



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2018/SOM2/SCE/016**

Agenda Item: 3.3

## **Ocean and Fisheries Working Group Endorsed Work Plan for 2018**

Purpose: Information

Submitted by: OFWG Lead Shepherd



**Second SOM Steering Committee on  
Economic and Technical Cooperation  
Meeting  
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea  
20 May 2018**

## **Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG) Proposed Work Plan for 2018**

### **Introduction**

In 2018, the Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG) will conduct a sequence of initiatives that aim to respond to APEC Leaders' Declarations, Ministerial and High-Level statements, decisions of Senior Officials, as well as SCE priorities and, where appropriate, ABAC recommendations. The OFWG will continue to implement the Seoul Oceans Declaration (2002), the Bali Plan of Action (2005), the Paracas Declaration (2010), the Xiamen Declaration (2014), High Level Policy Dialogue on Food Security and Blue Economy's Action Plan (2015), the Piura Declaration on Food Security (2016), and the High Level Policy Dialogue on Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in Response to Climate Change (2017).

The initiatives to be taken sit within the framework of the OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018), which establishes seven priority areas:

- 1. Free and Open Trade and Investment
- 2. Sustainable Development and Protection of the Marine Environment
- 3. Food Security
- 4. Climate Change
- 5. Natural disaster/Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Resilience
- 6. Blue Economy
- 7. OFWG Operations

### **1. Expected Outcomes/Deliverables for 2018.**

The OFWG will hold at least one meeting in 2018. Through this meeting, its intersessional work, and its projects, the OFWG will:

- 1.1. Respond to Papua New Guinea's host year theme of "Harnessing Inclusive Opportunities, Embracing the Digital Future", and specifically to advancing sustainable fisheries management to promote food security.
- 1.2. Take action to implement that the 2017 High Level Policy Dialogue on Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in Response to Climate Change statement in respect of addressing the sustainable management of marine ecosystems, making aquaculture and fisheries sectors more resilient to climate change and addressing the negative impact of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- 1.3. Take actions to implement Joint statement of 2016 APEC Ministerial Meeting to promote regional marine sustainable development;
- 1.4. Take steps to implement relevant actions under the 2015 APEC High-Level Policy Dialogue on Food Security and Blue Economy's Plan of Action;
- 1.5. Strengthen the role of sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture in food security and related trade, including the promotion of inclusive growth strategies, and combating IUU fishing;
- 1.6. Promote responsible fishing industry and open and fair trade for small scale fishers and fish farmers to be integrated into the global food chain;
- 1.7. Promote Blue Economy relevant cooperation on the basis of the OFWG common view on Blue Economy;
- 1.8. Carry out ecosystem-based management approaches and programs, to ensure the effective sustainable management of coastal and marine environment, including biodiversity;
- 1.9. Increase collaboration, develop integrated strategies on the impacts of climate change;
- 1.10. Promote enhanced capacity building through further OFWG projects, including self-funded projects;
- 1.11. Continue working to enhance coordination with other APEC sub-fora and refine efforts to mainstream ocean issues, including through participation in the Mainstreaming Ocean-related Issues Steering Council;

- 1.12. Take actions to increase cooperation with the Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS), including through active participation in relevant projects of the PPFS, and contribute to the development of actions to implement the Piura Declaration on Food Security (2016).
- 1.13. Work toward implementing APEC Policy and Practice Recommendations on Overcoming Barriers to Financing Waste Management Systems and Reducing Marine Litter, endorsed by the APEC Ministerial Meeting 2016, and respond to the Leader's encouragement for further action on effective solid waste management infrastructure;
- 1.14. Consider opportunities for regional collaboration to support Economies' implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and relevant Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 14;
- 1.15. Identify opportunities to increase coordination between the OFWG and its three APEC Centers (APEC Marine Environmental Training and Education Center (AMTEC), APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center (AMSDC), and APEC Ocean and Fisheries Information Center (AOFIC), and explore potential collaboration with other APEC Centers.

<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Continue to develop both self-funded capacity building proposals, and proposals for APEC-funded projects.	Ongoing
Enhance coordination among OFWG members to develop OFWG project submissions, including through their early circulation	Ongoing
Prioritize efforts to facilitate collaboration across APEC sub-fora on oceans issues, including through the MOI Steering Council	Ongoing
Advance the process for the second APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report	Ongoing
Identify opportunities for private sector involvement in OFWG activities	Ongoing
Identify near-term actions addressing the role of fisheries and aquaculture in various APEC Food Security processes	Ongoing
Prepare Fora Report for SCE	August

## 2. Itemized Work Plans for 2018

Title	Summary of Specific Plans	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SC CE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans and to ABAC recommendations)	ECOTECH Priorities and/or Host Year Priorities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
<b>OFWG 03, 2014A – Assessing the Economic Value of Green Infrastructure in Coastal Ecosystems to Disaster Risk Reduction, Response and Coastal Resilience in the APEC region</b>	<p>This study aims to increase understanding as to the value of natural infrastructure to support policy makers in better evaluating the impact of policies regarding green infrastructure development and management with respect to disaster risk reduction and response and coastal resiliency. The first phase of this project started in 2015 with a survey of APEC economies, and during 2016 the United States completed the first deliverable of this project, which is a Gap Analysis Report, based on a literature review and the survey of APEC economies. The Gap Analysis Report was endorsed by the OFWG in February 2017. The second phase consists of undertaking an initial assessment of the economic value of natural coastal infrastructure for disaster risk reduction, response and coastal resilience in the APEC region. This study will help address the gaps identified in the first phase and will provide information to better inform policies in APEC economies.</p>	<p>Approved Project</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plans (2015-2017; 2016-2018)</p> <p>Xiamen Declaration 2014</p>	<p>Sustainable growth</p> <p>Harnessing technologies, innovation</p> <p>Capacity building</p> <p>Human security</p> <p>Social dimensions</p>	<p>EPWG</p> <p>TWG</p> <p>TPTWG</p>
<b>OFWG 01, 2017A - Developing a Best Practice Global Value Chain Framework on Fisheries Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)</b>	<p>The fisheries sector plays a significant role in the socioeconomic growth and development in APEC economies. The APEC economies account for over 80 percent of global aquaculture production and more than 65 percent of the world's capture fisheries. The global value chain workshop on fisheries MSMEs in developing APEC economies looks at analyzing the global value chain (GVC) for fisheries MSMEs in the APEC region to improve competitiveness, enhance market access, increase trade and investments flows, identify challenges and reduce barriers to trade. The project is aligned with the OFWG Strategic Plan, the PPFS Food security agenda, the Boracay Action Agenda to globalize MSMEs and the APEC Iloilo Initiative on Growing Global MSMEs. It is proposed that a best practice global value chain framework to improve competitiveness of the fisheries MSME into the global food value chain is developed. A two-day workshop will be organized, in Papua New Guinea in 2018.</p>	<p>Approved Project</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plans (2015-2017; 2016-2018)</p> <p>Boracay Action Agenda 2015</p> <p>Iloilo Initiative 2015</p>	<p>Sustainable growth</p> <p>Capacity building</p> <p>Inclusive growth</p> <p>SMEs</p> <p>Food security</p>	<p>SMEWG</p> <p>APRU</p>
<b>OFWG 02, 2017A - Capacity Building for Marine Debris Prevention and Management in the APEC Region Phase 2 – Implementation of Advanced Marine Debris Management Policies</b>	<p>APEC studies show substantial environmental, economic and social costs of marine debris to APEC economies. Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG) previously endorsed the need for a systematic capacity building program to address marine debris, and approved the Capacity Building for Marine Debris Prevention and Management in the APEC Region Project in 2016. This Phase I Program discussed the diverse fields of the marine debris issue, to the great interest of APEC member states, as shown by attendance from 15 of 21 APEC economies. The Phase II program, proposes to take the outcome of the Phase I program and establish best practices systemic training on marine debris in the APEC region, and develop regionally appropriate marine debris management policies. This project aims to build capacities in the APEC region through 1)</p>	<p>Approved Project</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)</p> <p>Xiamen Declaration 2014</p> <p>AMM 2017</p>	<p>Sustainable growth</p> <p>Harnessing technologies, innovation</p> <p>Capacity building</p> <p>Human security</p> <p>Social dimensions</p>	<p>CD</p> <p>APEC Virtual Working Group on Marine Debris</p>

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	sharing best practices of marine debris management policies 2) developing a first draft of marine debris management guideline/manual in the APEC region which could be used as a basis for the regional action plan of marine debris management. It consists of 5 days (including 1 day site visit) education and training in Busan, Republic of Korea. Networking among experts and participants will help to encourage participants' continuous involvement in this issue.			
<b>OFWG 03, 2017A- Exchange of Experience to Add Value to Organic Waste from Small-Scale Fisheries and Aquaculture through its Reuse and Conversion into Innovative Products, which Contribute to Enhance Food Security</b>	Small-scale fisheries and aquaculture generate organic waste. Adding value by reusing and converting organic waste into new products, such as food preservatives and thickening agents, food containers and products to improve the agriculture sector is, besides an economic alternative for coastal communities, micro and small enterprises, and also for women, an option to contribute to enhance food security, to a greater and better availability of food, and reduction of marine pollution. This project aims at organizing a workshop in Chile with experiences on product generation based on waste from small-scale fisheries and aquaculture activities. Experiences from inside and outside the APEC region are expected, taking into particular consideration those that can be replicated in APEC fishing and aquaculture communities. The workshop would be carried out in the second semester of 2018. A report will be prepared with the experiences presented and recommendations to achieve its replication.	Approved Project  OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)  Piura Declaration in Food Security 2016  Food Security and Climate Change Multi-Year Action Plan 2018- 2020	Sustainable growth  Harnessing technologies, innovation  Capacity building  Inclusive growth  SMEs  Food security	PPFS  PPSTI
<b>OFWG 01, 2017S - APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report II</b>	The project is to update APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report following the instructions of AOMM 4 in 2014 as well as implementing the instructions of APEC Ministerial Meeting in 2016 on updating the report as an important APEC contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report 2 will be developed on the foundation of Report 1 and reflect new trends and endeavors of APEC and its member economies in fostering marine sustainable development and achieving Sustainable Development Goals. A core expert group composed of 11 experts recommended by 5 economies has been established in 2017 for report development. The 1 <sup>st</sup> workshop on APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report was convened in Nov. 2017 in Xiamen, in which the core expert group reached consensus on the draft of outline. The outline will be reviewed by OFWG10 in 2018. The final report is supposed to be finished in 2019.	Self-Funded Project  OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)  AMM 2016 AMM 2017  4 <sup>th</sup> APEC Ocean-related Ministerial Meeting	Sustainable development  Marine Environmental Protection  Climate change and disaster management  Food Security  Capacity building	AMSDC  PPFS  PPSTI  UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO, FAO, IOC.  APRU
<b>OFWG 02, 2017S – Developing Public- Private Partnerships to Support Waste Management Infrastructure and Reduce Marine Litter</b>	The goal of this project is to build a policy environment that incentivizes and de-risks waste management infrastructure investment and enables the formation of effective public-private partnerships to reduce marine litter in the Asia Pacific. A high-level meeting is proposed for late Q3/early Q4 2017 in East Asia to accelerate implementation of a series of policy and practice recommendations that were endorsed by APEC Ministers to overcome barriers to financing waste management systems. Individual economy action plans will be developed for select APEC	Self-Funded Project  OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)  Xiamen Declaration 2014	Sustainable growth  Harnessing technologies, innovation  Capacity building	CD  APEC Virtual Working Group on Marine Debris

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	economies, including through a series of planned Asia-Pacific Infrastructure Partnership meetings. The high-level meeting will also serve to increase broad stakeholder engagement and help increase available funding for waste management projects. Improved waste management is required to substantially reduce land based sources of marine litter, and will have numerous health, economic, and environmental benefits. The project directly addresses instructions from Leaders in 2016 to address the lack of effective waste management in the region.	AMM 2017	Human security  Social dimensions	
<b>OFWG 03, 2017S - Developing an Action Plan on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in APEC</b>	<p>The fisheries sector plays a significant role in the socio-economic growth and development of APEC economies. The APEC economies account for over 80 percent of global aquaculture production and more than 65 percent of the world's capture fisheries. However, the scourge and threat of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing practices is becoming global concern. IUU fishing has negative impacts on fish stocks, the marine ecosystem, distorts global fish trade, and food security. Globally, MRAG Asia Pacific (2016) estimated the cost of IUU fishing between USD10 to USD 23 billion. In the Pacific region, the study also found that IUU activity in the tuna fisheries is about 306, 440 tonnes either harvested or transhipped.</p> <p>It is proposed that a high level policy dialogue be held for APEC economies to collectively discuss and explore future direction to combat, deter, and prevent IUU fishing.</p> <p>It is proposed that an APEC Action Plan on IUU is developed. The project will be in three phases: Phase 1: A short study on the impact of IUU fishing in APEC; Phase 2: A two-day experts workshop will be organized during SOM2 in PNG; and Phase 3: the one-day policy dialogue to consider the Action Plan developed in SOM3 2018.</p>	<p>Self-Funded Project</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)</p> <p>Piura Declaration on Food Security 2016</p> <p>Food Security and Climate Change Multi-Year Action Plan 2018- 2020</p> <p>AMM 2017</p>	<p>Sustainable growth</p> <p>Harnessing technologies, innovation</p> <p>Capacity building</p> <p>Inclusive growth</p> <p>REI</p> <p>Food security</p>	<p>FAO</p> <p>APRU</p>
<b>OFWG 04, 2017S - Workshop on Best Practices Sharing on Marine Debris Management in Coastal Cities of APEC Region</b>	<p>The goal of the project is to provide a platform for discussion on marine debris issues and for the sharing of best practice in these coastal cities, knowledge and technologies, and help to reduce marine debris in APEC region.</p> <p>The Workshop on Best Practices Sharing on Marine Debris Management in Coastal Cities of APEC Region was held in Xiamen, China on Nov 4-5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. About 150 participants from governments, research institutions, enterprises, NGOs, and local communities of 9 economies including Australia, Chile, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Thailand, The United States and Viet Nam attended this workshop. Outcomes of the workshop have been shared with participants and other stakeholders via email. The</p>	<p>Self-Funded Project</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)</p> <p>Xiamen Declaration 2014</p> <p>AMM 2017</p>	<p>Sustainable growth</p> <p>Harnessing technologies, innovation</p> <p>Capacity building</p> <p>Human security</p> <p>Social dimensions</p>	<p>AMSDC</p> <p>CD</p> <p>APEC Virtual Working Group (VWG) on Marine Debris</p>

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	workshop was covered by over 20 media. Also this workshop was put into the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on "Oceans and the law of the Sea" (provisionally available as A/72/L.18) as Article 215. The Complete Report and the Proceeding of Workshop would be submitted to OFWG in the first half year of 2018.			
<b>OFWG 05, 2017S - 2017 Training Workshop on Marine Spatial Planning and Marine Protected Areas Management</b>	<p>2017 APEC Training Workshop on Marine Spatial Planning and Marine Protected Areas Management was conducted by APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center on Oct 20-23, 2017 in Zhoushan, China. There are 9 APEC economies including Chile, China, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Peru, Thailand and Viet Nam sending more than 30 participants to the training workshop, and 11 APEC Non-Members including Tanzania, Pakistan, Mozambique, etc., sending 12 participants to the workshop.</p> <p>The training workshop has recognized the importance to share marine spatial planning experiences, knowledge and skills among participants; and it provided a platform for discussion of topics under the application of MSP in Marine Protected Areas Management and promoted ecosystem-based management in coastal areas to enhance capacity building of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) in APEC region.</p> <p>A summary report of the training workshop is to be submitted to OFWG in March, 2018.</p>	<p>Self-Funded Project</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)</p>	<p>Sustainable growth</p> <p>Capacity building</p>	<p>AMSDC</p>
<b>OFWG06,2015S- Study on the Origin and Distribution of Microplastics in Typical Marine APEC Region</b>	<p>This study aims to investigate the source and distribution of microplastics in typical APEC region. Research will be conducted from two dimensions, namely on the spatial scale to investigate where the microplastics come from and go and on the biological scale to investigate how the microplastics transfer through food chain. The implementation of the project will open up a new situation for studying the marine microplastics in China, and provide theoretical and practical background information for the pollution control in China.</p> <p>During the year of 2017, sampling, extracting and analysing of microplastics in water were done, and sediment and mussels were examined and optimized in the lab; then two field investigations at a typical aquaculture area were conducted; mussels were taken annually and trace amount of microplastics were found. Results of microplastics distribution in water, sediment and mussels showed that sediment were the most contaminated area.</p> <p>In the year of 2018, the work will focus on the distribution of microplastics in sediment along Chinese coast and different marine filter feeding animals, and investigation of microplastics would be conducted in several seas and adjacent areas, an international workshop or an exchange program is being considered for APEC economies in capacity building and communication of microplastics.</p>	<p>New self-funded project</p> <p>OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)</p>	<p>Food Security</p> <p>Sustainable development</p> <p>Capacity building</p>	<p>CD</p> <p>APEC Virtual Working Group (VWG) on Marine Debris</p>

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<b>APEC Centers of Affiliated with the OFWG</b>	Support ongoing work and strengthen communication and cooperation among the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center (AMSDC), the APEC Marine Environmental Training and Education Center (AMETEC) and the APEC Ocean and Fisheries Information Center (AOFIC) and the OFWG.	OFWG Strategic Plan (2016-2018)	Sustainable growth  Capacity building  Food security	PPFS  PPSTI