



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2013/SOM3/HRDWG/051**


Agenda Item: EDNET

## **APEC Higher Education Diploma Supplement Model: Development and Adaptation to Local Needs**

Purpose: Information  
Submitted by: Australia




**35<sup>th</sup> Human Resources Development  
Working Group Meeting  
Medan, Indonesia  
24-26 June 2013**

 Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change,  
Science, Research and Tertiary Education

# APEC Higher Education Diploma Supplement Model: Development and Adaptation to Local Needs


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Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change,  
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## Context



- The Challenge: respecting the diversity of APEC economies, while enabling exchanges that support integration & economic growth

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## • Qualifications documentation

- A diversity of systems, institutions
  - Reflecting cultures, needs
- Aim: support connectivity, comparability through facilitating assessment of qualifications



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## Previous projects to support mobility



- APEC Engineer-Towards Mutual Recognition of Qualifications (1998)
- APEC Architect (2004)
- Enhancement of Quality Assurance Systems in Higher Education in APEC Member Economies (2006)
- Mapping of Qualifications Frameworks (2009)
- Measures Affecting Cross-Border Education Exchange (2009)
- Higher Education Diploma Supplement – Phase 1 (2010)



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## 2010 Project (HRD 12/2009): Research & Seminar (Canberra)



### Recommendations for a follow-up project:

1. Develop non-binding APEC Diploma Supplement model
2. Workshops to address capacity building needs for adaptation & adoption of model



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## 2012/13 Project (HRD 01/2011): Refinement of Model DS & Workshops series





## • What is a Diploma Supplement?



- A DS is an addition to a student's academic transcript issued for each qualification that clearly explains its:
  - content
  - structure and
  - context
- A DS is a semi-standardised, detailed, authenticated statement of a graduate's academic achievements.
- A DS provides an explanation of the qualification and information about the awarding institution and relevant higher education system.
  - academic transcripts typically only include the title of the qualification and a list of units studied.



## Features of the APEC DS Model

- Flexible
- Voluntary & non-binding
- Increases openness & transparency
- Promotes qualifications comparability
- Promotes mobility
- Builds capacity

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## CONTENT

- **First Page Details:** institutional logo, date, etc
- **Description of the Higher Education System**
- **Listing of Graduate's Achievements:** grading, grading key, recognitions and prizes, etc
- **The Awarding Institution**
- **The Award:** location of the degree in the system's qualifications framework\*, etc
- **The Graduate:** name, ID, etc

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- **Workshops**



- Content: development and use of DSs based on APEC model
- Processes for implementation
- Strategic and practical aspects
- Programs developed with hosts



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## Future Development

- Additional host economy workshops
- Targeted engagement activities
- Pilot initiatives
- Leadership by government agencies
- Nomenclature: “Diploma Supplement” vs. “Graduation Statement”
- Development of online resources




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## 2012 APEC Leaders' Statement on Cross Border Education Cooperation




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**Australia Awards**


**AsiaBound**

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**Final Report**

- Received from consultants
- Web placement pending (APEC PMD and HRDWG Wiki)
- Available from [brett.pattinson@innovation.gov.au](mailto:brett.pattinson@innovation.gov.au)







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