



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**2016/PPWE1/005**

Agenda Item: 4

**Multi-Year Project: Innovations for Women and  
Economic Development: Facilitating Women's  
Livelihood Development and Resilience with ICTs**

Purpose: Information

Submitted by: Chinese Taipei



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

2016 APEC Women and the Economy Forum

June 28, 2016, Lima, Peru

# Innovations for Women and Economic Development:

## Facilitating Women's Livelihood Development and Resilience with ICTs

M SCE 03 2013A

Chinese Taipei

# Background

*“We reaffirm the crucial role of women in achieving economic prosperity and inclusive growth in the APEC region and encourage investing in women through the creation of better business opportunities for women and including them in the innovative economy.”*

**~ APEC 2012 Leaders' Declaration**

*“We encourage economies to promote initiatives that use ICTs to overcome women’s time and mobility constraints, increase access to markets, networks and information for women-owned and operated SMEs, and strengthen women’s access to financial services”*

**~ APEC Ministers issue first joint SME and Women statement, 2013**

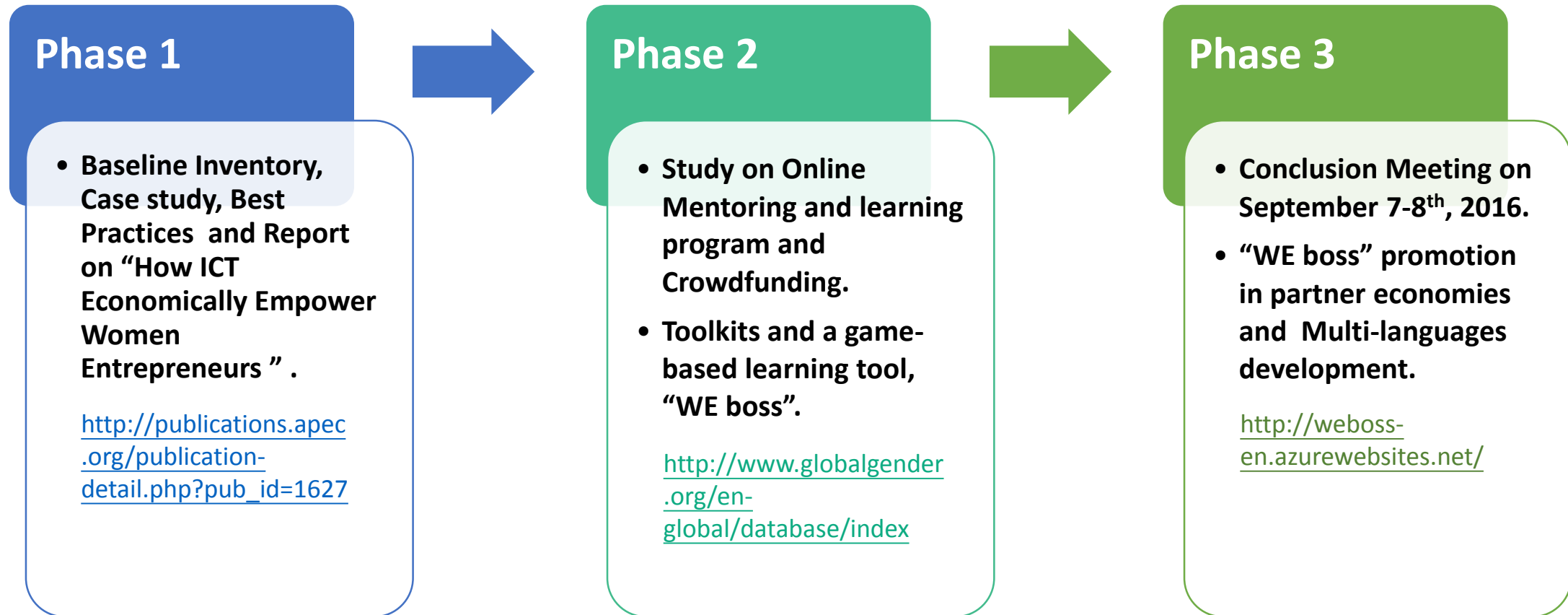
*“It is critical to incorporate ICT into business operations in the measure that they provide access to up-to-date information and innovation trends on matters such as markets, networks, partnerships, financial services, regulations, technological developments, and support and training programs”*

**~ ASEAN ICT Masterplan, 2013**

# Overview

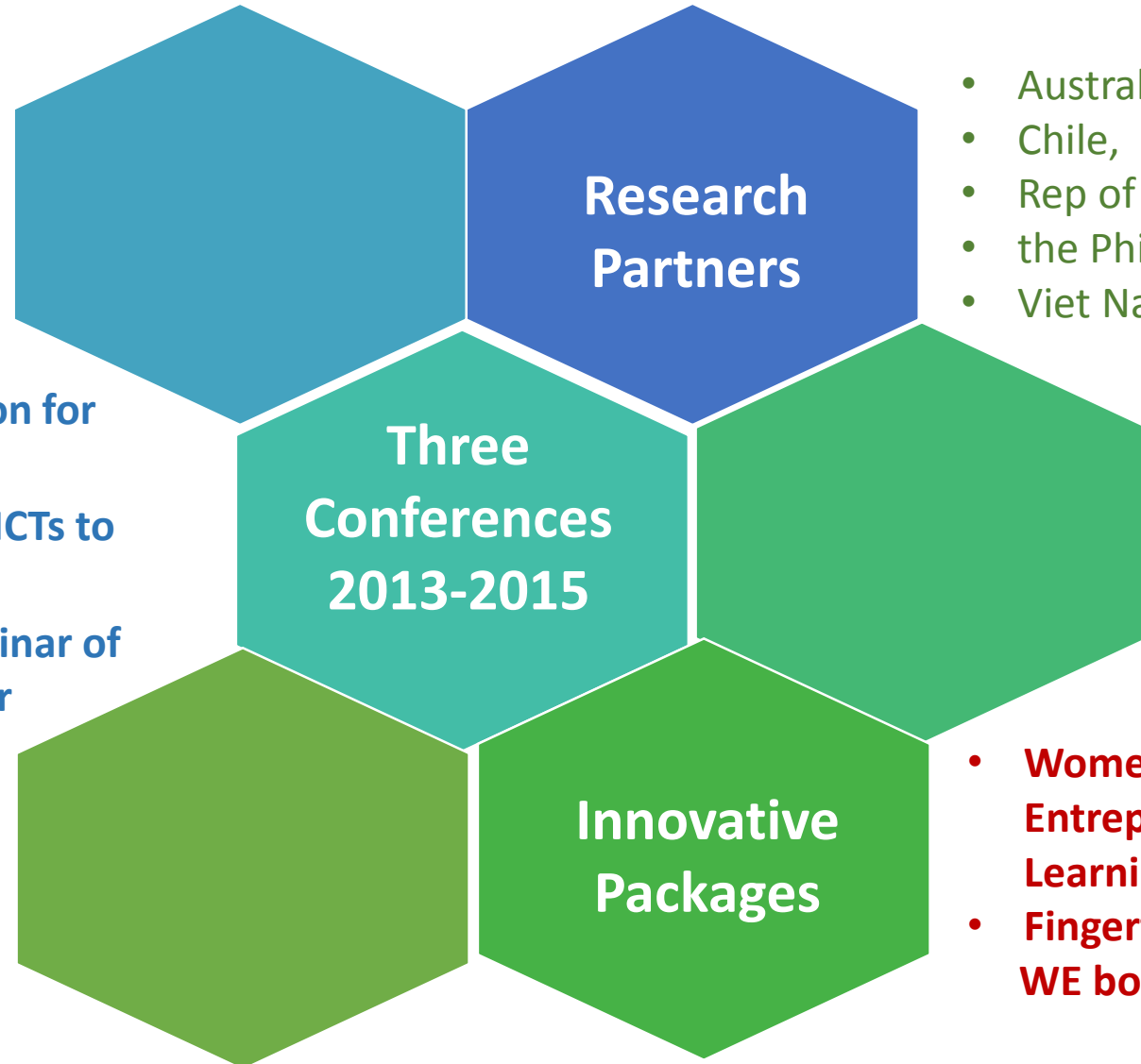
- Implemented by Chinese Taipei since 2013
- Endorsed by SMEWG and ABAC Women Forum
- Aiming at:
  - Identify key elements on promoting the economic involvement of women using technologies and innovative ICT tools.
- Recognized by:
  - 2014 APEC Leaders' Declaration
  - 2015 APEC Ministerial Meeting Joint Ministerial Statement.

# Plan of Actions



# Activities

- 2013: APEC Conference on Innovation for ICT and Women Business
- 2014, APEC Conference on Utilizing ICTs to Empower Women Entrepreneurs
- 2015, APEC WEF Parallel Event: Seminar of Empowering Women through ICT for Inclusive Growth



- Australia,
- Chile,
- Rep of Korea,
- the Philippines,
- Viet Nam

- **Women Entrepreneurship & ICT Learning: A Toolkit**
- **Fingertip Learning: WE boss**

# Major Findings

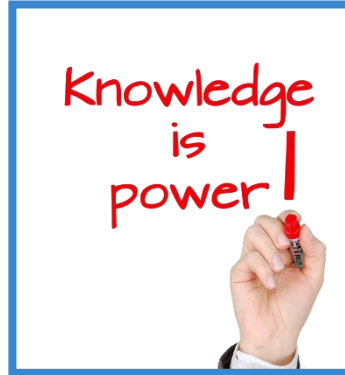
1. Creating environment for women to participate in community-based activities

ICT and Related Services Can Empower Women by

2. Increasing business & employment opportunities for women

3. Establishing business-enabling networks that address women's needs

# Recommendations



- ✓ **Quality of learning and time flexibility will help women entrepreneurs to achieve better outcomes without sacrificing their family duties or community roles.**
  - Gender sensitivities is essential for designing ICT learning toolkits and programs for women.
- ✓ **Leverage existing telecentre networks with accessible interface can increase digital literacy for women.**
  - Continuous adoption of new technologies in ICT is essential to knowledge-based economies and thus requires life-time learning and capacity building support.



# Recommendations



✓ **Efforts should be made to strengthen small women-led businesses' access to quality market information using ICT-enabled tools and services.**

- Implementing e-commerce platforms is not unusual, but the degree of uptake of this form of trade varies across different economies.
- The costs of exploring international markets and of maintaining an e-commerce platform remain high for women entrepreneurs to take full advantages of e-commerce.
- Using ICT to search for market information is unfamiliar to women entrepreneurs.

# Sustainable Plan



Provide guidelines and recommendations for policy makers, NGOs, and female MSMEs



Create 24-hour learning environment and enabling environment



Build up women entrepreneurs' self-confidence

Chinese Taipei proposed the Toolkits and WE boss last year, aiming to benefit all women entrepreneurs in APEC Region.

# Next Step: A Concept Note

*Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE)*

*Human Resource Development Working Group Capacity Building Network*

## Project Activities

### Pilot Program

Launch pilot programs in cooperation with partner economies;

### 2017 Workshop

Hold a workshop to demonstrate the advantages and effectiveness of using ICT tools for training programs;

### Study Report and Policy Recommendation

Provide policy recommendations based on the programs' evaluation.