How Data Flows Help to Build a More Inclusive Digital Economy

Submitted by: Honey Consulting Ltd
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APEC CTI Digital Trade Policy Dialogue

Stephanie Honey
Honey Consulting Ltd
Post-COVID economic rebuilding

- Economic recovery
- Digitalized region – but also digital divides
- Inclusive growth
Digital: a key enabler of inclusion

• E-commerce platforms increase access to markets
• Digital channels can circumvent structural biases, discrimination and vulnerability in face-to-face interactions
• Digital tools enhance productivity and innovation and can facilitate skills development/lifelong learning
• Women and other underserved groups are heavily represented in MSMEs and services sectors – digital offers new opportunities to these types of businesses
Inclusion in DEPA & DEA

- Addressing inclusion and digital divide
  - MSMEs
  - Women, Indigenous Peoples
  - Capacity-building
- Collaboration, including with business
  - Institutional cooperation and responsive policy development
  - SME Digital Dialogue, stakeholder engagement
- Focus on an enabling environment
  - Interoperability, e-payments, financial services, e-invoicing, fintech and regtech cooperation, regulatory sandboxes
- Trust is integral
  - e.g. data protection, online dispute resolution, digital ID