



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2017/SOM1/SCE-COW/012

Agenda Item: 7

Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group Proposed Workplan for 2017

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: SMEWG Chair



**SOM Steering Committee on Economic and
Technical Cooperation - Committee of the Whole
Meeting
Nha Trang, Viet Nam
28 February 2017**

Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group's Proposed Work Plan for 2017

I. Introduction

1. The APEC Leaders' Declaration and the APEC Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Ministerial Meeting in 2016 reaffirmed the importance of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) as an essential component for economies to achieve quality growth and prosperity and sources of innovation and employment. Strengthening of MSMEs will imply concrete progress in increasing their innovation capacities and competitiveness, including intellectual property rights commercialization, work towards guaranteeing access to financial means and capacity building, enhancing their participation in the internet and digital economy and through electronic commerce, reducing the technological gap, strengthening ethical business practices to support MSMEs' growth and cross border trade, progressively inducing a shift into a more sustainable, eco-friendly and green production, and supporting their internationalization including through the means of ICT.

In line with these statements and taking into account of the current context, under the overarching theme "Creating New Dynamism, Fostering a Shared Future", APEC 2017 keeps on highlighting MSMEs as one of its key priorities, which reads "Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age". This priority encompasses: Facilitating MSMEs' greater participation in the Global Value Chains (GVCs); Facilitating the business environment for MSMEs in the digital age; and Promoting start-ups and innovative SMEs.

2017 is also the first year where the Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG)'s Strategic Plan 2017 – 2020 is implemented with four priority areas, including: Entrepreneurship, innovation and the internet and digital economy; Financing for business expansion and capability development; Inclusive business ecosystem that supports SME growth; and Market access for SMEs.

2. In 2017, the SMEWG will continue to fulfil its mandate and mission through directing its efforts in the following issues:

2.1. *Increasing MSMEs' Innovation Capacities and Competitiveness*

- To develop a Strategy on Green, Sustainable and Innovative MSMEs, in close coordination with all APEC relevant Committees and sub-fora;
- To intensify discussion and contributions to the issues and expected outcomes under the MSMEs priority of APEC 2017, including but not limited to formulate an APEC SME Ministers' Statement on Promoting Start-ups;
- To continue the implementation of projects and initiatives that promote the innovation and digital capabilities, competitiveness, and resilience, and that improve the policy environment for MSME innovation such as those about promoting SME Online-to-Offline applications; Renewable Energy Potentials for SMEs; Market-Oriented Innovation Management; Promoting Innovation for Start-ups; Facilitating Market Access for Women-led MSMEs through E-Commerce; Promoting Stakeholders' Building Capacities in Clusters and Local Economic Promotion Instruments; SMEs Clouds+ Innovation and Entrepreneurship; and Cross-Border E-Commerce Leaders Conference;

- To contribute to and support the implementation of the APEC-Canada Growing Business Partnership which will fund research studies, surveys, workshops and trainings focused on business and entrepreneurship skills, access to markets for products and services, and technological innovation.

2.2. *Promoting MSMEs Internationalization and GVCs Participation*

- To develop and launch the APEC MSMEs Marketplace as per the Implementation Plan;
- To discuss and share best practices on ways and means to promote MSMEs participation in GVCs and their globalization with focus of the new opportunities offered by the evolving GVCs, and the barriers as identified in the Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs;
- To effectively implement relevant projects and initiatives such as Enhancing Capacities of MSMEs in Exporting Services; Enhancing Policy Environment to Promote SMEs' Participation in the Efficiency Products Market; Renewable Energy Potentials for SMEs; Facilitating Market Access for Women-led MSMEs through E-Commerce; and Supporting Women-led SMEs Access Global Market by Implementing Gender-Responsive Trade Promotion Policies and Programs;
- To co-lead with CTI to implement the initiative "Compendium on Methodologies for SMEs Internationalization".

2.3. *Building an Inclusive Enabling Environment and Business Ecosystem for MSMEs*

- To continue discussion and works regarding improving MSMEs' access to financing and funding support for business growth, among which to conclude the Financial Literacy Survey and discuss relevant recommendations;
- To keep on projects and initiatives which aim to promote the role and development of women-led MSMEs in the economy, including Facilitating Market Access for Women-led MSMEs through E-Commerce; Women Business Leaders Forum; and Supporting Women-led SMEs Access Global Market by Implementing Gender-Responsive Trade Promotion Policies and Programs;
- To implement frameworks similar to the recently-concluded Consensus Framework for Multi-Stakeholder Ethical Collaboration as endorsed under the APEC Nanjing Declaration and continue the full adoption of APEC Principles for codes of ethics; and to discuss and further the examination of specific ways to streamline government processes to improve transparency, the development of an APEC common baseline for ethics self-certification programs, and the establishment of a public-private implementation team to advise Ministers on additional steps to improve the efficient and transparent delivery of vital infrastructure;
- To effectively implement the project on Business Ethics: Facilitating Multi-Stakeholder Ethical Collaborations for SMEs;

- To continue discussion and best-practice sharing on MSMEs capacities building.

2.4. *Enhancing SMEWG's Effective and Efficient Operation*

- To put into realization two SMEWG meetings, projects and initiatives, and contribute to the preparation of the 24th SME MM and related events in 2017, and continue to improve on gauging projects' effectiveness and impacts;
- To further and improve effective collaboration with relevant APEC fora and sub-fora given the importance and cross-cutting nature of MSMEs issues, among which are:
 - (i) Collaboration with CTI on SMEs internationalization and GVCs works such as the Supporting Industry initiatives;
 - (ii) Collaboration with EC and CPLG on relevant competition and dispute-settlement discussion and projects;
 - (iii) Collaboration with PPWE on concerned women-led SMEs projects;
 - (iv) Collaboration with ABAC to further develop existing ABAC micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) related initiatives and promote the Cross Border E-Commerce Training (CBET).
- To contribute to the process of developing and implementing a new methodology and format of independent review for SCE fora;
- To discuss and enhance cooperation and collaboration with outside organizations and based on the relevance of work and the interest of APEC member economies, among which is the grant of guest status to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

II. Expected Outcomes/Deliverables for 2017.

1. *Meetings:*

- 1.1 Hold the 44th SMEWG meeting and related meetings in Sydney, Australia, on 13-16th March 2017.
- 1.2 Hold the 45th SMEWG meeting in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, on 13-14th September 2017.
- 1.3 Contribute to the preparation and organization of the 24th SME Ministerial Meeting (SME MM) in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, on 15 September 2017.

2. *Projects:*

- 2.1 SME 01 2016A APEC Online-to-Offline (O2O) Initiative - Enhancing SME Digital Competitiveness and Resilience towards Quality Growth: Six events to be held in 2017 in Malaysia (May 22-23); Chinese Taipei (May 30-June 1; July); Viet Nam (September); the Philippines (November).
- 2.2 SME 02 2016A 2017 APEC Business Ethics for SMEs Forum: Facilitating Multi-Stakeholder Ethical Collaborations for Small and Medium Enterprises: The Forum is to be held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, before the SMEMM-15 September 2017.
- 2.3 SME 03 2016T APEC Public – Private Dialogue on Enhancing Capacities of MSMEs in Exporting Services: The Dialogue is to be held in Viet Nam in 2017.
- 2.4 SME 05 2016A APEC Workshop on Renewable Energy Potentials for SMEs: A two-day workshop is to be held in Viet Nam in 2017.
- 2.5 SME 06 2016A Capability Development for Market-Oriented Innovation Management in SMEs of APEC Member Economies: A workshop is to be held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 17 – 18 January 2017.
- 2.6 SME 07 2016A APEC Workshop on Promoting Innovation for Start-ups: A two-day workshop is to be held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 11-12 September 2017.
- 2.7 SME 08 2016A APEC Workshop on Facilitating Market Access for Women – led MSMEs through E- Commerce: A workshop to be held in Viet Nam in the 3rd quarter 2017.
- 2.8 SME 09 2016A APEC Forum: Promoting stakeholder’s building capacities in Clusters and Local Economic Promotion Instruments: A forum is to be held in Lima, Peru, on 21-22 September 2017.
- 2.9 SME 10 2016A APEC Women Business Leaders Forum: The forum is to be held in Korea in June 2017.
- 2.10 SME 03 2016S Supporting Women-led SMEs Access Global Markets by Implementing Gender-Responsive Trade Promotion Policies and Programs: Workshops were held in Peru (August 2016), and to be held in Vietnam (December 2017) and PNG (by mid-2017).
- 2.11 SME 08 2016S APEC Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Forum and Business Matching: SMEs Clouds + Innovation and Entrepreneurship: The initiative meeting was held in Beijing in November 2016, the interim forum and business matching will be held in Beijing in June 2017, and the final event will be held in Beijing in November 2017.
- 2.12 SME 01 2017S APEC SME Cross-Border E-commerce (CBE) Leaders Conference. A conference is to be held in China in June 2017.
- 2.13 SME 02 2017S Digital Transformation: the impact on SMEs and Regional Trade. 2-day workshop on 13-14 March 2017 / Sydney, Australia

3 Initiatives and Deliverables:

- 3.1 To develop a Strategy on Green, Sustainable and Innovative MSMEs with an aim to submit it for the SME Ministers' endorsement in the 24th SMEEMM in September 2017 in Viet Nam.
- 3.2 To develop and launch the APEC MSMEs Marketplace in 2017.
- 3.3 To conclude the Finance Literacy Survey and discuss the results and recommendations in 2017.
- 3.4 To co-lead with CTI the implementation of the initiative Compendium on Methodologies for SMEs Internationalization in 2017 as per its implementation schedule.
- 3.5 To contribute to drafting the APEC SME Ministers' Statement on Promoting Start-ups which is planned to be submitted to the SME Ministers' consideration and endorsement in the 24th SMEEMM in Viet Nam in September 2017.
- 3.6 To contribute with the drafting of a set of recommendations that Ministers will convey to APEC Leaders to Strengthening MSMEs Competitiveness and Innovation in Digital Age.
- 3.7 To contribute to the preparation and organization of the APEC Start-ups Forum which is to be held in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, on 13 September 2017.
- 3.8 To contribute to and support the implementation of the APEC-Canada Growing Business Partnership in 2017 as per its implementation plan.
- 3.9 To fulfil and launch the Database for APEC best practices in SME innovation. (TBC).
- 3.10 To fulfil and launch the Database of retired business leaders and entrepreneurs who are willing to help coach MSMEs (TBC).
- 3.11 To increase the number of business associations/companies with a new code of ethics in the medical device, biopharmaceutical and construction-engineering sectors.
- 3.12 To discuss and work out a plan and activities on collaboration ABAC to further develop existing ABAC micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) related initiatives and promote the Cross Border E-Commerce Training (CBET), as per the instruction in the 23rd SMEEMM Statement.
- 3.13 To publish "APEC Guidebook on Enhancing SME Digital Competitiveness and Resilience".

- Itemized Work Plans for 2017

Title	Summary of Specific Plans	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans and to ABAC recommendations)	ECOTECH Priorities and/or Host Year Priorities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
SME 01 2016A	APEC Online-to-Offline (O2O) Initiative - Enhancing SME Digital Competitiveness and Resilience towards Quality Growth: Six events to be held in 2017 in Malaysia (May 22-23); Chinese Taipei (May 30-June 1; July); Viet Nam (September); the Philippines (November) with expected over 600 stakeholders. This capacity building project will establish an APEC SME O2O Expert Network and collect over 30 best practices to publish a comprehensive APEC SME Digital Competitiveness and Resilience Guidebook.	-2016 & 2015 APEC Leaders and Ministers: Strengthening SMEs' Digital capacity and resilience through e-commerce and O2O new business models. - "Digital Economy Action Plan" and "Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs" (2015)	- ECOTECH Priorities: SMEs/ Tech-Innovation - Host Year Priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age	EPWG, HRDWG, PPWE, ABAC, AHSGIE, top O2O commerce platforms, leading MNCs (e.g. Intel, Siemens, Belfor, McKinsey and Trend Micro) and International Organizations (e.g. ICC, ADPC, ADRC) will be engaged.
SME 02 2016A	2017 APEC Business Ethics for SMEs Forum: Facilitating Multi-Stakeholder Ethical Collaborations for Small and Medium Enterprises: The Forum is to be held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, before the SMEMM-24 in September 2017, with expected 300 senior-level participants. The event would convene SMEs, their associations and principals from governments, professional and consumer organizations to: (A)	APEC SME Ministers (2015), APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade (2015 & 2016), and APEC Ministers (2015) call to: (A) strengthen SME cooperation in the promotion of ethical practices and (B) to advance implementation of	- ECOTECH Priorities: SMEs/Sustainable Growth	- SMEs in target sectors, e.g. GP Farmasi (Indonesia) and CCCMHPIE (China) - LSIF, ACTWG, and ABAC are all involved and/or supportive in

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	design/test scalable ethics curriculum, (B) advance code implementation, and (C) launch several formalized collaborations.	the Nanjing Declaration.		recruitment of participants.
SME 03 2016T	APEC Public – Private Dialogue on Enhancing Capacities of MSMEs in Exporting Services: A two-day Dialogue is to be held in Viet Nam in 2017. Speakers from the public and private sectors will be invited to exchange views on the current state-of-play as well as opportunities and challenges of APEC services MSMEs as well as to discuss the ways to promote the capacities of exporting services of MSMEs through sound policies, technical assistances, skill development etc. Furthermore, during the last session of the Dialogue, lessons and recommendations suggested by Dialogue attendants will be discussed.	2016&2015 APEC Leaders reiterated “the significance of the participation of MSMEs in global commerce to inclusive growth and will take action to facilitate such participation”.	- ECOTECH Priorities: SMEs/Inclusive Growth/ Regional Economic Integration	Policy-makers/regulators of APEC economies, experts from international organizations such as OECD and PECC to enhance capacities of services SMEs. - A final report with recommendations will be circulated to ABAC
SME 05 2016A	APEC Workshop on Renewable Energy Potentials for SMEs: A two-day workshop is to be held in Viet Nam in 2017. Public and private sectors will present on the situation, policies, strategies, programs, technologies etc. on renewable energy applicable for or have impacts on SMEs, and exchange information on barriers to accelerate renewable energy markets for SMEs. Lessons and recommendations will be	APEC Ministerial Meeting Statement in 2014: - Renewable and Clean Energy (RCE) trade and investment is crucial for meeting our current and future energy needs; - Officials to develop knowledge sharing and capacity-building	- ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech-Innovation/Sustainable Growth - Host year priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs	- CTI, ABAC, EWG, EGNRET will be consulted to develop an in-depth agenda. – Support of OECD, IEA etc., will be sought for initial researches, inviting speakers,

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	discussed.	activities.	in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age	experts and participants.
SME 06 2016A	Capability Development for Market-Oriented Innovation Management in SMEs of APEC Member Economies: It is expected to have 4 case studies of 4 typical member economies/sub regions, for example: case studies of (1) Mexico/Chile/Peru; (2) China/Korea/Japan; (3) Australia/New Zealand/Russia; and (4) from a developing economies from the ASEAN such as Viet Nam/Malaysia/Thailand/Indonesia, etc. A workshop is to be held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 17 – 18 January 2017 to discuss on what and how APEC should do to support and building capacity for SMEs in the market oriented innovation management. These recommendations will be compiled and attached to the Workshop's report.	2014 APEC Accord on Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth: Promote cooperation in science and innovation....We encourage members to strengthen support for innovative activities by SMEs	- ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech-Innovation/ - Host year priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age	- CTI and ABAC will be consulted to develop an in-depth agenda; PPWE on participation of women in businesses (SMEs); - Get support of World Bank, ADB, ADBI, OECD, for further researches, inviting speakers, experts and participants.
SME 07 2016A	APEC Workshop on Promoting Innovation for Start-ups: A two-day workshop is to be held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 11-12 September 2017, to discuss related	- 2015 APEC Leaders on MSMEs: promote competition, entrepreneurship, and	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech-Innovation/Inclusive	ABAC will be consulted on agenda, inviting speakers and

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	issues facing Start-up SMEs in promoting and managing innovation, and on what and how APEC should do to the field as the next steps.	innovation; - 2016 SME Ministers: Recognize the vital role of MSMEs in bringing new ideas to the market and in fostering innovation. APEC needs to build an ecosystem that supports enterprise creation and improves the environment for innovation, as well as facilitates financial inclusion for start-ups	Growth - Host year priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age	participants, and will have the final report.
SME 08 2016A	APEC Workshop on Facilitating Market Access for Women – led MSMEs through E- Commerce: A workshop is to be held in Viet Nam in the 3rd quarter 2017 to discuss related issues facing women-led MSMEs in e-commerce as well as experiences to take advantage of e-commerce as a means to facilitate their business, and on what and how APEC should do to the field as the next steps.	APEC Leaders 2015&2016: The internet and digital economy will allow businesses, especially MSMEs, to participate in GVCs and reach a wider consumer base through new business models.	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech- Innovation/Inclusive Growth - Host year priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness	ECSG, ABAC and PPWE will be consulted on the agenda, inviting potential speakers and participants, and will have the final report.

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			and Innovation in the Digital Age	
SME 09 2016A	APEC Forum: Promoting stakeholder’s building capacities in Clusters and Local Economic Promotion Instruments: A forum is to be held in Lima, Peru, on 21-22 September 2017 to discuss best practices, knowledge and strategies for the promotion of SMEs competitiveness at the meso and micro level.	2015 APEC Leaders’ Declaration – Investing in Human Capital Development: To redouble our efforts to empower our MSMEs providing them with the necessary tools to benefit and participate in economic growth.	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/ Inclusive Growth - Host Year Priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific	The PO has identified key institutions and researchers that can provide to the several stakeholders such as Pacific Alliance, OECD, etc., a prospective economic and social vision regarding the relevance of Multinational Corporations (MNC), FDI trends, and trade flows between developed and developing economies.
SME 10 2016A	APEC Women Business Leaders Forum: The forum is to be held in Korea in June 2017 that will bring together women business leaders from APEC economies to share success stories, discuss policies to support women business leaders; share challenges and discuss ways to deal with them.	2015 APEC Leaders: Committed to advancing women’s full participation in the economy.	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/ Inclusive Growth	Discuss with PPWE regarding the development and promotion of the project; and invite PPWE to attend the

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				forum.
SME 03 2016S	Supporting Women-led SMEs Access Global Markets by Implementing Gender-Responsive Trade Promotion Policies and Programs: Workshops were held in Peru (August 2016), and to be held in Vietnam (December 2017) and PNG (by mid-2017 in order to provide technical training to five economies' trade promotion agency officials, who are responsible for fostering greater export of goods and services.	2015 APEC Leaders: Committed to advancing women's full participation in the economy.	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/ Inclusive Growth/ Regional Integration	In collaboration with PPWE.
SME 08 2016S	APEC Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Forum and Business Matching: SMEs Clouds + Innovation and Entrepreneurship: The initiative meeting was held in Beijing in November 2016, the interim forum and business matching will be held in Beijing in June 2017, and the final event will be held in Beijing in November 2017. The focus is popularizing Cloud Computing knowledge, strengthening the Cloud Computing utilization capacity and collecting the practical cases on Cloud Computing application of SMEs.	- 2015 APEC Leaders on MSMEs: promote competition, entrepreneurship, and innovation;	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech-Innovation	

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SME 01 2017S	APEC SME Cross-Border E-commerce (CBE) Leaders Conference: Platform where participants from APEC member economies and other parts of the world can share research and best practices to assist manufacturers and merchants in boosting import and export trade. The conference also concentrates on promoting the application of modern information technology within SMEs and improving the informational application on R&D, production and distribution, and business administration. In order to facilitate the SMEs' cross-border trade participation, China will build a high quality service platform sponsored by famous research institutes, funds, investment companies and information service providers. The platform will work on optimizing the utilization of Internet in SMEs.	Nanjing Declaration on SME Innovative Development	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech-Innovation	
SME 02 2017S	The APEC SME Working Group (SMEWG) Digital Transformation Workshop will examine the nature of digital transformation and its implications for SMEs, as well as identifying opportunities for greater cooperation between APEC members. Held from 13-14 March 2017 in Sydney, Australia, the workshop will begin with an overview of digital transformation and its implications for SMEs and government. Participants will then look at these issues in further		ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech-Innovation - Host Year Priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific	

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	detail through developments in advanced manufacturing and fintech. The workshop will conclude with a session on the implications of digital transformation for regional trade.		2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness	
APEC-Canada Growing Business	APEC-CANADA Growing Business: Is a four-year, C\$4.74-million, joint APEC Secretariat/Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APF Canada) initiative that aims to foster economic growth and reduce poverty in APEC developing economies by building the potential and market access of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and aspiring entrepreneurs. The project's budget is C\$4.74 million, with C\$2 million dedicated to the APEC MSME Sub-fund (currently administered by the APEC Secretariat) and C\$2.74 million allocated to the policy research and tools for MSMEs in developing APEC economies (managed by APF Canada).		ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech- Innovation/Inclusive Growth - Host year priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness	
2017 APEC Digital Economy and E-Commerce Forum: Fostering Ecommerce To	2017 APEC Digital Economy and E-Commerce Forum: Fostering Ecommerce To MSMEs Access to Regional and Global Markets. Project Proposal TBC subject to funding. Session 1	AMM Joint Statement 2016, "Strengthening Regional Economic Integration and Quality Growth", "Developing a Digital Economy Action Plan:	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech- Innovation/Inclusive Growth	

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MSMEs Access to Regional and Global Markets eru		Connecting MSMEs to Global and Regional Markets”; and the SMEWG Strategic Plan 2017-2020, "Entrepreneurship, Innovation and the Internet and Digital Economy".	- Host year priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs’ Competitiveness	
Strategy on Green, Sustainable and Innovative MSMEs	To submit for the SME Ministers’ endorsement in the 24 th SMEEMM in September 2017 in Viet Nam.	- 2016 APEC Leaders: Recognize the potential of greening MSMEs for sustainable development; - 2016 SME Ministers: Instructed the SMEWG to lead a process to develop an “APEC Strategy for Green and Sustainable MSMEs”.	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/ Tech-Innovation/ Sustainable Growth - Host Year Priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs’ Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age	
APEC MSMEs Marketplace	To be launched in 2017	Iloilo Initiative 2015	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/ Inclusive growth	

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Finance Literacy Survey	To be finalized and reported to SMEWG in 2017	The issue of finance for SMEs is always emphasized in recent APEC Leaders' and SME Ministers' statements.	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/ Inclusive growth	
Compendium on Methodologies for SMEs Internationalization (co-lead with CTI)	Current timeline for 2017 as per the concept paper: January – February – SMEWG and CTI to agree on the template inter-sessionally. Organize a Technical Working Group Meeting. SOM 1 – Discuss approved template for reporting. Identify, on voluntary basis, the economies that will collaborate to contribute to the compendium SOM 2 / MRT – Agree on the template for reporting SOM3/CSOM – Economies to provide their inputs on the reporting template	2015 Boracay Action Agenda to Globalize MSMEs	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Regional Integration - Host year priorities: + 2016: Towards the Modernization of MSMEs in the Asia-Pacific	Co-lead with CTI to implement the initiative
APEC SME Ministers' Statement on Promoting Start-ups	To contribute to drafting the APEC SME Ministers' Statement on Promoting Start-ups which is planned to be submitted to the SME Ministers' consideration and endorsement in the 24th SMEEMM in Viet Nam	2015 APEC Leaders on MSMEs: promote competition, entrepreneurship, and innovation;	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech- Innovation/Inclusive Growth	

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	in September 2017.	- 2015 SME Ministers: Recognize the vital role of MSMEs in bringing new ideas to the market and in fostering innovation. APEC needs to build an ecosystem that supports enterprise creation and improves the environment for innovation, as well as facilitates financial inclusion for start-ups	- Host year priorities: + 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age	
APEC Ministers Statement with recommendations for APEC Leaders	To contribute with the drafting of a set of recommendations that Ministers will convey to APEC Leaders to Strengthening MSMEs Competitiveness and Innovation in Digital Age		+ 2017: Strengthening MSMEs' Competitiveness and Innovation in the Digital Age	
Database for APEC best practices in SME innovation.	(TBC): To be launched in 2017	- 2015 APEC Leaders on MSMEs: promote competition, entrepreneurship, and innovation.	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Tech-Innovation	
Database of retired business leaders and	(TBC) To be launched in 2017	- 2015 APEC Leaders on MSMEs: promote competition,	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Human Capital	

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entrepreneurs who are willing to help coach MSMEs		entrepreneurship, and innovation.	Development	
A plan and activities on collaboration ABAC	A plan and activities on collaboration ABAC to further develop existing ABAC micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) related initiatives and promote the Cross Border E-Commerce Training (CBET) in 2017	23 rd SMEEMM Statement	ECOTECH Priorities: SME/Human Capital Development	

Note:

- 1.1. To develop a Strategy on Green, Sustainable and Innovative MSMEs with an aim to submit it for the SME Ministers' endorsement in the 24th SMEEMM in September 2017 in Viet Nam.
- 1.2. To develop and launch the APEC MSMEs Marketplace in 2017.
- 1.3. To conclude the Finance Literacy Survey and discuss the results and recommendations in 2017.
- 1.4. To co-lead with CTI the implementation of the initiative Compendium on Methodologies for SMEs Internationalization in 2017

as per its implementation schedule.

- 1.5. To contribute to drafting the APEC SME Ministers' Statement on Promoting Start-ups which is planned to be submitted to the SME Ministers' consideration and endorsement in the 24th SMEEMM in Viet Nam in September 2017.
- 1.6. To contribute with the drafting of a set of recommendations that Ministers will convey to APEC Leaders to Strengthening MSMEs Competitiveness and Innovation in Digital Age.
- 1.7 To fulfil and launch the Database for APEC best practices in SME innovation. (TBC).
- 1.8 To fulfil and launch the Database of retired business leaders and entrepreneurs who are willing to help coach MSMEs (TBC).
- 1.9 To discuss and work out a plan and activities on collaboration ABAC to further develop existing ABAC micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) related initiatives and promote the Cross Border E-Commerce Training (CBET), as per the instruction in the 23rd SMEEMM Statement.
- 1.10 To contribute to and support the implementation of the APEC-Canada Growing Business Partnership in 2017 as per its implementation plan.