



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2020/DESG/021

Agenda Item: 4

COVID-19 and the Digital Economy

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Peru



**Digital Economy Steering Group Special Virtual
Meeting on COVID-19
26 June 2020**

We invite member economies to share information on digital-economy related policy interventions, initiatives, lessons learned, and/or solutions in response to COVID-19 ahead of the 26 June 2020 APEC Digital Economy Steering Group Special Virtual Meeting using the template below. The descriptions of the issues below are **only suggested points** to help members with the exercise, and members need not regard them as mandatory points to follow in generating their information sharing in the template. Members are advised to submit the completed template below through the APEC Collaboration System (ACS) no later than 23 June. Members are able to view and download completed templates submitted by other members on ACS ahead of the Special Virtual Meeting, and this will help DESG optimize the limited meeting time on 26 June.

- a) **Business continuity and resilience** – As COVID-19 has caused significant disruptions to economic activities and business operations, members may wish to share how they support business continuity and resilience in terms of:
 - i. Ensure access to reliable connectivity and relevant digital technologies, in particular among MSMEs, women, and young entrepreneurs, to help overcome digital divides;
 - ii. Encourage businesses, including MSMEs, to leverage digital technologies and solutions in carrying out production, business activities, and international trade, so as to maintain the stability of global supply chains;
 - iii. Encourage the digital transformation, including through digitalized production systems, e-commerce, digital supply of services, e-invoicing, and e-payments, and other services, as well as smart working solutions, including remote working, and innovative new business models.
- b) **Exchange and use of data in a secure manner** – Members may wish to share how they:
 - i. Encourage collaboration to collect, pool, process, and share reliable and accurate non-personal information that can contribute to the monitoring, understanding, and prevention of the further spread of COVID-19 as well as other infectious diseases;
 - ii. Ensure the collection and processing of COVID-19-related data is being done in an ethical, transparent, safe, interoperable, and secure manner that protects the privacy and data security of individuals, in line with prevailing international measures and domestic laws and regulations.
- c) **Use of digital technologies and solutions including for tracing purpose** – Given the importance and urgency of slowing down the spread of COVID-19, members may wish to share how they:
 - i. Use digital technologies and solutions to enable individuals and firms to continue to participate in the economy;
 - ii. Use digital technologies to help contact tracing efforts;
 - iii. Promote digital work and the development of basic digital skills in companies, public institutions, schools, and universities;
 - iv. Encourage and collaborate with the research community, private sector, and business entities to promote the use of digital technologies and solutions for the development and manufacturing of critical medical equipment and supplies (including disinfectants, Personal Protective Equipment, and ventilators) to fight COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.
- d) **Secure and trusted online environment** – Given the increased digital vulnerability in the context of a pandemic, members may wish to share how they:

- i. Enable timely domestic and international responses to counteract malicious cyber activities that present risks to the security of the digital economy;
- ii. Work collaboratively with businesses and organizations to leverage online platforms to continue sharing trustworthy information and prevent disinformation, hoaxes, and online scams;
- iii. Ensure that reliable crisis communication over digital channels is available.

e) **Preparations for economic recovery post-COVID** – Members may wish to share other policy interventions and initiatives as part of the preparations for economic recovery, given the reinforced significance of the digital economy as a result of COVID-19.

PERU

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ISSUE	POLICY INTERVENTIONS, INITIATIVES, LESSONS LEARNED, AND SOLUTIONS IN RELATION TO THE ISSUE	ACTUAL/EXPECTED OUTCOME
<p>Business continuity and resilience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The program "Reactivate Peru" was launched in March in order to promote and ensure the continuity in the chain of payments in the domestic economy. The program consists that the government, through the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) will guarantee loans to for about US\$8.675 billion, equivalent to 8% of the GDP. ➤ Despite the measures adopted at domestic level to prevent COVID-19, the operations of the VUCE (Single Window of Foreign Trade) showed continuity and adaptability to the circumstances, and keeping constant communication with 	<p>Benefit the companies most affected by the quarantine period by facilitating their access to working capital, for the payment of their short-term obligations to workers and suppliers of goods and services, in order to ensure the continuity of the payment chain. As of May 2020, S/ 24,747,983 was distributed among the 71,553 SMEs and large companies that benefited.</p> <p>Ensure the continuity of foreign trade operations with procedures in a virtual and secure way in the context of the COVID-19.</p>

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	<p>other competent sectors, so that it can guarantee foreign trade activities in a fully electronic manner. For instance, an application was implemented to facilitate the consultation of Resolution Documents (such as permits and authorizations), that are usually required for the entry, transit or exit of goods. Additionally, adjustments were made for the electronic payment of processing fees, so that the users wouldn't have to move to physically go to the bank.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Legislative Decree 1492 seeks to ensure the 100% digitalization of documents and processes of public and private entities, to optimize the time of operations, prevent and reduce the risk of contagion of the staff that provides services throughout the logistics chain and provide better health conditions. 	<p>Make operations transparent and promote digitalization with the aim of improving the capacities of the foreign trade sector.</p>
<p>Exchange and use of data in a secure manner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Peruvian government has implemented the single official information portal "Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Peru", which presents updated information on the actions undertaken to address the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The link (in Spanish) for the platform is: https://www.gob.pe/coronavirus 	<p>The objective with this platform is to provide the population with official information about COVID-19, which includes statistics, recommendations, a virtual questionnaire for people with symptoms, among others.</p>

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Use of digital technologies and solutions including for tracing purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ As part of the digital strategy to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, the government jointly with the private sector developed the App “Peru in your hands” which seeks to warn citizens about the areas with the highest risk. By June 2020, nearly a million and a half citizens use it to also access advice through digital triage and receive alerts about possible COVID-19 infections. 	Inform the population, using technology, about possible areas infected with COVID-19 in order to avoid them and prevent contagion.
Secure and trusted online environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During this emergency period, the National Consumer Protection Authority (INDECOPI) has prioritized the supervision and monitoring of various sectors in the areas of consumer affairs, commercial advertising, food distribution, commodities, and pharmaceuticals, among others. To this end, it has made available to the public "Citizen's Report", an electronic form that allows the communication of consumer conflicts in the prioritized sectors. 	Protect consumer rights, especially in this period of the pandemic, to counteract potential damage that may be caused, as well as to promote public confidence in the use of e-commerce.
Preparations for economic recovery post-COVID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The digitization of small and medium enterprises will be sought, in this sense the Ministry of Production has launched the Kit Digital 2.0 platform that aims to increase sales of the SMEs through e-commerce, also promoting payments with electronic wallet and home delivery. ➤ Along the same lines, the Peruvian government issued the "Electronic Commerce Protocol", which seeks to contribute to the prevention of COVID-19 infection in the workplace, by issuing general guidelines for the health surveillance of 	Provide mechanisms to enable small and medium-sized enterprises to enter into e-commerce, take advantage of its benefits and thus address the effects of COVID-19.

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	workers in commercial and consumer companies that carry out sales and purchases over the Internet or digital platforms.	