



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2021/SOM3/004banxa
Session 3.2

**Annex A: Digital Economy Steering Group Work
Program for the Implementation of the APEC
Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap - Suggested
Initiatives and Projects to Address AIDER Key
Focus Areas**

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: DESG Chair



**Third Senior Officials' Meeting
2-3 September 2021**

**DESG Work Program for the Implementation of the AIDER
Suggested Initiatives and Projects to Address AIDER Key Focus Areas**

Projects and initiatives that address multiple Key Focus Areas (KFA) are listed once in each KFA they address. Projects and initiatives that address multiple Priority Areas (PA) have additional PAs listed in their description.

| Key Focus Areas | Priority Areas | Suggested Initiatives/Projects & Their Lead Fora to Accomplish Priority Areas | Possible fora for collaboration¹ |
|--|---|---|--|
| 1. Development of digital infrastructure | a. Identify digital, including non-telecoms, infrastructure gaps | | SCE, TELWG |
| | b. Enable initiatives that would facilitate investment to advance digital infrastructure | | |
| | c. Explore the development of ICT infrastructure to facilitate the digitalization of economies | Open Architectures and Network Virtualization (United States – TEL 03 2020S) | |
| 2. Promotion of Interoperability | a. Discuss systems or solutions that would enable cross-sectoral digital collaborations (e.g. platform independent e-payment) | Study on Single Window Systems (SWS)' International Interoperability: Key Issues for Its Implementation The study identifies (i) best practices, (ii) obstacles in implementing SWS' international interoperability through economies' experiences. The study provided recommendations to overcome obstacles for the Single | EPWG, HWG, PPSTI, SCSC, TELWG, TPTWG |

¹ TELWG has expressed interest to engage DESG in cross-fora collaboration using its proposal “APEC TEL initiative on Global Challenges and Cooperation Utilizing ICT” as a basis for such collaboration.

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| | | <p>Window implementation and showed the benefits of SWS international interoperability such as enhancing trade facilitation, institutional connectivity as well as regional economic integration efforts. Final report at https://www.apec.org/Publications/2018/08/Study-on-Single-Window-Systems-International-Interoperability. (Peru)</p> <p>Transforming Business in the Digital Age (Singapore – DESG, 2021) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 5a.</i></p> <p>2021 APEC Resilience Week (2021 APECRW) – Connecting APEC Resilience City and Community Through Shared Technology on the Impacts for the Status Quo of Natural Disasters, Climate Extremes and Pandemic Spreading – aims to promote public-private partnerships for science and technological innovation for mitigating climate extremes, providing decision-relevant science and technology information, engaging APEC “Smart Climate Service Alliance” on “Three Smart Climate Approaches (3SCA)” for building “APEC Climate Resilient Society”. (Chinese Taipei – EPWG, PPSTI, 2021)</p> | |
| | b. Study on system or design interoperability for emerging tech (e.g. IoT, 5G) | | |

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| 3. Achievement of universal broadband access | a. Promote affordable, accessible and high-quality digital connectivity, including in rural areas | | TELWG |
| 4. Development of holistic government policy frameworks for the Internet and Digital Economy | a. Digital initiatives or strategies that involve Whole-of-Government, the multi-stakeholders, and/or by government agencies that do not typically work with each other (e.g. Finance and eGov) | <p>E-Government Center (Japan – TELWG, ongoing until 2022)</p> <p>Multilanguage e-mail address in e-government (China – TELWG, 2018) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 4b.</i></p> | CTI, EC, SCE, SCSC, SMEWG, TELWG |
| | b. Sharing of initiatives that will aid society to better access technology and be an active player in the digital economy | <p>Survey of initiatives in APEC Economies to promote access to ICTs for people with a hearing and/or speech impairment (Australia – TELWG, 2017)</p> <p>APEC Workshop on Promoting the Doing-Digital-Business Environment to Reactivate Market Entities aims to investigate regulatory frameworks and policy acts of the development of digital economy from the doing-digital-business environment aspect, promote the vitalities of main entities in digital markets in APEC economies and make traditional enterprises, especially the MSMEs, benefit from digital economy. (China – DESG 02 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4f, 11b.</i></p> | |

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| | | <p>Workshop on Effective Domestic Policymaking for Stimulating Economic Upgrading through GVCs. The workshop is planned for 2021 and will focus on sharing best practices and policymaking experiences that led to increased gains from domestic value added production. The workshop will examine the key challenges that impede APEC economies' ability to economically upgrade through GVCs, review existing APEC economies' domestic policies that contribute towards their more effective GVCs participation and higher value added production and compile best practices in APEC region that stimulate economic upgrading through GVC. (Russia – CTI, 2021)</p> <p>Questionnaire, Workshop and Report “Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Digital Content Trade”. Identify and address challenges for IPR in digital content trade and ways to overcome them. Address the challenges for the IPR protection in digital content trade through the respective policy frameworks. (Russia – CTI 02 2019, implemented in 2021)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5c, 11b.</i></p> <p>Building a Digital Ready Society / APEC Digital Inclusion Exchange Forum (Singapore & Thailand – TEL 02 2021S)</p> | |

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| | | <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10e.</i> | |
| | <p>c. Developing and sharing policies, information, best practices and recommendation on inclusive policy framework for the internet and digital economy for all include Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), women, children, people with disabilities and underrepresented member of society</p> | <p>Industry Roundtable on Digital Start-ups and MSMEs (Thailand – TELWG, 2017)</p> <p>Strengthening Women Empowerment in Industry 4.0 through Digital Entrepreneurship Training (Indonesia – SME 12 2019A)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4d, 4f, 10a, 10c, 10d.</i></p> | |
| | <p>d. Developing government policy framework or recommendation and sharing of information, policies, experiences and best practice on internet and digital economy in various areas such as agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, competition, manpower, and so on, taking into account inclusivity to leave no one behind</p> | | |
| | <p>e. Foster a free, open, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent and</p> | <p>Survey on E-Commerce Regulations in APEC (Singapore – continue to be implemented at DESG)</p> | |

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| | predictable trade and investment environment | <p>Continue holding Digital Trade Policy Dialogues. Policy Dialogues on Digital Trade have been held since 2016, discussing issues related to digital trade, explore emerging policy topics, and further deepen an understanding of the opportunities to increase participation in the digital economy. Discussions also focused on policies and regulatory frameworks to facilitate digital trade, facilitating the commercial development, and adoption of emerging technologies, particularly in the COVID-19 environment. (United States – CTI)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5c, 8b.</i></p> <p>To facilitate trade in goods via e-commerce, hold public-private dialogues related to trade facilitation issues in support of the Supply Chain Connectivity Action Plan Phase 2 and implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (United States – CTI)</p> <p>Supporting discussions in the WTO: Workshop on the application of non-discriminatory internal taxes to electronic transmissions. In the context of ongoing multilateral discussions on the application of customs duties to electronic transmissions, this project will provide a workshop for sharing experiences on how an internal tax (such as VAT or GST) can be applied to electronic transmissions to achieve certain</p> | |

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| | | <p>policy goals (such as revenue raising) in a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory manner. (New Zealand – CTI 06 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 11b.</i></p> | |
| | <p>f. As we emerge from the COVID-19 crisis, identify opportunities to lock in the progress made and accelerate the digitization of industries by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting businesses to go digital and reducing red tape for businesses to operate. - Strengthening collaboration with key partners (including industry, academia, across APEC community) to accelerate progress. - Ensuring resilience of businesses, including against cyber risks, as well as for our broader digital economy | <p>Policy Roundtable: Cybersecurity During the COVID-19 Pandemic – a public-private roundtable on cybersecurity risk management best practices to facilitate trade in the APEC region. (United States – DESG 04 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5b, 7a, 7c.</i></p> <p>Promoting Digital Capacity Building to Bridge the Digital Divide in the Post-COVID Era aims to improve the inclusive digital development, and attach great importance to the digitally weaker status of vulnerable groups such as MSMEs, women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities particularly in remote areas in the context of COVID-19. The project is set to focus on and actively explore digital capacity building in the post-COVID era, encourage member economies to carry out exchanges, share experience and build consensus in bridging the digital divide through enhancing digital capacity with a view to strengthening the sense of participation, fulfillment and happiness in the development of digital economy. (China – DESG 01 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4c, 6j, 10d.</i></p> | |

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| 5. Promoting coherence and cooperation of regulatory approaches affecting the Internet and Digital Economy | a. Promote discussions on interoperability of technology initiatives, including new and emerging ones, so as to support businesses' digitalization | <p>Transforming Business in the Digital Age (Singapore – DESG, 2021) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 2a.</i></p> | EC, GOS, TELWG |
| | b. Identify and promote the use of globally relevant standards that could be adopted to assure businesses of continuity and reliability when conducting business | <p>APEC GVCs Blueprint 2020-2025: Realizing the Role of the Digital Economy within GVCs – a workshop & report to enhance the understanding of developing economies regarding changes in GVCs in industrial sectors brought about by digital technologies. (Chile & Korea – CTI 06 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 10a, 11a.</i></p> <p>Policy Roundtable: Cybersecurity During the COVID-19 Pandemic – a public-private roundtable on cybersecurity risk management best practices to facilitate trade in the APEC region. (United States – DESG 04 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4f, 7a, 7c.</i></p> | |
| | c. Promote international regulatory coherence for new business models | <p>Continue holding Digital Trade Policy Dialogues. Policy Dialogues on Digital Trade have been held since 2016, discussing issues related to digital trade, explore emerging policy topics, and further deepen an understanding of the opportunities to increase participation in the digital economy. Discussions also focused on policies and regulatory frameworks to</p> | |

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| | | <p>facilitate digital trade, facilitating the commercial development, and adoption of emerging technologies, particularly in the COVID-19 environment. (United States – CTI) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4e, 8b.</i></p> <p>Customs Strategic Framework on Building Connectivity: 3M plus 3S Initiative. The aim is to build Smart Borders, enable Smart Logistics, and promote Smart Trade (3S), through a stronger cooperation in “Mutual Recognition of Control, Mutual Assistance of Enforcement, and Mutual Sharing of Information” (3M), so as to promote trade facilitation and security in a systematic approach for better connectivity within the APEC region. Endorsed framework http://mddb.apec.org/Documents/2019/SCCP/SCCP2/19_sccp2_024.pdf (Chile & China – CTI)</p> <p>Questionnaire, Workshop and Report “Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Digital Content Trade”. Identify and address challenges for IPR in digital content trade and ways to overcome them. Address the challenges for the IPR protection in digital content trade through the respective policy frameworks. (Russia – CTI 02 2019, implemented in 2021) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4b, 11b.</i></p> | |

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| | d. Promote stronger cross-border cooperation and sharing of best practices efforts on online consumer protection | <p>Promoting Consumer Protection in Digital Trade: Challenges and Opportunities – a workshop & report to seek ways to promote regional cooperation in the field of consumer protection in digital trade, including creating a framework for enforcement cooperation. (Korea – ECSG 03 2018A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 7f, 11a.</i></p> <p>Promoting Consumer Protection in Digital Trade / E-commerce: Towards Building an APEC Regional Consumer Protection Framework – a workshop & report to seek ways to build an APEC regional framework for consumer protection, as a follow-up of the 2018 workshop. (Korea – CTI 09 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 7f, 11a.</i></p> <p>Hosting an APEC forum to improve cross-border effectiveness of the personal data breach notification system – a forum & report to enhance understanding of the current status of different personal data breach notification systems of member economies to propose cooperation in data protection while respecting applicable domestic laws and regulations (Korea – DESG 01 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 7g.</i></p> | |
| 6. Promoting innovation and adoption of enabling | a. Share information, policies and initiatives to promote greater adoption of emerging | 2021 APEC TPT-WG IIEG Main Policy theme Virtual Meeting: Facilitating Mobility Integration through Technological Innovation – an APEC forum | HRDWG, HWG, OFWG, PPSTI, |

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| technologies and services | technologies by businesses, individuals, governments and society to embrace digital transformation | <p>to improve mobility through technological innovation and to enhance understanding of mobility status in different economies as well as share Mobility as a Service (MaaS) experiences. (Chinese Taipei – TPTWG, 2021)</p> <p>Public Private Dialogue (PPD) on Digitally Enabled Services: Challenges and Opportunities – aims to equip participants with better understanding of digitally enabled services, exchange views and experiences between public and private sector representatives and develop policy recommendations to assist especially MSMEs in the service sectors to harness digital technologies (Chinese Taipei – GOS 02 2021A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 11b ,11c.</i></p> <p>Promoting Trade by Utilizing Digital Technology – aims to enhance awareness of potentialities that advanced technology has created in facilitating trade promotion and reshaping business models to achieve digital transformation with the private sector to share practical experiences. (Chinese Taipei – CTI 07 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10a.</i></p> | SCE, SMEWG, TELWG, TPTWG |
| | b. Hold discussions on policies to encourage and facilitate innovation through digital means | APEC GVCs Blueprint 2020-2025: Realizing the Role of the Digital Economy within GVCs – a workshop & report to enhance the understanding of | |

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| | <p>and adoption of emerging technologies, including in MSMEs and non-traditionally digital businesses</p> | <p>developing economies regarding changes in GVCs in industrial sectors brought about by digital technologies. (Chile & Korea – CTI 06 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5b, 10a.</i></p> <p>AI Policy Recommendation on Digital Transformation for Healthcare Ecosystem – a hybrid webinar & online consultation event aim to provide a new service model by applying digital transformation technology in healthcare system and share the know-how of AI technology (AI Box) as the policy-making reference for facilitating the development of the digital health infrastructure. (Chinese Taipei – PPSTI 01 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6d, 6e, 6h.</i></p> <p>Workshop for SMEs in APEC: Embracing 4.0 Industrial Revolution in Boosting Economic Performance of Export-Oriented SMEs (Indonesia – SME 01 2019) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 11c, 11f.</i></p> | |
| | <p>c. Identify new technological trends, e.g. AI, 5G, blockchain and their applications in relation to the AIDER</p> | <p>Capacity Building on Marine Debris Monitoring by Using Innovative Technologies in APEC Region – aims to share the information on adopting innovative technologies for more efficient monitoring methods, such as using Artificial Intelligence to identify marine debris and building Marine Debris Dynamic Map, etc. (Chinese Taipei – OFWG 09 2020A)</p> | |

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| | | <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6k.</i> | |
| | d. Share information and policies that enable traditional businesses to utilize digital platforms as part of their business resilience or continuity plan | <p>Policy Recommendation on Improving Supply Chain Performance with Digital Manufacturing technology amid Pandemic Crisis – a hybrid webinar and policy recommendation report aim to share the best practice on utilizing additive manufacturing technology to enhance supply chain connectivity, and to overcome the middle income trap and accelerate the economic recovery in the region (Chinese Taipei – PPSTI, 2020)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6e.</i></p> | |
| | e. Developing an ecosystem that supports MSMEs, including those in the creative industry, to take advantage of the digital economy, including through discussion on policies and initiatives | <p>APEC Digital Economy and Innovative Entrepreneurship Online Forum – a forum that encourages the sharing and discussion of best practices, project implementation, knowledge, business trends and regional start-up ideas and experiences, this project aims to encourage digital innovation and female entrepreneurship, strengthening the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem that provides a supportive environment for young entrepreneurs within the APEC region (Chinese Taipei – HRDWG, 2020)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6i.</i></p> | |
| | f. Global collaboration of MSMEs through digital platforms | | |

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| | g. Promote the use of digital technologies to prevent and control global pandemics | <p>Using Digital Technologies for the Prevention and Control of COVID-19 and Economic Recovery. The study shared good practices of using digital technologies in the prevention and control of COVID-19, analyzed the positive role of these technologies in these efforts as well as in improving digital governance capacity in pandemic response and promoting digital economic development, and put forward recommendations in applying digital technologies and solutions to fight against the pandemic based on the specific situations and priorities of each economy. (China – DESG 01 2020S)</p> <p>Digital Tools for Addressing Infectious Disease in the Asia-Pacific Region: Challenges and Opportunities – a platform for industry, academia, and government in APEC economies to exchange experiences and lessons learned from developing digital tools to combat infectious diseases and complement conventional surveillance (Chinese Taipei – HWG 01 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6a.</i></p> <p>APEC Conference on Digital Healthcare Innovation – COVID-19 Response by Health Information Utilization – aims to demonstrate how to promote and effectively use interoperable digital data and facilitate digital technology adoption</p> | |

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| | | <p>connecting to a variety of innovative healthcare services and applications, as well as how it can be digital approaches for epidemic response during COVID-19 pandemic (Chinese Taipei – HWG 08 2020A)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Area 6h.</i></p> | |
| | <p>h. Promote policies that facilitate research and development as well as investment in innovative digital technologies</p> | | |
| | <p>i. Exchange best practice approaches to regulatory cooperation which supports the Digital Economy, including regulatory sandboxes</p> | <p>Competition Law and Regulation in Digital Markets – Increase understanding of how competition law and regulation can maximise the digital economy’s contribution to economic recovery, and support cross-border cooperation on the enforcement of competition and regulatory law in digital markets. (New Zealand – CPLG 01 2020A)</p> | |
| | <p>j. Promote socioeconomic inclusion & expansion of economic opportunities through better digital connectivity and access to technology for all</p> | <p>Promoting Digital Capacity Building to Bridge the Digital Divide in the Post-COVID Era aims to improve the inclusive digital development, and attach great importance to the digitally weaker status of vulnerable groups such as MSMEs, women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities particularly in remote areas in the context of COVID-19. The project is set to focus on and actively explore digital capacity building in the post-COVID era, encourage member</p> | |

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| | | <p>economies to carry out exchanges, share experience and build consensus in bridging the digital divide through enhancing digital capacity with a view to strengthening the sense of participation, fulfillment and happiness in the development of digital economy. (China – DESG 01 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4c, 4f, 10d.</i></p> | |
| | <p>k. Facilitate application of digital technologies to achieve SDG objectives and to improve digitalization efficiencies in trade activities of APEC economies</p> | | |
| <p>7. Enhancing trust and security in the use of ICTs</p> | <p>a. Enable a seamless digital market through regulatory cooperation and collective efforts to build trust in existing and emerging digital technologies</p> | <p>Policy Roundtable: Cybersecurity During the COVID-19 Pandemic – a public-private roundtable on cybersecurity risk management best practices to facilitate trade in the APEC region. (United States – DESG 04 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4f, 5b, 7c.</i></p> | <p>TELWG</p> |
| | <p>b. Cybersecurity considerations in non-traditionally digital businesses – including those leveraging Internet platform</p> | | |
| | <p>c. Exchange of updates and encourage adherence to cybersecurity norm</p> | | |

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| | d. Progress update on existing digital security guidance, including the Framework for Securing the Digital Economy | | |
| | e. Share practices, regulations and standards on ICT security and promote stronger cooperation and collaboration on cybersecurity through exchange of best practices | | |
| | f. Promote consumer protection in digital trade/e-commerce | <p>Promoting Consumer Protection in Digital Trade: Challenges and Opportunities – a workshop & report to seek ways to promote regional cooperation in the field of consumer protection in digital trade, including creating a framework for enforcement cooperation. (Korea – ECSG 03 2018A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5d, 11a.</i></p> <p>Promoting Consumer Protection in Digital Trade / E-commerce: Towards Building an APEC Regional Consumer Protection Framework – a workshop & report to seek ways to build an APEC regional framework for consumer protection, as a follow-up of the 2018 workshop. (Korea – CTI 09 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5d, 11a.</i></p> | |

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| | g. Establish environment for safe use of personal data for participation in the digital economy | <p>Personal Data Protection and Utilization in the Asia-Pacific Region: Challenges and Opportunities – a policy dialogue & report to support policy makers and experts to: 1) better understand approaches for personal data protection; 2) identify challenges and opportunities from policy and technical aspects; and 3) identify further capacity building needs of individual economy and APEC as a whole (Korea – ECSG 02 2019A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 8d.</i></p> <p>Hosting an APEC forum to improve cross-border effectiveness of the personal data breach notification system – a forum & report to enhance understanding of the current status of different personal data breach notification systems of member economies to propose cooperation in data protection while respecting applicable domestic laws and regulations (Korea – DESG 01 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 5d.</i></p> | |
| 8. Facilitating the free flow of information and data for the development of the Internet and Digital Economy, while | a. Encourage discussion towards wider implementation and adoption of APEC CBPR by interested economies and companies | | CTI |
| | b. Explore international collaborations and promote | Continue holding Digital Trade Policy Dialogues . Policy Dialogues on Digital Trade have been held | |

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| respecting applicable domestic laws and regulations | interoperability, including between APEC CBPR and other regional mechanisms | <p>since 2016, discussing issues related to digital trade, explore emerging policy topics, and further deepen an understanding of the opportunities to increase participation in the digital economy. Discussions also focused on policies and regulatory frameworks to facilitate digital trade, facilitating the commercial development, and adoption of emerging technologies, particularly in the COVID-19 environment. (United States – CTI) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4e, 5c.</i></p> <p>Increase the number of economies participating in the Pathfinder on Building Blocks for Facilitating Digital Trade (United States – CTI) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 8b.</i></p> <p>Increase number of economies participating in the Pathfinder for a Permanent Customs Duty Moratorium on Electronic Transmissions, Including Content Transmitted Electronically (United States – CTI) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 8b.</i></p> | |
| | c. Raising business' awareness on the protection of personal data, and enhancing privacy protections | | |

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| | d. Securing privacy and promoting the flow and utilization of data | <p>PSU study & Trade Policy Dialogue on “Fostering an Enabling Policy and Regulatory Environment in APEC for Data-Utilizing Businesses” is aimed for raising awareness and deepening understanding of leading data-utilizing business models through analysis of the policy environment and business practices. The study can be found here: https://www.apec.org/Publications/2019/07/Fostering-an-Enabling-Policy-and-Regulatory-Environment-in-APEC-for-Data-Utilizing-Businesses (Japan & PSU)</p> <p>Personal Data Protection and Utilization in the Asia-Pacific Region: Challenges and Opportunities – a policy dialogue & report to support policy makers and experts to: 1) better understand approaches for personal data protection; 2) identify challenges and opportunities from policy and technical aspects; and 3) identify further capacity building needs of individual economy and APEC as a whole (Korea – ECSG 02 2019A)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Area 7g.</i></p> <p>DESG Data Privacy Subgroup (DPS) March 2021 statement on COVID-19: https://www.apec.org/Press/News-Releases/2021/0315_DPS</p> | |

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| | | <p>Study: Policies and Regulatory Frameworks on Modern Digital Economy Issues – Open Government Data: This project will highlight a modern digital economy issue: facilitating access to open government data (OGD). Regulators in certain economies have incorporated OGD into trade agreements/partnerships to expand access to information and make it easily retrievable in a machine-readable format, particularly across international borders.</p> | |
| 9. Improvement of baseline Internet and Digital Economy measurements | a. Further discussion on approaches to measure the impact and success of digital economy, including considerations for a measurement system that would be interoperable globally or regionally | <p>Best Practices on Collection, Validation and Publication of ICTs Statistical Information (Mexico – TELWG, 2017) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 9c, 9g.</i></p> <p>Digital Economy: Strategies and Measurements (Singapore – TELWG, 2018) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 9c, 9g.</i></p> | EC, PPSTI, TELWG |
| | b. Promote the update of statistical systems in response to a rapidly evolving digital era and encourage comparability, considering the availability of metrics in all APEC economies | | |
| | c. Promote a comprehensive, high-quality data infrastructure and | <p>Indicators of information society development in APEC region (Russia – TELWG, 2015)</p> | |

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| | collection tools for measuring the use and impacts of digital technologies | <i>Also addresses Priority Area 9g.</i> | |
| | d. Harness the potential of big data for developing indicators to measure digital economy | | |
| | e. Set priorities for internationally comparable measurement through greater global cooperation | | |
| | f. Monitor the development of APEC region's digital economy through developing APEC-wide indicator | | |
| | g. Identify and share initiatives and best practices to improve measurement of the digital economy to develop a stronger evidence base for policy analysis and making | | |
| 10. Enhancing inclusiveness of Internet and Digital Economy | a. Development of human resource and digital skills to support the growth of the digital economy, digital transformation and digital entrepreneurship | FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on E-commerce Elements in FTAs/RTAs – a workshop & report to strengthen the negotiations capacity of government officials who are directly involved in | FMP, HRDWG, HWG, IPEG, PPWE, SCE, SMEWG, TELWG |

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| | | <p>FTAs/RTAs negotiations on e-commerce issues as well as related policymakers. (Korea – CTI 06 2019T) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 11a.</i></p> <p>FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on E-Commerce Elements in FTAs/RTAs (Phase II) – a workshop & report to strengthen the negotiations capacity of government officials who are directly involved in FTAs/RTAs negotiations on e-commerce issues as well as related policymakers, reflecting the updated situation and new issues after the 2019 workshop. (Korea – CTI 02 2020T) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 11a.</i></p> <p>APEC GVCs Blueprint 2020-2025: Realizing the Role of the Digital Economy within GVCs – a workshop & report to enhance the understanding of developing economies regarding changes in GVCs in industrial sectors brought about by digital technologies. (Chile & Korea – CTI 06 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5b, 11a.</i></p> <p>ASD-CBA Project: Promoting APEC Innovative Caregiving through Digital Upskilling – includes a research work examining tech-enabled caregiving skills, new forms of caregiving work, new ways of caregiving workplace learning and training, and then a</p> | |

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| | | <p>workshop to gather and share APEC best practices among economies. (Chinese Taipei – HRD 09 2020A)</p> <p>APEC Cross-Sector Innovation Ecosystem Conference: Strengthening Networks of SMEs Co-Innovation for Better Future – aims to strengthen networking of the “cross-sector”, and pave the way to the development model which promotes innovation and inclusive growth. The core beneficiaries are participants from industry, government, research institutions, women entrepreneurs, and civil society of the member economies. (Chinese Taipei – SME 01 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10b, 10c.</i></p> <p>APEC Cross-Domain Innovation Ecosystem Initiative: Facilitate the Inclusive Growth of SMEs Through the Digital Platform Across the APEC Region – aims to promote digitalization as the vital driving force of cross-domain innovation and strengthen SMEs in the GVCs to gain more competitiveness. The core beneficiaries are start-ups and SMEs, COVID-19 hit SMES, women entrepreneurs, and policy-makers. (the Philippines & Chinese Taipei – SME 04 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 10b, 10c.</i></p> | |

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| | | <p>Promoting Trade by Utilizing Digital Technology – aims to enhance awareness of potentialities that advanced technology has created in facilitating trade promotion and reshaping business models to achieve digital transformation with the private sector to share practical experiences. (Chinese Taipei – CTI 07 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6a.</i></p> | |
| | <p>b. Facilitate and encourage innovations in the field of Digital Literacy to empower individuals and businesses to find, create and share information, while enjoying greater online wellbeing and e-safety</p> | | |
| | <p>c. Encourage the growth of women-owned MSMEs by developing tools on business management, soft-skill development, marketing strategies, also production and marketing guidelines through digital media</p> | <p>Women’s Economic Empowering, New Media Digital Upskilling – aims at identifying new media skills for responding to the labor market needs, as well as developing the training package that will cultivate talented women, with attention is paid to vulnerable populations for realizing potential and exploring a wider range of career pathway (Chinese Taipei – HRD 03 2019A)</p> | |

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| | | <p>Strengthening Women Empowerment in Industry 4.0 through Digital Entrepreneurship Training (Indonesia – SME 12 2019A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4c, 4d, 4f, 10a, 10d.</i></p> <p>Workshop for Policy Makers in APEC: Strengthening Women’s Empowerment and Leadership through Digital Economy in Boosting Economic Growth (Indonesia – PPWE, 2020)</p> | |
| | <p>d. Encourage greater participation in the digital economy by women, MSMEs, and underrepresented members of society, including people living in rural areas and people with disabilities</p> | <p>APEC Forum on Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship – a forum that encourages the sharing and discussion of best practices, project implementation, knowledge, business trends and regional start-up ideas and experiences, this project aims to encourage digital innovation and female entrepreneurship, strengthening the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem that provides a supportive environment for young entrepreneurs within the APEC region. (Chinese Taipei – HRD 12 2018S, HRD 04 2019A, on-going in 2021) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10c.</i></p> <p>APEC Workshop on Fostering Inclusive Digital Economy: Sharing Best Practices in Advancing Women Participation in Digital Startups (Indonesia – ECSSG 01 2019A)</p> | |

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| | | <p>APEC Women Builders Creating Inclusive Future – aims to encourage APEC economies to take measures on developing women’s talent in the building sector to reduce wage gaps, foster vocational and skills education for women and increase the number of women in leadership positions. By a collection of best practices, launching a pilot survey, two focus group meetings and a seminar, this project identify hindrances and how best to empower women in the building sector. The ultimate goal is to create principles that produces inclusive growth within the entire APEC region. (Chinese Taipei – PPWE 02 2019)</p> <p>Potential for Use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in the Field of IPR – aims to provide a platform, through hosting an international workshop, where APEC participants can discuss the potential use of ADR to strengthen abilities concerning IPR protection and legal disputes settlement of women, young people, start-ups, and MSMEs. It’s expected that the efforts can be beneficial to sustain the momentum of inclusive economic participation brought by the digital economy and technology. (Chinese Taipei – IPEG 01 2020T)</p> <p>Workshop on E-Commerce Opportunities for Indigenous and Ethnic Minorities: Bringing</p> | |

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| | | <p>Innovation, Expanding Markets and Unleashing Potential – Enhance the capability and participation of indigenous and ethnic minorities’ agribusiness in e-commerce as a means of developing robust and commercially viable agribusinesses. (New Zealand – PPFS 02 2020A)</p> <p>Promoting Digital Capacity Building to Bridge the Digital Divide in the Post-COVID Era aims to improve the inclusive digital development, and attach great importance to the digitally weaker status of vulnerable groups such as MSMEs, women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities particularly in remote areas in the context of COVID-19. The project is set to focus on and actively explore digital capacity building in the post-COVID era, encourage member economies to carry out exchanges, share experience and build consensus in bridging the digital divide through enhancing digital capacity with a view to strengthening the sense of participation, fulfillment and happiness in the development of digital economy. (China – DESG 01 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4c, 4f, 6j.</i></p> <p>Promoting Gender Equality in the Telecommunications Industry for the Inclusive Recovery – aims to promote inclusive growth in the telecom industry and digitally enabled recovery in the</p> | |

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| | | <p>APEC region. By launching a pilot survey, a collection of best practices, a workshop, and a seminar, this project will help to facilitate women's participation in the telecommunications industry in the APEC region and allow them to seize opportunities created by telecommunication services, especially during the economic recovery period from COVID-19. (Chinese Taipei – PPWE, 2021)</p> | |
| | <p>e. Better inclusion of disadvantaged groups to leverage the Internet and Digital Economy to improve their living standards and unleash their potential through effective use of ICTs.</p> | <p>APEC Conference on Urbanization, Population Aging and Technology Innovation – aims to organize a conference with interactive sessions to exchange on healthy cities, age-friendly cities, integrated care for chronic disease policies with technology innovation in the ageing population, and sustainable environment. (Chinese Taipei – HWG 01 2019A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10b.</i></p> <p>Inclusive Digital Society: Alleviating Poverty and Improving Living Standards through Increased Economic Growth. The project aims to share and disseminate good practices, articulating a common vision and developing recommendations to support APEC economies in enhancing inclusion of vulnerable groups to leverage the Internet and Digital Economy to support poverty alleviation and improve living standards. This project proposes to organize a workshop to capture valuable case studies, good practices, policies and recommendations on</p> | |

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| | | <p>cooperation for inclusive digital society in 2021 in China to produce a report and promote synergy and collaboration on inclusive digital economic development. (China & Papua New Guinea – SCE, endorsed in 2019)</p> <p>Building a Digital Ready Society / APEC Digital Inclusion Exchange Forum (Singapore & Thailand – TEL 02 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 4b.</i></p> | |
| 11. Facilitation of E-commerce and advancing cooperation on Digital Trade | a. Promote transparency in e-commerce regulations, including those that apply to cross-border business transactions | <p>Supply Chain Integration 4.0 Through Single Window Interoperability – Action Plan (2019-2021) In Phase 1 (2019), Chile and Peru undertook a self-funded project “Promoting the interoperability of single window in APEC: Technology solutions to identify the best technology solution for single window interoperability in the APEC region”. Phase 1 had the following outputs: (Study) https://www.apec.org/Publications/2018/08/Study-on-Single-Window-Systems-International-Interoperability (Compendium) https://www.apec.org/Publications/2019/11/Compendium-of-Best-Practice-Technology-Solutions-for-Single-Window-Interoperability</p> | ATCWG, CTI, GOS, MAG, SMEWG |

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| | | <p>Phase II seeks to facilitate ecommerce, including through the use of electronic means such as paperless customs clearance, electronic transaction documents and digital authentication. It will promote single windows interoperability among APEC economies taking into account advances in the development of domestic single windows and current examples of interoperability in the APEC region and beyond. (Chile, China & Peru)</p> <p>FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on E-commerce Elements in FTAs/RTAs – a workshop & report to strengthen the negotiations capacity of government officials who are directly involved in FTAs/RTAs negotiations on e-commerce issues as well as related policymakers. (Korea – CTI 06 2019T) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10a.</i></p> <p>FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on E-Commerce Elements in FTAs/RTAs (Phase II) – a workshop & report to strengthen the negotiations capacity of government officials who are directly involved in FTAs/RTAs negotiations on e-commerce issues as well as related policymakers, reflecting the updated situation and new issues after the 2019 workshop. (Korea – CTI 02 2020T) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10a.</i></p> | |

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| | | <p>APEC GVCs Blueprint 2020-2025: Realizing the Role of the Digital Economy within GVCs – a workshop & report to enhance the understanding of developing economies regarding changes in GVCs in industrial sectors brought about by digital technologies. (Chile & Korea – CTI 06 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5b, 10a.</i></p> <p>Promoting Consumer Protection in Digital Trade: Challenges and Opportunities – a workshop & report to seek ways to promote regional cooperation in the field of consumer protection in digital trade, including creating a framework for enforcement cooperation. (Korea – ECSG 03 2018A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5d, 7f.</i></p> <p>Promoting Consumer Protection in Digital Trade / E-commerce: Towards Building an APEC Regional Consumer Protection Framework – a workshop & report to seek ways to build an APEC regional framework for consumer protection, as a follow-up of the 2018 workshop. (Korea – CTI 09 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 5d, 7f.</i></p> <p>Study: “Assessment of capacity building needs on trade related aspects of e-commerce” supports WTO negotiation on trade related aspects of electronic commerce including implementation of review of the</p> | |

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| | | <p>laws and regulations on e-commerce and interviews with member economies. Study seeks to raise awareness and deepen understanding of the technical aspects related to cross-border e-commerce. It reviewed existing regulatory frameworks related to cross-border e-commerce in respective APEC economies. Final study can be found here: https://www.apec.org/Publications/2020/12/Assessment-of-Capacity-Building-Needs-to-Support-WTO-Negotiation (Japan)</p> <p>Symposium on APEC Supporting the WTO Negotiations on Trade Related Aspects of E-commerce. This symposium is set to support the WTO Negotiations on Trade Related Aspects of E-commerce. Without prejudging economies' positions in the negotiations, this symposium seeks to make exploratory and introductory efforts to deepen discussions and enhance mutual understanding on topics of interest, so as to a) contribute positively and actively to the WTO e-commerce negotiations and b) further expand discussions and identify trade-related e-commerce rules that could be considered by APEC economies. A reflection on a possible role played by WTO e-commerce negotiations facing at the unprecedented impact on global trade caused by COVID-19 will also be addressed. A Virtual Preparatory Meeting was held on 2 Feb 2021. (China)</p> | |

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| | | <p>“Work Plan on Digital Trade and E-Commerce” aims for the eventual realization of FTAAP. Digital trade / e-commerce elements are indispensable as key elements attaining high-quality and comprehensive FTAAP. This includes mainly taking stock of digital trade elements in FTAs, and also assessing digital trade initiative in international fora. (Japan)</p> <p>Continue trade policy dialogues on digital trade to increase understanding of the issues. (United States)</p> | |
| | <p>b. Strengthen cooperation and share experiences on promoting e-commerce/digital trade and their related services in the region</p> | <p>APEC Workshop on the R&D and Promotion of Smart Agriculture – a platform for both public and private sectors of APEC economies to share experience and expertise on developing and promoting smart agricultural systems, as well as to advance agricultural production and the effectiveness of smart agriculture in the APEC region (Chinese Taipei – ATC 01 2020)</p> <p>Utilising Digital Technology in the Field of Trade Facilitation under the current COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond: Best Practices Sharing Workshops (Japan – CTI 07 2020T)</p> <p>APEC Workshop on Promoting the Doing-Digital-Business Environment to Reactivate Market</p> | |

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| | | <p>Entities aims to investigate regulatory frameworks and policy acts of the development of digital economy from the doing-digital-business environment aspect, promote the vitalities of main entities in digital markets in APEC economies and make traditional enterprises, especially the MSMEs, benefit from digital economy. (China – DESG 02 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4b, 4f.</i></p> <p>Questionnaire, Workshop and Report “Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Digital Content Trade”. Identify and address challenges for IPR in digital content trade and ways to overcome them. Address the challenges for the IPR protection in digital content trade through the respective policy frameworks. (Russia – CTI 02 2019, implemented in 2021) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4b, 5c.</i></p> <p>Supporting discussions in the WTO: Workshop on the application of non-discriminatory internal taxes to electronic transmissions. In the context of ongoing multilateral discussions on the application of customs duties to electronic transmissions, this project will provide a workshop for sharing experiences on how an internal tax (such as VAT or GST) can be applied to electronic transmissions to achieve certain policy goals (such as revenue raising) in a fair,</p> | |

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| | | <p>transparent and non-discriminatory manner. (New Zealand – CTI 06 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 4e.</i></p> <p>Public Private Dialogue (PPD) on Digitally Enabled Services: Challenges and Opportunities – aims to equip participants with better understanding of digitally enabled services, exchange views and experiences between public and private sector representatives and develop policy recommendations to assist especially MSMEs in the service sectors to harness digital technologies (Chinese Taipei – GOS 02 2021A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6a, 11c.</i></p> <p>Increase the number of economies participating in the Pathfinder on Building Blocks for Facilitating Digital Trade (United States – CTI) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 8b.</i></p> <p>Increase number of economies participating in the Pathfinder for a Permanent Customs Duty Moratorium on Electronic Transmissions, Including Content Transmitted Electronically (United States – CTI) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 8b.</i></p> | |
| | c. Increase the growth and participation of MSMEs to the | Workshop for SMEs in APEC: Embracing 4.0 Industrial Revolution in Boosting Economic | |

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| | region by promoting cross-border e-commerce | <p>Performance of Export-Oriented SMEs (Indonesia – SME 01 2019) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 11f.</i></p> <p>Promoting the Participation of MSMEs in the Regional Market to Bridge the Digital Divide in APEC Economies (Viet Nam – ECSG 02 2018)</p> | |
| | d. To implement APEC Cross-border e-commerce facilitation Framework | | |
| | e. Promote transparency through exchanges of information, initiatives, and best practices that facilitates the development of e-Commerce regulations | <p>Best Practice Guidelines for Paperless Trading – Develop a non-exhaustive set of best practice guidelines to assist APEC economies in updating their customs procedures and legislative framework so that all traders, especially MSMEs, can engage with the APEC customs authorities electronically. (New Zealand – SCCP 02 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 11c.</i></p> | |
| | f. Develop an ecosystem that enables MSMEs, including those in the creative industry, to take advantage of e-commerce and the digital economy | | |
| All KFAs | a. Strengthen APEC’s digital agenda and strategy, including electronic | Workshop for SMEs in APEC: Embracing 4.0 Industrial Revolution in Boosting Economic | CTI, EC, EPWG, HWG, PPSTI, |

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| | <p>commerce and related services, with fresh perspectives and innovative means to navigate the new economic realities brought about by COVID-19²</p> | <p>Performance of Export-Oriented SMEs (Indonesia – SME 01 2019)</p> <p>Strengthening Women Empowerment in Industry 4.0 through Digital Entrepreneurship Training (Indonesia – SME 12 2019A)</p> <p>FTAAP Capacity Building Workshop on E-Commerce Elements in FTAs/RTAs (Phase II) – a workshop & report to contribute to accelerate the economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19 by stimulating international cooperation on facilitating e-commerce (Korea – CTI 02 2020T)</p> <p>APEC GVCs Blueprint 2020-2025: Realizing the Role of the Digital Economy within GVCs – a workshop & report that shares the best practices to utilize digital economy in GVCs in coping with COVID-19. (Chile & Korea – CTI 06 2020A)</p> <p>2021 APEC Resilience Week (2021 APECRW) – Building SMART Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) over COVID-19 – aims to review DRR policies including Preparedness, Response, and Recovery measures considering COVID-19 pandemic. Host virtual meetings to fully discuss the issues and best</p> | <p>SCCP, SMEWG, TELWG</p> |

² Statement on COVID-19 by APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade (https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Sectoral-Ministerial-Meetings/Trade/2020_trade)

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| | | practices for formulating “The Principles of Smart DRR Alliance for Information Intelligence through cloud for APEC Resilience City over Covid-19”. (Chinese Taipei – EPWG, PPSTI, 2021) | |