



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2020/CTI/WKSP3/001

Final Agenda

Submitted by: Australia



**Workshop on Building Resilient Supply Chains in
APEC: Agility in Crisis
28 October 2020**

WORKSHOP INVITATION

Building Resilient Supply Chains in APEC: Agility in Crisis Survey Results Forum



Supported by the Australian Government and implemented by the
Global Trade Professionals Alliance (GTPA)

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

Wednesday 28th October 2020 – 9am (Singapore time)

Tuesday 27th October 2020 – 9pm (New York time)

To look up the time in your area please use this handy [link](#)

RSVP date: please confirm your registration by the 16th October 2020

The Australian Government is pleased to invite you to participate in an interactive workshop to share the preliminary results of the APEC Supply Chains Resilience Survey.

The workshop is delivered by the Global Trade Professionals Alliance (GTPA) and will explore the findings from the survey around the following topics:

- Digital transformation and the rise of eCommerce
- Services and supply chain disruption
- Trade facilitation and the role of government in digitization
- SME and Women agility during the COVID-10 response

The workshop will feature breakout sessions, giving you the opportunity to delve further into the data and discuss how the private and public sector can work together to ensure that government pandemic support initiatives are appropriate and sufficient to meet the needs of business.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Lead Facilitator: Mr Alexander Malaket, Board Director, GTPA

Introduction & Welcome

15 minutes

Introduction: Alexander Malaket, Board Director, GTPA
Opening remarks: Senior Official, Australian Government (TBC)

Session 1

45 minutes

Key outcomes and findings of research

An interactive presentation to highlight the key outcomes from the APEC Global Supply Chains Resiliency Survey

Presenters:

- Ms Lisa McAuley, CEO, GTPA
- Ms Divya Sangaraju, Researcher, APEC secretariat
- Dr Robert Handfield, Executive Director, Supply Chain Resource Cooperative, NC State University
- Ms Alisa DiCaprio, Head of Trade and Supply Chain, R3

Moderator: Alexander Malaket, Board Director, GTPA

Break 5 mins

Session 2

45 minutes

BREAKOUT GROUPS

Each group will consist of 10-15 participants who will have been assigned during registration.

A moderator and a scribe will be assigned to facilitate each discussion.

Each breakout group will commence with a 10-minute presentation from a subject matter expert before moving into a general discussion.

All groups will re-join the main workshop to present their top three action items for APEC to consider.

Breakout group 1: Digital transformation and the rise of eCommerce

Speakers:

- Dr Deborah Elms, Founder and Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre
- Mr Patrik Jonasson, Director Public Policy Asia-Pacific, GS1

Moderator: Alexander Malaket, Board Director, GTPA

This session will discuss data on businesses' digital transformation, digital readiness to trade goods and services, digital management, and eCommerce capacity and capability before and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. The session will cover perspectives from businesses, as well as government and industry organisations' policymaking and supporting programmes priorities in this area. The session will offer insights into what has been one of the most significant periods of digital transformation for business in history.

Breakout group 2: Services and supply chain disruption

Speakers:

- Dr Robert Handfield, Executive Director, Supply Chain Resource Cooperative
- Dr Robert Handfield, Executive Director, Supply Chain Resource Cooperative
- Simon Lacey, Senior Lecturer, Institute for International Trade Alberto Posso, RMIT

Moderator: Lisa McAuley, CEO, GTPA

Services, one of the most dynamic sectors of the global economy in recent years, have been crucial for the functioning and expansion of global value chains and supply chains before the COVID-19 pandemic, and they will continue to play a crucial role in international economic recovery efforts. However, their role is usually overshadowed by other dynamics in supply chains, particularly in the manufacturing sector. This session will offer valuable information on the critical role of services in sustaining global supply chains.

Breakout group 3: Trade facilitation and the role of government in digitization

Speakers:

- Ms Stephanie Honey, Policy Advisor/Staffer, ABAC New Zealand
- Mr Aaron Soans, Policy Advisor, APEC Study Centre
- Dr Peter Draper, Executive Director, Institute for International Trade of the University of Adelaide

Moderator: Lisa Hunt, Business Manager, Institute for International Trade

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, not only businesses have transformed internally by adopting more digital technologies, but trade as a whole has had to quickly adapt to changes to reduce human contact and speed up procedures to reduce the risk of infections. As a result, governments and other trade agencies are also trying to adapt, something that offers opportunities to unlock long-awaited changes to facilitate trade via digitization. This session will discuss the extent of these transformations and what is required from a policy and commercial point of view to sustained them beyond the pandemic.

Breakout group 4: SME agility during the COVID-19 response

Speakers:

- Ajay Sharma, Regional Head of Global Trade and Receivables Finance, HSBC Asia Pacific
- Eunice Huang, Trade Policy Asia-Pacific, Google
- Ambassador Julie-Ann Guivarra, Australian Ambassador for Gender Equality

Moderator: Collins Rex, Director, Global Trade Professionals Alliance (GTPA)

Although SMEs account for most of employment and economic activity in the world, they have been badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, with thousands closing operations due a decrease in demand together with long-overlooked structural factors, including their access to resources and capability programmes. Yet, some SMEs have shown agility and resilience to adapt and continue operating in global supply chains. This session will explore what accounts for SMEs’ agility under the current circumstances and what is required for SMEs to build resilience, recover faster, and engage in global supply chains.

Break 5 mins

Session 3

45 minutes

Workshop presentations and summary of key **action** items, with discussion

Moderator: Mr Alexander Malaket, Board Director, GTPA

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