



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2016/PPWE1/004**  
Agenda Item: 5





## **Healthy Women, Healthy Economies - 2016 Update**

Purpose: Information  
Submitted by: United States



**Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy  
Meeting  
Lima, Peru  
28-29 June 2016**

 **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation** *Healthy Women, Healthy Economies*



## HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY ECONOMIES

*2016 Updates for Policy Partnership  
on Women and the Economy*

**Julia Santucci**  
Office of Global Women's Issues  
U.S. Department of State

**Ann Katsiak**  
U.S.-APEC Technical Assistance to  
Advance Regional Integration

27 June 2016  
Lima, Peru

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### WHY "HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY ECONOMIES"?

**“** Better health outcomes for women and girls lead to their greater economic participation, which leads to higher economic growth. **”**

While there is some knowledge on why and how to do achieve better health outcomes for women and girls, the evidence and good practices are scattered.

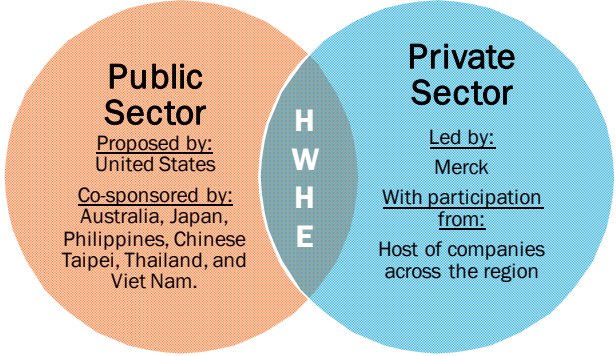
**HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY ECONOMIES (HWHE) puts the evidence and good practices together on one platform.**

➔ [HEALTHYWOMEN.APEC.ORG](http://HEALTHYWOMEN.APEC.ORG) 

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## HWHE IN APEC: A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- HWHE is a joint APEC initiative that involves three APEC working groups: HRDWG, HWG, PPWE



**Public Sector**

Proposed by:  
United States


Co-sponsored by:  
Australia, Japan, Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, and Viet Nam.


**Private Sector**

Led by:  
Merck

With participation from:  
Host of companies across the region


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## HWHE RESOURCES

- Healthy Women, Healthy Economies (HWHE) puts the evidence and best practices together into one implementation platform, which thus far includes...
  - A Policy Toolkit
  - A Literature Review
- In 2016 we will add to this platform:
  - Case studies and other resources to implement the Toolkit's recommendations.
  - How to make the economic case to governments and business case to employers to implement the Toolkit.
  - Menu of indicators as a tool for implementers to track implementation progress.
- In 2017 we plan to continue to add to this platform by collecting the experiences, impact data and lessons learned that implementers will share at the 2017 HWHE leadership conference.



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## HWHE IMPACT: REALIZING HWHE ONE CASE AT A TIME



Since the release of the Policy Toolkit in September 2015, economies and industry leaders have stepped up to become champions of HWHE:

- **The Philippines:** Piloting the Toolkit in small, medium-sized, and large corporations; developing a corresponding scorecard to track progress.
- **Peru:** Sharing existing best practices to combat gender-based violence and its impact to the private sector.
- **Merck KGaA:** Developing a business case and planning internal implementation.
- **Magsaysay Inc:** Applying pertinent aspects of the policy toolkit across the organization.

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## THE HWHE POLICY TOOLKIT: BRINGING GOOD PRACTICES TOGETHER



The Healthy Women, Healthy Economies Policy Toolkit launched in 2015 provides a menu of options of good practices on how to improve women's health for greater economic participation.

Employers may draw from the Toolkit's five focus areas to pilot, implement and scale up good practices in their workplaces:


- 1 HEALTH AWARENESS AND ACCESS
- 2 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY
- 3 SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
- 4 GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
- 5 WORK/LIFE BALANCE

Access the Toolkit: [healthywomen.apec.org](http://healthywomen.apec.org)  
 (Japanese, Spanish, and Portuguese versions will soon be online)

→ [HEALTHYWOMEN.APEC.ORG](http://HEALTHYWOMEN.APEC.ORG)

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## HWHE POLICY TOOLKIT: FIVE FOCUS AREAS



- 1 HEALTH AWARENESS AND ACCESS
- 2 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY
- 3 SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
- 4 GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
- 5 WORK/LIFE BALANCE

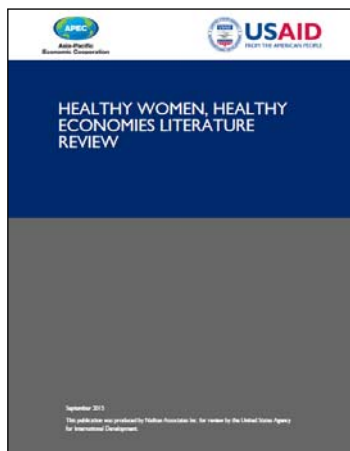
**Sample policy recommendation from HEALTH AWARENESS AND ACCESS**

ISSUE	ACTION	IMPLEMENTERS
Need for policies and programs to accommodate pregnant and lactating women. Pregnant women may require accommodations such as more frequent breaks and the options to sit while working or to work different shifts to keep her and baby safe.	Develop appropriate guidance to manage risks related to pregnant and lactating women (i.e., limitations on weight they can be required to lift, additional bathroom breaks, lower thresholds for allowable chemical exposure, emergency evacuation procedures).  Offer alternative tasks and/or work schedules to pregnant and lactating women.	Economy-level governments and regional governments, private sector.


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## THE LITERATURE REVIEW: BRINGING EVIDENCE TOGETHER



- The Policy Toolkit was supported by a literature review which compiled existing evidence on the linkage between the health of women and girls and their ability to enter, remain, and rise in the economy.
- The Policy Toolkit compiled:
  - Reports and studies from international, governmental, civil society and research organizations
  - Papers published in academic journals
  - Experiences from different APEC economies



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## HWHE POLICY TOOLKIT EXPERT GROUP MEMBERS

In 2015, the governments of the Philippines and the United States along with Merck KGaA convened an expert group to develop the Healthy Women, Healthy Economies Policy Toolkit through the APEC forum. Participants from the expert group included:



**Representatives from 15 APEC economies:**

- Officials from gender, health and labor ministries (“whole of government” approach)
- Private sector
- International Labour Organization, World Bank, Asian Development Bank
- Academia
- Civil society (NGOs)


**The expert group was chaired by:**

- Philippines – Department of Health, Philippine Commission on Women, and Department of Labor and Employment
- Merck KGaA

**Project Overseer:**

- United States– Department of Health and Human Services, Department of State, Department of Labor, U.S. Agency for International Development

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## APEC STATEMENTS ON HWHE

*“We welcome the APEC Healthy Women, Healthy Economies Policy Toolkit, which seeks to enhance women’s economic participation through better health, and call for the public and private sectors to consider adopting relevant aspects of its recommendations.”*

- 2016 Meeting of APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade  
Arequipa, Peru, 17 - 18 May 2016

*“We endorse the Strategic Plan of the PPWE 2015-2018 to advance women’s full and equal economic participation across the APEC work streams, in particular through improved access to...health...We welcome initiatives to ensure mainstreaming of gender perspectives in APEC. These include: ...Policy Toolkit on Healthy Women, Healthy Economies.”*

- 2015 APEC Ministerial Meeting Statement

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## HWHE ECHOING BEYOND APEC

- HWHE has been shared with other platforms worldwide, and has received positive response.

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## APEC HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY ECONOMIES: HOW FAR WE'VE COME AND WHERE WE ARE HEADING

Expert Group finalized the Policy Toolkit (August 2015)

Policy Toolkit launched (September 2015)

Implementation Workshop (August 2016)

HWHE Leadership Conference to report on implementation progress (2017 TBD)

We are currently exploring possibilities institutionalize HWHE through the formation of a task force (or other format) to ensure that the HWHE implementation process can continue to grow. Our vision is to ensure HWHE continues to improve women's health and women's economic participation.

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## UPCOMING HWHE WORKSHOP: WELCOME!

**HWHE Implementation workshop: From Vision to Action**  
Enhancing women's economic participation by improving women's health

**August 17-18 | Lima, Peru**



**APEC PERU  
2016**

**Agenda Highlights:**

- ✓ Best Practice Examples and Developing Your Implementation Plan
  - Case studies from all five toolkit areas
- ✓ Making the Pitch and Designing for Impact
  - How to make the Economic Case to Governments
  - How to make the Business Case to Companies
  - Case studies from economies and businesses
- ✓ HWHE Implementation: How do you know if you are making progress?
  - Broader HWHE indicators to track progress
  - Case studies from economies and businesses on tracking progress
- ✓ Discussion with APEC health and gender officials and the OECD: Women's Unpaid Work as a Root Inequality

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## SPEAKERS FOR AUGUST



**Confirmed Public Sector Speakers:**

- ✓ Australia Department of Health
- ✓ Director General of Maternal and Child Health Department, Ministry of Health, Viet Nam
- ✓ Directorate of Occupational Health, Ministry of Health of Indonesia
- ✓ OECD Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs
- ✓ Philippines Department of Health

**Confirmed Private Sector Speakers:**

- ✓ Deloitte
- ✓ GE
- ✓ Merck
- ✓ McKinsey

**Confirmed NGO and Academic Speakers:**

- ✓ Jhpiego
- ✓ Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Miami

**Selected invited speakers:**

- ✓ Minister of Women and Vulnerable Populations, Peru (invited)
- ✓ Undersecretary, Ministry of Health, Viet Nam (invited)

If you would like to contribute a speaker, or attend, please come speak with us!

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# THANK YOU

**Julia Santucci**

[SantucciJM@state.gov](mailto:SantucciJM@state.gov)  
Office of Global Women's Issues  
U.S. Department of State

**Ann Katsiak**

[akatsiak@nathaninc.com](mailto:akatsiak@nathaninc.com)  
U.S. - APEC Technical Assistance to  
Advance Regional Integration



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