b) project to promote understanding on the best available options for improving the energy efficiency and reducing the oil dependency of freight and passenger transport in APEC economies; and (c) project on *Assessment of Biomass Resources from Marginal Lands in APEC Economies*.

3.6. Developing and strengthening the dynamism of small and medium enterprises (SMEs)

Strengthening SMEs is one the priorities that involve many working groups. This year, beside SMEWG, nine APEC fora also reported activities in this area.

For **SMEWG**, its key 2008 deliverables are: (a) the 15th APEC SME Ministerial Meeting held in August in Chiclayo, Peru; (b) the second *APEC 'Ease of Doing Business'* capacity-building seminar designed to reduce red tape and improve the quality of business regulations, as part of the multi-year Private Sector Development Agenda; (c) APEC Pandemic Preparedness for SMEs Train the Trainer Workshop based on the 2007 APEC Pandemic Flu Planning Guide for SMEs; (d) the third *APEC "Ease of Doing Business"* capacity building seminar on SME Taxation; (e) the *APEC High Level meeting on Driving SME's Growth to Promote Local*

Development held in April 2008 in Chinese Taipei; (f) the APEC Innovation Management Seminar for SMEs held in August in Chiclayo; and (g) the new four year APEC SMEWG Strategic Plan for 2009-2012 that provides a strong framework for the development of future capacity building projects for SMEs.

ACT is developing a pathfinder initiative for the implementation code of conduct for business that focuses mainly on SMEs. **ATCWG** organised a *Workshop on Enhance Capacity of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Agricultural Sector of APEC Economies* which provided governmental and private sector with key tools and methods to manage and develop SMEs in the field of storage and processing agricultural products. This enhances the regional food security.

GFPN has undertaken a project on *Best Practices to Support Micro and Small Entrepreneurs*. The project was designed to support micro-enterprise growth through collaboration and international trade linkages in the APEC region and focused particularly on meeting the needs of women micro-entrepreneurs in urban, rural and indigenous communities. The report on Phase III was published in 2008.

TPTWG organised a workshop to optimise the use of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) security audit and investigation program and International Ship and Port Security (ISPS) Code implementation program in enterprises operating in this area.

ISTWG will have a new self-funded project (by China) to hold an APEC Forum on “*Business Incubators Promote Regional Innovation*”. The project’s objective is to seek for an internal collaboration mechanism among incubators and their organizations. The mechanism will further promote the sharing of the technology and market; help the growth of international-oriented SMEs. ISTWG undertook a project, in cooperation with Osaka Prefecture, on Asia Environment Business with the aim of providing a platform for environmental business in Asia.

FWG – SMEWG joined in a project to hold a seminar on post-disaster recovery for small and medium enterprises, including small-scale fisheries. The purpose of this project is to help SMEs and artisanal fisheries in APEC member economies to be better prepared for recovery efforts after a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, tsunami, or hurricane.

TWG has an ongoing project to help community based tourism. **HRDWG** is conducting a research on the impact of performance-based remuneration system to assist SMEs survive in a globalised environment, especially in terms of labour cost and productivity. **TELWG** has discussed the importance of an *Information Security Assessment Tool for SMEs* as there are very few ISMs solutions for organisation with limited resources.

3.7. Integration into the global economy

Assisting member economies to integrate into the global economy has always been one of APEC’s primary objectives. Much of the efforts are carried out by the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI). For SCE-related fora, a number of projects/activities have been reported as undertaken to assist member economies to integrate into the global economy.

TELWG: the 7th APEC Telecommunications Ministerial Meeting was held in April in Bangkok, Thailand. Ministers noted that the 2000 Leaders’ Brunei Goal of tripling and providing universal Internet access within the Asia-Pacific region had been achieved. The report “Moving Forward” has been prepared with a list of activity areas for the TEL to undertake to further assist APEC economies. For example, TEL is to continue its efforts to expand the reach of networks with the ambitious goal of achieving universal access to broadband by 2015. TEL Ministers also noted that a key foundation for the Asia Pacific Information Society (APIS) is the on-going development of Asia Pacific Information Infrastructure and committed to strengthen the APIS and to promote the APIS to be able to respond effectively to the rapid pace of convergence and to overcome the digital divide. TEL is also pursuing the priorities of next generation networks and technologies, mutual recognition arrangements, regulatory reform, capacity building, protecting

electronic information systems of essential infrastructure and services, and enhancing cyber security. Activities to accelerate TEL's Mutual Recognition Agreement have also been undertaken.

ATCWG organised a *2008 Quarantine Regulators Seminar: Towards Implementing Harmonized Arrangements for Ensuring Effective Quarantine Treatments* in Brisbane, Australia, on 4-6 March 2008. The seminar brought together government regulators to discuss the effective implementation and regulation of quarantine management systems and provided a possibility to develop voluntary multilateral arrangements to improve quarantine effectiveness and reduce import and export costs and delays. A *Market Liberalization Symposium* was held on 12-14 December 2007 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The project provided recommendations and strategies based on compilation of discussions with industry captains and analysis of the food processing industries studied. The findings are useful in providing the required information on the workings of trade liberalization in influencing the structure, conduct and performance of these industries. This may be used to improve policy response in enhancing trade facilitation among APEC members.

TPTWG continues to implement the *Action Plan from Liberalisation and Facilitation of Air Services*, with a particular focus on the multiple airline designation. **HRDWG** has implemented a project on capacity building for investment liberalisation and facilitation which is aimed at raising capacity of both the public and business sectors involved in domestic legislation and policy making in the field of foreign direct investment. **TWG** has completed *Tourism Impediments Study Stage 3*.

3.8. Human security and counter-terrorism capacity building

Work in human security and counter-terrorism capacity building continues to be a priority for Leaders and SCE fora are implementing their instructions in several areas. The majority of the work is being led by the APEC Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF); however, eight other SCE Working Groups have taken action in the areas of cyber-security, secure trade, and human security, including preparation for natural disasters, emergencies and pandemic influenza.

CTTF successfully organised a series of 10 workshops on counter-terrorism. These include *APEC Best Practices in Post-Blast Scene Management Workshop*; *APEC Workshop on a Trade Recovery Program*; *the STAR VI Conference*; *the APEC Seminar on Securing Remittance and Cross Border Payments from Terrorist Use*; *the APEC Seminar on Protection of Cyberspace from Terrorist Use and Attacks*; *Effective Public Private Partnership in Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade*; the first of two workshops on *Detecting and Deterring Cash Couriers and Bulk Cash Smugglers*; and the first *Food Defense Pilot Project*. CTTF also endorsed the *Workshop on Aviation Security* and conducted two tests of *the Aviation Security Emergency Points of Contact Network* in 2008. The CTTF endorsed a best practices document on the *Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure*.

TEL continues to undertake work to address cyber-security, cyber crime and critical infrastructure issues through raising awareness of emerging security trends and malicious activity involving ICTs, promoting network security and cooperation among computer emergency response teams, providing assistance to economies in drafting legislation on cybercrime, reviewing issues relating to the protection of critical infrastructure, and providing for capacity building activities for cybercrime experts, law enforcement officials and legislators. TEL has implemented projects on *Voice over IP Security Guidelines*, *Information Security Certifications Assessment Guide* and *International PKI and e-Authentication Training Program*.

TFEP ran four major events this year: a Study Course on Disaster Emergency Response and Recovery in China; (b) a Dialogue in Vietnam; (c) the second APEC Emergency Management CEOs' Seminar; and, (d) a workshop in Chinese Taipei and China on Large-scale Disaster Recovery. The TFEP also undertook a stocktake of emergency management best practices and capacity building needs, developed a strategy for disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response to 2015, and agreed on APEC Principles on Disaster Response

and Cooperation. The TFEP agreed to hold a damage assessment techniques workshop in 2009 in Indonesia and to undertake a multi-year initiative on social economic recovery and development after large-scale disaster.

HWG has implemented its project on *Enhanced APEC Health Communications: Collaborative Preparedness in Asia Pacific*. The implementation of this project has improved public health preparedness against emerging bio-threats, such as avian influenza, by enhancing communication, coordination, and collaboration among the relevant sectors of the APEC economies, such as public health, trade, and communications. Specifically, a major component of the project is to enhance participation in advanced network-supported activities to explore emerging modes of real-time communication to improve regional preparedness in the Asia Pacific. Another HWG project is the *APEC Workshop for the Control Practice of Dengue* held in Chinese Taipei in June 2008.

In **ISTWG**, Japan implemented a project on “*Disaster Reduction Hyperbase-Asian Application (DRH-Asia)*.” The objective of this project is the development and dissemination of an information platform - Disaster Reduction Hyperbase-Asian Application (DRH-Asia) -- which is a facility accommodating technology and knowledge for disaster reduction with implementation strategies. **SMEWG** organised a *Pandemic Influenza Preparedness for SMEs Train the Trainer Workshop* in Chinese Taipei, March 2008. **ATCWG** held a *Workshop on Avian Influenza Risks in the Live Bird Market System (LBMS)* in Bali, Indonesia, in June 2008. The activity served as a technical and policy meeting to advance cooperation among APEC economies in Live Bird Market System (LBMS) - an important compartment to control highly pathogenic avian influenza, especially in developing member economies. In **GFPN**, Indonesia is implementing the project “*Women in Times of Disaster*” which is to be completed by the end of 2008.

TPTWG reported several activities supporting this priority. For example, an APEC-funded project ‘*Secure Trade and Efficiency in APEC with Intelligent Transportation Systems and e-Commerce Technologies*’; work on range of activities to raise awareness of the importance of supply chain security across all modes of transport (land, air and maritime transport); and the staging of a *Mass Passenger Surface Transport Security Conference* (10-11 April 2008, Manila).

3.9. Promoting the development of knowledge-based economies

Activities related to the priority on promoting the development of knowledge-based economies were led by various working groups such as HRDWG, TELWG, TPTWG, MRCWG and MTF. Many activities have concentrated on assisting member economies to build the necessary policy environment conducive to Knowledge-Based Economy.

In **HRDWG**, a series of APEC-funded and self-funded education projects are ongoing that gear towards equipping students with higher level skills in languages, mathematics, science, and ICT to participate and thrive in knowledge-based economies. In 2008, **APEC Education Foundation (AEF)** approved a total of US\$490,000 in grants to 4 projects on providing disadvantaged youths with useful educational opportunities both through online and offline programs, establishment of ICT training centers and development of education materials. AEF was established in 1997 and has since actively carried out its mission to support APEC in its endeavors toward shared prosperity and fostering the Asia-Pacific community through its grant programs in the areas of education, human resources development and human capacity building. From 1997 to 2008, the AEF has provided financial support amounting to US\$2.7 million in the form of grant payments to 22 projects in 13 member economies on enhancing digital opportunities and promoting capacity building for disadvantaged groups in the region. Main beneficiaries of AEF were K-12 teachers and school administrators, small- and micro-enterprises entrepreneurs, and disadvantaged youths affected by social and economic factors such as low income, geographical isolation, and disability. The AEF is convinced that its mission has been successfully executed over the last decade, and will be wrapping up its activities at the end of 2008. It is hoped that the value and achievements of APEC Education Foundation will be more widely recognized within APEC, and its spirit will be continuously championed in APEC.

Chinese Taipei initiated two projects in **MRCWG** which aim to promote the development of knowledge-based economy through providing training in the utilisation of satellite images in marine conservation. **TPTWG** supported Indonesia's proposal for a survey of workforce development needs for a subsequent *Training Seminar on Management Skills*. **GFPN** contributed to this priority with two activities namely "*Women in the Digital Economy Forum*" (May 2008, Peru) and "*APEC Digital Economy Forum for Women*" (April 2008, Singapore).

Understanding that building human capital is essential in achieving the benefits and the realization of a digital society, and in narrowing the digital divide, **TELWG** has undertaken the following activities: (a) training for policy makers, regulators, service providers, chief information officers and users, in the areas of policy development, next generation networks, e-government, promoting digital opportunities, and good regulatory practices; (b) development and training to accelerate the TEL Mutual Recognition Agreement; (c) capacity building initiatives to continue momentum towards the Asia-Pacific Information Society; (d) human resource development, such as a e-university to assist e-government, and the use of tele-centers; and (e) continue *TEL e-Learning* initiatives for capacity building by utilizing ICT and emerging next generation network technologies.

TELWG also held an *APEC Seminar on Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building*. Through the seminar, some key findings on Leadership and Governance, Public-Private Partnerships, Sustainability and Scalability were identified. It has been recognized that capacity building brings out development and promotes innovative policies and community-based programs including public-private partnerships to further build capacities and to meet the socio-economic needs of unserved and or underserved communities, using ICT in a sustainable and scalable manner.

3.10. Addressing social dimension of globalisation

In 2008, **HRDWG** embarked on a new project "*Capitalizing Information Technology for Greater Equity and Access Among Poor and Rural Communities*". The project focus on developing a set of materials that will be used by policy-makers, governmental agencies, NGOs and research and academic institutions to help support poor and rural people in acquiring skills and knowledge to access information and data resources related to their vocations and allow them to participate in a globalized economy. For the first time in 2008, a module on gender and trade was included in the 3rd **GFPN Gender Analysis Workshop**.

In **ISTWG**, Korea organized a self-funded project and an associated APEC workshop on the topic of "*Participation of Women and Ethnic communities in the S&T Workforce in the APEC Region*". The workshop was held on 22 to 24 August 2007 in Jeonju, Korea, and aimed to form a network of policy makers and scholars, and to share data with a view to foster further discussion and cooperative actions.

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4. Key Outcomes

4.1 Selected key achievements of SCE fora

Agricultural and Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG)

- Recognising the seriousness of food price issue and the need to re-align ATCWG's priorities accordingly, ATCWG shifted its priorities to better strengthen the *APEC Food System* which offers a long term approach to regional food security and take challenges related to agricultural productivity improvement, environmental sustainability and regulatory cooperation.
- Enhanced identification of effective policy responses including appropriate risk reducing measures to better manage structural adjustment;
- Capacity building for the effective implementation and regulation of quarantine management systems which enhances food safety capacity and export opportunities for APEC economies;
- Sharing experiences on *Structural Adjustment Policies in the Agricultural Sector* in a Seminar held in Sydney, Australia from 12–14 March 2008;
- *International Symposium on Agricultural and Bio-fuel Policy* held in Bangkok, Thailand on 25–26 February 2008;
- *11th Workshop on Technical Cooperation, Capacity Building, Risk Assessment and Emerging Issues in Agricultural Biotechnology* held in Lima, Peru on 21–25 February 2008;
- *2008 Quarantine Regulators Seminar: Towards Implementing Harmonized Arrangements for Ensuring Effective Quarantine Treatments* (ATC 03/2008) held in Brisbane, Australia, on 4-6 March 2008;
- *APEC Workshop on Avian Influenza Risks in the Live Bird Market System* held in Bali, Indonesia, on 9 June 2008.
- *Workshop on Capacity Building for Development and Implementation of Risk Management Systems on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* will be held on 14–17 October 2008 in Chinese Taipei.

Energy Working Group (EWG)

- APEC Peer Review on Energy Efficiency (PREE): Two activities will be undertaken under PREE: (1) peer review of volunteer member economies – with New Zealand and Chile volunteering for the first round; and (2) compilation/compendium of energy efficiency policies of APEC member economies.
- The *APEC Energy Trade and Investment Study and Roundtable*: A study is being undertaken currently to identify existing barriers to energy trade and investment in the APEC region. A Roundtable meeting was held in Cairns, Australia at the end of September 2008 to develop a plan of action to address these trade and investment impediments.
- *9th Report on Implementation of the Energy Security Initiative*: response to instructions of APEC Leaders, APEC Ministers and Energy Ministers – including the Darwin and Sydney Declarations from 2007– were included with the EWG's strategies for implementation.
- Series of projects on new and renewable energy technologies, energy efficient and conservation, clean fossil energy and biofuel such as *EGCFE Clean Fossil Energy Technical and Policy Seminar* to be held in November 2008, EGNRET workshop on best practices in energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings to be held in October 2008, *BTF Assessment of Biomass resources Elasticity in APEC Economies*.

- *Energy Business Forum on “Situation and Perspectives for the Energy Sector”* was held in March in Peru.
- Agreeing on a proposal from Asia Development Bank to prepare a joint energy source book entitled “*Energy Statistics and Energy Outlook for Asia and the Pacific Region*”.
- *2008 APEC Photovoltaic Conference* in Chinese Taipei, in October 2008

Fisheries Working Group (FWG)

- Implementation of *Bali Plan of Action* – a BPA interim report and stocktake survey which will provide a powerful evaluative tool to give to Ocean-related Ministers;
- *Aquaculture Network for the Americas*: agreement regarding the establishment of the Host Secretariat; Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed and circulated to members for approval before members formally sign the MOU on the margins of the FAO Sub-Committee Meeting on Aquaculture in October 2008;
- *Workshop on Economic Security and Sustainable Tuna Fisheries in the Coral Triangle* to be organised in 2008;
- Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in Asia-Pacific region – interim analysis completed;
- *Improving Conservation and Management of Sharks in the APEC Region* – a shark field guide in Spanish will be produced.

Health Working Group (HWG)

- *Enhanced APEC Health Communications: Collaborative Preparedness in Asia Pacific* (HTF 02/2008A) - *E-Net Virtual Symposium on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness* was held in May 2008;
- *APEC Workshop for the Control Practice of Dengue Fever* held in June 2008 in Chinese Taipei;
- *APEC Training Course for Rapid Response Team (RRT) on Human Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Containment*;
- Follow-up to the *APEC Capacity Building Seminar on Avian Influenza: Collection of Domestic Measures to Prevent, Control and Respond to Avian Influenza among APEC Member Economies*;
- *Development of an Information platform for Avian Influenza (AI) community Management and Engagement*;
- Final Report on the *Workshop “Pandemic Risk Communications: Building Capacity in International Media and Stakeholder Relations”*;
- *APEC Training for Program Managers on TB/HIV*;
- *AIDS Disease Management System*;
- *e-Health Initiative Seminar*;
- Progress in establishing standardized traveler’s electronic health summary template for the Asia Pacific region.

Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG)

- *4th APEC Education Ministerial Meeting* in Lima, Peru on 11–12 June 2008
- Launching of the HRDWG *Wiki Pilot Project* to encourage collaboration and sharing of ideas and contribute towards the creation of learning societies;

- Implementation of the initiative “*Developing a Strategic Plan for English and Other Language Learning in the APEC Region*”;
- *Education to Achieve 21st Century Skills for All - 2nd APEC Symposium on Education Reform* was held in Xi’an, China in January 2008;
- Case book entitled “*Corporate Social Responsibility in the Global Supply Chain*” was published in March 2008;
- *Workshop on Comparability Qualifications in the Health Sector within the APEC Region* will be held in October 2008;
- *Capacity Building for Investment Liberalization and Facilitation* – the second seminar was conducted in May 2008;
- Ensuring Sustainable Growth in the 21st Century through Workforce Development – a second seminar on public private-sector partnership took place in August 2008;
- *Capitalising Information Technology for Greater Equity and Access Among Poor and Rural Communities* – a kick off meeting was held in March 2008 in Kuala Lumpur;
- *Mapping Qualifications Frameworks Across APEC Economies* - Contractor has been chosen and survey instrument sent to economies;
- *APEC Youth Camp: Caring for the Sustainable Development of the Asia-Pacific Region* - the event was held in Puno from 01-06 October 2008;
- *TVET and HRD Training Program for Experts* – a training was held in May 2008 in Seoul;
- *APEC e-Learning Training Program Program – 13th round of e-Learning Training program and 4th round of Advance e-Learning Training Program* will be completed in October and November 2008, respectively.

Industrial Science and Technology Working Group (ISTWG)

- *APEC Climate Center Symposium* held in Lima, Peru on 19–21 August;
- *Workshops on Roadmapping Converging Technologies to Combat Emerging Infectious Diseases*;
- *Forum on S&T Resource Share and Collaboration Mechanism* among APEC economies held in Suzhou, China on 21–22 November 2007;
- *Training on Human Capacity Building for Natural Resources Development and its Environmental Impacts* in APEC region held in Tsukuba, Japan from 27 November to 14 December 2007;
- *APEC R&D Management Training Program 2008* was in Seoul, Korea during 23–29 April 2008;
- Project on “*Disaster Reduction Hyperbase – Asia Application (DRH-Asia)*”: DRH-Asia web system opened, generation of the DRH-Asia contents and compilation were substantiated, project management/facilitation of DRH contents compilation, dissemination and publicity efforts were practiced;
- *APEC Forum on “Business Incubators Promote Regional Innovation”* held in October 2008 in Xi’an, China;
- Project on Carbon Accounting in selected APEC member economies to *Facilitate Entry into Carbon Trading Market* – workshop in January 2008;
- *Workshop on Life Cycle Assessment for APEC Economies* – 6th workshop held in March 2008 in a series of workshops on LCA in cooperation with UNEP/SETAC life cycle initiatives towards the sustainability in the Asia Pacific region.
- *Workshop of Innovative Development of Green Electronics* in Chinese Taipei in January 2008.

- *APEC Biotechnology Conference-Bio-Connection Construction* in Chinese Taipei in July 2008.
- *Training for Management and Technology of Industrial Waste Resources* in Chinese Taipei in July 2008.
- *2008 APEC Nanoscale Measurement Technology Forum* in Chinese Taipei in October 2008.

Marine Resource Conservation Working Group (MRCWG)

- *9th APEC MRCWG Roundtable Meeting* on the involvement of Business/Private Sector in sustainability of the marine environment will be held in Chinese Taipei, 16–18 September 2008. It aims to enhance private-government-link programs across APEC member economies on marine resource conservation activities;
- Participation in the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Survey* conducted by the UN University;
- Understanding the economic benefits and costs of controlling marine debris in the APEC region – first draft has been developed;
- *Satellite Application in Knowledge-based economies part I and II* – a training workshop to take underwater images of coral reefs/substrates in shallow water regions to be held in 2008;
- Development of an *APEC Strategy on Sustainable Aquaculture* – two workshops to identify the environmental principles and policies used in sustainable aquaculture administration; *Capacity building Workshops on Petroleum-based Organic Chemicals and Marine Environmental Safety* – two workshops held in 2008 to assess, adapt and develop suitable analytical methodology for marine environmental studies; and
- The completion of an Independent Assessment of the MRCWG.

Small to Medium Enterprise Working Group (SMEWG)

- SME Ministerial Meeting held in August in Chiclayo, Peru;
- New four year APEC SME Strategic Plan 2009–2012;
- *APEC High Level Meeting on Driving SMEs' Growth to Promote Local Development* held in April, Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei;
- *APEC SMEWG Pandemic Influenza Train the Trainer Workshop* on the margins of the first SMEWG meeting in Chinese Taipei to assist SMEs in APEC member economies to be better prepared for an influenza pandemic.
- *One Village One Product High Level Meeting*;
- *APEC Seminar on SME Taxation* held in April in Chinese Taipei, as a part of Capacity Building Seminar on Ease of Doing Business, prepared by New Zealand and Canada;
- Implementation of the *Strategic Planning Consultancy*;
- *APEC MSME Innovation Management Seminar* held in August 2008;
- *Best Practices to Support Micro and Small entrepreneurs: Assessment and Recommendations for APEC Phase I to III* – final report;
- *APEC Training Course on Enhancing Entrepreneurship Skills for SMEs*; and
- *APEC Symposium on Improving market access for ICT outsource SMEs*.

Telecommunications Working Group (TELWG)

- APEC Telecommunications Ministerial Meeting in April in Thailand;
- Implementation of the APEC *TEL Program of Action* adopted at TELMIN6 (Lima, June 2005)

- Progress towards *Brunei Goal of universal Internet access by APEC members* – updating Internet user penetration statistics of APEC TEL member economies;
- Progress on a new MRA for mutual recognition of technical requirements;
- Strengthen the collaboration with other APEC Fora (CTI, ECSG, EC, CTTF) and international organizations (OECD, ITU);
- Forming a SME security expert group under Security and Prosperity Steering Group (SPSG) of APEC TEL to work on information security assessment tools for SMEs;
- Implementation of work on e-Governance, raising awareness among member economies of the role of ICT as an enabler for good public sector governance;
- Expanding collaboration in dealing with issues of liberalization, ICT development, and security and prosperity, to build confidence in the use of telecommunications, and to support policy and regulatory reforms that facilitate competition with security;
- Workshops on best practice regulation that allow sharing of initiatives for improving business regulation;
- *APEC Seminar on Using ICT for Rural Community Capacity Building* held on 23–24 March 2008 in Tokyo, Japan;
- *Workshop on Policy and Technical Approaches against Botnet* held on 23 March 2008 in Tokyo, Japan;
- *ICT Products and Service Security Workshop* held on 24 March 2008 in Tokyo, Japan
- *Workshop on Handled Mobile Device Security* held on 25 March 2008 in Tokyo, Japan;
- *Industry Roundtable* held on 23 March 2008 in Tokyo, Japan; and
- *Regulatory Roundtable* held on 24–25 March 2008 in Tokyo, Japan.

Transportation Working Group (TPTWG)

- Establishment of an APEC *TPTWG Aviation Emissions Task Force* to identify practical measures to limit aviation greenhouse gas emissions;
- Establishment of the *APEC Port Services Network (APSN)* office in Beijing to operate to develop a constitution, recruit members and to hold initial meetings and training courses until the APSN Secretariat is officially established and the network is brought into full operation;
- The governance arrangements for the APEC Port Services Network (including the adoption of a constitution) were finalised at TPT-WG30, with a constitution subsequently endorsed by economies and the governing board comprising a nominated person from each economy to meet later this year;
- *Seminar on Management of Security, Safety and Emerging Technology in Global Intermodal Transportation and Supply Chain Systems* (October 2008, Vietnam);
- *The APEC Air Cargo Security Workshop* held on 24-26 June 2008, in Bangkok, Thailand;
- *The APEC Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Technological Innovation Summit and the 12th Meeting of the GNSS Implementation Team* held on 26- 30 May 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand;
- *2nd APEC Seminar on Practical Measures to Manage Aviation Emissions* held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in April 2008;
- *Secure Trade and Efficiency in APEC with Intelligent Transportation Systems and e-Commerce Technologies* – final report;
- *Mass Passenger Surface Transport Security Conference* was held in Manila on 10–11 April 2008;

Tourism Working Group (TWG)

- *5th Tourism Ministerial Meeting* held on 9-10 April 2008 in Lima, Peru
- *Strategic Review of the TWG - Framework for Finalisation of the Strategic Review of the TWG*;
- *Tourism Impediments Study Stage 3 – final report*;
- *Training on the Application of APEC Skill Standard Concept and System*;
- Capacity building for community based tourism as a vehicle for poverty reduction and dispersing economic benefits at the local level in developing member economies;
- Capacity building on *Tourism Satellite Accounts* as basis for promoting liberalisation and facilitation on tourism services.

Anti-Corruption and Transparency Task Force (ACT)

- Implementation of the *APEC Code of Conduct for Business, Code of Conduct Principles for Public Officials and Complementary Anti-Corruption Principles for the Public and Private Sectors*; pathfinder initiative on code of conduct;
- APEC expert seminar on special international cooperation on asset recovery (October 2008);
- Guidelines for capacity building on APEC principles and code of conducts;
- Capacity building framework based on the member economies compilation matrix;
- Workshop in order to identify best practices and define training benchmarks on APEC principles and code of conduct;
- *Workshop: “Experiences sharing on implementation of mechanisms in the fight against global corruption”* ;
- *Symposium on Anti-Corruption and Administrative Reform* held on 28–29 June 2008 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam; and
- *Comparative Study on Anti-Corruption Measures and Procedures in APEC – final findings*.

Counter-Terrorism Task Force (CTTF)

- Completion of the *APEC Best Practices in Post-Blast Scene Management Workshop*;
- *STAR VI Conference* held in Lima, Peru on 20–21 August 2008;
- Implementation of the initiative to upgrade *the Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure – Best Practices* document has been prepared;
- *APEC Capacity Building Workshop on Trade Recovery Program* held in Singapore on 23–24 July 2008;
- Capacity building activity through the U.S. proposed concept of pilot project in the field of food defense with the *first Food Defense Pilot Project* to be held in Peru;
- A further test of the *Aviation Security Emergency Points of Contact Network*;
- *APEC Seminar on Securing Remittance and Cross Border Payments from Terrorist Use* (23-24 October 2008, Jakarta, Indonesia);
- *APEC Seminar on Protection of Cyberspace from Terrorist Use and Attacks* held in Seoul, Korea on 26-27 June, 2008;
- *Workshop on Effective Public Private Partnerships in Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade* held on 19 August in Lima, Peru;

- *APEC Workshops on detecting and deterring cash couriers and bulk cash smugglers* (to be held in late 2008 and early 2009).

Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN)

- The development of a gender and trade database to be posted on the APEC/GFPN website, scheduled to be completed by the end of 2008;
- *"The Third Gender Analysis Workshop"* was held in Arequipa, Peru, 15–16 May 2008;
- *"The Women in the Digital Economy Forum"* was held in Arequipa, Peru, 9–10 May 2008 (an ECSG project endorsed by GFPN). In addition, Singapore co-sponsored the *"APEC Digital Economy Forum for Women"* in Singapore, held on 19 April 2008, organised by the APEC Women's e-Biz Center and the Federation of Business & Professional Women.
- *"Women in Times of Disaster"* – started in April 2008, to be completed in December 2008.
- Participation in the *"Emergency Management CEOs Seminar"* held by the Task Force for Emergency Preparedness in August 2007, to improve gender responses to natural disasters and other emergencies.
- Reports from individual economies on the progress of implementation of gender integration which highlight best practices to advance the status of women;
- Integrating gender considerations at the *APEC Fiscal Space Seminar*;
- Research on the differential impacts of trade liberalisation: findings suggest the need for engendering trade negotiations mandates and strengthening APEC's capacity to address the gender dimensions of trade;
- Updated the GFPN's three-year workplan;
- Supporting the development of *Women Leaders Network* meeting and *"Women in Export Trade"* event in May 2008;
- The completion of an Independent Assessment of the GFPN; and
- The inclusion of the gender implications of trade as a key policy issue to be considered by APEC Economic Leaders and Ministers.

Mining Task Force (MTF)

- First meeting of the MTF was held on 23–24 May 2008 in Arequipa, Peru;
- Second MTF meeting was held on 25–26 August 2008 in Lima, Peru;
- MTF Work Plan: fostering investment in the APEC minerals sector through the pursuit of clear and predictable investment policies; the fostering of regular exchange concerning experiences with regulations affecting the minerals sector; and, the development of several project proposals;
- Report on the means of attracting investment to the mining sector in APEC.

Task Force for Emergency Preparedness (TFEP)

- *Emergency Management CEOs Seminar* in Cairns on 20–22 August 2007;
- *Study Course on Disaster Emergency Response and Recovery* in Beijing, China on 14–22 April 2008;
- Dialogue among economies, private sector representatives and key regional and international partners on emergency preparedness and risk reduction in Ha Noi, Viet Nam on 24–25 April 2008;
- Second stocktake of TFEP member needs and priorities;

- 2nd *Emergency Management CEOs' Forum* held in August 2008 in Peru;
- Development of *Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction to 2015*;
- Development of *APEC Principles on Disaster Response and Cooperation*;
- *Workshop on Large-scale Disaster Recovery* held in Chinese Taipei on 22–25 September 2008 and on-site visit to Sichuan, China on 26–28 September 2008; and
- Damage assessment techniques workshop.

4.2 Strengthening implementation of APEC's ECOTECH activities.

(i) Independent Assessment of the APEC working groups

In 2008, the SCE completed the independent assessment of the Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN) and Marine Resources Conservation Working Group (MRCWG) and commenced three new assessments. The assessment of the Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group and High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (HLPDAB) is ongoing and expected to be submitted for SCE review in early 2009.

A new cycle of independent assessment for 2008 was approved by the BMC. Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL), Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Task Force (ACT) and Energy Working Group (EWG) will be reviewed.

For more efficient implementation, the SCE has made some amendments to the rolling program of independent assessment. The revised schedule appears in Annex 10. In 2009, independent assessment will be conducted on the Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG), Industrial Science and Technology Working Group (ISTWG), and Transportation Working Group (TPTWG).

(ii) Renewal of the mandates of Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Task Force (ACT), Task Force for Emergency Preparedness (TFEP) and Counter-Terrorism Task Force (CTTF)

In 2008, the mandates of ACT, TFEP, and CTTF were due to expire. Having considered the deliverables, future workplan and relevance of the groups in achieving the APEC goals, the Senior Officials endorsed the extension of the mandates of ACT, TFEP, and CTTF until 2011, 2010 and 2010 respectively.

(iii) APEC Support Fund

In 2004, Ministers endorsed the Australian proposed APEC Support Fund (ASF) to provide a flexible funding mechanism to support capacity building activities for APEC developing economies. Australia committed to providing A\$3 million over three years to establish the Fund and followed with an A\$4 million contribution to help developing APEC economies bolster their defenses against emerging and infectious diseases such as avian influenza in 2005. Since its inception, further contributions have been received by Chinese Taipei (US\$1 million), China (US\$2 million), Korea (US\$2 million), and the United States (US\$795,000). This has significantly boosted resources available to build capacity in the region for economic and technical cooperation activities.

In September 2007, Russia announced it would contribute US\$500,000 to the APEC Support Fund over the period of 2009–2010 to support human security and science and technology initiatives. The basic part of the contribution, US\$340,000 will be channeled into the existing Human Security Sub-Fund. The remaining part—US\$160,000—will be earmarked for the specific purpose of funding capacity building activities for APEC developing economies in support of facilitating technology flows and harnessing technologies for the future. SCE welcomed Russia's contribution and endorsed the establishment of an ASF Sub-Fund for this purpose. An MOU is expected to be signed in 2008 with the first installment to be made in 2009.

At SOM1 2008, Hong Kong, China announced a contribution of US\$500,000 to the ASF in 2008. The funds are for projects in support of capacity building in APEC's developing economies which contribute to the implementation of *APEC's Second Trade Facilitation Action Plan (TFAP II)*. An MOU was signed in February at SOM1 in Lima, Peru and the full contribution was received in March 2008.

In 2008, the ASF funded 50 ECOTECH capacity-building projects in different areas ranging from emerging infectious diseases, avian influenza, emergency preparedness, and anti-corruption, to capacity for small to medium enterprises.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are proposed to the 20th APEC Ministerial Meeting:

1. Endorse the *2008 SOM Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation*;
2. Endorse the strategies for enhancing APEC's Engagement with Multilateral Organisations;
3. Welcome the progress of work on strengthening SCE's Policy Agenda and encourage economies to continue to actively participate in this process; welcome Peru's proposal on capacity building;
4. Welcome the achievements of the Working groups and SOM Task Forces and welcome the ongoing improvements that will be achieved through the Program of Independent Assessment of all SCE Fora; and
5. Note the new contributions to the APEC Support Fund from Hong Kong, China and Russia.

ANNEX 1

**SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Annex 1

SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION TERMS OF REFERENCE

Introduction

In 1996, Ministers adopted the Framework for Strengthening Economic Cooperation and Development to further strengthen economic and technical cooperation (ECOTECH) in APEC. To effectively implement the ECOTECH agenda, the SOM Sub-Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation (ESC) was established in 1998. This was later elevated to the SOM Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation in 2002. As part of the reform process, with effect from 2006, the ESC was transformed into the SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE) with an enhanced mandate to strengthen the prioritisation and effective implementation of ECOTECH activities by various APEC fora.

Objectives

- To strengthen implementation of the APEC's ECOTECH activities by prioritising in accordance with Leaders' and Ministers' commitments, coordinating and providing oversight of the work of APEC fora.
- To provide policy guidance on ways to contribute to APEC's ECOTECH goals.
- To coordinate ECOTECH objectives and priorities between the APEC Economic Leaders Meeting and Ministerial Meetings.

Membership

All Senior Officials of APEC economies

- A core group of 11 Senior Officials, including the SCE Chair will be nominated by the SOM Chair at CSOM to assist the SCE Chair the following year.
- Chairs/Lead Shepherds of relevant APEC fora will be invited to participate in the first SCE meeting of the year at SOM I as the Meeting of the ECOTECH Committee of the Whole (SCE-COW).

Internal organisation arrangements

- The operation and effectiveness of the SCE will be reviewed periodically, no less than every two years.
- SCE will report directly to the SOM.
- Chair to be the incoming Senior Official of the host economy.
- The core group will include Senior Officials of the previous (immediate past) and current host economies.
- Core group membership will be for a one-year term.
- SCE will be assisted by the APEC Secretariat.

Meeting arrangements

- SCE will meet three times a year in the margins of SOM. At SOM I it will be convened as the SCE-COW and include Chairs/Lead Shepherds of relevant APEC fora.
- SCE will convene as close as possible to SOM meetings.

Work mandate

The SCE will coordinate action-oriented and integrated strategies in accordance with Leaders' and Ministers' commitments and the 1996 APEC Framework for Strengthening Economic Cooperation and Development and 2003 ECOTECH priorities. It will:

- Provide policy recommendations on APEC ECOTECH-related issues to SOM.
- Develop a short-term plan and priorities to best implement APEC's ECOTECH activities for the coming APEC year.
- Coordinate and supervise ECOTECH-related Working Groups and SOM Special Task Groups and provide policy guidance to these groups on the ECOTECH agenda.
- Assess and direct realignment of individual work plans of Working Groups and SOM Special Task Groups with the SCE's medium- and long-term work plans; to this purpose, all Working Groups and SOM Special Task Groups should submit their annual work plans to the SCE four weeks prior to SOM I for consideration at the SCE-COW.
- Approve and rank (in terms of relevance to policy priorities), all ECOTECH-related project proposals ahead of presentation to the Budget Management Committee (BMC).
- Evaluate the progress of Working Groups and SOM Special Task Groups in implementing and achieving APEC's ECOTECH priorities.
- Compile progress and evaluation reports of Working Groups and SOM Special Task Groups for review and report to SOM.
- Review the role and operation of Working Groups, Task Forces and Networks, with a view to making recommendations to the SOM on establishing, merging, disbanding or reorienting these bodies.
- Review the 1996 Framework for Strengthening Economic Cooperation and Development and the four APEC-wide ECOTECH priorities identified in 2003 and make recommendations to SOM.
- Encourage active participation of International Financial Institutions (IFIs), relevant international organisations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders such as the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) in the capacity-building activities of economic and technical cooperation through the creation of linkages.

ANNEX 2

**SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
2008 WORK PROGRAM**

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ANNEX 2

SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON ECOTECH 2008 WORK PROGRAM

1. Proposed Work Plan for 2008 in Response to Leaders'/ Ministers'/SOM Decisions and SCE Priorities.

- Strengthen the SCE's policy role in guiding ECOTECH activities in APEC, including development of a report for endorsement by Ministers in November 2008;
- Provide policy recommendations on issues related to ECOTECH to SOM;
- Coordinate and supervise all ECOTECH-related Working Groups and SOM Special Task Forces, and provide strategic policy guidance to these fora on the ECOTECH agenda;
- Identify further opportunities for capacity-building in areas of priority;
- Complete the implementation of all recommendations on SCE Fora Review;
- Develop policy criteria to guide the assessment of ECOTECH-related project proposals;
- Approve and rank all ECOTECH-related project proposals ahead of presentation to the Budget Management Committee (BMC);
- Conduct Independent Assessments of APEC fora in accordance with the approved schedule;
- Prepare annual SCE Report to Ministers

2. Proposed Activities in Response to Ministers' Call for Greater Engagement with:

- A) **International Organisations other than APEC; and**
- B) **Asia-Pacific Business Community**

- Enhance APEC's collaboration with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and other international organisations;
 - o assess the findings of the survey on APEC cooperation with IFIs and other international organisations
 - o oversee activities related to Peru's proposed Dialogue with IFIs in 2008
- Promote public-private partnerships to achieve APEC's ECOTECH objectives;
 - o work with the SMEWG, and other relevant fora, to help accelerate the implementation of the Private Sector Development Agenda (PDSA)
- Encourage APEC fora to recognize ABAC Recommendations to Leaders and further engage with ABAC on their workplans, where appropriate. Encourage APEC fora to routinely invite ABAC to meetings, seminars and other relevant activities to more closely integrate ABAC into APEC activities, obtain business perspective and enhance public-private partnerships.

3. Identify cross cutting issues and explain how they will be coordinated across Fora.

- Provide guidance on how to coordinate cross-cutting issues (e.g. gender and outreach) across fora;
- Coordinate with CTI and EC on capacity-building activities.

4. Expected Outcomes/Deliverables For 2008.

- Development of the strategic direction for strengthening the policy guidance role of SCE, including a report for endorsement to APEC Ministers;

- Progress in enhancing the cooperation between APEC and IFIs and other international organizations, including staging the third Policy Dialogue in 2008;
- Progress in enhancing public-private partnerships in APEC.
- Further strengthening and streamlining of ECOTECH in APEC;
- Identification of policy criteria for 2008-2009 and further streamlining of APEC project management and funding allocation;
- Successful implementation of the Independent Assessments of the fora scheduled for completion this year, specifically the Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group and High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology, the Gender Focal Point Network, and the Marine Resource Conservation Working Group;
- Successful implementation of the Independent Assessments to begin this year, specifically the Anticorruption and Transparency Task Force, Energy Working Group, and Telecommunication Working Group.
- Reconstituting the SCE Core Group of Senior Officials. Submission of the annual SCE Report to Ministers in November 2008.

ANNEX 3

**SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
POLICY CRITERIA FOR 2008–2009 PROJECTS**

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ANNEX 3

SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION POLICY CRITERIA FOR 2008–09 PROJECTS

In assessing ECOTECH 2008–09 projects, priority will be given for capacity building activities for developing economies under the Manila Framework in accordance with the following categories:

High
Rank 1: Leaders Key ECOTECH Priorities*
<p>Climate Change, Energy Security and Clean Development: energy efficiency, biodiesel standards, low emissions technology and innovation, alternative and low carbon energy uses, forests, aviation emissions, environmental goods and services, support for effective adaptation strategies, protection of marine and coastal resources, policy analysis</p> <p>WTO and Multilateral Trading System</p> <p>Regional Economic Integration: FTAs/RTAs, improving the business environment, structural reform, trade and investment liberalisation and facilitation, strengthening intellectual property rights, anti-corruption, financial markets sectoral issues and private sector engagement, targeted trade-related technical assistance and capacity building, and engagement with international financial institutions</p> <p>Enhancing Human Security: counter-terrorism; health security; pandemic and emergency preparedness; food and consumer product safety, and energy security.</p> <p>APEC Reform</p>
Medium
Rank 2: Ministers ECOTECH Priorities (additional to above)
Trade and economic reform; SME competitiveness; private sector development; human resource development; digital capability improvement; cooperation with ASEAN and ABAC; gender integration, investment.
Rank 3: Host priorities (additional to above)
Highlighting the educational programs role on the social and economic development of the member economies; supporting the development and modernization of the small and medium enterprises, recognizing them as a dynamic sector in creating new jobs; supporting technological cooperation programs oriented to bridge the digital gap; stressing the impact of corruption of public and private representatives on the business environment and economic performance of the economies; introducing the issue of Corporate Social Responsibility on APEC relevant activities.
Rank 4: Sectoral Ministers priorities*
Finance (2007); Energy (2007); Mining (2007); Health (2007); Transportation (2007); Tourism (2008); Telecommunications (2008); Education (2008); Structural Reform (2008); SME (2008);
Low
Rank 5
Other capacity building activities that fall within the Manila Framework.
Zero
Rank 6
Other activities
* To be updated following 2008 sectoral ministerial meetings.

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ANNEX 4

**PROPOSAL ON STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC AND
TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN APEC**

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ANNEX 4

Strengthening Economic and Technical Cooperation in APEC

Introduction

1. This paper lays out the current state of economic and technical cooperation (ECOTECH) activities within APEC and proposes several broad ways in which SCE can provide further strategic direction to these activities.

Background on SCE

2. In 2006, Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the Framework for Strengthening Economic Cooperation and Development and endorsed the new Terms of Reference for the SCE, which had been granted an enhanced mandate as part of the APEC reform process. As part of its new Terms of Reference, one of the objectives of the SCE is now to provide policy guidance on ways to contribute to APEC's ECOTECH goals.
3. In 2006, an extensive review of all Working Groups and SOM Task Forces was undertaken, and subsequently implemented in 2007. SCE will continue to implement the reform recommendations and the ongoing rolling review of fora activities. This will help to further streamline APEC fora activities and enhance the Committee's effectiveness at providing strategic direction on APEC's ECOTECH activities.

ECOTECH Activities in APEC

4. ECOTECH refers to the schedule of programmes and activities within APEC designed to build capacity and skills in APEC member economies to enable them to participate more fully in the regional economy and the trade and investment liberalisation process. The aim of ECOTECH is to attain sustainable growth and equitable development in the Asia-Pacific region, while reducing economic disparities among APEC economies and improving economic and social well-being. Such efforts will also facilitate the growth of trade and investment in the region. ECOTECH activities do not come solely under the domain of the SCE and SCE subfora, but are also carried out across the other Committees and subfora of APEC. Economic and technical cooperation which directly supports trade and investment liberalisation and business facilitation is mainly dealt with under CTI and its subfora.
5. Capacity-building projects arising out of CTI are currently funded out of the TILF Special Account which was proposed by Japan at the Osaka Leaders' Meeting. Japan pledged to contribute up to 10 billion yen to the fund over several years. From 1997 to 2007, Japan has contributed a total of 4,270,517,000 yen. In 2007, the US announced its intention to contribute US\$1.5 million to the fund. Taken together, the affordable level of expenditure for 2009 TILF projects are US\$3.5 million.
6. ECOTECH projects arising out of the SCE are mostly funded out of: (i) the Operational Account with annual budget of US\$1.9 million which is drawn from a portion of members' annual contributions to APEC; and (ii) the APEC Support Fund (ASF) which aims to provide further assistance to developing economies for their capacity-building programmes in specific areas. The ASF is made of contributions from Australia; Chinese Taipei; China; Korea; the US; Russia; and Hong Kong, China. The contributions are as follows: Australia - AUD\$3 million (2005-2008), AUD\$4.5 million (2008-2010), and AUD\$4 million in 2007 to Sub-fund A on Human securities; Chinese Taipei - US\$1 million for Sub-fund A (received in 2006); Korea - US\$2 million (2007- 2009); China - US\$2 million (2007-2009), US pledged a donation of US\$795,142; Russia - US\$500,000 (2009-2010) and Hong Kong, China - US\$500,000 (2008) for the implementation of

APEC's Second Trade Facilitation Action Plan (TFAP II). A total of \$2,468,063 is expected to be available in the ASF General Fund for allocation in 2008.

Strategic Approach to ECOTECH

7. Given the limited resources available and the extensive range of ECOTECH activities within APEC, it is imperative for us to maximise these resources and ensure that priorities are given to ECOTECH activities that best serve APEC's needs. With this in mind, it is proposed that SCE focus on the following three areas to guide its future work:
 - (a) APEC's ECOTECH activities should directly address the capacity-building needs of member economies. On their own initiative, some subfora have begun to undertake stock-takes to identify these capacity-building needs e.g. CTTF. SCE encourages all subfora to undertake a comprehensive stock-take covering what capacity-building activities have been done over the last three years, the outcomes of these activities, additional capacity-building needs, and whether there is scope to leverage on other APEC subfora or task forces, or other multilateral organisations, to avoid duplication of effort. Subfora should report their findings to SCE to enable SCE to draw up an action-oriented, forward-looking comprehensive ECOTECH workplan for APEC. SCE could also leverage on the newly established PSU as well as our APEC Study Centers to assist in the stock-take.
 - (b) APEC is currently looking into the development of long-term strategic projects and workplans that better reflect APEC's strategic objectives. For instance, CTI is currently working out a multi-year workplan for REI. Similarly, SCE should explore the feasibility of multi-year ECOTECH projects¹. To do this, the subfora to review the scope of their work vis-à-vis APEC's strategic objectives and propose multi-year workplans, where appropriate. The findings of the stock-take exercise proposed above will provide useful inputs to the subfora in determining the areas which require multi-year programmes. SCE will also draw on: (i) the recommendations of the US-led small group within the BMC on how to address the issues that would enable APEC to adopt a more strategic, longer-term approach toward capacity-building; and (ii) Peru's proposal to create a space within APEC's framework for providing support and assistance to interested economies in the process of designing, seeking funds and implementing more tangible projects. Together with the PSU and BMC, SCE will work out the policy criteria to determine the key areas requiring multi-year programmes and how to prioritise them.
 - (c) SCE will also enhance and leverage on APEC's partnerships with multilateral organisations (MOs) including International Financial Institutions (IFIs), as well as with stakeholders such as the private sector, and ABAC, to identify areas for long-term concerted capacity building, identify gaps within APEC's current ECOTECH programmes, and avoid duplication of ECOTECH activities that are already being carried out outside of APEC. In this regard, Australia's recent strategy report on APEC's engagement with MOs serves as a guide to determine how SCE can better leverage on APEC's partnerships with such MOs by, among other things, drawing upon lessons learned from successful cases of engagement with MOs and improving programme development, coordination and tasking. These issues will be further explored at the policy discussion on APEC's engagement with MOs to be held next year at the side of SCE I.

Way Forward

¹ One issue to address concerning multi-year projects is how we should prioritise them for funding purposes. One possibility is to identify key projects that support APEC's core objectives of Trade and Investment Liberalisation and Business Facilitation. SCE can accord these projects the highest priority and fund them on a multi-year basis. To ensure that resources are well used, these projects should have concrete desired outcomes. Another possibility is to identify common capacity-building needs based on the priorities of the Working Groups and Task Forces. Common capacity-building needs that benefit many economies can be given multi-year funding.

8. As a start, it is proposed that SCE subfora undertake a stocktake on their capacity-building needs and submit the outcome of this stocktake to the Secretariat ahead of the SCE-COW meeting at the side of SOM I next year.² The Secretariat, in consultation with the SCE Chair, will subsequently compile the input from subfora into a comprehensive list and work out which capacity-building needs should be prioritised. This comprehensive stocktake will serve as a basis for SCE to provide policy inputs to develop a longer-term workplan on capacity-building. In summary, the proposed timeline is as follows:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <i>From now till 2009 SCE-COW</i> | - | SCE subfora to undertake stocktake on capacity-building needs and submit results to Secretariat |
| <i>2009 SCE-COW</i> | - | Tabling of subfora stocktakes for discussion |
| <i>Between SCE-COW and SCE II</i> | - | Secretariat and SCE Chair to compile comprehensive list of APEC's capacity-building needs based on subfora inputs |
| <i>SCE II</i> | - | Tabling of list for discussion |
| <i>After SCE II</i> | - | SCE to use list to develop long-term capacity-building workplan for APEC |

² The Secretariat will prepare a template form for subfora to fill out on their capacity-building needs for this purpose.

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STOCKTAKE OF ECOTECH CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS
(for the Implementation of APEC Leaders, Ministers and Sectoral Ministers Mandates)
(DRAFT TEMPLATE)

Name of the fora:

1. Regional Economic Intergration (REI)

Mandate Indicate L for Leaders, M for Ministers and SM for Sectoral Ministers (i.e. L2007) (M2005) (SM-TELMIN2008)	Identified capacity building needs to implement the mandate	Capacity building activities undertaken or to be completed (2006 – 2008)/any involvement of private sector, regional or multilateral organisations/indicate if the project is multi-year	Proposed activities to address these needs (2009 – 2010)/indicate if the project is multi- year	Similar capacity building activities being implemented in other relevant APEC fora, regional or multilateral organisations

2. Addressing social dimension of globalisation

Mandate Indicate L for Leaders, M for Ministers and SM for Sectoral Ministers (i.e. L2007) (M2005) (SM-TELMIN2008)	Identified capacity building needs to implement the mandate	Capacity building activities undertaken or to be completed (2006 – 2008)/any involvement of private sector, regional or multilateral organisations/indicate if the project is multi-year	Proposed activities to address these needs (2009 – 2010)/indicate if the project is multi- year	Similar capacity building activities being implemented in other relevant APEC fora, regional or multilateral organisations

3. Human security capacity building

Mandate Indicate L for Leaders, M for Ministers and SM for Sectoral Ministers (i.e. L2007) (M2005)	Identified capacity building needs to implement the mandate	Capacity building activities undertaken or to be completed (2006 – 2008)/any involvement of private sector, regional or	Proposed activities to address these needs (2009 – 2010)/indicate if the project is multi- year	Similar capacity building activities being implemented in other relevant APEC fora, regional or multilateral organisations

(SM-TELMIN2008)		multilateral organisations/indicate if the project is multi-year completed (2006 – 2008)		

4. Safeguarding the quality of life through environmentally sound growth

Mandate Indicate L for Leaders, M for Ministers and SM for Sectoral Ministers (i.e. L2007) (M2005) (SM-TELMIN2008)	Identified capacity building needs to implement the mandate	Capacity building activities undertaken or to be completed (2006 – 2008)/any involvement of private sector, regional or multilateral organisations/indicate if the project is multi-year	Proposed activities to address these needs (2009 – 2010)/indicate if the project is multi-year	Similar capacity building activities being implemented in other relevant APEC fora, regional or multilateral organisations

5. Other

Mandate Indicate L for Leaders, M for Ministers and SM for Sectoral Ministers (i.e. L2007) (M2005) (SM-TELMIN2008)	Identified capacity building needs to implement the mandate	Capacity building activities undertaken or to be completed (2006 – 2008)Capacity building activities undertaken or to be completed (2006 – 2008)/any involvement of private sector, regional or multilateral organisations/indicate if the project is multi-year	Proposed activities to address these needs (2009 – 2010)/indicate if the project is multi-year	Similar capacity building activities being implemented in other relevant APEC fora, regional or multilateral organisations

ANNEX 5

**APEC AND MULTILATERAL ORGANISATIONS
STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING ENGAGEMENT**

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APEC AND MULTILATERAL ORGANISATIONS

STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING ENGAGEMENT

**Commissioned by Australia (AusAID) and prepared for
SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation**

July 2008

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Introduction

This paper is the second output of a study on APEC's engagement with multilateral organisations. The first was a report on a survey that looked at the dimensions, characteristics and processes of this engagement. The aim of the study, which was prepared for the SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE), is to provide strategic policy options for enhancing this engagement.

The survey found that multilateral organisations contribute skills, resources and information that help progress the development of the APEC agenda and processes. APEC on the other hand can help mobilise region-wide support for initiatives advocated by these organisations. As such, both parties can benefit further from strengthening their links and working relations.

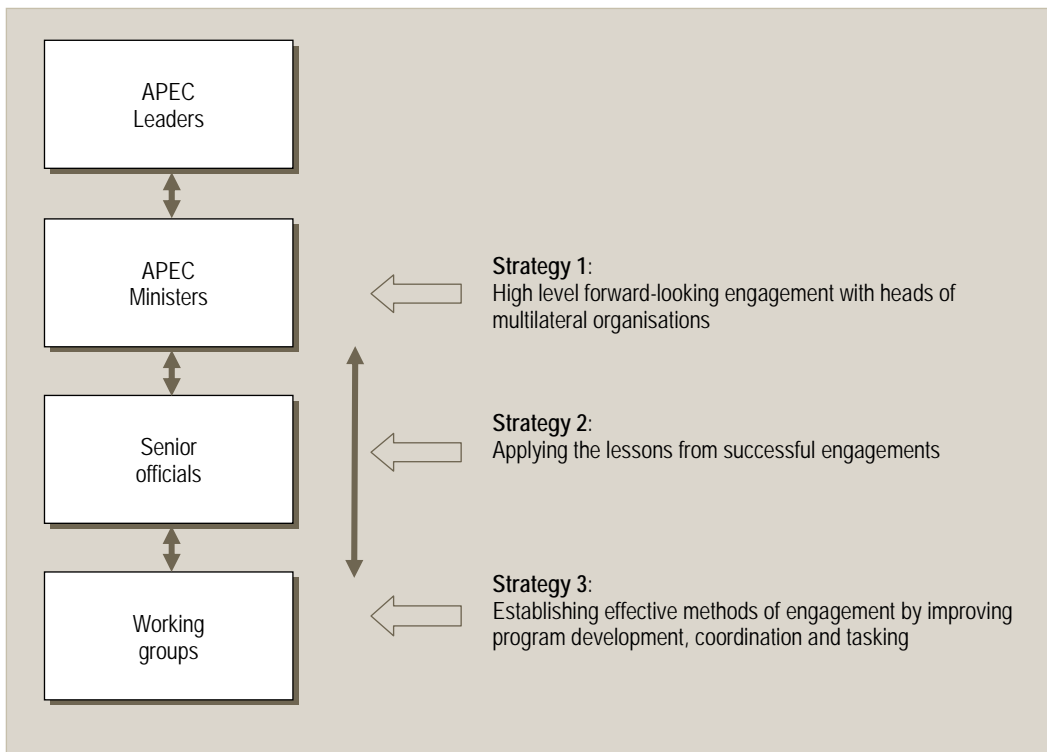
Drawing on the findings of the survey, this paper offers several strategies on how the engagement can be enhanced. They reflect the following observations that were made throughout the course of the survey.

- One of APEC's advantages is that it brings together economic leaders from across Asia, the Pacific and the Americas and provides a unique opportunity for open and informal discussions on a diverse range of contemporary issues.
- Some of the world's intellectual capacity to address contemporary issues most relevant to APEC Leaders rests in the various multilateral organisations.
- These multilateral organisations take a forward-looking view of world developments.
- There is little participation of heads of multilateral organisations in the meetings of APEC Ministers or Leaders. Most engagements between APEC and multilaterals occur informally at the Working Group level.
- Some engagements have worked particularly well and provide valuable lessons that could potentially apply to other engagements.

The survey also showed that the methods of engagement and the effectiveness of this engagement could be improved. These findings and observations suggest a strategic response at three levels (see chart 1). They include:

1. Cultivating high level interaction between the heads of multilateral organisations and APEC Ministers;
2. Drawing upon the lessons learned from successful cases of engagement with multilateral organisations; and
3. Establishing effective methods of engagement by improving program development, coordination and tasking.

1 Three key strategies



Underlying these three strategies are two main themes. The first is the need to assign responsibility for the implementation of the strategies. Without responsibility being assigned and accepted, there is no accountability for the success or otherwise from adopting these strategies.

The second theme is that the strategies imply better coordination of engagements between APEC and multilaterals — multilateral organisations need to engage with a single interface, which does not exist under APEC's current structure. Consideration should be given to establishing a unit, or assigning liaison officers, within the APEC Secretariat to act as a point of contact with multilateral organisations and to coordinate APEC's relations with them. It is not clear, given its current resources, whether it is realistic for the APEC Secretariat take on this role. This second theme implies extra demands on the resources of the APEC Secretariat and would need to be examined closely by the SCE and SOM. An alternative would be to identify a contact point in each relevant APEC forum who could serve as the interface for coordination and communication with the organisations: but there may still need to be a mechanism for coordination across these contact points on issues that cut across the agenda of different fora.

Strategy 1: Cultivating high level interaction between the heads of multilateral organisations and APEC Ministers

The Leaders' Meetings are central to APEC's success. They are more informal than most other meetings of world leaders and are not presaged by extensive pre-worked documents by officials for leaders to simply sign off on. This also means that the meetings are substantially less constrained. They provide a platform that encourages leaders to be more open when expressing their views on contemporary issues facing the region. It is clearly one of the attractions of the meetings and APEC Leaders benefit from the exchange of views. Underpinning the Leaders' Meeting is a program of work and other engagements at a Ministerial and Working Group level. Valuable input to APEC's work at both levels can be made by multilateral organisations.

As it currently stands, most of the engagement between APEC and multilateral organisations occurs at a Working Group level, not at the top. Multilateral organisations have significant intellectual resources to address most of the issues that are relevant to APEC Ministers and Leaders. Cultivating APEC's relationship with these organisations at the Ministerial level will certainly help enhance the engagement. The option also remains, should Leaders decide that exceptional circumstances warrant it, for heads of multilateral organisations to directly address Leaders during their Retreat.

This strategy proposes that, on selected topical issues, heads of relevant multilateral organisations would be invited to have a brief dialogue with APEC Ministers on those pressing issues, both current and looming. For example, the food crisis is a contemporary issue that APEC Ministers may wish to explore with multilateral organisations during their meeting. The multilateral organisations most concerned and relevant to this issue would include the World Bank, the UN's World Food Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization. A brief statement by the heads of these organisations would give Ministers a direct, up-to-date, forward looking view that was undiluted or filtered by any hierarchical reporting system. Also, heads of multilateral organisations could hear directly from Ministers on the importance on the issue in each economy. New perspectives or insights can be passed on to APEC Leaders.

Sometimes it may be beneficial to have this high level interaction occur at a ministerial level. For example, if multilateral trade talks within the World Trade Organisation were at a critical point, it may be appropriate for the head of the WTO to address APEC Trade Ministers, as has occurred in 2007 and 2008. The benefits that this strategy offers in developing the engagement between APEC and multilateral organisations are manifold.

First, Ministers are more likely to gain from having a direct conversation with development thinkers who could potentially provide fresh perspectives on the issues that they need to consider and advise Leaders on. In this way, Ministers would be in a stronger position to direct APEC fora to action those areas that are not only important for their own agenda, but to do so in ways that take greater account of the work of multilateral organisations. This essentially helps synergise the work of APEC and these organisations, an element that would consolidate their engagement.

Second, Ministers would acquire a more forward-looking view of current and emerging issues and so engage multilaterals at an earlier stage than would otherwise occur. One of the limitations of current interaction with multilaterals is the time taken to establish worthwhile engagement. With 21 economies, more than 30 fora, and a secretariat, APEC has had to formalise its operations by implementing agreed processes. Those processes relating to the engagement of multilaterals can be cumbersome and time consuming. To some extent, they may restrict the effectiveness of this engagement. By adopting a more forward looking approach to issues from the top, APEC's agenda would become more proactive, timely and, therefore, effective.

Third, heads of multilateral organisations would develop a first hand understanding and appreciation of the challenges APEC economies face in developing and managing their respective economies. It would give them the perspective of APEC Ministers on the issues that

are of key importance to economies in the Asia-Pacific region and could very well provide a 'bird's eye view' on how to better mobilise their technical expertise in building capacity in needed areas. Multilaterals can also effectively leverage resources from the aid community. A quicker, larger and more effective response is the likely outcome.

Strategy 2: Drawing upon the lessons learned from successful cases of engagement with multilateral organisations

APEC works well because of its non-binding nature of cooperation, voluntary approach to participation and consensus style in decision making. It also has a distinct culture of engagement, which is partly demonstrated by a strong willingness among member economies to share ideas, experiences and expertise as well as adopt good practices and processes introduced by others.

A number of groups within APEC have established, developed and maintained successful engagements with multilateral organisations by drawing effectively on this culture. These groups have created joint programs, designed integrated activities, shared resources, peer reviewed strategies, tested options, collaborated on discussion papers and basically worked closely together to address areas of common interest and concern.

The working relationships between APEC's Investment Expert Group and the OECD; the Finance Ministers' Process (FMP) and the International Financial Institutions (IFIs); and the APEC–OECD Integrated Checklist on regulatory reform with the Economic Committee are three examples of successful cases of engagement between APEC and multilateral organisations. They offer lessons to be learned in developing these engagements.

In the case of the FMP, IFIs' involvement is taken into account in the development of the FMP work priorities, medium-term agenda, economic and technical cooperation activities, policy theme dialogues, discussions on the global economic outlook and the general business. In other words, IFIs participation in the FMP is well integrated.

Establishing a process to periodically identify these success stories, draw out the lessons and assess whether they can be applied to other APEC fora would lead to better engagements with multilateral organisations, better outcomes and improved inter-fora interaction and coordination.

Strategy 3: Establishing effective methods of engagement by improving program development, coordination and tasking

The survey found that while some engagements with multilaterals were highly effective, others could be improved. Engagements could be strengthened by addressing what is best described as the 'machinery' of the engagement. Specifically, it was found that there was room for:

- better identification of fruitful areas of engagement and commissioning worthwhile studies for research;
- streamlining processes, especially the approval of 'guest' status for multilaterals;
- better coordination and clear points of contact and liaison;
- better communication;
- moving beyond personal relationships at the working level;
- prioritisation of efforts to the most valuable areas of engagement; and
- assigning clear responsibility for oversight of the engagement of the multilateral organisation and each APEC fora.

Many of these issues are self-evident, but one function that does not occur well now is the setting of priorities. Resources across APEC, particularly the APEC Secretariat, are limited so it is important that a system of prioritisation be developed.

The benefit of prioritising engagements, and ensuring that the focus is on engagements where the benefits are expected to be highest, is that the engagements are likely to lead to better outcomes. This begins a virtuous cycle, improving the perceived value from engagement, which encourages continued, quality engagement.

Given that engagements are most commonly initiated at the working level, it is expected that the prioritisation between opportunities for engagement should also occur at this level. For issues and engagements that run across fora, it is more intuitive that prioritisation of these engagements should be performed at a higher level.

Another issue is coordination and identifying who should be responsible for making this happen. For the APEC Secretariat to realistically take on the responsibility of coordinating APEC's relationship with multilateral organisations, unless additional resources are forthcoming, the restructuring of current resources will be required.

**INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT OF THE ECOTECH
IMPLEMENTATION OF APEC WORKING GROUPS AND SOM
TASK FORCES: GENDER FOCAL POINT NETWORK**

SCE RECOMMENDATIONS

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**Independent Assessment of the ECOTECH Implementation of APEC Working Groups and SOM Task Forces:
Gender Focal Point Network**

Recommendations

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or relevant APEC Fora	Action suggested by SCE	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by GFPN	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
<p>1. Agree that Economy Gender Focal Points, as the “gender specialists,” take the lead in the GFPN and its work programme.</p>	<p>The recommendation is relevant because the economy gender focal point role is decisive in the successful implementation of the GFPN work plan. However, the level of participation at GFPN meetings is minimal.</p> <p>Economy Gender Focal Point should work at economy level to promote and encourage Fora Gender Focal Point from their economy. Economy Gender Focal Point could identify qualified persons to be promoted as Fora Gender Focal Point in priority fora related to women in APEC.</p>	<p>GFPN to emphasize the relevant role of the economy gender focal point and to encourage economies to nominate appropriate delegates who could contribute and participate actively on its meetings and work plan.</p>	<p>Periodically</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>2. Agree that a half-day training forum be held as part of the annual GFPN Meeting targeted at APEC Fora Gender Focal Points and Secretariat Officials on gender-aware projects and project evaluation.</p>	<p>The need for continuous training is recognized however, the efficiency of this recommendation is questioned due to the difficulties in its implementation as not all APEC Fora Gender Focal Points or Secretariat staffs attend meetings at the margin of GFPN meetings.</p> <p>Training addressed to various groups on different periods should be explored. For example, half day training to BMC members and APEC Secretariat staff on the margins of BMC meetings in Singapore. Training to SCE and Fora representatives at the margin of SCE-COW meetings. Training to CTI delegates at the margin of CTI meetings.</p>	<p>GFPN to evaluate this recommendation and alternative options and propose to the SCE the most effective approach and schedule to conduct continuous training to APEC Fora.</p>	<p>Report back to SCE1</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or relevant APEC Fora	Action suggested by SCE	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by GFPN	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
	<p>Produce appropriate material and presentations that could be used to conduct half day training at each fora meeting by the host economy focal point and or with the support of the Gender PD.</p> <p>It is proposed that information kits and gender checklist need to be developed and used in the training forum.</p>			
<p>3. Agree that the WLN and ABAC be recognised as key members of the GFPN and invited to participate in all GFPN activities</p>	<p>According to the GFPN terms of reference (TOR), ABAC and WLN are key members of the GFPN.</p> <p>WLN works closely with GFPN and its views are taken into consideration in the GFPN meeting report. ABAC did not participate in the last GFPN meeting held in Tacna although an invitation was circulated.</p> <p>GFPN should undertake continuous efforts to involve WLN and ABAC in its activity throughout the year. It is the WLN and ABAC decision to attend or not the GFPN meetings.</p> <p>ABAC Chair is being consulted about this recommendation.</p>	<p>GFPN to notify ABAC and WLN their main role as key members of the GFPN and welcome them to contribute and participate in its activities and meetings.</p>	<p>Before the next GFPN meeting.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>4. Agree that the GFPN will present an annual report at WLN and ABAC meetings highlighting its activities and potential areas for mutual collaboration and making it clear that the WLN and ABAC are members of the Network and invited to participate in its activities.</p>	<p>WLN presents a report to GFPN but not vice versa.</p> <p>It is ABAC's prerogative to invite GFPN to present an annual report. It would be positive for GFPN to approach ABAC and explore this possibility.</p> <p>If GFPN participation at ABAC and WLN meetings is not possible, alternatively, an annual report could be submitted to these fora.</p> <p>ABAC Chair is being consulted about this recommendation.</p>	<p>GFPN to approach ABAC and WLN to explore potential areas for mutual collaboration, including the need to present or submit an annual report to these fora.</p>	<p>GFPN report to SCE1 on the outcomes of consultation with ABAC and WLN</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or relevant APEC Fora	Action suggested by SCE	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by GFPN	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
5. Agree to produce targeted “Gender Checklists” for each Fora to be used by Fora Gender Focal Points (GFPN propose a project to fund these).	<p>Experts in various sectors may need to be hired to develop these targeted gender checklists. Would this be the best use of limited resources? Would fora really use it?</p> <p>A task for the long term as long as each fora first is well aware of gender implications on their respective areas.</p>	None		Yes
6. Agree to eliminate the Gender Expert List and the need to update it in the GFPN Terms of Reference	The GFPN agreed to it at its last meeting in Tacna.	GFPN to submit revised TOR for approval	SCE1	Yes
7. Agree that the GFPN prioritise in its annual work programme one or two substantive gender issues that are relevant to specific APEC agendas, the Host Economy theme or the current work of APEC Fora.	The GFPN agreed to it at its last meeting in Tacna. For 2008, Gender and Trade were prioritized.	GFPN to implement this recommendation	Annually	Yes
8. Agree that the GFPN make 1-3 recommendations to SOM based on this realistic work programme and seek to hold Senior Officials and Ministers accountable for implementing these recommendations	The GFPN agreed to it at its last GFPN meeting in Tacna.	GFPN to implement this recommendation	Annually	Yes
9. Agree that the GFPN collaborate with another APEC Fora or the WLN to propose an activity or project to address gender as a cross-cutting issue in a particular area. Policy dialogues could be held to present the project findings and share them with a larger APEC audience	<p>Ideally, the GFPN should identify 3-4 critical challenges to women’s empowerment, identify the appropriate fora, and brief them on the issues, and encourage them to develop projects accordingly.</p> <p>GFPN should involved identified fora in all stages of the project: development, implementation, presentation/dissemination of outcomes.</p>	GFPN to implement this recommendation jointly with recommendation 7	Submission of new project proposals	Yes

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or relevant APEC Fora	Action suggested by SCE	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by GFPN	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
<p>10. Agree that APEC require gender equality reporting in Member Economy Individual Action Plans (IAPs). This reporting would describe the gender impacts of progress made toward APEC ECOTECH and TILF goals and measures to address them. GFPN members will facilitate this reporting by a) advising APEC on the report template and b) carrying out gender analysis in Economies.</p>	<p>We do not support additional reporting.</p> <p>The current cycle of the IAP peer reviews will end in 2009. It is not the right time to revise or make further changes to the IAP reporting template to include additional reporting on new subjects during this cycle.</p> <p>In 2009 when the current IAP Peer Review cycle ends and in preparation for 2010, the entire IAP process including the reporting format/platform and peer reviews may need to be reviewed in a more thorough and holistic manner.</p> <p>IAP is basically intended to progress TILF objectives, towards Bogor Goals 2010/2020, and does not cover ECOTECH. The review of IAP might be discussed in 2010. If necessary this could be considered in this context.</p> <p>While we agree that now is not the right time to revise the IAP reporting template, a possible review of the entire IAP process, including the reporting format/platform and peer reviews, at the end of the current IAP peer review cycle in 2009 provides a timely opportunity to incorporate gender reporting in IAPs. We would suggest that the GFPN liaise with the CTI on possible implementation of Recommendation 10 and that both report progress to the SCE meetings next year</p> <p>CTI Chair is being consulted about this recommendation.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>SCE did not approve this recommendation.</p>		<p>Yes</p>
<p>11. Agree that the GFPN make use of the opportunity to give comments in the Peer Reviews of Economy IAPs as does ABAC and as do civil society representatives</p>	<p>Sure, tough an overly ambitious project for the group.</p> <p>It's important that the GFPN does take up the opportunity to provide comments and questions as part of the IAP Peer Review process. However, the current IAP reporting template does not help to go deep into gender issues. First the</p>	<p>None</p> <p>SCE did not approve this recommendation.</p>		<p>Yes</p>

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or relevant APEC Fora	Action suggested by SCE	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by GFPN	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
	<p>template needs to be reformulated, and if agree, gender consideration can be included.</p> <p>According to the current IAP Peer Review Guidelines, GFPN can provide comments and questions to IAPs of economies under review.</p> <p>CTI Chair is being consulted about this recommendation.</p>			
<p>12. Agree that GFPN be assisted by the APEC Programme Director to request that all Economies and APEC Fora report on the proportion of women and men on their delegations and at their meetings</p>	<p>Recommendation is relevant if all economies provide complete information and GFPN reports on results of analysis of this information.</p> <p>Economy Gender Focal Point could develop mechanism to collect the information on the proportion of women and men in APEC meetings in collaboration with Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Trade and other institution responsible for APEC meeting. These institutions may vary in every economy. These mechanisms could be shared as best practices from economies.</p>	<p>GFPN to recommend the appropriate mechanism to collect information on sex-disaggregated data of women participation in APEC through economies and APEC Fora.</p>	<p>Present recommendation at SCE1 2009</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>13. Agree that the APEC Programme Director collate and report on this data in his/her annual report to the GFPN</p>	<p>The Gender PD has been consolidating this information since 2005.</p> <p>Recommendation relevant if GFPN reports on results of analysis of this information.</p>	<p>GFPN to analyze and report on sex-disagreed data of women participation in APEC in 2009.</p>	<p>SCE1 2010</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>14. Agree that the GFPN report on the ABAC selection process in each Economy and, in cooperation with other APEC Fora and the WLN, create a Register of qualified women candidates for ABAC membership in each economy. The GFPN will</p>	<p>ABAC comprises of up to three members of the private sector from each economy. ABAC members are appointed by their respective Leaders, and represent a range of business sectors, including small and medium enterprises. The economy determines the term of membership of each appointee as well as its own administrative arrangements and</p>	<p>None</p>		<p>Yes</p>

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or relevant APEC Fora	Action suggested by SCE	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by GFPN	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
<p>publicise this register as widely as possible across APEC.</p>	<p>staff support.</p> <p>Desirable to have a register of qualified women candidates for ABAC membership. Nevertheless, it should be noted that in reality, other than gender, there are many other factors, e.g. availability and interest of the candidates that have to be taken into consideration in appointing ABAC members. It is important that the appointment of ABAC members reflects the interests of a broad spectrum of the business sector, as agreed by Ministers in 1995. As such, the register of qualified women candidates should serve only as a reference for member economies in appointing ABAC members.</p> <p>The process to select ABAC members is an exclusive prerogative of every Economy's Leader. ABAC members are not (and can not) be elected; they are like Board Members in a private company (except they are self financed and don't earn in their capacity), and their role is to give advice to Leaders. Applying this recommendation would change the nature of ABAC.</p> <p>It is difficult to implement this recommendation since the post of ABAC members depends on the Leader selection criteria that include personal trust and knowledge, which differs from one economy to another. It is up to ABAC to decide whether GFPN can participate in the selection process but it would be positive if GFPN recommendation could be taken into account.</p> <p>ABAC Chair is being consulted on this recommendation.</p>			

Recommendations by Independent Assessor	Comments from member economies and/or relevant APEC Fora	Action suggested by SCE	Proposed timeline to implement the recommendation by GFPN	Agreement on the suggested action (Yes/No)
<p>15. Agree that the GFPN will develop a publicity and communications strategy to be implemented by the APEC Secretariat as part of the new APEC-wide communications and outreach strategy.</p>	<p>Good idea, but too ambitious for a group that meets 2 days per year. We would prefer that GFPN focus on its core mission as opposed to communications strategy.</p> <p>In 2008, Senior Officials are already working on the development of an APEC-wide communications and outreach strategy. GFPN should be involved in this process rather than developing its own plans that may be duplicative or done in a vacuum.</p> <p>The APEC Secretariat Communication Team can assist fora in their communication efforts. We can assist in the development of a strategy; however, taking into consideration the limited resources, we would need to discuss with the GFPN the details of the strategy and the level of support requested from the APEC Secretariat Communications Team.</p> <p>GFPN aware of the utility of the APEC webpage. Not need for further action at this time due to lack of resources by the fora to implement a strategy.</p>	<p>GFPN to discuss with the APEC Secretariat Communications Team on the best way to make use of the communication resources available for all APEC Fora.</p>	<p>GFPN report to SCE1</p>	<p>Yes</p>

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ANNEX 7

**FINALISATION OF THE STRATEGIC REVIEW OF THE
APEC TOURISM WORKING GROUP**

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**Finialisation of the Strategic Review of the
APEC Tourism Working Group**

Preliminary Report

March 2008

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Chapter 1

The Tourism Working Group Strategic Review

1.1 Background

At the 3rd APEC Tourism Ministers Meeting in Patagonia, Ministers instructed the Tourism Working Group (TWG) to undertake a strategic review of the APEC Tourism Charter and report on the findings of this review to the 4th APEC Tourism Ministers Meeting. At the same time, the SCE commenced an overarching review of APEC sub-fora and reviews of the Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) activities of individual APEC sub-fora. These two reviews sought to improve the implementation of the TWG's ECOTECH activities by ensuring the development of best management practices, improving project design, and raising the profile of APEC's ECOTECH agenda.

1.2 Phase One – consultant review and discussions

The TWG appointed a consultant to undertake a single extensive review which would satisfy the requirements of both SCE and APEC Tourism Ministers Meetings. The objectives of this project were:

1. review of TWG activities and their outcomes;
2. evaluate the way TWG activities support the APEC Tourism Charter, its goals, sub-goals and objectives;
3. assess the impact of the TWG work program "on the ground" in member economies;
4. identify ways to develop synergies among the work of APEC fora;
5. identify opportunities for greater collaboration with the private sector and other multilateral fora;
6. identify ways to access APEC resources for TWG projects;
7. identify opportunities to profile and share programs or projects; and
8. identify ways to strengthen TWG's strategic priorities and direction for future works, including the 2000 Tourism Charter, as mandated by the 3rd APEC Tourism Ministers in 2004.

The consultant provided a preliminary report which included background information and preliminary results of a questionnaire completed by TWG members. Subsequently Australia, as Project Overseer for this project, submitted a final Assessment Report (the 'Phase One Report') which incorporated outcomes of a review session on the operations and goals of the TWG held during the 29th TWG meeting in Hoi An, Viet Nam in October 2006. This Report was endorsed by all members of the TWG at the 30th APEC TWG Meeting held on the Gold Coast, Australia, in May 2007.

The Phase One Report contained sixteen recommendations aimed at improving the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the TWG. The recommendations covered five broad areas; APEC Tourism Charter, TWG Functions, TWG Operations, TWG Projects, and Collaboration. The recommendations and their current status can be found in Table 2.1.

1.3 Phase Two – implementation of recommendations

Following SCE's endorsement of the Phase One Report, work commenced on the implementation of the recommendations of the Phase One Report during 2007. Nearly all the Phase One Report recommendations have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented. Examples include:

- extending the term of the Chair/Lead Shepherd to two years; and
- the agenda of the 30th meeting of the TWG, which allocated less time to project progress reports and more time to the discussion of substantive current issues.

For more details see Table 2.1.

1.4 Phase Three of the Strategic Review

The purpose of Phase Three of the Strategic Review has been to undertake a further review of the TWG's activities and operations following the implementation (in Phase Two) of the Phase One recommendations.

This Phase Three review comprises an internal review undertaken by an independent consultant appointed by the TWG Lead Shepherd. The consultant was asked to provide a preliminary report to the Lead Shepherd by the end of February 2008. His preliminary report will be circulated to TWG members for their comments and further contributions, and the completed report will be required to be delivered by the end of March 2008 to enable it to be tabled at the 5th APEC Tourism Ministers' Meeting scheduled for April 2008.

The Terms of Reference for the Stage Three review were:

- To assess and report on the implementation and effectiveness of the recommendations of the Phase One Report (i.e. Phase Two outcomes);
- To establish which of the sub-goals, objectives and considerations of the APEC Tourism Charter are most critical to the success of the activities of the TWG, and determine the best way to utilise the sub-goals, objectives and considerations in the TWG's workplan and activities.
- To review the role and need for policy goal chairs; and
- To assess why the roles and agreed functions of the TWG are not always evident in the activities undertaken by the TWG and make recommendations to correct this.

Chapter 2

Analysis and conclusions

The formation of the APEC TWG in 1991 recognised the increasingly important contribution that tourism is making to economic and social development in the Asia-Pacific region. The TWG facilitates this growth and in doing so improves the economic social cultural and environmental well-being of member economies. In recent years, the work of the Tourism Ministers Meetings and the TWG has been recognised by APEC Leaders.

For example, APEC Leaders endorsed the outcomes of the 4th APEC Tourism Ministerial Meeting, urging member economies to further explore opportunities for tourism cooperation and to identify impediments in the travel and tourism industry. Ministers also encouraged the TWG to identify impediments to travel and tourism industry growth and to develop policies that foster the creation of a positive business climate.

2.1 Implementation and effectiveness of the Phase One Report

In summary, the Phase One Report found that:

- The goals, sub-goals, objectives and considerations of the APEC Tourism Charter are still relevant and well-determined. However the Report considered that there was a lack of awareness of the sub-goals, objectives and considerations. The Report also questioned the role of policy chairs.
- There was a general consensus within the TWG on its roles and functions, namely, to:
 - o facilitate and increase cooperation and learning between TWG members;
 - o increase awareness of tourism and its role as an economic driver within the APEC region throughout the broader APEC forum and in member economies;
 - o influence policy developers and decision makers on issues relating to, and impacting on, tourism; and
 - o focus APEC Leaders on tourism.
- Changes were needed in relation to TWG operations, including the management of meetings, the role and the Chair/Lead Shepherd and the responsibilities of members.
- The processes for selecting and managing TWG projects needed improvement.
- There was scope for the TWG to increase its collaborative efforts within the APEC context and with outside parties including the private sector and other multilateral organisations.

Progress on these recommendations is summarised in Table 2.1.

**Table 2.1
IMPLEMENTATION OF PHASE ONE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendation	Status	Comments
APEC TWG Charter		
1. TWG should utilise the sub-goals, objectives and considerations of the APEC Tourism Charter to provide greater focus and drive to the APEC Tourism Charter Goals	Ongoing	Addressed in this report.
2. TWG should regularly review the role and need for policy goal chairs	Ongoing	Role and relevance of policy goal chairs was discussed and endorsed at 30th TWG meeting.
APEC TWG Functions		
3. TWG members should pay greater attention to the agreed functions as set out in Section 4.2 of the review.	Ongoing	Addressed in this report.
TWG Operations		
4. TWG should amend the standard agenda for its meetings to include a number of sessions focusing on key issues impacting on tourism in the APEC region	Completed	30th TWG meeting including general discussions items relating to aviation liberalisation and development, destination management planning and investment and tourism satellite accounts. The 31st TWG meeting agenda features general discussion items relating to climate change and indigenous tourism. The upcoming 32nd TWG meeting agenda will focus on the concept of 'Responsible Tourism' with discussions on the following; Social inclusion and Indigenous tourism; Corporate Social Responsibility; health and tourism; and environmental responsibility.
5. TWG should decrease time spent during meetings on reporting of progress on TWG projects, but include information on the implementation of projects.	Ongoing	The agendas for the 30th and 31st TWG meetings have limited the time spent reporting on projects and TWG members have agreed that the implementation phase of projects should be given the highest priority.
6. TWG should extend the term for Lead Shepherd/Chair to two years. The TWG Lead Shepherd/Chair should provide greater leadership to TWG members during its term, and outside of the two meetings.	Completed	New Terms of Reference were endorsed by members at the 31st TWG meeting in Bandung.
7. The Lead Shepherd/Chair should undertake ongoing monitoring of TWG activities to ensure it is progressing the priorities outlined in the TWG Work Plan.	Ongoing	Australia, as Lead Shepherd for 2007-08, has taken a more active role in the ongoing monitoring of TWG activities.
8. The Lead Shepherd/Chair should place greater emphasis on building relationships with its counterparts in other APEC sub-fora and international fora.	Ongoing	SMEWG Chair presented at 30th TWG Meeting and the TPT-WG provided the TWG Lead Shepherd with a short report on recent activities of the TPT-WG. TWG Lead Shepherd attended a seminar on aviation issues in Singapore which was organised by the TPT-WG. The TWG Lead Shepherd has maintained regular contact with the TPT-WG Chair on cross-cutting issues.

		SMEWG and TPT-WG have been invited to provide a short progress report for tabling at the 31st TWG Meeting. The TWG is seeking to collaborate with UNWTO on its TSA project.
TWG Projects		
9. TWG should take a more strategic approach to project development to ensure projects meet both the broader APEC goals as well as Tourism Charter goals and the priorities set out in the TWG Work Plan	Ongoing	Australia, as Project Overseer, ensured that a strategic approach was considered when developing the TSA project. TWG members will ensure that a strategic approach is considered when developing project proposals in the future.
10. TWG should focus projects on capacity building and ensure that projects have a detailed implementation plan, with real outcomes	Ongoing	The TSA project focuses primarily on capacity building in the area of TSAs within the APEC region. The TWG will ensure that future projects and work have a focus on capacity building.
11. TWG should utilise APEC's project evaluation framework for all APEC projects. In doing this the TWG may wish to explore the option of establishing a project evaluation sub-committee	Ongoing	Australia, as project overseer of the TSA project, will seek to form a project evaluation subcommittee for this project. In future, project overseers will endeavour to form an evaluation sub-committee for all TWG projects in the future.
12. TWG should seek to access central APEC funding for its projects	Ongoing	TWG's project on TSA's was approved by BMC for APEC funding in 2008.
Collaboration		
13. TWG should increase its efforts in collaboration with the private sector, industry associations and other multilateral organisations	Ongoing	TWG increased its engagement with these stakeholders at the 30th TWG meeting through the hosting of the APEC Tourism Forum, private sector and other stakeholder speakers at the TWG meeting. This recommendation was discussed at the 30th TWG meeting and members agreed that it was important and would work towards increasing engagement with these stakeholders.
14. TWG should foster relationships with other relevant APEC sub-fora	Ongoing	See comments for Recommendation 8.
15. TWG should maximise the opportunities offered by its guest members in both collaboration on issues of shared interest and to raise the profile of the TWG	Ongoing	As per comments for Recommendation 13. TWG is also considering collaborating with the UNWTO, and other guest members, on issues of cross cutting relevance, particularly climate change.
Further Review of the TWG		
16. The Lead Shepherd, assisted by a sub-committee of interested economies, develop, for immediate implementation, a framework and detailed process for an internal review of the TWG	In progress	Consultant engaged to prepare this report.

As can be seen from Table 2.1, excellent progress has been made on the implementation of the Phase One Report recommendations. Even where action has been categorized as “ongoing”, significant action has already been taken.

The APEC Tourism Forum of May 2007 provides evidence of the new approach that has been adopted following the Phase One Report. This meeting addressed some major issues of current concern to TWG members (see Box 2.1). By inviting outside speakers to address issues of current concern to government agencies responsible for tourism, the TWG can ensure that its members are well-informed from a variety of different perspectives.

Box 2.1

APEC TOURISM FORUM MAY 2007

The Importance of Collaboration in Times of Crisis

Topics addressed included:

- Ways in which the UN World Tourism Organisation assists member countries to cope with crises that affect tourism.
- Australian insights into the recovery process after Cyclone Larry in 2006 and the Canberra bushfires in 2003.
- Thailand’s collaboration with international organisations and other governments to rebuild areas of Thailand impacted by the 2004 Tsunami.
- Hong Kong’s experience in managing the impact of the SARS outbreak in 2003.
- Critical factors to be taken into account in time of pandemic.
- Tourism industry and government collaboration in times of crisis.
- Gippsland (Australia) Tourism Response and Recovery Group recovery efforts following a recent bushfire-related downturn in tourism.
- The role of Emergency Management Australia in providing on-the-ground assistance during crises.

In addition, a disaster scenario provided the basis for tourism crisis exercise and the Australian Minister for Small Business and Tourism launched a multimedia training DVD “Prepared and Protected” designed specifically for the tourism industry.

Proposals currently in the pipeline reflect the recommendations for new projects. For example, the Tourism Satellite Account project is co-sponsored by three APEC economies. It involves capacity building and will provide participating members with a better statistical base for decision making by both governments and the tourism industry.

Two of the recommendations (8 and 14) called for greater interaction between the TWG and other APEC sub-fora. The current draft proposal for a project on the impact of Climate Change would provide a good example of such interaction. The TWG needs to actively seek opportunities to work with other APEC sub-fora.

The Executive Committee, under the guidance of the Chair/Lead Shepherd, should be considering the priorities of other APEC fora at least twice per annum, with a view to identifying synergies or areas where there is an intersection of interests with the TWG. These can then be explored further, through emails and discussions with the other fora. This process should provide the TWG will opportunities to demonstrate that it is working effectively with other APEC fora.

Recommendation 6 addressed the role of the Lead Shepherd. This role is very important to the success of the TWG. When a member economy agrees to provide someone for this role, it is critical that the resource commitments involved are understood.

The Lead Shepherd should be very pro-active and work between TWG sessions in order to ensure that all member economies have the opportunity to benefit from their participation in the TWG.

While the TWG has made substantial progress in the implementation of the majority of the Phase One Report recommendations, some questions remain unanswered in relation to how the first three recommendations in Table 2.1 can best be addressed. For this reason there was a requirement to further review three recommendations from the Phase One Report.

2.2 Utilising the sub-goals, objectives and consideration of the Tourism Charter

The Phase One Report recommended that TWG utilise the sub-goals, objectives and considerations of the APEC Tourism Charter to provide greater focus and drive to the APEC Tourism Charter Goals. The Phase One Report concluded that the goals, sub-goals, objectives and considerations of the APEC Tourism Charter are still relevant and well-determined. However the Phase One Report suggested that there is a lack of awareness of the sub-goals, objectives and considerations. These sub-goals, objectives and considerations provide focus and strategic direction to the implementation of the Charter goals. Charter goals and sub-goals are listed in Box 2.2.

In accordance with its vision and consistent with the overall APEC mission, the TWG is required to actively pursue the following objectives:

- highlight the importance and significant contribution of tourism in the economic development of the region;
- address issues to facilitate the flow of visitors into and within the region;
- investigate the successful management strategies for the sustainable development of tourism in environmentally sensitive areas of the region;
- facilitate human resources development and training in tourism;
- cooperate in ensuring the safety of visitors and quality of tourism;
- develop strong relationships with the private sector through an active representation of the private sector in the tourism agenda;
- foster collaborative initiatives amongst the APEC economies and other international bodies related to tourism industry and the private sector;
- facilitate and encourage the liberalization of tourism investment opportunities in the APEC economies;
- facilitate the exchange of information, including sharing tourism data and views on tourism issues; and
- formulate and implement marketing and promotional programs to enhance travel into and within the APEC economies.

Box 2.2 TWG GOALS AND SUB-GOALS

Goal 1: Remove impediments to tourism business and investment

To be achieved by:

- a. promoting and facilitating the mobility of skills, training and labor;
- b. promoting and facilitating productive investment in tourism and associated sectors;
- c. removing regulatory impediments to tourism business and investment; and
- d. encouraging liberalization of services trade related to tourism under General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

Goal 2: Increase mobility of visitors and demand for tourism goods and services in the APEC region.

To be achieved by:

- a. facilitating seamless travel for visitors;
- b. enhancing visitor experiences;
- c. promoting inter- and intra-regional marketing opportunities and cooperation;
- d. facilitating and promoting e-commerce for tourism business;
- e. enhancing safety and security of visitors; and
- f. fostering a non-discriminatory approach to the provision of visitor facilities and services

Goal 3: Sustainably manage tourism outcomes and impacts.

To be achieved by pursuing policies that:

- a. demonstrate an appreciation and understanding of our natural environment and seek to protect that environment;
- b. foster ecologically sustainable development opportunities across the tourism sector, particularly for small and medium sized enterprises, employment and providing for open and sustainable tourism markets;
- c. protect the social integrity of host communities with particular attention to the implications of gender in the management and development of tourism;
- d. recognize, respect and preserve local and indigenous cultures together with our natural and national cultural heritage; and,
- e. enhance capability building in the management and development of tourism.

Goal 4: Enhance recognition and understanding of tourism as a vehicle for economic and social development.

To be achieved by:

- a. harmonizing methodologies for key tourism statistical collections, consistent with activities of other international tourism organizations;
- b. facilitating the exchange of information on tourism between economies;
- c. promoting comprehensive analysis of the role of tourism in member economies in promoting sustainable growth; and,
- d. expanding our collective knowledge base on tourism issues in order to identify emerging issues and assist implementation of the Charter.

In order to achieve the above objectives, the TWG will develop and implement its collective actions plan to:

- encourage the sustainable growth of tourism in the APEC region as a means of generating economic benefits for all member economies;
- reduce barriers to the flow of visitors;
- promote tourism development in a sensitive and sustainable manner in respect of the natural, cultural and social environment of the region;
- encourage each member economy to ensure the safety of visitors and the quality of tourism;
- promote high quality provision of tourism services through human resources development;
- exchange tourism statistics and information to heighten awareness of tourism's contribution to the APEC region;
- encourage infrastructure development, consistent with sustainable growth;
- pursue opportunities for enhanced technology applications in the tourism sector ; and
- avoid duplication of activities with other relevant regional organizations.

Thus the four goals relate to nineteen sub-goals, ten objectives and a number of considerations. It is not easy to prioritise the goals and sub-goals. At different times, some will be more important than others. Not every meeting, agenda item or project can possibly address all of these goals and sub-goals. It is important that, over time, the TWG should give attention to all its goals and sub-goals.

One way of ensuring that the TWG addresses its goals and sub-goals is to introduce a check list which should be completed for each project proposal. This would encourage proposers of new projects to give more consideration to the sub-goals and objectives. Project proposals should also include details of how they might be evaluated when completed. Project performance measures should also relate to the sub-goals and objectives. When designing meeting agendas, the Secretariat and Executive Committee could take a similar approach to ensure that some goals and sub-goals are not neglected.

It is important that TWG meetings address the major issues facing government agencies responsible for tourism. Member economies could be invited at each meeting to identify one or two important current issues which could be the subject of a more detailed discussion at a subsequent meeting. This would provide a menu of possible items from which to develop meeting agendas and workplans.

The current survey of TWG members will help to provide a clearer picture of the responsibilities of government agencies that participate in the Working Group. The breadth of some of the TWG's goals and sub-goals may extend beyond the responsibilities of the agencies from which TWG members are currently drawn. This can provide TWG members with the opportunity to seek the involvement of other agencies from within their government, thus further enhancing the awareness of the importance of tourism to APEC economies.

2.3 The role and need for policy goals chairs

The Phase One Report recommended that the TWG should regularly review the role and need for policy goal chairs. Currently, policy goal chairs appear to have a rather limited role. For example, project overseers are in the best position to report on progress with the projects for which they are responsible. However, the benefit of having policy goal chairs is that these persons can take some responsibility for proposing activities, agenda items and new projects that address their policy goal. This will only be effective if the policy goal chairs are active both in meetings and between sessions.

The TWG should make better use of these policy goal chairs. They should assist in initiating new activities, and thus help the TWG to maintain greater focus and direction in implementing the Charter goals.

Policy goal chairs should bring forward new proposals for projects, meeting topics and speakers that address the policy goal and sub-goals for which they are responsible. Each policy goal chair should be providing at least one such proposal each year. Policy goal chairs should participate in Executive Committee meetings.

2.4 Greater attention to the agreed functions of the TWG

The Phase One Report proposed that TWG members pay greater attention to the agreed functions of the TWG. As part of the review, TWG members and guest members were asked to identify what they perceived the key functions of the TWG to be. Results showed a general consensus within the TWG on its role and function. The review found that the key roles and functions of the TWG were to:

- facilitate and increase cooperation and learning between TWG members;
- increase awareness of tourism and its role as an economic driver within the APEC region throughout the broader APEC forum and in member economies;
- influence policy developers and decision makers on issues relating to, and impacting on, tourism; and focus APEC Leaders on tourism.

While TWG members appear to agree to the Working Group's roles and functions, these roles and functions do not always seem to be evident in the activities undertaken by the TWG. However, the Phase One Review found that the goals, objectives and consideration paragraphs are effective in capturing the role of the TWG in supporting the implementation of the APEC Tourism Charter.

TWG members should keep the Working Group's goals and objectives in mind when proposing new projects. In particular, TWG members need to keep in mind the need for their activities to address APEC's economic goals.

In order to ensure that more of the TWG's Goals are addressed, the Working Group could consider facilitating short term exchange of key tourism personnel between member economies. Identifying best practice and presenting new national initiatives to the TWG could also be useful.

2.5 Conclusions

The TWG has undertaken a thorough review process and made good progress on implementing the recommendations of the Phase One Review. In particular, implementation of the management-related recommendations is making the TWG more effective and relevant, and its meetings more useful and efficient. If this momentum can be maintained, the TWG will become a more effective forum for furthering the goals set out in the APEC Tourism Charter. Furthermore, the recent addition of culture to the TWG's responsibilities provides an opportunity to address issues relating to cultural tourism.

Recent experience suggests that one way of addressing a wider range of TWG goals and sub-goals, is by inviting speakers to TWG meetings. External speakers can help the TWG to develop its thinking on issues of current or emerging importance to tourism.

There are also good opportunities for working with other sub-fora to further APEC's goals. Again, recent proposals such as climate change project will enhance this collaboration. Such joint activities should help the TWG to ensure that broader issues which impact on tourism are appropriately addressed.

The TWG can be most useful to APEC member economies when Working Group members are actively involved in a number of relevant projects. Such projects allow member economies to share experiences and work together to address issues which impact on tourism in the region. All member economies, but especially the countries providing policy goal chairs, have a responsibility for contributing ideas and suggestions for new projects.

Annex 7 – Appendix A: Documents viewed

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

An Assessment of the ECOTECH Implementation of the APEC Tourism Working Group (TWG), August 2007

APEC Tourism Forum Outcomes (on “The Importance of Collaboration in Times of Crisis”), May 2007

Chair’s Summary Report, 29th Tourism Working Group Meeting, Hoi An, Viet Nam 13-14 October 2006

Draft Proposal Outline for an APEC Funded Project (Climate Change) 2009 -2010

Framework for finalisation of the Strategic Review of the APEC Tourism Working Group

Summary of the APEC TWG Project: TWG 01/2008T Capacity Building on Tourism Satellite Account as basis for Promoting Liberalization and Facilitation of Tourism Services

ANNEX 8

**2006 SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
REVIEW OF FORA**

ANNEX 8**2006 SOM STEERING COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
REVIEW OF FORA****Report to SOM**

The SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE) was mandated to conduct a review of APEC Working Groups and Task Forces and to make recommendations to Senior Officials on establishing, merging, disbanding or reorienting these bodies.

The SCE undertook extensive consultation throughout the year with members and fora, examined information on terms of reference (TOR), meeting arrangements and project history and conducted a survey of views across economies and fora. Draft discussion papers were tabled at SCEII (2006/SOMII/SCE/012), SCEIII (2006/SOMIII/SCE/002) and distributed intersessionally and a final outcomes paper was tabled and discussed at SCEIV (2006/CSOM/SCE/001).

The SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE) recommends that SOM endorse the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1

The Social Safety Nets Capacity Building Network (SSNCBN) be merged into the Human Resource Development Working Group (HRDWG).

Recommendation 2

Further consideration be given to merging the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (HLPDAB) with the Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG).

Recommendation 3

The Non-Ferrous Metals Dialogue (NFMD) be incorporated into the EWG sub-fora Expert Group on Mining, Exploration and Energy Development (GEMEED).

Recommendation 4

The Fisheries Working Group (FWG) and the Marine Resource Conservation Working Groups (MRCWG) continue to collaborate and consult closely, including through annual joint meetings from 2007 onwards. The SCE also recommends that the fora revise their TORs in consultation to identify how they will collaborate on areas of mutual interest and to indicate a clearer link with broader APEC priorities.

Recommendation 5

The Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN) work with the executive director to establish the level of Secretariat support available to support the network's work program and to ensure that the support given leads to substantive outcomes related to gender integration in APEC.

Recommendation 6

The Cultural Focal Point Network (CFPN) be disbanded.

Recommendation 7

The SCE recommends that further consideration be given to the suggestions for improving the

operations of the Telecommunications Working Group (TELWG) and Electronic Commerce Steering (ECSG) in 2007.

Recommendation 8

The SCE recommends that the Trade Promotion Working Group (WGTP) be incorporated into the Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG).

Recommendation 9

The SCE recommends that the Tourism Working Group (TWG) remains an independent working group at this stage, but be subject to further review in 2008.

Recommendation 10

The SCE recommends that further consideration be given to possibilities for improving the synergies between the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Task Force (ACT) and the Economic Committee (EC), taking account of related work being conducted in CTI sub-fora such as Strengthening Economic Legal Infrastructure (SELI) and the Competition Policy and Deregulation Group (CPDG).

Recommendation 11

The SCE recommends that further consideration be given to transforming the Health Task Force (HTF) to a working group during the review of its mandate in 2007.

Recommendation 12

The SCE recommends that the list of suggestions for improving working arrangements (at Annex A) be endorsed and implemented in 2007.

ANNEX 8 – ATTACHMENT A**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING WORKING ARRANGEMENTS**

The SCE recommends that:

- The Secretariat develops guidelines on TOR to ensure all SCE fora have relevant and targeted TOR, which reflect a clear strategic focus, establish policy criteria, clearly define key goals and projected outputs, include a sunset clause and provide for periodic review and evaluation against set objectives.
- The Secretariat develops a standardised reporting process for all fora, based on the SCE Fora Report for endorsement by SOM.
- A two-year fixed term arrangement be put in place for all lead shepherds and chairs.
- All fora minimise events and meeting schedules and ensure they are well timed, consistent with APEC processes, and well targeted to ensure relevant participation.
- The Secretariat develops a program of independent assessments to evaluate all SCE Working Groups and Task Forces and support periodic review processes, starting with those Working Groups identified in Recommendations 2, 4 and 5 above. The APEC Secretariat is asked to prepare a plan, including funding suggestions, for consideration at SCEI.
- The Secretariat develops standardised project proposal processes and put in place mechanisms to ensure that when Program Directors are processing project proposals they check that appropriate consultation with other fora has occurred before submitting to the Budget and Management Committee (BMC).
- The Secretariat re-examines guidelines for projects with a view to strengthening design outlines and sponsoring arrangements, including the roles and responsibilities of co-sponsors.
- The Secretariat develops a more accurate reporting structure for self-funded projects for SCE endorsement.

The SCE reaffirms the need to adhere to the guidelines governing the establishment of APEC fora, and recommends that these guidelines be reviewed by the Secretariat to ensure they reflect current policy.

The SCE also recommends that a further review be conducted with regard to the ability of the Secretariat, given limited resources, to comprehensively and productively support all APEC fora.

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ANNEX 9

SUMMARY OF ECOTECH PROJECTS

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NUMBER OF PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY APEC FORA IN 2008 UNDER EACH ECOTECH PRIORITY THEME

Priority Theme	APEC Forum																			Total SCE Fora	Total		
	ATCWG	ACT	CTI	CTTF	EC	EWG	FIN	FWG	GFPN	HRDWG	HWG	HLPDAB	ISTWG	MRCWG	SCE	SME	SOM	TEL	TFEP			TPTWG	TWG
1. Developing Human Capital	2		4			1			1	5			1		1	1		1			3	16	20
2. Developing stable and efficient markets through structural reform	1	2			1																	3	5
3. Strengthening economic infrastructure		1		1			1															2	3
4. Facilitating technology flows and harnessing technologies for the future	3					1							1									5	5
5. Safeguarding the quality of life through environmentally sound growth	2					11				1			1	1								16	16
6. Developing and strengthening the dynamism of SMEs							1			1					4							5	6
7. Integration into the global economy	1							1		3			1									6	6
8. Human Security and Counter-Terrorism CB	1		1	3							8		1						4			17	18
9. Promoting the Development of Knowledge-based Economies								1		1			1	1	1							5	5
10. Addressing Social Dimension of Globalisation						1				1												2	2
Total	10	3	5	4	1	14	2	2	1	12	8	0	6	2	1	6	0	1	4	0	3	77	85

SUMMARY OF THE TYPES OF ECOTECH PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY APEC FORA IN 2008

<i>APEC Forum</i>	ATCWG	ACT	CTI	CTTF	EC	EWG	FIN	FWG	GFPN	HRD	HWG	HLPDAB	ISTWG	MRCWG	SCE	SME	SOM	TEL	TFEP	TPTWG	TWG	Total	
<i>Type of Activity</i>																							
Seminar/Symposium	9	2	1	4		3	1	2		6	6		4	2		4		1	2		2	49	
Training	1		1			1	1		1	1	1		1			2			1		1	12	
Survey or Analysis and Research		1	3		1	10				3			1		1							20	
Others										2	1								1			4	
Total	10	3	5	4	1	14	2	2	1	12	8	0	6	2	1	6	0	1	4	0	3	85	

**SUMMARY OF THE TYPES OF ECOTECH PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY APEC FORA IN 2008
ACCORDING TO FUNDING SOURCES**

<i>APEC Forum</i>	ATCWG	ACT	CTI	CTTF	EC	EWG	FIN	FWG	GFPN	HRDWG	HWG	HLPDAB	ISTWG	MRCWG	SCE	SME	SOM	TEL	TFEP	TPTWG	TWG	Total	
<i>Source of Funding</i>																							
Operational Account	1	1	1	3	1	4		1	1	6			2	2	1	3		1					28
APEC Support Fund	8	2	4	1		9	2	1		4	8		2			3			4		2	50	
TILF Special Account	1					1				2			2								1	7	
Self-funded	2					3				4			1	2		1		1				14	
Total	12	3	5	4	1	17	2	2	1	16	8	0	7	4	1	7	0	2	4	0	3	99	

**REVISED SCHEDULE OF THE INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT
OF WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES**

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Independent Assessment Schedule

The proposed assessment schedule includes an assessment of three fora per year, which will enable each forum to be independently assessed every four years. The schedule is as follows:

2007	Marine Resource Conservation Working Group (MRCWG), Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN), Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG) and the High level Policy Dialogue on Agriculture Biotechnology (HLPDAB)
2008	Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL), Energy Working Group (EWG), and Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Task Force (ACT)
2009	Industrial Science and Technology Working Group (ISTWG), Human Resource Development Working Group (HRDWG), and Transportation Working Group (TPTWG)
2010	Counter-Terrorism Task Force (CTTF), Health Working Group (HWG), and Tourism Working Group (TWG)
2011	Task Force on Emergency Preparedness (TFEP), Fisheries Working Group (FWG) and Marine Resource Conservation Working Group (MRCWG), Small Medium Enterprise Working group (SMEWG)
2012	Mining Task Force, Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN), Agriculture Technical Working Group (ATCWG) and the High Level Policy Dialogue on Agriculture Biotechnology (HLPDAB)
2013 same as 2008	Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL), Energy Working Group (EWG), and Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Task Force (ACT)
2014 onwards	Continues in rotational manner

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABAC	APEC Business Advisory Council
ACS	APEC Collaboration System
ACT	Anti-Corruption and Transparency Experts Task Force
AEF	APEC Education Foundation
AELM	APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting
AI	Avian Influenza
AIMP	APEC Information Management Portal
AMM	APEC Ministerial Meeting
ASF	APEC Support Fund
ATCWG	Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group
BMC	Budget Management Committee
CBN	Capacity Building Network
CFPN	Cultural Focal Point Network
CIIP	Critical Information Infrastructure Protection
CPDG	Competition Policy and Deregulation Group
CSD	Commission for Social Development (United Nations)
CTI	Committee on Trade and Investment
EC	Economic Committee
ECOTECH	Economic and Technical Cooperation
ECSG	Electronic Commerce Steering Group
EDNET	Education Network
EGCFE	Expert Group on Clean Fossil Energy
EWG	Energy Working Group
FMP	Finance Ministers' Process
FWG	Fisheries Working Group
GEMEED	Expert Group on Mining, Exploration and Energy Development
GFPN	Gender Focal Point Network
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
HLPDAB	High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
HRDWG	Human Resource Development Working Group
HTF	Health Task Force
HWG	Health Working Group
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFI	International Financial Institutions
ISTWG	Industrial Science and Technology Working Group
IUU	Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated
LSPN	Labour and Social Protection Network
ME	Micro Enterprises
MESG	Micro-Enterprises Sub-Group
MICE	Meeting, Incentive travel, Conventions/congress, Exhibition/event
MO	International Organisation
MRCWG	Marine Resource Conservation Working Group
MRM	Ministers Responsible for Mining
MTF	Mining Task Force

NFMD	Non-Ferrous Metals Dialogue
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PA	Program Assistant
PDB	Project Database
PD	Program Director
POs	Project Overseers
QAF	Quality Assessment Framework
RDEAB	Research, Development and Extension of Agricultural Biotechnology
REDI	Renewable Energy Development Initiative
RTEIS	Real Time Emergency Information Sharing System
S&T	Science and Technology
SA	Special Assistant
SAKE	Satellite Application in Knowledge-based Economies
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SCE	SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH
SCE-COW	SCE- Committee of the Whole
SELI	Strengthening Economic Legal Infrastructure
SMEWG	Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group
SSNCBN	Social Safety Nets Capacity Building Network
STAR	Secure Trade in the APEC Region Conference
Conference	
TELWG	Telecommunications and Information Working Group
TFEP	Task Force on Emergency Preparedness
TILF	Trade and Investment Liberalization Fund
TOR	Terms of Reference
TRP	Trade Recovery Program
UNCSD	United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organisation
WTTC	World Travel and Tourism Council