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Digital Economy Steering Group 2022 Report on the Implementation of the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: DESG Chair



**Concluding Senior Officials' Meeting
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DESG 2022 Report to APEC Senior Officials' Meeting on the Implementation of the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap (AIDER)

Introduction

In 2017, APEC Leaders pledged to work together to realize the potential of the internet and digital economy and welcomed the adoption of the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap (AIDER). Under the 2018 APEC Agenda for the Digital Economy, Leaders further emphasized that the digital technologies (and their associated services and platforms) have the potential to continue providing significant gains and that if these gains are to be fully realized, significant challenges need to be addressed. The Roadmap is a framework that lays out 11 Key Focus Areas (KFA) on which APEC economies are encouraged to concentrate their work. Implementation of the AIDER strongly supports the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040, which identifies “Innovation and Digitalisation” as one of the three economic drivers to achieve the Vision. Expanding on the objectives of the Putrajaya Vision, the Aotearoa Plan of Action instructs member economies to accelerate APEC work and capacity building on the digital economy, including by prompt and effective implementation of APEC’s Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap.

In 2022, APEC fora and sub-fora continued the implementation of the AIDER. Giving full recognition to the AIDER’s broad scope, the Digital Economy Steering Group (DESG) would like to present to APEC Senior Officials this report on the progress in each of the 11 AIDER KFAs, based on a stock-take of projects and initiatives implemented or endorsed in 2022, as reported by APEC fora. These inputs are consolidated in the attached table (Annex A), organized according to the Priority Areas of the DESG Work Program for the Implementation of the AIDER.

1. Development of digital infrastructure

AIDER encourages all member economies to promote an enabling and competitive environment with pro-investment policies for the development of digital infrastructure to support the Internet and Digital economy. In 2022, APEC contributed to this goal with a TELWG online workshop aimed at promoting the installation and accessibility of digital infrastructure and building capacity on ICTs to achieve better inclusiveness.

2. Promotion of Interoperability

APEC efforts in this area in 2022 were focused on the technological innovations for resilience in the face of natural disasters, climate change, and pandemics. *Voluntary Principles for the Interoperability of Vaccination Certificates in the APEC Region*, welcomed in May 2022 by Ministers Responsible for Trade, encourage APEC economies to recognise vaccination certificates issued by other APEC economies as proof of vaccination from COVID-19, including for international border entry and within borders; develop pragmatic and flexible approaches to accepting vaccination certificates in as wide a range of formats as possible; and support efforts toward technical interoperability of digitally-verifiable vaccination certificate formats used in the APEC region.

3. Achievement of universal broadband access

AIDER calls out the importance of ensuring affordable and universal access to high-speed broadband. TELWG efforts in this area were focused on policy and best practice exchanges to increase the accessibility of ICTs for all communities.

4. Development of holistic government policy frameworks for the Internet and Digital Economy

This area remains a focus of attention for member economies. APEC fora such as CPLG, CTI, DESG, EC, SMEWG and TELWG conducted studies, capacity-building events, and policy dialogues contributing to the development of holistic government policy frameworks in such spheres as facilitation of e-commerce / digital trade, open government data, digital licensing and permitting, e-government measures, digital business

environment for traditional enterprises, regulation in digital markets, applying digital innovation to such areas as response to the COVID-19 pandemic, green development, reducing food waste, and others.

5. Promoting coherence and cooperation of regulatory approaches affecting the Internet and Digital Economy

According to the AIDER, member economies should promote mutual understanding and strengthen cooperation in approaches to regulation including international and domestic technical standards, while respecting each economy's choice of policies that are consistent with domestic situations and international legal obligations. In 2022, CTI, GOS and SCSC contributed to enhancing cooperation in the fields of FinTech and RegTech, digital credentialing, product safety regimes, and modern digital trade / e-commerce provisions.

6. Promoting innovation and adoption of enabling technologies and services

AIDER encourages economies to take advantage of enabling digital technologies and the internet to promote innovation in products, services, processes, organizations, and business models. In 2022, CTI, DESG, EC, EPWG, FMP, GOS, HRDWG, HWG, PPSTI, SMEWG, TELWG, TPTWG and TWG implemented initiatives devoted to innovative technologies in a wide range of areas, such as trade promotion, FinTech, services, AI, telemedicine and digital healthcare, marine debris monitoring, online dispute resolution, digital twin technology, biometric ID management, e-learning, agriculture, disaster risk assessment and emergency preparedness, tourism, COVID-19 prevention and control, and others.

7. Enhancing trust and security in the use of ICTs

Projects implemented in TELWG and TWG aim to promote capacity building for providing cyber security education for primary and secondary schools and establish environment for safe use of personal data by tourism MSMEs.

8. Facilitating the free flow of information and data for the development of the Internet and Digital Economy, while respecting applicable domestic laws and regulations

Policy Dialogues on Digital Trade, held by CTI in 2022, provided an opportunity for officials, industry, and other stakeholders to build on discussions on digital trade/e-commerce held since 2016, including topics such as the evolution and increasing importance of digital trade/e-commerce. Other CTI and TWG projects focused on raising businesses' awareness on the protection of personal data, and enhancing privacy protections and securing privacy and promoting the flow and utilization of data.

9. Improvement of baseline Internet and Digital Economy measurements

Among the deliverables are initiatives by CTI and DESG on measuring the digital economy and e-commerce / digital trade, and a PSU issues paper on the use of big data to analyse the labor market, aimed at building the capacity of stakeholders in APEC economies for more informed decisions.

10. Enhancing inclusiveness of Internet and Digital Economy

Inclusiveness of the Internet and Digital Economy is a crucial part of the AIDER and an important focus of APEC members' efforts across a wide range of fora: CTI, DESG, EC, FMP, HRD, PPWE, SCE, SMEWG, TEL and TWG. Relevant projects and initiatives contributed to advancing digital skills, e-learning, occupational safety, facilitating the growth and digitalization of MSMEs, women empowerment, digital financial inclusion, and alleviating poverty. A number of initiatives and programs have been undertaken in this key area and ensuring the synchronization and leveraging of the relevant programs will further strengthen its capability and maximize its benefits.

11. Facilitation of E-commerce and Advancing Cooperation on Digital Trade

APEC members' initiatives on transparency in e-commerce regulations, digital business environment and digitally enabled services aim to elaborate and promote measures and policies aimed at effective development of e-commerce / digital trade.

Conclusion

The broad range of projects and initiatives undertaken by APEC fora and sub-fora in 2022 to implement the AIDER underscores that APEC continues to attach importance to the digital economy agenda. Relevant efforts by member economies contributed to the achievement of the goals set forth in the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040 and the Aotearoa Plan of Action, and are aligned with the APEC 2022 theme “*Open. Connect. Balance.*” and priority “*Connect in all dimensions*”. Further efforts would be beneficial to advance certain KFAs, such as development of digital infrastructure, achievement of universal broadband access, enhancing trust and security in the use of ICTs, or facilitating the flow of data.

In order to accelerate implementation of the AIDER the DESG will intensify its work (including intersessionally), strengthen its coordination with other APEC fora and sub-fora, and proactively engage with them to identify synergies and cross-cutting objectives for APEC’s digital economy activities.

**DESG Work Program for the Implementation of the AIDER
Suggested Initiatives and Projects to Address AIDER Key Focus Areas**

Projects and initiatives that address multiple Key Focus Areas (KFA) are listed once in each KFA they address; those that address multiple Priority Areas (PA) have additional PAs listed in their description.

Key Focus Areas	Priority Areas	Suggested Initiatives/Projects & Their Lead Fora to Accomplish Priority Areas	Possible fora for collaboration ¹
1. Development of digital infrastructure	a. Identify digital, including non-telecoms, infrastructure gaps	Driving the Digital Transformation and Capacity Building for APEC Indigenous Peoples through i-Tribe Free Outdoor WiFi – aims at promoting the installation and accessibility of digital infrastructure and building indigenous peoples’ capacity on ICTs to achieve better inclusiveness. The online seminar gave an opportunity to share the i-Tribe project experience and to exchange ideas with other economies on the current development status of the installation and application of digital infrastructure in APEC indigenous communities to increase the accessibility of ICTs for Indigenous Peoples. The workshop was held on January 19, 2022 in a virtual setting where over 50 delegates representing 14 APEC economies were in attendance. The final report was endorsed in April 2022. (TEL 03 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 3a, 10a, 10d, 10e.</i>	SCE, TELWG

¹ TELWG has expressed interest to engage DESG in cross-fora collaboration using its proposal “APEC TEL initiative on Global Challenges and Cooperation Utilizing ICT” as a basis for such collaboration.

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	b. Enable initiatives that would facilitate investment to advance digital infrastructure		
	c. Explore the development of ICT infrastructure to facilitate the digitalization of economies		
2. Promotion of Interoperability	a. Discuss systems or solutions that would enable cross-sectoral digital collaborations (e.g. platform independent e-payment)	<p><u>Voluntary Principles for the Interoperability of Vaccination Certificates in the APEC Region.</u> Welcomed by Ministers Responsible for Trade in May 2022, the Principles encourage APEC economies to recognise vaccination certificates issued by other APEC economies as proof of vaccination from COVID-19, including for international border entry and within borders; develop pragmatic and flexible approaches to accepting vaccination certificates in as wide a range of formats as possible; and support efforts toward technical interoperability of digitally-verifiable vaccination certificate formats used in the APEC region. (BMG/SPTF)</p> <p>Measuring the Economic Impact of Digital Trade / e-Commerce Provisions. The project seeks to provide policy makers with a clearer sense of how to maximise the economic benefits of modern digital trade/e-commerce provisions. To achieve this, it aims to use empirical and econometric analysis to produce data on</p>	EPWG, HWG, PPSTI, SCSC, TELWG, TPTWG

Key Focus Areas	Priority Areas	Suggested Initiatives/Projects & Their Lead Fora to Accomplish Priority Areas	Possible fora for collaboration ¹
		<p>the relationship between specific digital/e-commerce provisions such as paperless trading, electronic authentication and consumer protection, and economic outcomes for APEC economies. (CTI 05 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4e, 5b, 5d, 6a, 6b, 8d, 9a, 9g, 11b.</i></p> <p>APEC Programme in Rejuvenating Cities and Resilience Capacities for Dual Challenges of COVID-19 Pandemic, Extreme Weather Events and Climate Induced Disaster - aims to revitalize health-emergency disaster-risk-management (Health-EDRM) to prevent future pandemic risk in an extreme climate; highlight open science, citizen science, and ICT-based innovative solution; promotes a transdisciplinary approach and sociotechnical system to create the collaborative foresight and decision-making virtual workspace enabled by disaster informatics. (EPWG 01 2020A)</p> <p>APEC Professional Services and Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) Project (Multi-Year). The project aims to facilitate mobility of professionals by i) increasing knowledge of MRAs and increasing the number and the utilisation of MRAs across APEC; and ii) promoting the use of digital credentialing and licensure. Promoting the use of digital credentialing and licensure, whether within an</p>	

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		<p>MRA or otherwise, not only improves the efficiency of the domestic professional services sector, but also enables foreign professionals to gain the right to practise while not physically present in the host economy. The project is increasing awareness and capability of APEC economies to implement digital credentialing and licensure, and increasing collaboration and information sharing across the APEC region through the projects' outputs including: APEC Mutual Recognition and Digital Credentialing Online Training and the APEC Professional Services and Mutual Recognition Community of Practice. (GOS 01 2022S).</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority areas 6a, 6b.</i></p> <p>2022 APEC Research Center for Typhoon and Society (ACTS) Annual Meeting – encouraged to synergise the investment and resources in science, technology and innovation in the APEC region and continue to promote “APEC Climate Resilient City/Community (ARC)” initiative for capacity building on emergency preparedness amidst COVID-19. Leveraging the frontier smart technology and innovation on strengthening disaster risk management and climate security. (PPSTI 06 2022S)</p>	

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	b. Study on system or design interoperability for emerging tech (e.g. IoT, 5G)	Interoperability of Vaccination Certificates: Sharing of Technical Specifications – aims to explore ways APEC member economies can share technical specifications of their vaccination certificates to verify the authenticity of vaccination certificates issued by member economies, with a view to create interoperability among interested APEC member economies while avoiding affecting and discrimination against travelers from other non-participating APEC member economies. (HWG 03 2022S)	
3. Achievement of universal broadband access	a. Promote affordable, accessible and high-quality digital connectivity, including in rural areas	Driving the Digital Transformation and Capacity Building for APEC Indigenous Peoples through i-Tribe Free Outdoor WiFi – aims at promoting the installation and accessibility of digital infrastructure and building indigenous peoples’ capacity on ICTs to achieve better inclusiveness. The online seminar gave an opportunity to share the i-Tribe project experience and to exchange ideas with other economies on the current development status of the installation and application of digital infrastructure in APEC indigenous communities to increase the accessibility of ICTs for Indigenous Peoples. The workshop was held on January 19, 2022 in a virtual setting where over 50 delegates representing 14 APEC economies were in attendance. The final report was endorsed in April 2022. (TEL 03 2021S)	TELWG

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		<i>Also addresses Priority Areas 1a, 10a, 10d, 10e.</i>	
4. Development of holistic government policy frameworks for the Internet and Digital Economy	a. Digital initiatives or strategies that involve Whole-of-Government, the multi-stakeholders, and/or by government agencies that do not typically work with each other (e.g. Finance and eGov)	<p>Study: Policies and Regulatory Frameworks on Modern Digital Economy Issues – Open Government Data. A stock take of practices surrounding Open Government Data (OGD) in the APEC region. By better understanding the various policies and regulatory frameworks of OGD measures, regulators can facilitate ways for companies to make more effective use of available data both domestically and internationally. (CTI 05 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4d, 9d.</i></p> <p>Facilitating Access to Open Government Data Workshop – aims to highlight emerging practices in the region and provide an opportunity for economies to discuss emerging policies and regulatory frameworks on OGD measures in the APEC region. This workshop also highlights how governments can facilitate ways for companies to make more effective use of available data to enable innovation and digital transformation, increase competitiveness, strengthen trust in the digital economy, foster business opportunities, and promote economic growth. (CTI 09 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4d, 9d.</i></p> <p>Implementing Digital Permitting and E-Government Measures to Advance the Post-</p>	ATCWG, CTI, EC, IEG, SCE, SCSC, SMEWG, TELWG

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		<p>COVID Economic Recovery. The project produced a report, which provides APEC economies with actionable suggestions to implement best practices on promoting digitalization of licensing and permitting (L&P) processes. As a guide, it includes policy recommendations as well as case studies from APEC economies at various stages of development, providing different perspectives from municipalities and domestic governments that are implementing digital L&P initiatives. (DESG 03 2020S)</p>	
	<p>b. Sharing of initiatives that will aid society to better access technology and be an active player in the digital economy</p>	<p>APEC Workshop on Promoting the Doing-Digital-Business Environment to Reactivate Market Entities aims to investigate regulatory frameworks and policy acts of the development of digital economy from the doing-digital-business environment aspect, promote the vitalities of main entities in digital markets in APEC economies and make traditional enterprises, especially the MSMEs, benefit from digital economy. The workshop was held virtually on December 9th, 2021. (DESG 02 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4f, 11b.</i></p> <p>Workshop on Crowdfunding: An Alternative Economic Tool to Promote Innovation in this Digital Era for Inclusive Growth – aims to provide exposure to member economies on the world of crowdfunding and how it operates as an alternative economic tool to promote innovation; and allow</p>	

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		<p>member economies to share experience and best practices in managing and promoting crowdfunding as a platform to support inclusive growth as it is accessible by all segments of society regardless of their background. (EC 04 2019A)</p> <p>Capacity Building on How Investment Facilitation Policies Can Enhance Sustainable Investment – aims to help APEC economies develop more effective approaches to making policies that facilitate sustainable investment by encouraging regional exchange and sharing of methods and experiences. The project encourages the participations of multi-stakeholders, including government officials, academia, businesses, MSMEs, and women entrepreneurs. The achievements will be documented in a report to APEC IEG that may be shared with APEC economies. (IEG 01 2022T)</p>	
	<p>c. Developing and sharing policies, information, best practices and recommendation on inclusive policy framework for the internet and digital economy for all include Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), women, children, people with disabilities and</p>	<p>2021 APEC SME Digital Economy Development Conference focused on ways to adapt business strategies and embrace digital transformation for SMEs. (SME 02 2021S)</p> <p>Workshop on Digital Innovation to Enable SMEs' Green Development focused on addressing the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 crisis, the new industrial revolution, and sustainability trends. (SME 10 2021S)</p>	

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	<p>underrepresented member of society</p> <p>d. Developing government policy framework or recommendation and sharing of information, policies, experiences and best practice on internet and digital economy in various areas such as agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, competition, manpower, and so on, taking into account inclusivity to leave no one behind</p>	<p>Reducing Food Loss and Waste by Strengthening the Resilience of APEC Food System and Enhancing Digitalization and Innovative Technologies – aims to to improve the capacity of APEC economies, particularly developing economies, to obtain, share, strengthen, maintain and develop knowledge, abilities, skills and technical know-how to improve their policies and regulations or their institutional structures or processes on strengthening the transparency, resiliency and efficiency of APEC food system and enhancing digitalization (e.g., electronic certificates) and innovative technologies to reduce food loss and waste (FLW); and to contribute to the implementation of the APEC Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030, especially Key Action Area 17(e), in which Chinese Taipei is the Lead Economy. (ATC 01 2022)</p> <p>Competition Law and Regulation in Digital Markets Report focused on competition and regulatory issues arising from the digital economy and, in particular, its fast changing and highly innovative nature, the close interplay between competition law and other forms of regulation such as consumer policy and data privacy, practical ways of</p>	

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	<p>e. Foster a free, open, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable trade and investment environment</p>	<p>facilitating cross border cooperation. (CPLG 01 2020A)</p> <p>CPLG Policy dialogue on “Competition Policy and Digital Transformation”</p> <p>Trade Policy Dialogues on Digital Trade in 2022 provided an opportunity for officials, industry, and other stakeholders to build on discussions on digital trade/e-commerce held since 2016, including topics such as the evolution and increasing importance of digital trade/e-commerce, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. (CTI 01 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 8a.</i></p> <p>Measuring the Economic Impact of Digital Trade / e-Commerce Provisions. The project seeks to provide policy makers with a clearer sense of how to maximise the economic benefits of modern digital trade/e-commerce provisions. To achieve this, it aims to use empirical and econometric analysis to produce data on the relationship between specific digital/e-commerce provisions such as paperless trading, electronic authentication and consumer protection, and economic outcomes for APEC economies. (CTI 05 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 2a, 5b, 5d, 6a, 6b, 8d, 9a, 9g, 11b.</i></p>	

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		<p>Analysis of perspectives and barriers for effective implementation of public e-services. The project, which includes a workshop and a research phase, is dedicated to assessing the level of digitization of the government apparatus and the availability of public e-services for the population and business in the APEC region. (EC 05 2021S)</p> <p>EC Public Sector Governance Policy Dialogue on Utilizing Digital Technologies to boost Public Sector Innovation</p> <p>Survey on E-Commerce Regulations in APEC. This database of information, which is available to the public on the APEC Trade Repository, facilitates the transparency of economies' domestic regulations and approaches on e-commerce. (DESG, ongoing initiative)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Area IIa.</i></p>	
	<p>f. As we emerge from the COVID-19 crisis, identify opportunities to lock in the progress made and accelerate the digitization of industries by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting businesses to go digital and reducing red tape for businesses to operate. 	<p>Promoting Digital Capacity Building to Bridge the Digital Divide in the Post-COVID Era. The project aims to improve the inclusive digital development, and attach great importance to the digitally weaker status of vulnerable groups such as MSMEs, women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities particularly in remote areas in the context of COVID-19. The project is set to focus on and actively explore digital capacity building in the post-COVID era,</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening collaboration with key partners (including industry, academia, across APEC community) to accelerate progress. - Ensuring resilience of businesses, including against cyber risks, as well as for our broader digital economy 	<p>encourage member economies to carry out exchanges, share experience and build consensus in bridging the digital divide through enhancing digital capacity with a view to strengthening the sense of participation, fulfillment and happiness in the development of digital economy. (DESG 01 2021S)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4c, 6j, 10d.</i></p> <p>Going Digital to Build Resilience and Sustainable Growth in Response to COVID-19 – aims to encourage the use of digital technologies in the prevention and control of COVID-19, and to facilitate digital innovation that will contribute to a robust recovery afterwards. Project workshop took place in April 2022, providing a platform for APEC economies to exchange digital economy policy interventions, practices, lessons learned, and solutions in response to COVID-19, and to encourage dissemination of current and emerging digital tools for fighting pandemics and enabling economic recovery, while also preserving public trust and patient privacy. (TEL 04 2021S)</p>	
5. Promoting coherence and cooperation of regulatory approaches affecting the Internet and Digital Economy	a. Promote discussions on interoperability of technology initiatives, including new and emerging ones, so as to support businesses' digitalization	APEC Financial Services – Increasing APEC's FinTech and RegTech Capabilities Post COVID-19 – aims to drive collaboration with regulators and regulated entities and technology companies in order to support digital delivery, standards, best practice and regional architecture. The project – delivered over 2021-22 – consisted of preliminary research presented	EC, GOS, TELWG

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	<p>b. Identify and promote the use of globally relevant standards that could be adopted to assure businesses of continuity and reliability when conducting business</p>	<p>in a concept paper, discussions through a global workshop series, and finally the APEC endorsed report, “<i>APEC Financial Services: Increasing APEC’s FinTech and RegTech Capabilities Post-COVID-19</i>”. (GOS 06 2020S)</p> <p>Measuring the Economic Impact of Digital Trade / e-Commerce Provisions. The project seeks to provide policy makers with a clearer sense of how to maximise the economic benefits of modern digital trade/e-commerce provisions. To achieve this, it aims to use empirical and econometric analysis to produce data on the relationship between specific digital/e-commerce provisions such as paperless trading, electronic authentication and consumer protection, and economic outcomes for APEC economies. (CTI 05 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4e, 5d, 6a, 6b, 8d, 9a, 9g, 11b.</i></p> <p>Digital Credentialling of Certified Products - A Tool for Facilitating International Trade, reducing TBTs and Improving Trust for Consumers. The project aims to build awareness among project participants, through workshop and related surveys, of the emerging concept of digital credentialling for certified products in an international trade context. Digital credentialling may be understood as electronic interrogation of product certifications to establish the</p>	

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		<p>bona fides of the issuing body, through traceable links to globally recognised accreditation authorities. If the benefits of mutually recognised and inter-operable approaches are to be realised, then it is necessary to establish an initially agreed understanding of the concept across the region. (SCSC 08 2022S)</p>	
	c. Promote international regulatory coherence for new business models		
	d. Promote stronger cross-border cooperation and sharing of best practices efforts on online consumer protection	<p>APEC Public-Private Dialogue on Product Safety in Digital Trade – aims to enhance the understanding of the challenges product safety regimes face and experiences in regulatory updating and reform. The project includes two phases of work, with a survey for the first and followed by a Public-Private Dialogue. (SCSC 10 2021S)</p>	
6. Promoting innovation and adoption of enabling technologies and services	a. Share information, policies and initiatives to promote greater adoption of emerging technologies by businesses, individuals, governments and society to embrace digital transformation	<p>Promoting Trade by Utilizing Digital Technology – aims to enhance awareness of potentialities that advanced technology has created in facilitating trade promotion and reshaping business models to achieve digital transformation with the private sector to share practical experiences. (CTI 07 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10a.</i></p>	HRDWG, HWG, OFWG, PPSTI, SCE, SMEWG, TELWG, TPTWG

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		<p>Achieving Harmonization of a Biometric ID Management Framework across APEC Economies – aims to raise awareness and obtain support of Biometric ID process among APEC economies and provide a practical guideline on Biometric ID adoption for harmonization across all APEC economies (DESG 03 2021A)</p> <p>APEC Digital Trade Transformation Work Program. APEC Digital Trade Symposium “Advancing Digital Trade Transformation and Connectivity in APEC” was held virtually in November 2021. (DESG 04 2021S)</p> <p>Towards Coordinated Transformation for Digital and Green Development. With a focus on experience sharing of applying digital technologies to realize green energy transition and energy efficiency improvement among APEC member economies, this project aims to promote exchanges on policy, technology and industrial experience towards realizing coordinated transformation for digital and green development in Asia-Pacific region. (DESG 05 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10a.</i></p> <p>Workshop on building an enabling environment for fintech – examines how an enabling fintech</p>	

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		<p>environment can support sustainable, inclusive and resilient economic growth, particularly in recovering from COVID-19. (EC 02 2021A)</p> <p>Fintech Scoping Study aims to take stock of the FinTech ecosystem and emerging practices and approaches. The growth of digital economies, accelerated by COVID-19, has transformed many industry sectors as consumers, businesses, and government agencies adopt digital technologies and applications for making online payments. These digital transactions form an integral foundation and enabler of e-commerce/digital trade. (EC 01 2022S)</p> <p>EC Public Sector Governance (PSG) Policy Dialogue on Utilizing Digital Technologies to Boost Public Sector Innovation – aims to explore global progress on promoting innovation in providing public service and how the business community could further boost public sector innovation, as a key deliverable to the 2022 PSG work plan on “Utilizing Innovative Technologies to Create a New Value of Public Services in Post Pandemic Era.” (EC, 2022)</p> <p>Policy paper “Digitalization of fiscal measures and policy innovations during the COVID-19 pandemic”. (FMP)</p>	

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		<p>Public Private Dialogue (PPD) on Digitally Enabled Services: Challenges and Opportunities – aims to equip participants with better understanding of digitally enabled services, exchange views and experiences between public and private sector representatives and develop policy recommendations to assist especially MSMEs in the service sectors to harness digital technologies (GOS 02 2021A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 11c.</i></p> <p>APEC Professional Services and Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) Project (Multi-Year). The project aims to facilitate mobility of professionals by i) increasing knowledge of MRAs and increasing the number and the utilisation of MRAs across APEC; and ii) promoting the use of digital credentialing and licensure. Promoting the use of digital credentialing and licensure, whether within an MRA or otherwise, not only improves the efficiency of the domestic professional services sector, but also enables foreign professionals to gain the right to practise while not physically present in the host economy. The project is increasing awareness and capability of APEC economies to implement digital credentialing and licensure, and increasing collaboration and information sharing across the APEC region through the projects’ outputs including: APEC Mutual Recognition and Digital Credentialing</p>	

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		<p>Online Training and the APEC Professional Services and Mutual Recognition Community of Practice. (GOS 01 2022S).</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 2a, 6b.</i></p> <p>2022 APEC e-Learning Training (AeLT) Program – supports participants to establish the ground for education policy in the form of an action plan by providing the best examples of policies and pedagogy using ICT in education in APEC region. (HRD 04 2022S)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Area 10a.</i></p> <p>Managing Infectious Diseases on Cross-Border Cruise Ships in the Post-COVID-19 Era: Application of Digital Technology – encourages health authorities and cruise operators to consider introducing digital tools for routine epidemic prevention measures, which will improve the efficiency of cruise ship epidemic prevention; promotes the industry-government-academia collaboration and develop innovative, convenient, and user-friendly digital epidemic control tools. (HWG 07 2022A)</p> <p>Industry 4.0: Enabling Technologies and Inclusive Digitization for Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery in APEC Value Chains. This project aims</p>	

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		<p>to promote the use of Industry 4.0 technologies (Artificial Intelligence; Internet of Things; Machine Learning; Big Data, Blockchain; Robotics) and Inclusive Digitization in a Post-COVID-19 context, focusing on the reactivation of the most affected strategic value chains across the APEC region. It seeks to disseminate good practices and foster the use of technologies 4.0, enabling economies to share their technical and commercial capabilities through technological tools. A Technological Toolkit was published to help enhance technical and commercial capabilities, while fostering inclusive digitization in the prioritized value chains. (PPSTI 03 2020)</p> <p>Capacity Building on Climate-Smart Agriculture by Using Geospatial Data and Earth Science Technology. This project aims to enhance capacity building in Climate-Smart Agriculture by applying geospatial technology in order to foster proactive cooperation network on efficient smart agriculture management for achieving sustainable development and climate resilience for APEC economies (PPSTI 05 2020A)</p> <p>APEC Climate Symposium 2022 – Enhancing APEC Resilience through AI Applications in Climate Change Adaptation – aims to help APEC member economies gain the capacity and knowledge</p>	

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		<p>necessary for applying AI technologies in climate change adaptation (PPSTI 05 2022A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6c.</i></p> <p>2022 APEC SME Seminar on Promoting Specialized and Innovative Development – aims to build a platform for economies to share practices and enhance their level of specialization and innovation whilst encouraging MSMEs to follow green strategies which leads to inclusive development. (SME 02 2022S)</p> <p>Workshop to Learn on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Experiences of the APEC Economies – aims to raise awareness and promote the adoption and uses of AI in order to optimize the processes and operations of the public and private sector, in particular SMEs (TEL 01 2020A)</p> <p>Report and Workshop on Telemedicine in the Asia-Pacific Region: Network Architecture, Capacity and Feasibility. This project aims to discuss how APEC economies can better leverage ICTs to assist front-line health professionals and patients with limited access to healthcare services. The project conducted a survey and research to develop a report that provides stocktake of best practices and benefit</p>	

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		<p>analysis on telecommunication network construction. (TEL 02 2020A)</p> <p>Regulatory challenges to promote the development of the Digital Economy: a consumer empowerment perspective. A self-funded workshop & report regarding regulatory measures to promote the development and use of digital tools aimed to empower users to make better contracting decisions and to facilitate the execution of service related procedures. (TEL 01 2021S)</p> <p>Strengthen Connectivity through Mobile-based Green ITS (G-ITS) Knowledge and Information formation (TPT 04 2020A)</p> <p>Exploring the New Age for Mobility Integration – Chinese Taipei intends to bring fellow economies together by holding workshop/seminar/forum, so to fathom how pandemic impacts the cross-border/economy-wise mobility thereby identify possible pain points, extract policy guidelines as possible solutions to post-pandemic MaaS implementation, and draft directions for future bilateral or multilateral cooperation to discuss the revitalization of cross-border mobility in the post-pandemic era. (TPTWG, 2022)</p>	

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		<p>Exploring Innovative Digitalisation for Tourism MSMEs in Developing APEC Economies: What can We Learn from Tourism's Response to COVID-19? This three-part project (online workshop series, report and online resources) identified examples of innovative digital solutions that might assist MSMEs to respond to the challenges; to look at ways these solutions can be adopted (including through addressing barriers); and, to examine ways digital solutions can be disseminated to tourism operators especially in non-urban areas in the APEC region. Objectives were met through a series of online workshops held in April 2021 and through the subsequent development of a written report and a suite of online resources to assist tourism MSMEs across the region to become digitally adept. (TWG 04 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6b, 6d, 6e, 6f, 6h, 7g, 8c, 10a, 10d.</i></p> <p>APEC Workshop on the Future of Tourism and the Use of Innovative Digital Technologies in Tourism – aims to identify best practices in digitalization and determine appropriate strategies for the adoption of innovative technologies in tourism and to disseminate the findings to the APEC region and provide an opportunity for both policy makers and industry players to better understand the impact of fast-paced</p>	

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		<p>digital transformation and implications for the tourism sector (TWG 04 2021S)</p> <p><u>Resiliency in a Post-Pandemic APEC: Approaches to Driving Growth in Digital Services</u>. This PSU policy brief explores the convergence between digitalization and services, and how that intersection can make an economy more resilient to shocks. It analyses some of the available services statistics, highlights the role of digitalization in services access and provision, and offers policymakers a set of recommendations to drive growth in digital services. (PSU, August 2022)</p>	
	<p>b. Hold discussions on policies to encourage and facilitate innovation through digital means and adoption of emerging technologies, including in MSMEs and non-traditionally digital businesses</p>	<p>Measuring the Economic Impact of Digital Trade / e-Commerce Provisions. The project seeks to provide policy makers with a clearer sense of how to maximise the economic benefits of modern digital trade/e-commerce provisions. To achieve this, it aims to use empirical and econometric analysis to produce data on the relationship between specific digital/e-commerce provisions such as paperless trading, electronic authentication and consumer protection, and economic outcomes for APEC economies. (CTI 05 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 2a, 4e, 5b, 5d, 6a, 8d, 9a, 9g, 11b.</i></p>	

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		<p>Joint EC-GOS Symposium on Structural Reform and Services. The project seeks to provide policy makers guidance in regard to the application of new digital technologies transforming the services sector. Digitally-enabled services are similarly leading a structural transformation of the entire economy, generating new regulatory challenges for the digital age. (EC-GOS 01 2022S)</p> <p>Webinar on Digital Technology for Efficient Tax Collection. The initiative brought together APEC economies to discuss (1) harnessing digital technology to improve efficiency in taxation and (2) meeting tax challenges in the digital economy. (FMP 02 2022S)</p> <p>APEC Public-Private Dialogue on Challenges, Opportunities, and Digitally-enabled Recovery in the Post-COVID Era This project aims to further enhance digitalization capacity and facilitate collaborations among APEC economies and stakeholders, including by leveraging research and development and the business community, to bolster up the region’s innovative, collaborative and inclusive recovery from pandemic. (PPSTI 07 2021A)</p> <p>2021 APEC SME Business Forum – aims to improve the policy environment for SMEs' innovation and</p>	

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		<p>enhance their scientific and technological innovation capabilities, promote the collaboration among SMEs in the APEC region. (SME 08 2021S)</p> <p>Driving the Digital Transformation and Capacity Building of Remote Healthcare Systems: Best Practices within APEC region. This project aims to share the best practices of digital transformation in the medical field by hosting a workshop and delivering a policy recommendation. Integration of technologies between dental manufacturers and digital services such as precision manufacturing and cloud computing for oral health total solutions should be the first priority. (PPSTI 09 2022A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6d, 6e, 6h.</i></p>	
	<p>c. Identify new technological trends, e.g. AI, 5G, blockchain and their applications in relation to the AIDER</p>	<p>Capacity Building on Using Remote Sensing Technologies for Monitoring the Environment among APEC Economies – aims to encourage APEC members to make full use of technologies for environmental monitoring and enforcement, and exchange information and technological expertise to increase the capability of APEC economies to monitor the environment through the use of remote sensing technologies, and analysis and interpretation of data derived from unmanned aerial vehicles and satellite sensors. (DESG 01 2021)</p>	

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		<p>Capacity Building on Marine Debris Monitoring by Using Innovative Technologies in APEC Region – aims to share the information on adopting innovative technologies for more efficient monitoring methods, such as using Artificial Intelligence to identify marine debris and building Marine Debris Dynamic Map, etc. (OFWG 09 2020A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6k.</i></p> <p>11th APEC SME Technology Conference and Fair (APEC SMETC) – organized to forge a platform diffusing cutting-edge technology and innovative information in Asia-Pacific region (SME 08 2019S)</p>	
	<p>d. Share information and policies that enable traditional businesses to utilize digital platforms as part of their business resilience or continuity plan</p>	<p>APEC Collaborative Framework for Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) of Cross-Border B2B Disputes provides an affordable online cross-border dispute resolution option for MSMEs. Includes capacity building workshops and events (EC 02 2020A, EC 03 2021S, EC 02 2022A).</p> <p>Stocktake of APEC Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) Technologies. This Report offers an overview of trends regarding ODR technologies’ application in the APEC region as well as provides more detailed economies’ profiles based on the responses received to the survey conducted as part of the project. (EC 02 2020S)</p>	

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		<p>Leverage Digital Twin Technology to Enhance Supply Chain Productivity for Resilient Economy. The project aims to share best practices and provide policy recommendation on utilizing digital technology (digital twin) to facilitate a resilient economy. It has been shown that in the aquaculture industry, digital twin can improve productivity by 30%, increase survival rate by 50-80%, and decrease labor force needed by 30%. A hybrid workshop was held in June 2022. (PPSTI 03 2021A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6e, 6h.</i></p> <p>Capacity Building on Supply Chain Connectivity with Cloud-based Manufacturing Solutions. In this project, hybrid forums and policy workshop will be conducted for public and private sectors including research institutes and solution providers to augment members to develop and deploy cloud-based solutions for intelligent manufacturing. Industrial demonstrations will be conducted in real production scenarios to encourage research groups, system integrators and software developers to adapt to cloud-based intelligent manufacturing services. (PPSTI 06 2022A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6e, 6h.</i></p>	
	e. Developing an ecosystem that supports MSMEs, including those in the creative industry, to take	APEC Forum on Entrepreneurship for the Future of Work: Accelerating Regional Economic Recovery and Digital Inclusion for Women and	

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	<p>advantage of the digital economy, including through discussion on policies and initiatives</p>	<p>Youth in the Post Pandemic Era. The main objectives of this project are to serve as a regional incubation hub and to initiate a digitalized and collaborative network to empower women and young entrepreneurs. This will be accomplished by showcasing best practices and proposing innovative business solutions in digital fields that will accelerate the inclusive and sustainable recovery and digital inclusion. (HRD 05 2021A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6i, 10c, 10d.</i></p>	
	<p>f. Global collaboration of MSMEs through digital platforms</p>		
	<p>g. Promote the use of digital technologies to prevent and control global pandemics</p>	<p>Using Digital Technologies for the Prevention and Control of COVID-19 and Economic Recovery. The study shared good practices of using digital technologies in the prevention and control of COVID-19, analyzed the positive role of these technologies in these efforts as well as in improving digital governance capacity in pandemic response and promoting digital economic development, and put forward recommendations in applying digital technologies and solutions to fight against the pandemic based on the specific situations and priorities of each economy. (DESG 01 2020S)</p> <p>APEC Conference on Digital Healthcare Innovation – COVID-19 Response by Health</p>	

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		<p>Information Utilization. This project provides APEC member economies with a platform to share a variety of digital data-driven health innovative approaches to respond the COVID-19 pandemic. The conference was held in September 2022 in Taipei and included (1) interactive sessions to exchange experience, share applications and measures (2) exhibition booths to display applications in digital healthcare and (3) site visit to healthcare institution. (HWG 08 2020A)</p> <p>Building Regional Capacity and Knowledge in Earth Observations using Data Cube Technology. The project developed a ‘Data Cube’ of Earth and Marine Observation (EMO) technology, in Chile as a case study for training users how to develop their own Data Cubes for their APEC economies. The project delivered a series of workshops for capacity and community building in EMO, and to grow international linkages in this field. (PPSTI 02 2020S)</p> <p>Application of Artificial Intelligence to Accelerate the Mitigation of COVID-19 Pandemic The objective of the project is to build the capacity of project participants through the workshop by sharing information, experiences and lesson learned from various cases and best practices on the development and adoption of AI technology in mitigating the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, this project also</p>	

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		<p>produces policy guidance that can be a reference for further action to respond the pandemic situation and strengthen the preparedness to future health threats and importantly be a guidance for further collaboration amongst APEC member economies who are working on the similar issue. (PPSTI 09 2021A)</p>	
	<p>h. Promote policies that facilitate research and development as well as investment in innovative digital technologies</p>		
	<p>i. Exchange best practice approaches to regulatory cooperation which supports the Digital Economy, including regulatory sandboxes</p>	<p>FinTech Regulatory Sandboxes Capacity Building. The report summarizes the information received from financial regulators on the main characteristics of the sandboxes' functioning and, based on the APEC economies experience, provides possible steps an economy could refer to in order to set up a fully functional FinTech Sandbox. In addition, it describes the challenges of a piloting process and covers the issue of international cooperation on sandboxes. (EC 01 2020S)</p>	
	<p>j. Promote socioeconomic inclusion & expansion of economic opportunities through better digital connectivity and access to technology for all</p>	<p>Promoting Digital Capacity Building to Bridge the Digital Divide in the Post-COVID Era. The project aims to improve the inclusive digital development, and attach great importance to the digitally weaker status of vulnerable groups such as MSMEs, women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities</p>	

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		<p>particularly in remote areas in the context of COVID-19. The project is set to focus on and actively explore digital capacity building in the post-COVID era, encourage member economies to carry out exchanges, share experience and build consensus in bridging the digital divide through enhancing digital capacity with a view to strengthening the sense of participation, fulfillment and happiness in the development of digital economy. (DESG 01 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4c, 4f, 10d.</i></p> <p>Digital Innovation and Educational Opportunities This project aims to improve quality of education within the APEC region by identifying, analyzing and promoting innovative solutions created to foster online (or technology based) education (e.g. apps) in different economies through encouraging use of best solutions by offering capacity building activities that can allow provision of better education in the post-pandemic recovery period and address knowledge disparity between the economies and within a certain economy. It also seeks to contribute to promotion of gender equality through prioritizing solutions created by women. (PPSTI 01 2021) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6d.</i></p>	
	k. Facilitate application of digital technologies to achieve SDG objectives and to improve	Explore New-Normal Model of Trade Promotion in the Post Pandemic Era – aims to introduce best practices that enhance trade promotion by utilising	

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	digitalization efficiencies in trade activities of APEC economies	digital technologies, particularly in the fields of business exhibitions and business meetings, which play a key role for trade promotion as the first step of business communication. This project also explores specific success factors and challenges as well as the role of government in adapting digital technologies toward facilitating trade promotion in this area. They will provide useful policy implications for policy makers in charge of trade promotion in the APEC region in the post pandemic era. (CTI 09 2021S)	
7. Enhancing trust and security in the use of ICTs	a. Enable a seamless digital market through regulatory cooperation and collective efforts to build trust in existing and emerging digital technologies		TELWG
	b. Cybersecurity considerations in non-traditionally digital businesses – including those leveraging Internet platform		
	c. Exchange of updates and encourage adherence to cybersecurity norm		
	d. Progress update on existing digital security guidance,		

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	including the Framework for Securing the Digital Economy		
	e. Share practices, regulations and standards on ICT security and promote stronger cooperation and collaboration on cybersecurity through exchange of best practices	APEC K-12 Cyber Security Education – aims to promote capacity building and exchange information on strategies for providing cyber security education for K-12, create a safe cyber environment for K-12, identify human resources needs in the cyber security sector, and to improve human resource capacity in APEC economies. (TELWG, endorsed in 2021, workshop to be held in 2022)	
	f. Promote consumer protection in digital trade/e-commerce		
	g. Establish environment for safe use of personal data for participation in the digital economy	Exploring Innovative Digitalisation for Tourism MSMEs in Developing APEC Economies: What can We Learn from Tourism's Response to COVID-19? This three-part project (online workshop series, report and online resources) identified examples of innovative digital solutions that might assist MSMEs to respond to the challenges; to look at ways these solutions can be adopted (including through addressing barriers); and, to examine ways digital solutions can be disseminated to tourism operators especially in non-urban areas in the APEC region. Objectives were met through a series of online workshops held in April 2021 and through the subsequent development of a written report and a suite	

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		of online resources to assist tourism MSMEs across the region to become digitally adept. (TWG 04 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6d, 6e, 6f, 6h, 8c, 10a, 10d.</i>	
8. Facilitating the free flow of information and data for the development of the Internet and Digital Economy, while respecting applicable domestic laws and regulations	a. Encourage discussion towards wider implementation and adoption of APEC CBPR by interested economies and companies	Trade Policy Dialogues on Digital Trade in 2022 provided an opportunity for officials, industry, and other stakeholders to build on discussions on digital trade/e-commerce held since 2016, including topics such as the evolution and increasing importance of digital trade/e-commerce, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. (CTI 01 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 4e.</i>	CTI
	b. Explore international collaborations and promote interoperability, including between APEC CBPR and other regional mechanisms		
	c. Raising business' awareness on the protection of personal data, and enhancing privacy protections	Exploring Innovative Digitalisation for Tourism MSMEs in Developing APEC Economies: What can We Learn from Tourism's Response to COVID-19? This three-part project (online workshop series, report and online resources) identified examples of innovative digital solutions that might assist MSMEs to respond to the challenges; to look at ways these solutions can be adopted (including through addressing barriers); and, to examine ways	

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		<p>digital solutions can be disseminated to tourism operators especially in non-urban areas in the APEC region. Objectives were met through a series of online workshops held in April 2021 and through the subsequent development of a written report and a suite of online resources to assist tourism MSMEs across the region to become digitally adept. (TWG 04 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6d, 6e, 6f, 6h, 7g, 10a, 10d.</i></p>	
	<p>d. Securing privacy and promoting the flow and utilization of data</p>	<p>Measuring the Economic Impact of Digital Trade / e-Commerce Provisions. The project seeks to provide policy makers with a clearer sense of how to maximise the economic benefits of modern digital trade/e-commerce provisions. To achieve this, it aims to use empirical and econometric analysis to produce data on the relationship between specific digital/e-commerce provisions such as paperless trading, electronic authentication and consumer protection, and economic outcomes for APEC economies. (CTI 05 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4e, 5b, 5d, 6a, 6b, 9a, 9g, 11b.</i></p>	
<p>9. Improvement of baseline Internet and Digital Economy measurements</p>	<p>a. Further discussion on approaches to measure the impact and success of digital economy, including considerations for a measurement system that would</p>	<p>Measuring the Economic Impact of Digital Trade / e-Commerce Provisions. The project seeks to provide policy makers with a clearer sense of how to maximise the economic benefits of modern digital trade/e-commerce provisions. To achieve this, it aims to use empirical and econometric analysis to produce data on</p>	<p>EC, PPSTI, TELWG</p>

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	be interoperable globally or regionally	<p>the relationship between specific digital trade/e-commerce provisions such as paperless trading, electronic authentication and consumer protection, and economic outcomes for APEC economies. (CTI 05 2022S)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4e, 5b, 5d, 6a, 6b, 8d, 9g, 11b.</i></p> <p>Policy Dialogue on Digital Economy Measurements (held at DESG1 2022)</p>	
	b. Promote the update of statistical systems in response to a rapidly evolving digital era and encourage comparability, considering the availability of metrics in all APEC economies		
	c. Promote a comprehensive, high-quality data infrastructure and collection tools for measuring the use and impacts of digital technologies		
	d. Harness the potential of big data for developing indicators to measure digital economy	<p>Study: Policies and Regulatory Frameworks on Modern Digital Economy Issues – Open Government Data. A stock take of practices surrounding Open Government Data (OGD) in the APEC region. By better understanding the various</p>	

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		<p>policies and regulatory frameworks of OGD measures, regulators can facilitate ways for companies to make more effective use of available data both domestically and internationally. (CTI 05 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4d, 9d.</i></p> <p>Facilitating Access to Open Government Data Workshop – aims to highlight emerging practices in the region and provide an opportunity for economies to discuss emerging policies and regulatory frameworks on OGD measures in the APEC region. This workshop also highlights how governments can facilitate ways for companies to make more effective use of available data to enable innovation and digital transformation, increase competitiveness, strengthen trust in the digital economy, foster business opportunities, and promote economic growth. (CTI 09 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4d, 9d.</i></p> <p><u>Big Data for the Labor Market: Sources, Uses and Opportunities.</u> This PSU issues paper conducts a mixed methods study of existing labor market data sources and compares them with big data available through digital platforms. It looks into integration of new data into labor market information systems, and assesses opportunities for bringing this data into public policymaking. This can open doors for policymakers</p>	

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		<p>to use big data to quickly respond to economic shocks (such as that caused by the COVID-19 pandemic), reskilling and upskilling workers, and matching job seekers with appropriate employers. (PSU, December 2021)</p>	
	e. Set priorities for internationally comparable measurement through greater global cooperation		
	f. Monitor the development of APEC region's digital economy through developing APEC-wide indicator		
	g. Identify and share initiatives and best practices to improve measurement of the digital economy to develop a stronger evidence base for policy analysis and making		
10. Enhancing inclusiveness of Internet and Digital Economy	a. Development of human resource and digital skills to support the growth of the digital economy, digital transformation and digital entrepreneurship	<p>Promoting Trade by Utilizing Digital Technology – aims to enhance awareness of potentialities that advanced technology has created in facilitating trade promotion and reshaping business models to achieve digital transformation with the private sector to share practical experiences. (CTI 07 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6a.</i></p>	FMP, HRDWG, HWG, IPEG, PPWE, SCE, SMEWG, TELWG

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		<p>Towards Coordinated Transformation for Digital and Green Development. With a focus on experience sharing of applying digital technologies to realize green energy transition and energy efficiency improvement among APEC member economies, this project aims to promote exchanges on policy, technology and industrial experience towards realizing coordinated transformation for digital and green development in Asia-Pacific region. (DESG 05 2021S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6a.</i></p> <p>APEC Skills Development Capacity Building Alliance (ASD-CBA) Project: Empowering the Health Workforce through Digital Upskilling – includes a workshop to be held in virtual/hybrid format in September 2022. The workshop will focus on the exchange of best practices, useful experiences, digital skills training and training resources among APEC economies for health workers and stakeholders seeking to solve problems, learn new skills and get support. A best practice collection integrating workshop summary will be available to all economies for future reference. (HRD 06 2021A)</p> <p>2022 APEC e-Learning Training (AeLT) Program – supports participants to establish the ground for</p>	

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		<p>education policy in the form of an action plan by providing the best examples of policies and pedagogy using ICT in education in APEC region. (HRD 04 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 6a.</i></p> <p>APEC Learning Community for Shared Prosperity (ALCom) Phase 2: Ensuring Education continuity utilizing Digital Technology in the APEC Member Economies – aims to cultivate Digital Literacy, also known as ICT competencies of teachers, learners, and university students in APEC developing economies (HRD 08 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10b.</i></p> <p>The Utilization of Digital Technology to Advance Occupational Safety and Health in the Digital Age – aims to explore innovative and feasible approaches for APEC economies to utilize digital technology to address challenges facing occupational safety and health (OSH). An APEC workshop will be organized in October 2022, which aims to address issues including: (1) challenges facing OSH in the digital age, (2) the utilization of digital technology to prevent occupational accidents and to improve health management in the workplace, and (3) the best</p>	

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		<p>practices of APEC member economies in utilizing digital technology to advance OSH. (HRD 13 2022S)</p> <p>ASD-CBA Project: Embracing Digital Platforms and Enhancing Holistic Digital Upskilling for Innovative and Inclusive Caregiving Services – includes a workshop to be held in virtual/hybrid format in Q2 of 2023. The workshop will invite caregiving practitioners, online platform start-ups, and officials to share best practices and experiences. The expected outcomes will include policy recommendations for caregivers, agencies, and policymakers to promote the inclusiveness and innovation of caregiving services between and within APEC economies. (HRDWG)</p> <p>Women’s Leadership in the Digital Era: Agility, Adaptability and Fluency, 20-21 October 2021. This project was designed to provide capacity building activities benefiting the APEC economies with lessons applicable to women’s digital leadership. The project aims to contribute to the efforts in mitigating the leadership gender gap by enhancing digital literacy among women and providing a platform for learning and exchanging knowledge in developing digital leadership. (PPWE 04 2019A).</p>	

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		<p>Skills Framework Implementation. This project will take outcomes from the previous APEC ICT Skills Framework project, which concluded in 2021. The outcomes were an overall framework which maps existing ICT skills frameworks in use across the region. This project will develop an implementation guide which would support an economy to implement the framework in their own context. (TEL 01 2022S)</p> <p>APEC SMEs New Paradigm – Revitalize Sustainable Business through Digital Resilience – aims to disseminate the best practices of SME resilience enhancement and digital technology utilization, and develop a business continuity plan with digital elements. (SME 07 2021A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 10b, 10c.</i></p> <p>APEC Digital Innovation to Facilitate SMEs’ Green Transformation – aims to promote SMEs’ digital innovation in the realms of the circular economy, energy conservation, and carbon reduction, as well as the adoption of digital tools in environmental sustainability to facilitate green transformation. (SME 04 2022A) <i>Also addresses Priority Area 10b.</i></p> <p>Exploring Innovative Digitalisation for Tourism MSMEs in Developing APEC Economies: What</p>	

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		<p>can We Learn from Tourism's Response to COVID-19? This three-part project (online workshop series, report and online resources) identified examples of innovative digital solutions that might assist MSMEs to respond to the challenges; to look at ways these solutions can be adopted (including through addressing barriers); and, to examine ways digital solutions can be disseminated to tourism operators especially in non-urban areas in the APEC region. Objectives were met through a series of online workshops held in April 2021 and through the subsequent development of a written report and a suite of online resources to assist tourism MSMEs across the region to become digitally adept. (TWG 04 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6d, 6e, 6f, 6h, 7g, 8c, 10d.</i></p>	
	<p>b. Facilitate and encourage innovations in the field of Digital Literacy to empower individuals and businesses to find, create and share information, while enjoying greater online wellbeing and e-safety</p>	<p>APEC Women Empowerment through Cybercrime-Free Workshop for Secure Online Trading in the 4th Industrial Revolution. This project, endorsed in 2022, is planned to be carried out in 2023 with an aim to empower women with a complete cyber skillset to safeguard during online trading. The specific objectives are to be familiar with cybercrime and threats in the online trading environment, to understand the law and best practices related to cybersecurity and to apply hands-on cyber security preventive measures for secure online trading. (PPWE 02 2022A).</p>	

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	<p>c. Encourage the growth of women-owned MSMEs by developing tools on business management, soft-skill development, marketing strategies, also production and marketing guidelines through digital media</p>	<p>Women’s Economic Empowering, New Media Digital Upskilling (WEDU): Paving the future of Digital Marketing Talent with Gender Lens – will focus on delivering digital marketing competencies with gender perspectives through capacity building and upgrading skills that are expected to be able to see the big picture of inclusion and diversity, as well as having positive impacts on day-to-day digitalization of SME owners, women, and other disadvantaged groups with untapped potential so that they can develop capabilities to meet future trends. A 5-day training program on digital marketing will be organized in Chinese Taipei in Autumn 2022. (HRD 10 2022S)</p>	
	<p>d. Encourage greater participation in the digital economy by women, MSMEs, and underrepresented members of society, including people living in rural areas and people with disabilities</p>	<p>Promoting Digital Capacity Building to Bridge the Digital Divide in the Post-COVID Era. The project aims to improve the inclusive digital development, and attach great importance to the digitally weaker status of vulnerable groups such as MSMEs, women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities particularly in remote areas in the context of COVID-19. The project is set to focus on and actively explore digital capacity building in the post-COVID era, encourage member economies to carry out exchanges, share experience and build consensus in bridging the digital divide through enhancing digital capacity with a view to strengthening the sense of participation, fulfillment and happiness in the development of digital economy. (DESG 01 2021S)</p>	

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		<p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4c, 4f, 6j.</i></p> <p>Capacity Building on Digital Financial Inclusion is an ongoing activity under the Finance Ministers Process (FMP) which aims to build the capacity of participating APEC member economies to achieve greater financial inclusion by increasing the number of people with access to digital financial services in the region. The webinar on <i>Strategies and Initiative on Digital Financial Inclusion: Lessons from Experiences of APEC Economies</i> was conducted on 25-27 July 2022. (FMP 01 2021)</p> <p>Seminar on Digitalisation for Inclusive Finance: Embracing the Digital Fundraising. The seminar shared policy experiences and lessons learned as regards the application of digital tools for financial inclusion, in particular in connection with digital fundraising activities that regulators could enhance to foster financial access of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to the capital market (FMP 04 2022S)</p> <p>APEC Forum on Entrepreneurship for the Future of Work: Accelerating Regional Economic Recovery and Digital Inclusion for Women and Youth in the Post Pandemic Era. The main objectives of this project are to serve as a regional</p>	

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		<p>incubation hub and to initiate a digitalized and collaborative network to empower women and young entrepreneurs. This will be accomplished by showcasing best practices and proposing innovative business solutions in digital fields that will accelerate the inclusive and sustainable recovery and digital inclusion. (HRD 05 2021A) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 6b, 6e, 6i, 10c.</i></p>	
	<p>e. Better inclusion of disadvantaged groups to leverage the Internet and Digital Economy to improve their living standards and unleash their potential through effective use of ICTs.</p>	<p>Inclusive Digital Society: Alleviating Poverty and Improving Living Standards through Increased Economic Growth. The project aims to share and disseminate good practices, articulating a common vision and developing recommendations to support APEC economies in enhancing inclusion of vulnerable groups to leverage the Internet and Digital Economy to support poverty alleviation and improve living standards. A workshop was successfully held in hybrid format with both physical and virtual attendance on 8-9th June in Guizhou Province, China. During the workshop, member economies shared valuable case studies, good practices, policies and recommendations on cooperation for inclusive digital society to produce a report and promote synergy and collaboration on inclusive digital economic development. (SCE, endorsed in 2019)</p> <p>Driving the Digital Transformation and Capacity Building for APEC Indigenous Peoples through i-</p>	

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		<p>Tribe Free Outdoor WiFi – aims at promoting the installation and accessibility of digital infrastructure and building indigenous peoples’ capacity on ICTs to achieve better inclusiveness. The online seminar gave an opportunity to share the i-Tribe project experience and to exchange ideas with other economies on the current development status of the installation and application of digital infrastructure in APEC indigenous communities to increase the accessibility of ICTs for Indigenous Peoples. The workshop was held on January 19, 2022 in a virtual setting where over 50 delegates representing 14 APEC economies were in attendance. The final report was endorsed in April 2022. (TEL 03 2021S)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Areas 1a, 3a, 10a, 10d.</i></p>	
11. Facilitation of E-commerce and advancing cooperation on Digital Trade	a. Promote transparency in e-commerce regulations, including those that apply to cross-border business transactions	<p>Survey on E-Commerce Regulations in APEC. This database of information, which is available to the public on the APEC Trade Repository, facilitates the transparency of economies’ domestic regulations and approaches on e-commerce. (DESG, ongoing initiative)</p> <p><i>Also addresses Priority Area 4e.</i></p>	ATCWG, CTI, GOS, MAG, SMEWG, SCSC
	b. Strengthen cooperation and share experiences on promoting e-commerce/digital trade and their related services in the region	<p>Measuring the Economic Impact of Digital Trade / e-Commerce Provisions. The project seeks to provide policy makers with a clearer sense of how to maximise the economic benefits of modern digital trade/e-commerce provisions. To achieve this, it aims to use</p>	

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		<p>empirical and econometric analysis to produce data on the relationship between specific digital/e-commerce provisions such as paperless trading, electronic authentication and consumer protection, and economic outcomes for APEC economies. (CTI 05 2022S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4e, 5b, 5d, 6a, 6b, 8d, 9a, 9g.</i></p> <p>APEC Workshop on Promoting the Doing-Digital-Business Environment to Reactivate Market Entities aims to investigate regulatory frameworks and policy acts of the development of digital economy from the doing-digital-business environment aspect, promote the vitalities of main entities in digital markets in APEC economies and make traditional enterprises, especially the MSMEs, benefit from digital economy. The workshop was held virtually on December 9th, 2021. (DESG 02 2020S) <i>Also addresses Priority Areas 4b, 4f.</i></p> <p>Public Private Dialogue (PPD) on Digitally Enabled Services: Challenges and Opportunities – aims to equip participants with better understanding of digitally enabled services, exchange views and experiences between public and private sector representatives and develop policy recommendations to assist especially MSMEs in the service sectors to harness digital technologies (GOS 02 2021A)</p>	

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		<i>Also addresses Priority Areas 6a, 11c.</i>	
	c. Increase the growth and participation of MSMEs to the region by promoting cross-border e-commerce		
	d. To implement APEC Cross-border e-commerce facilitation Framework	Workshop and policy paper “APEC Policy Considerations for Developing Cross-Border Payments and Remittances”. A workshop was held on 19 May as a platform for central banks and other relevant agencies to exchange views and experiences on cross-border payment connectivity. The policy paper “APEC Policy Considerations for Developing Cross-border Payments and Remittances” was developed subsequently (FMP 01 2022S)	
	e. Promote transparency through exchanges of information, initiatives, and best practices that facilitates the development of e-Commerce regulations		
	f. Develop an ecosystem that enables MSMEs, including those in the creative industry, to take advantage of e-commerce and the digital economy	Seminar on Developing the Ecosystem for Sustainable Finance in the Capital Market and Digitalization for Inclusive Finance”. The project’s objective was to share policy recommendations on how to emphasize the role of capital market to support the transition to sustainable finance and to embrace	

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		commitment towards environment-friendly and sustainable growth. (FMP 03 2022S)	
All KFAs	a. Strengthen APEC’s digital agenda and strategy, including electronic commerce and related services, with fresh perspectives and innovative means to navigate the new economic realities brought about by COVID-19 ²	<p>2022 APEC Disaster Resilience Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) over COVID-19 – aims to review DRR policies and fully discuss the issues and best practices for resilient and sustainable recovery over COVID-19. (EPWG 01 2022S)</p> <p>Webinar on Empowering Telehealth Solutions in the APEC Region: A Conversation – aim to address knowledge gaps and increase APEC members’ understanding of the policy and regulatory landscape and innovative practices that guide the effective delivery of telehealth services across the APEC region. In doing so, this project will contribute to achieving broader APEC goals to improve access to high quality health care and institute new financial models for telehealth solutions to improve the effectiveness of public health interventions. (LSIF 01 2021S, incorporated into HWG)</p> <p>Workshop on Public-Private Collaboration in Supporting of Containing Measures during and beyond Pandemic - aims to provide economies with a platform to share and discuss the best practices or models of collaboration between public authorities,</p>	CTI, EC, EPWG, HWG, PPSTI, SCCP, SMEWG, TELWG

² Statement on COVID-19 by APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade (https://www.apec.org/Meeting-Papers/Sectoral-Ministerial-Meetings/Trade/2020_trade)

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		<p>industry, and academia in developing digital health system or apps in response to pandemic, especially how the public authority deals with the regulations or principles of data privacy while cooperating with private sectors or academics. (HWG 08 2021A)</p> <p>Community-based Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Integrated Care Model - aims to promote and improve the use of smart technology on self-health management of the chronic NCDs in APEC economies, by building the capacity of APEC economies and sharing the experience of establishing a local chronic disease risk assessment platform and the ICOPE evaluation and intervention model. (HWG 11 2021A)</p>	