



*Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
Human Resources Development Working Group
Labour Market Information Group*

Innovative Labour Market Adjustment Policies and Programmes in APEC Member Economies

July 1999

ISBN 0642 414009

APEC 99-HR-01.2



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Ó 1999 APEC Secretariat

APEC 99-HR-01.2



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Introduction

This report presents information on innovative labour market policies and programmes in APEC member economies. It has been prepared as an aid to policy makers, in the context of the economic and financial crisis in Asia. The crisis has had a substantial impact on the human resource and social conditions in several member economies. The identification and dissemination of innovative labour market adjustment policies and programmes aims to provide relevant and timely information to assist economies responding to the economic and financial crisis and minimise its economic and social costs.

This report stems from the report of the APEC Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG) on the Human Resource and Social Impact of the Financial Crisis delivered at the 19th HRDWG meeting in January 1999.

The HRDWG agreed that one of its networks – the Labour Market Information (LMI) Group – would undertake this work. Australia (through the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business) is currently the co-ordinator of the LMI Group and took responsibility for the preparation and co-ordination of the report.

The report contributes to the directive APEC Leaders set in Kuala Lumpur in November 1998 – including to strengthen social safety nets and human resource development towards a capacity for sustained growth in the economies of the Asia-Pacific into the 21st Century.

This report will be presented at the 3rd APEC HRD Ministerial meeting being held in Washington D.C., USA, in July 1999. It will also be presented to APEC Ministers and Leaders meeting in Auckland, New Zealand, in September 1999.

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July 1999

This report was mainly compiled from member economy contributions. The Group gratefully acknowledges the contribution of Professor Ron Duncan, Executive Director, National Centre for Development Studies, and his team, from the Australian National University.

