



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2015/SOM2/OFWG/006

Agenda Item: IV B a

Strategic Plan 2013-2015 Ocean and Fisheries Working Group

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: APEC Secretariat
Forum Doc No: 2015/SOM1/OFWG/006



APEC
PHILIPPINES
2 0 1 5

**5th Oceans and Fisheries Working Group Meeting
Boracay, Philippines
10-12 May 2015**

Strategic Plan 2013-2015

Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG)

1. Vision Statement

Well-managed ocean ecosystems, fisheries and aquaculture that provide optimal economic value to support and improve the livelihood of communities and food security in APEC member Economies.

2. Mission Statement

OFWG's mission is to foster sustainable economic growth, development and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. The OFWG economies will do this by working to facilitate free and open trade in the region and promoting the sustainable use of

fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean ecosystem resources and related goods and services. A healthy ocean ecosystem is essential for maximizing the quality and economic value of these resources, promoting food security, food safety and sustainable development. The OFWG will promote cooperation amongst its members, governments, academia, private industry, and regional and international organizations to advance this process. The OFWG pursues its work through research, capacity building, information sharing and dissemination, cooperation with other APEC fora and other organizations, and through continued implementation of the directives in the Seoul Oceans Declaration (2002), the Bali Plan of Action (2005), and the Paracas Declaration (2010) as well as responding to future guidance from APEC leaders and ministers.

3. Critical Success Factors

The following conditions will directly impact the ability of the OFWG to successfully achieve its Vision and implement its Mission Statement:

- 3.1. Understanding within APEC of the importance of achieving sustainable use of fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean ecosystem resources in order to maximize the long-term economic and social benefits associated with these resource opportunities.
- 3.2. Communication, coordination and commitment among APEC members to: develop and implement collaborative solutions to fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean ecosystem resource management challenges in the APEC region and develop strategies to promote ecosystem-based management;
- 3.3. Understanding within APEC of the fundamental and strategic role of fisheries, aquaculture and oceans resources in regional food security;
- 3.4. Understanding within APEC of the physical and economic impacts of climate change on fisheries, aquaculture, oceans ecosystems, and local communities, and commitment to a coordinated approach to mitigate and adapt to these impacts;

APEC's Mission:

"APEC is the premier Asia-Pacific economic forum. Our primary goal is to support sustainable economic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. We are united in our drive to build a dynamic and harmonious Asia-Pacific community by championing free and open trade and investment, promoting and accelerating regional economic integration, encouraging economic and technical cooperation, enhancing human security, and facilitating a favorable and sustainable business environment. Our initiatives turn policy goals into concrete results and agreements into tangible benefits."

- 3.5 Ongoing commitment to develop and exchange scientific information, build institutional capacity, and implement best practices and appropriate international instruments to contribute to the sustainable development and protection of the marine environment;
- 3.6 Supporting efficient and effective OFWG operations with: broad participation and adequate resources from APEC economies dialogue, cooperation and partnerships with other APEC fora, regional and international organizations, and the private sector where interests intersect.

4. Agreed Priorities, Objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The following table identifies four priority areas of OFWG work based on guidance received from Oceans Ministers and one additional priority area designed to address improving the functionality and effectiveness of our newly formed working group. Objectives are identified that will enable us to accomplish our mission and performance indicators are included that will allow us to gauge our progress in this regard.

Priority Area	Objectives	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
Free and Open Trade and Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize APEC members' access to the economic benefits derived from sustainable use of the oceans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased trade and investment opportunities that promote sustainable use of fisheries, aquaculture and ocean ecosystem resource; Improved value chain for small scale fishermen and aquaculture operators; Increased income and job opportunities, particularly for vulnerable groups and communities by optimizing multiple economic benefits
Sustainable Development and Protection of the Marine Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote sustainable conservation, management and use of fisheries, aquaculture and ocean ecosystems in the APEC region to ensure long-term economic benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased exchange of information among APEC members leading to regional institutional capacity building, collaborative solutions to fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean ecosystem resource management challenges in the APEC region increased development and exchange of scientific information, and implementation of best practices; Increased capacity for development and implementation of appropriate tools to ensure sustainable management and use (e.g., ecosystem-based management, coastal and marine spatial planning, and marine protected areas); Built capacity to increase implementation of various appropriate regional and international instruments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve APEC economies understanding of the oceans and their economic and social value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased scientific collaboration, transparency, and sharing of knowledge relative to the economic and social value of fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean ecosystem resources and the services they provide, including climate change mitigation and adaptation. Formulated an APEC Marine Sustainable Development Report

Priority Area	Objectives	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance APEC economies understanding of the role of fisheries, aquaculture and oceans resources in regional food security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased participation of OFWG in APEC dialogue on improving food security; ▪ Improved communication and information exchange with other APEC groups relevant to food security. ▪ Enhanced APEC understanding of the link between sustainably managed fisheries and aquaculture resources and food security; ▪ Increased capacity of OFWG economies to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing; ▪ Advanced efforts on inclusive growth (e.g., small scale fisheries and resource-limited aquaculture)
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance APEC economies understanding of the impacts of climate change on oceans (not limited to Fisheries and other environmental issues, but also economic, social and local community impact) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved APEC coordination in the gathering and sharing of scientific knowledge on climate change and its impacts on coastal and marine ecosystems, fisheries and aquaculture; ▪ Increased capacity of OFWG economies to take appropriate measures to respond to and adapt to the impacts of climate change on coastal communities, fisheries and aquaculture; ▪ Strengthen the role of ocean-related cooperation across APEC on emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and related issues, including with the Emergency Preparedness Working Group
OFWG Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance public and private sector partnerships, including participation and communication in OFWG work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identification of cross-cutting themes for cooperative work and partnerships ▪ Increased support for joint projects/work and increased horizontal coordination with appropriate APEC fora (such as the SMEWG); ▪ Improved communication/coordination with other APEC sub-fora, regional and international organizations, and the private sector where interests intersect; ▪ Enhanced cross-fora collaboration , including an increased level of public and private sector participation in OFWG meetings; ▪ Increased opportunities for focused dialogue, cooperation and partnerships with public and private sector stakeholders on a variety of topics; ▪ A more active role by the APEC Marine Sustainable Development Center as a cooperation platform for APEC economies.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance the effectiveness of the OFWG and its role in APEC 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance effectiveness of OFWG project work 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhance cross-fora collaboration to support the mainstreaming of ocean-related issues in APEC 	

5. Prioritized Implementation Schedule

The following table takes the objectives identified in Section 4 and provides a series of proposed actions to achieve those objectives (Note: these include actions which have been endorsed by OFWG, as well as proposed as future work under consideration, and also initiatives which are on-going). For each action, a start and finish date are identified and possible resources are listed.

Objectives should be consistent with the critical factors or key performance indicators

Objective	Start Date	Completion Date	Resources
<p>#1 Maximize APEC members' access to the economic benefits derived from the oceans</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Capacity building and exchange of best practices to combat IUU-Fishing.</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Capacity building to improve the value chain for small scale fisheries and aquaculture.</p>	<p>June 2013</p> <p>June 2013</p>	<p>June 2015</p> <p>June 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior officials and secretariats • APEC sub-for a • OFWG members • External partners, such as other regional organizations • Public and private sector
<p>#2 Promote sustainable conservation, management and use of fisheries, aquaculture and ocean ecosystems in the APEC region to ensure long-term economic benefits</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Initiate OFWG dialogue on sustainable management of marine resources and protection of marine ecosystems. Identify appropriate tools to achieve these goals (e.g., ecosystem-based management, coastal marine special planning, the use of marine protected areas), and discuss priority areas for future action;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Implement the advanced training of APEC marine spatial planning for the Pacific Rim</p> <p>Action: Engage in OFWG capacity building activities such as exchanges of information on best practices, development of reports to disseminate information, and workshops</p>	<p>June 2013</p> <p>January 2013</p> <p>September 2013</p>	<p>June 2013</p> <p>December 2013</p> <p>June 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior officials and secretariats • APEC sub-for a • OFWG members • External partners, such as other regional organizations • Public and private sector

<p>#3 Improve APEC economies understanding of the oceans and their economic and social value</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Formulate the APEC Marine Sustainable Development_Report</p>	May 2012	November 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior officials and secretariats • APEC sub-for a • OFWG members • External partners, such as other regional organizations • Public and private sector
<p>#4 Enhance APEC economies understanding of the role of fisheries, aquaculture and oceans resources in regional food security</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Develop an Action Plan detailing a long term strategy for OFWG work to address food security aligned the APEC food system;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Initiate communication and information exchange with bodies engaged in the APEC food security dialogue;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Continue work to increase OFWG members' capacity to combat IUU fishing;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Advance work on inclusive growth (small scale fisheries and resource-limited aquaculture)</p>	On-going	June 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior officials and secretariats • APEC sub-for a • OFWG members • External partners, such as other regional organizations • Public and private sector
<p>#5 Enhance APEC economies understanding of the impacts of climate change on fisheries, aquaculture and oceans resources</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Develop a discussion paper to identify key issues relative to the impacts of climate change on APEC region fisheries, aquaculture and oceans resources;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Initiate OFWG dialogue on the impacts of climate change on APEC region fisheries, aquaculture and oceans resources. Develop a strategy to address these impacts through capacity building (e.g., on mitigation), and increased</p>	January 2013	June 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior officials and secretariats • APEC sub-for a • OFWG members • External partners, such as other regional organizations • Public and private sector
	June 2013	January 2014	

participation in appropriate APEC fora.			
<p>#6 OFWG Improvements</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Discuss possible ways to enhance public and private sector participation and communication in OFWG work. Identify future actions;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Discuss specific ways to increase the effectiveness of the OFWG and enhance its role in APEC. Identify future actions;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Discuss ways to improve the effectiveness of OFWG project work and possible alternatives to APEC funding. Discuss other tools/mechanisms for achieving OFWG goals and identify future actions;</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Support the activities of APEC marine sustainable development center</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Begin a dialogue among OFWG members regarding the concept of blue economy</p> <p><u>Action:</u> Discuss ways to increase cross-fora collaboration to support mainstreaming ocean related issues in APEC. The Mapping exercise of APEC Ocean-related Activities, as prepared by APEC Secretariat, could serve as a basis for developing the discussions.</p>	<p>June 2013</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>April 2013</p> <p>June 2013</p>	<p>June 2015</p> <p>June 2015</p> <p>June 2015</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>December 2013</p> <p>June 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior officials and secretariats • APEC sub-for a • OFWG members • External partners, such as other regional organizations • Public and private sector