



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2016/PPWE1/003b

Agenda Item: 2

PPWE Work Plan – Updated Jun 2016

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: PPWE Chair



**Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy
Meeting
Lima, Peru
28-29 June 2016**

**Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE)
Draft Work Plan for 2016**

1. Work Plan for 2016 in response to Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions and to ABAC Recommendations.

On 27-30 June, 2016, Peru will hold the APEC Women and the Economy Forum (PPWE, PPD HLPD on WE, and MCM PPWE) with the theme “***Breaking barriers to economic integration of women in the global market.***”

The WE APEC Forum will focus on ways to break down barriers to economic empowerment of women and to ensure their participation in the global market. Supporting this theme, it has been established five priorities, which will discuss:

- I. Economy Care Systems: Recognizing, reducing and redistributing unpaid care work for inclusive growth
- II. Costs of gender-based violence in the context of economic development
- III. Mechanisms for the internationalization of MSMEs led by women
- IV. Financial and economic literacy and inclusion for access to capital
- V. Digital literacy for economic inclusion

This proposal intertwined with the five priority areas that the Women and the Economy Forum has identified. As endorsed by the APEC Economic Leaders, the San Francisco Declaration on Women and the Economy outlines the four priority areas where women’s participation needs improvement: 1) access to capital, 2) access to markets, 3) capacity and skills building, and health, and 4) women’s leadership, voice and agency. This is further expanded by adding the fifth priority area, 5) innovation and technology, during HLPD on WE of 2012 in Russia Federation. In the same year, this country raised the relevance of taking into consideration women’s health and human capacity.

To further advance the implementation of the Framework for the Integration of Women in the APEC agenda, the following general objectives are:

- Enhance women MSMEs’ competitiveness by equipping them with the necessary tools that allow them not only to participate but also compete from local to global value chains;
- Make visible the economic impact of gender-based violence on business and the benefits of incorporating management policies to introduce programs for prevention, care and recovery of gender violence;
- Create an enabling environment for women where they can profit from the expansion of their opportunities through the development of skills and abilities;
- Generate the exchange of experiences and networking between peers, as well as creating contact networking, among others;
- Acquire new knowledge from the experiences of women entrepreneurs in the field of inclusive businesses that have managed to succeed, break barriers and overcome the gender gap;
- Promote the utilization of efficient ICT tools in managing and operating women led-enterprises; and

Learn from success stories and case studies, highlighting the relevance of strengthening women’s health and wellness that relates to productivity (and violence), family management (reconciliation of work and family life), human capital development, disaster preparedness and business continuity planning in the face of adversity.

To achieve the aforementioned objectives, the Forum will serve as an avenue where multi-sector players will be brought together more frequently for dialogues and exchange of best practices on fostering women’s economic empowerment among the APEC economies. It will be supported by the following components:

Meeting	Classification of attendees	Objectives	Strategic Activities	Target Outcome/s
Public Private Dialogue on Women and the Economy (PPDWE)	Women MSMEs, women-led enterprises, entrepreneurs, public sector, academia and civil society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foster synergies by gathering more participation from the private sector for dialogue and Exchange of best practices to advance the women's economic empowerment agenda. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present on-going and completed cases studies and projects for women with measurable outcomes; • Showcase success stories and role models through good-practice exchange sessions, best endeavors, learnings and dialogues; • Discuss proposed actions and recommendations to be reported to the PPWE and included in the final statement to Leaders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidate private sector participation in the formulation and implementation of policies or projects to empower women and promote gender equality. • Make aware participants on 2016 PPWE priority issues.
Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE)	<p>Mainly from the public sector.</p> <p>Representatives from the private sector are encouraged to attend.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen APEC spaces for decision making. • Have a PPWE agenda and initiatives agreed in a participatory and transparent manner. • To continue the implementation of PPWE projects and initiatives. • Strengthen collaboration between fora to integrate gender equality in APEC's work; • Have a Declaration on Women and the Economy with concrete, measurable and achievable actions. • Have a PPWE Independent Assessment Report and implement the recommendations contained therein. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the PPWE TOR base on the frequency of its meetings. • Hold consultations online and offline to define PPWE agenda. • Report on on-going and proposed PPWE projects (see information on Current Projects and Initiatives). • Report on on-going projects in collaboration with APEC Working Groups (see information on cross for a projects and initiatives). • Presentation of Individual Action Plans of APEC economies, using the 5 pillars. • Report to the economies of the benefits of submitting projects for compliance and continuity of the priority objectives in 2016 • Updating gender mainstreaming guidelines in APEC. • Achieve at least ten (10) collaboration agreements with other APEC Fora in 2018. • Proposed Draft Statement on Women and the Economy 2016 with concrete, measurable and achievable actions. • Review and Comment on the PPWE Independent Assessment. • Socialize the recommendations of the PPWE Independent Assessment and discuss the mechanisms of implementation of these recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold one PPWE meeting on 2016. • Agreement by consensus of PPWE agenda and initiatives. • Updating report on projects/initiatives established in the implementation's schedule of the Strategic Plan 2015-2018. • Economies committed to the implementation of projects related to the priority themes. • APEC Fora and Working Groups have tools for gender mainstreaming in their work plans and/or strategic plans and ministerial statements. • Draft Statement adopted by consensus with concrete, measurable and achievable actions in the HLPD on WE. • Strengthen the PPWE dialogue and decision making agreements.

PPWE Management Council Meeting	PPWE Delegations: Public Sector, and ABAC representatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up on the agreements adopted at the 2015 MCM as well as specific agreements coordinated with economies, ABAC and APEC Secretariat on the thematic agenda 2016. • Ensure an appropriate transition between PPWE current and incoming Presidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose agreements to be approved by consensus to move forward with the following specific topics: a) Agreements reached in the MCM 2015; b) Thematic Agenda 2016. • Exchange of processes, practices and proper delivery on outstanding issues for their follow-up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of agreements by consensus to address the following specific topics: a) Agreements reached in the MCM 2015; b) Thematic Agenda 2016. • The incoming PPWE Chair shall submit its work plan for 2017.
High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD)	Ministers / Hi-level Officials of ministries responsible for women's affairs and/or trade, MSMEs of the 21 APEC economies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having an APEC WE Ministerial Statement to have an impact on the APEC Leaders' Declaration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiations between the economies for the adoption of the APEC Women and the Economy Ministerial Statement will deliver achievable and measurable results. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial Statement on Women and the Economy 2016 adopted by APEC economies. • Leaders' Declaration contains the main issues set out in the APEC Ministerial Statement on Women and the Economy 2016.

It is expected that through the adoption of the APEC Women and the Economy Ministerial Statement, there will be (1) a set of feasible and measurable policy recommendations that will be delivered to the APEC Economic Leaders' meeting; and, (2) a stronger cross-collaboration between the for a to incorporate gender mainstreaming in APEC areas of work.

PPWE Current Projects and Initiatives:

Project Title	Project No.	Project Year	Proposing Economy
Individual Action Plan for the Enhancement of the Ratio of Women's Representation in Leadership (Mid-term Review Study and Public-Private Dialogue)"	Concept Note	2016	Japan and Viet- Nam
Women as Prime Movers of Inclusive Business	Concept Note	2016	Philippines
Towards the Construction of Public-Private Strategies to Reduce the Costs of Gender-based Violence in APEC Economies"	Concept Note	2016	Peru
Implementation of the APEC Dashboard: Increasing STEM Education In Implementation	PPWE 01 2016S <i>*self-funded</i>	2016	United States
Good Practices on Gender Diversity in Corporate Leadership for Growth In Implementation	PPWE 02 2016S <i>*self-funded</i>	2016	Japan
Next Steps for Women's Entrepreneurship in APEC (WE-APEC) - Phase 2 In Implementation	TBA	2016	United States
Successful Cases of Women-Owned Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Foreign Trade In Implementation	PPWE 01 2015A	2015	Chile
Innovation for Women and Economic Development - Facilitating Women's Livelihood Development and Resilience with ICTs In Implementation (Multi-Year Project) (until December 2016)	MYP SCE 03 2013A	2013	Korea

2. Anticipated Activities and/or Proposed Work Plan with outside organizations in response to Leaders 'and Ministers' calls for greater engagement with:

- A) Business Sector; and
B) Other organizations/stakeholders, including the International Finance Institutions (IFIs).

Parallel Meetings	Co-sponsor	Attendees	Objectives
Workshop "The participation of SMEs owned by women in International Trade: Success Stories and Best Practices " August 2016	Chile	Government (dealing with MSMEs or women's affairs) business sector, export promotion agencies or companies, NGOs SME Working Group (SMEWG)	Present the vision of women's MSMEs related to overcoming obstacles in exporting their products and / or services. Promote the exchange of best practices in the adoption of effective government policies of participation of women in trade. Construct a contact network between MSMEs of successful women entrepreneurs and export promotion offices.-
2016 APEC Women's Business and Smart Technology Seminar: New Value Creation of APEC Women's Business through Smart Technology and Leadership	Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government ministry/agency dealing with women's issues and small and medium businesses and/or entrepreneurship; Women entrepreneurs of Peru and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote APEC women's active participation in the economy using smart technologies. To inform APEC women about current trends in smart technologies applicable to businesses, such as smart services (3D printing, big data, IoE (Internet of Everything), etc.).

June 28, 2016 10:00 – 18:00		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> other Andean countries; Women business start-ups; academics in the field of business and Gender issues; and Korean enterprises in Peru. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To share best practices and business models of successful women-owned businesses based on smart technologies. To promote the building of knowledge on using smart technologies for launching start-ups. To enhance APEC women’s leadership skills in their workplaces. To formulate policies and develop strategies for leveraging smart technology, and report the results to PPWE, WEF, or other related Fora, Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI). To promote APEC women’s participation in economy through enhancing digital literacy skills.
Next Steps in the Women’s Entrepreneurship in APEC (WE-APEC) June 28, 2016 09:00 – 13:00	United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government ministry representatives that address small and medium businesses and/or entrepreneurship, including women’s entrepreneurship and/or women’s issues and trade more generally; and Representatives from the private sector, including networks focused on supporting women entrepreneurs. 	The objective of the WE-APEC event is to update participants on the status of the initiative, lay out developments related to the online platform and discuss capacity building and stakeholder consultation efforts as they relate to WE-APEC’s core objectives.
APEC Women in STEM Workshop: Challenges and Opportunities June 29, 2016 09:00 – 13:00	United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government ministry representatives that address education, gender and women’s economic empowerment, science and technology policy and/or employment; and Representatives from the private sector, especially those focused on STEM related fields. 	The workshop will discuss issues critical to addressing the underrepresentation of women in STEM within the region. This will include highlighting emerging practices and initiatives across APEC that specifically support women and girls’ education and workforce participation in STEM fields. In addition, the event will provide a preview of a region-wide stock take undertaken by the US on STEM related initiatives that will be finalized later this year.
The APEC “Business Efficiency and Success Target” Award (APEC BEST AWARD) to women-owned SMEs June 29 9:30 - 19:00	Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government ministry/agency dealing with women’s issues and businesses and/or entrepreneurship; Woman entrepreneur nominee; Consultants or mentors; and Potential investors interested in cooperation with the nominees across the APEC economies 	Participation in the APEC BEST AWARD provides the participants with an opportunity to internationalize their businesses, attract international partners and/or potential investors across the APEC economies. In addition, the APEC BEST AWARD will contribute to attracting the interest of mass media, business and public community to the development of women entrepreneurship across the APEC economies.

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

Over the years, acknowledging that the economic potential of women remains untapped. APEC Economic Leaders recognized the various efforts in overcoming the barriers to fully harness the economic integration of women in the APEC agenda. This has been resulted in the identification of the PPWE five priority areas.

Recognizing that gender is a cross-cutting issue itself, and based on the criteria on the Guide on Gender Criteria for APEC Project Proposals, each proposing economy would have to take into account the five priority areas recognized by the PPWE to integrate a gender perspective in their proposed project.

The PPWE has partnered with other APEC working groups to include gender equality and women's empowerment into their projects, initiatives, dialogues, programs etc.

A. Human Resource Development Working Group (HRDWG). The PPWE is collaborating with the HRDWG to implement training programs for developing the skills of women, fostering an enabling environment to create better quality jobs for women, and establishing capacity building centers to help women achieve competencies to meet the demands of industry, as well as enhance educational opportunities for women and girls.

2016-Self-Funded project by US: PPWE 01 2016S "Implementation of the APEC Dashboard: Increasing STEM Education"

<https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=1782>

B. HRDWG and Health Working Group (HWG). The PPWE collaborated with the HRDWG and HWG on the "Healthy Women, Healthy Economies" initiative. A Policy Toolkit was developed to address health-related barriers specific to women so they can join, remain and rise in the work force. The Policy Toolkit includes policy recommendations and practices on: workplace health and safety; health access and awareness; gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health; and work/life balance. The Policy Toolkit can serve as a guide to APEC member economies in implementing actions on a voluntary basis and choosing actions appropriate for their economy.

HRD 01 2015A- Healthy women, Healthy economies- Expanding Opportunities for Women in the Global Economy.

<https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=1692>

C. Transportation Working Group (TPTWG). The Women in Transportation (WiT) Task Force will work with the PPWE to establish a "network of champions" from each economy to shape, coordinate, plan, and execute the proposed framework across its five pillars: education, recruitment, retention, leadership and safe use, and access to transportation systems.

http://www.apec.org/Press/News-Releases/2015/0810_WIT.aspx

D. Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG). PPWE collaborated with the EPWG to identify and address the needs and concerns of women and girls in emergency preparedness and post disaster recovery and resilience. The outcome of the PPWE project "Good Practices of Women Entrepreneurship in Local Communities in the Process of Local Reconstruction" has been shared with the EPWG.

<https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=1599>

E. Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG). The PPWE worked together with the SMEWG to promote the increase participation of women-led SMEs in export and global markets. The project SME 02-2014S "Promoting SME Development: Assisting Women-Owned SMEs Access the Global Markets" focused on strengthening trade promotion agencies to better serve women-led SMEs.

<https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=1559>

2016: Russia's initiative "APEC Business Efficiency and Success Target (BEST) Award"

F. Economic Committee (EC). The project EC 02 2015 A “Capacity Building for the Reduction of Educational Gender Gaps through Structural Reforms” was launched to enhance education with equal opportunities for women in APEC economies.

<https://aimp2.apec.org/sites/PDB/Lists/Proposals/DispForm.aspx?ID=1668>

4. Capacity building activities planned for 2016

It is expected that through the Dashboard indicators of women and the economy, which will help to further the economic progress of women, economies can better plan future capacity building activities and policy discussions based on evidence and programming to further advance the economic integration of women in APEC’s agenda.

Based on the criteria on the Guide on Gender Criteria for APEC Project Proposals, it will encourage APEC economies to develop projects that aim to address one or more of the pillars of PPWE to fully strengthen women’s economic participation women. (Example: Pillar: “Access to capital” PNG will present a concept note on women’s access to information on financial services in the APEC region, “Women’s Leadership” Japan will submit a concept note for conducting Mid-term review and Public Private Dialogue to advance the existing project “Individual Action Plan for the enhancement of the ratio of women’s representation in leadership”).

5. Expected outcomes/deliverables for 2016

- Hold a 2 days PPWE meeting on 2016;
- Achieve a consensus agreement on the Work Plan for 2016;
- Integration of gender perspective in other fora and working groups’ work plans and / or strategic plans and ministerial statements;
- Promote the appointment of at least one female member in ABAC for each economy;
- Develop a communication plan to facilitate engagement between PPWE, ABAC and other working groups;
- Update the guidelines on mainstreaming gender in APEC (to be led by Australia, USA, Philippines and Canada);
- Carry out actions on ongoing projects under PPWE;
- Propose new projects to advance the agenda of economic empowerment of women;
- Review and respond to the recommendations of the Independent Evaluation PPWE; and
- APEC Economic Leaders endorse the APEC Ministerial Statement on Women and the Economy.