



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2023/SOM2/SCE/IS01

Agenda Item: -

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Purpose: Information

Submitted by: HWG Chair



**Second SOM Steering Committee on
Economic and Technical Cooperation
Meeting
Detroit, United States
23 May 2023**

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Overview

Introduction

Born out of the emergence of both regional and global pandemics, the APEC Health Working Group (HWG) works to reduce the impact of health-related threats to the economy, trade, and security of member economies. The HWG aims to enhance preparedness, response and recovery systems for public health emergencies and disasters, strengthen health systems to support universal health coverage (UHC) and healthy populations across the life-course, as well as encourage and facilitate collaboration between health and other sectors within and outside APEC. The HWG envisions a healthy Asia-Pacific region and strives to promote a thriving population that contributes to sustainable economic growth and overall prosperity, aiming to address emerging and re-emerging health threats to ensure healthy populations.

In the Putrajaya Vision 2040, APEC Leaders committed to build “an open, dynamic, resilient and peaceful Asia-Pacific community by 2040” for the prosperity of all our people and future generations. The Putrajaya Vision 2040 set out the objective to “ensure the Asia-Pacific region is resilient to pandemics and other emergencies, foster quality growth that brings palpable benefits and greater health and wellbeing to all”. The implementation plan of the Putrajaya Vision, the Aotearoa Plan of Action, pledged to “enable quality and equitable health access and outcomes for all with a view to achieving universal health coverage, including by strengthening health systems, preventing, detecting, responding to, and recovering from, pandemics.”

The experience of recent years, particularly the COVID-19 pandemic, has highlighted as never before that health has no borders. As the Asia-Pacific region enters a new phase in the COVID-19 pandemic, APEC needs to recognize the challenges health and health security represent to sustainable economic growth and prosperity and take concrete action to address economic issues that hinder positive health outcomes and prevention, preparedness, and response to pandemics. These include incorporating social and environmental considerations in our economic policies to build an open, dynamic, resilient, and peaceful Asia-Pacific community. Policies must also recognize the impact of climate change and make efforts to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring APEC’s continuity of work from previous hosts and in other complementary fora.

As the APEC host in 2023, the United States has set three policy priorities to advance the Putrajaya Vision: **Interconnected**, **Innovative**, and **Inclusive**.

The first policy priority, **Interconnected**, is focused on creating new connections and strengthening existing ties across the APEC region to sustain economic recovery from ongoing economic challenges, including those caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. APEC 2023 will advance work on pandemic preparedness, strengthening supply chain resilience, and strengthening health systems, taking advantage of existing connections between economies, and forging new ones.

The second policy priority, **Innovative**, is focused on creating an environment for a sustainable future. This includes promoting the digital economy and enhancing digitization, including digital health.

The third priority is **Inclusive**, which ensures that APEC economies work towards inclusive growth for workers and those with untapped economic potential, including women, SMEs, and underserved and underrepresented communities. APEC 2023 plans to incorporate

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

gender into discussions of the importance of equity and inclusion in health as a driver of growth.

INTERCONNECTED: *Building a resilient and interconnected region that advances broad-based economic prosperity.*

Strengthening pandemic preparedness and health system resiliency

The combined effects of a global pandemic, climate crisis, and ongoing international conflicts revealed the importance of resilient supply chains to our economies and our daily lives. According to the APEC Policy Support Unit, there are many ongoing threats to a sustainable recovery, including “climate change, which, if left unmitigated, will continue to affect people’s health and livelihoods; and the ongoing pandemic, where the emergence of highly transmissible variants could send economies back into restart mode.” COVID-19 exposed the fragility of health systems and demonstrated how gaps in pandemic preparedness and vulnerabilities in health systems can have wide ranging health and economic costs. There are opportunities to learn from the COVID-19 pandemic experience and to find solutions that can strengthen and transform health systems to avoid future disruptions that can have far reaching consequences.

COVID-19 highlighted the fragility of health systems worldwide and challenged capacities to manage health emergencies, including the lack of robust and resilient supply chains and vulnerabilities in healthcare systems. The APEC region has underlined the interconnectedness of health and sustainable economic growth. Increases in telehealth resources helped maintain healthcare access during the COVID-19 pandemic. APEC 2023 will continue to focus on digital health, health security and pandemic preparedness, prevention of antimicrobial resistance, mental health, cancer prevention and control, including cervical cancer, and regulatory harmonization and convergence. We will continue to support strong immunization programs as part of resilient, interconnected health systems. APEC 2023 goals will be to increase economies’ preparedness to mitigate and effectively manage future pandemics, epidemics, and emerging cross border disease threats by identifying solutions to delivering safe and equitable health services in the region.

INNOVATIVE: *Enabling an innovative environment for a sustainable future.*

Promoting the Digital Economy and Enhance Digitization

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of the digital economy in driving economic growth, creating jobs, and cultivating new markets and industries in APEC economies. The United States hopes to advance the digital economy and facilitate inclusive innovation, including in digital trade, digital assets and payments, data privacy, telecommunication networks, cybersecurity, digital health, e-commerce, and emerging technologies. In 2023, we will continue and expand on the digital health topic including telehealth, health data standards and secondary use, digital mental health, digital health technologies, and digital health standards and IT.

INCLUSIVE: *Affirming an equitable and inclusive future for all.*

Promoting Gender and Health Equity

APEC 2023 also provides the opportunity to build on ongoing health collaboration to address gender and health equity in the context of health systems and strengthened pandemic preparedness and response. This includes protecting against the burdens of morbidity and mortality through disease prevention, screening, early detection, and treatment of diseases, particularly those that limit women’s economic participation. APEC 2023 will look at health

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

access and outcomes for women and will work with the private sector to examine policy solutions to strengthen care infrastructure, identify workplace programs to increase women's access to health care, and strengthen the care economy – which falls predominantly on women and has a disproportionate impact on at-risk women in poverty.

Fora governance in 2023

1. Develop HWG Work Plan to be endorsed prior to first HWG plenary meeting (HWG1).
2. Hold first HWG plenary meeting from February 18-20 (SOM1) and second HWG plenary meeting from August 3-6 (SOM3).
3. Hold 13th High-Level Meeting on Health and the Economy (HLMHE13) during SOM3.
4. Renew HWG Strategic Plan 2021-2024 to be endorsed prior to SCE3.
5. Conduct Chair selection process in August-October.
6. Submit HWG Annual Report to SCE in October-November.
7. Contribute to the biennial reporting on progress in the achievement of La Serena Roadmap objectives.
8. Contribute to the biennial reporting on progress towards the achievement of the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040.

Expected Outcomes/Deliverables for 2023

- 13th High-Level Meeting on Health and the Economy Joint Statement

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Itemized Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
<p>ECOTECH Medium-Term Priorities (APA ECOTECH-related Collective Actions): Build on APEC's Agenda on Advancing Economic, Financial and Social Inclusion to enhance economic inclusion for all, including by advancing inclusive policies, including under the economic drivers of trade and investment, and innovation and digitalisation, to promote sustainable economic growth opportunities and improve quality of life for all members of society.</p> <p>Host Year Priorities: (2) Innovative: Enabling an innovation environment for a sustainable future. (3) Inclusive: Affirming an equitable and inclusive future for all.</p>			
<p>Sub-Working Group on Mental Wellness</p> <p>Participating members: Australia, Canada (lead), Indonesia, Peru, the Philippines, Chinese Taipei, USA, Malaysia, Singapore</p>	<p>The mandate of the Sub Working Group on Mental Wellness is derived from SOM/SCE priorities, decisions, and strategic plans:</p> <p>[APEC] recognises the growing burden of non-communicable diseases in the region and emphasises the importance of an integrated approach for prevention and treatment. [APEC] acknowledges and support ongoing work on Mental Health, Cervical Cancer, and Rare Diseases. (2019 APEC Ministerial Chair's Statement)</p> <p>[APEC] encourages cross-fora collaboration to achieve the common goal of proactive investment in healthy workforces and access to healthcare. (2016 APEC Ministerial Declaration)</p> <p>Supporting healthy populations across the life-course, including the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including mental health, and promoting healthy aging (HWG Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025)</p> <p>HLM8 recognized that mental health is essential for sustainable economic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific Region. Without it, individuals are limited in their choices and opportunities to improve their lives and to contribute as members of the society. (Joint Statement on the 8th APEC High-level Meeting on Health and the Economy)</p> <p>HLM8 noted that focus should include upstream prevention of mental illness through primary and</p>	<p>The <i>2021-2030 Roadmap to Promote Mental Wellness in a Healthy Asia Pacific</i> represents APEC's strategic approach to supporting mental wellness in a post-COVID Asia Pacific from 2021 to 2030 through project implementation, strategic partnerships, and inclusive growth.</p> <p>The Sub Working Group on Mental Wellness will continue to support the implementation of the Roadmap and the activities of the Digital Hub throughout the year, by helping to arrange a series of online fora initiatives from across the region on key focal areas within the roadmap, by generating participation and recommending speakers.</p> <p>Prioritizing Digital Mental Health Innovations at the Global Scale</p> <p>During the COVID-19 pandemic, the world witnessed an absence of accessible, in-person mental health and substance use supports. The uptake of digital health tools and technologies have helped address this gap and allowed for equal opportunity for individuals to access mental health and substance use services, further achieving the goal for universal health care (UHC). At the global level, economies must continue to prioritize innovations in digital mental health, which enhances efforts towards increasing overall mental health supports, particularly with priority populations (i.e., Youth, Indigenous communities, vulnerable communities). This falls under Core Goals 2 & 3 of the APEC Mental Wellness Roadmap.</p> <p>Canada will organize a roundtable discussion with APEC economies, offering input from current research and</p>	<p>The sub-working group on Mental Wellness will work with other APEC fora, as necessary.</p>

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
	community healthcare settings and ensuring e-access to mental health services. (Joint Statement on the 8 th APEC High-level Meeting on Health and the Economy)	<p>program development underway. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation from researchers leading the Technology and Equitable Access for Mental Healthcare in a post-COVID Asia-Pacific (TEAM-CAP) study, who can discuss their results and lessons learned about mental health impacts in the APEC region during the COVID-19 pandemic. • Economies can present the impacts of sustainable digital MH solutions/innovative projects and what they mean for the future of digital mental health supports. 	
<p>HWG 04 2021A (Philippines) Forum on Mental Health Resiliency among Healthcare Workers in the New Normal</p>	<p>HWG Strategic Plan 2021-2025</p> <p>Healthy Asia Pacific 2020 (HAP2020) Initiative endorsed by APEC Leaders and Ministers in 2014</p>	<p>The main objective of the project is to support actions that will help improve health system efficiencies and foster an enabling local environment for stakeholders in health-related industries by enhancing mental health resiliency among APEC member economies through a consensus on the essential elements in providing contextually and culturally appropriate mental health initiatives for health workers.</p> <p>A 2-day virtual forum will be conducted in May 2023 followed by a digital compendium to be published.</p>	<p>APEC fora: EPWG and HRDWG</p> <p>External Organisations: WHO</p>

ECOTECH Medium-Term Priorities (APA ECOTECH-related Collective Actions)

Strong, Balanced, Secure, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth:

- (1) Promote and cooperate on measures that facilitate the safe cross-border movement of people, particularly in the context of changing pandemic related health and travel measures, so as to strengthen tourism, aviation and similarly affected sectors.
- (2) Enable quality and equitable health access and outcomes for all with a view to achieving universal health coverage, including by strengthening health systems, by cooperating on
 - a) preventing, detecting, responding to, and recovering from, pandemics;
 - b) accelerating equitable access to safe, effective, quality-assured, and affordable vaccines for all;
 - c) supporting the safe, secure and efficient operation of resilient health related supply chains; and
 - d) the use of digital technologies that foster health system innovation.

Host Year Priorities:

- (1) Interconnected: building a resilient and interconnected region that advances broad-based economic prosperity.
- (3) Inclusive: Affirming an equitable and inclusive future for all.

<p>Sub-Working Group on Vaccination</p> <p>Participating</p>	<p>The APEC Action Plan on Vaccination Across the Life-Course was endorsed by the LSIF and HWG in 2021. It is a comprehensive strategy for enhancing the resilience and sustainability of life-course immunization programs in APEC</p>	<p>Support economies to achieve the WHO Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030), with a focus on fostering vaccination across the life-course.</p> <p>Vision: By 2030, all 21 APEC member economies will have</p>	<p>Within APEC:</p> <p>Please see “Participating members” listed on the right.</p> <p>External Organizations:</p>
---	---	---	---

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
<p>members: Australia, Canada (co-lead), People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, China, Russian Federation, Chinese Taipei, USA (co-lead), Malaysia</p>	<p>member economies through 2030.</p> <p>The Vaccination Program of Work was endorsed by the HWG in January 2020. The VPoW's work aligns with broader APEC objectives, as listed below:</p> <p>[APEC Leaders] welcome APEC's working partnership with other relevant global initiatives for strengthening infectious disease control. (2015 APEC Leaders Declaration)</p> <p>Strengthened health systems including capacity building for human resources for health, resilient supply chains, and the promotion of regulatory convergence, to support universal health coverage and improved health emergency preparedness, detection, response, and recovery systems for public health emergencies in the APEC region. (North Star 2030)</p> <p>Strengthened collaboration across the region by demonstrating the economic imperative of addressing pandemic and public health emergency preparedness, response, and recovery; preventing and controlling infectious diseases. (North Star 2030)</p> <p>Enhancing preparedness, response, and recovery systems for public health emergencies and disasters, including prevention and control of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases (HWG Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025)</p> <p>HLM9 reaffirmed vaccination across the life course as a pillar of preventative healthcare, noting that vaccination prevents illnesses, enabling populations to remain healthy, and reduces related expenditures over time. (9th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health and the Economy Joint Statement)</p> <p>HLM11 noted an action plan detailing key pillars for successful immunization programs, and the efforts to implement the WHO Immunization Agenda 2030 and achieve the vision that by 2030 all APEC member economies will have implemented resilient and sustainable life-course immunization programs. (11th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health and the Economy Joint Statement)</p>	<p>implemented resilient and sustainable life-course immunization programs, with the objective of achieving widespread uptake of vaccination across the life-course and thereby protecting the health and wellbeing of all populations.</p> <p>Plans for 2023 and beyond:</p> <p><u>Vaccination Spotlight Report:</u></p> <p>In alignment with the Vaccination Program of Work (endorsed in January 2020), the Vaccination Spotlight Report will share the successful policies and programs that have been implemented across the region and encourage collaboration between APEC economies by facilitating the development of partnerships between economies that may face similar contextual challenges for improving vaccine acceptance and uptake.</p> <p><u>Policy Discussion: Policy Options for Addressing Health Literacy:</u></p> <p>In alignment with the Vaccination Program of Work (endorsed in January 2020), the HWG will have a Policy Discussion with member economies and other stakeholders to bring forward policy options of interest to address health literacy, including digital literacy, in order to improve vaccine acceptance and uptake. Participants will also have the opportunity to discuss strategies to mitigate against the impact of mis- and disinformation broadly, as these are a challenge common to all APEC members. The benefits/risks, the implementation, and the feasibility of these policy options will then be discussed during the workshop.</p>	<p>Established partnerships with the WHO, Gavi, UNICEF, and PAHO will also be leveraged to share the Vaccination Spotlight Report and promote the dissemination of regional best practices to facilitate domestic implementation of innovative approaches to improving vaccine acceptance and uptake.</p> <p>The HWG will also collaborate with key partners in this space, such as the WHO, to ensure that the guiding framework of vaccine rollout strategies that are discussed during the Policy Discussion are coordinated with global health partners to ensure maximum impact of the HWG's efforts.</p> <p>Collaboration with industry, academia and other external stakeholders to implement the APEC Action Plan on Vaccination Across the Life-Course</p>

ECOTECH Medium-Term Priorities (APA ECOTECH-related Collective Actions):

- (1) Stimulate practical application of digital technologies for inclusive & sustainable growth in such areas as trade, finance, public services and healthcare.
- (2) Enable quality and equitable health access and outcomes for all with a view to achieving universal health coverage, including by strengthening health systems, by cooperating on pandemics, vaccines, supply chains, and digital health.

Host Year Priorities:

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
(1) Interconnected: building a resilient and interconnected region that advances broad-based economic prosperity. (2) Innovative: Enabling an innovation environment for a sustainable future. (3) Inclusive: Affirming an equitable and inclusive future for all.			
Sub-Working Group on Digital Health Participating members: Chinese Taipei (lead), Thailand, Viet Nam, the Philippines; Peru	Putrajaya Vision 2040 Aotearoa Plan of Action 11th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health and the Economy Joint Statement Chair's Statement of the 12th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health and Economy	To update the "Summary Report of APEC Economies' Digital Policy Measures to Combat COVID-19" endorsed by HWG in 2022 according to the current situation of each economy. To produce a report of "Study on the Use of Telemedicine to Promote Health Equity in APEC Region after COVID-19" based on the discussions and findings of the Sub-Working Group's policy dialogue "Narrowing Health Inequity Gaps through Telemedicine in Adapting to the New Normal" held on 17-18 November 2022 in Taipei. The report intends to map out that during post-pandemic period how APEC economies use digital technology to strengthen healthcare systems, reduce health inequalities, promote telemedicine solutions, address inclusiveness for vulnerable groups, and get an insight into the priorities, policies, governance structures and challenges of each economy. To host a policy dialogue to share APEC members' best practices regarding promoting interoperability, protecting public and patient privacy, and establishing data standard in the second half of 2023 and produce an outcome report.	APEC fora: DESG, TELWG, HRDWG and ABAC External Organisations: Collaboration with industry, academia and other external stakeholders
HWG 08 2021A (Chinese Taipei) Workshop on Public-Private Collaboration in Supporting of Containing Measures During the Beyond Pandemic	HWG Strategic Plan 2021-2025 The North Star: A 2030 Strategy for Enabling Resilient Health Systems and Promoting the Health of our Populations in the Asia Pacific 11th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health and Economy Joint Statement and 2021 APEC priority: "Pursuing Innovation and a Digitally Enabled Recovery" APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040: "Inclusive Economic Participation through Digital Economy and Technology"	This project aims to provide economies with a platform to share and discuss the best practices or models of collaboration between public authorities, 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. A pre-workshop online survey will be conducted in August and a 2-day hybrid workshop will be hosted in September 2023 which will include (1) interactive sessions to share experience and discuss practical case studies (2) booths to display practical applications.	Collaboration with industry, academia, and other external stakeholders.

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
<p>HWG 03 2022A (China) Capacity-Building and Awareness Project for In Vitro Diagnostics for COVID-19 Management</p>	<p>Healthy Asia Pacific 2020 initiative Putrajaya Vision 2040</p>	<p>This project aims to facilitate capacity building centred on in-vitro diagnostics (IVDs) and laboratory developed tests (LDTs), and possible applications for enhancing the public health management system.</p> <p>It is planned to conduct surveys and discuss IVD products and LDT services by organizing a workshop and a symposium for researchers, healthcare workers, experts from IVD/LDT regulatory agencies and IVD industry to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration among the above-mentioned sectors from the participating APEC economies. The project events will look at both common and affordable IVD tools for COVID-19 management as well as some emerging technologies, such as mass spectrometry and AI algorithm, in the field of LDT/IVD.</p> <p>An in-person workshop will be held in June 2023 in Hangzhou, China on Capacity Building and Awareness of IVD for Public Health followed by a virtual symposium</p>	<p>Collaboration with academia and other external stakeholders</p>
<p>HWG 07 2022A (Chinese Taipei) Managing Infectious Diseases on Cross-Border Cruise Ships in the Post COVID-19 Era: Application of Digital Technology</p>	<p>Thailand's policy priorities for APEC 2022 (Priority 2: Restoring Connectivity in All Dimensions)</p> <p>2021 Leaders' Declaration (in which the leaders declared "we support APEC playing a greater role in promoting information exchange and coordination measures related to cross-border movement of people, including in relation to air and maritime crew, and COVID-19 testing and vaccination certificates")</p> <p>Aotearoa Plan of Action</p>	<p>This project aims to provide APEC economies with a platform to share and exchange experiences in epidemic prevention practices on cruise ships.</p> <p>A 1.5-day Conference will be organized in Taipei in August 2023 for cruise epidemic prevention policy makers and officials, public health officials, border health officers, experts and private sectors (e.g., cruise lines); activities include (1) interactive sessions on strategies to manage infectious diseases and use digital tools to support epidemic prevention on cruise ships and (2) site visits to maritime institute(s) or boarding cruise ships to observe how to implement quarantine measures.</p>	<p>Collaboration with industry, academia, health policy makers and border control authorities.</p>
<p>HWG 02 2022S (USA) Exploring Health Technologies to Restoring Cross-Border Travel in APEC Post</p>	<p>2021 APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting Joint Statement</p> <p>APEC Connectivity Blueprint for 2015-2025 (endorsed by the 2014 Leaders' Declaration)</p>	<p>The project's objective is to convene relevant health, economic, transportation, tourism, and customs authorities with relevant private sector members to exchange views on facilitating cross-border travel within APEC economies through use of COVID-19 testing and vaccine authentication while fully respecting and observing the policies and requirements made by each economy to</p>	<p>APEC fora: BMG, TWG, TPTWG, CTI (relevant economic, health, travel/transport/tourism and customs/border authorities)</p> <p>External Organisations:</p>

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
COVID-19	Aotearoa Plan of Action	<p>contain the pandemic.</p> <p>This project will exchange views and share technologies that can be used to facilitate the resumption of travel, accounting for the specific pandemic conditions facing each APEC economy while fully respecting and observing the policies and requirements made by each economy to contain the pandemic.</p> <p>A virtual policy dialogue will be held in March 2023.</p>	private sector (e.g., airlines, airport/travel operators, test and vaccine manufacturers, digital technology developers).
<p>ECOTECH Medium-Term Priorities (APA ECOTECH-related Collective Actions):</p> <p>(1) Build on APEC’s Agenda on Advancing Economic, Financial and Social Inclusion to enhance economic inclusion for all, including by advancing inclusive policies, including under the economic drivers of trade and investment, and innovation and digitalisation, to promote sustainable economic growth opportunities and improve quality of life for all members of society.</p> <p>(2) Ensure lasting food security, food safety and improved nutrition for all, as well as reducing food waste and loss in the region by promoting agricultural and food trade, agricultural sustainability and innovation, and implementing the Food Security Roadmap Towards 2030</p> <p>Host Year Priorities:</p> <p>(1) Interconnected: building a resilient and interconnected region that advances broad-based economic prosperity.</p> <p>(3) Inclusive: Affirming an equitable and inclusive future for all.</p>			
Proposal of Sub-Working Group on One Health	<p>Putrajaya Vision 2040</p> <p>Aotearoa Plan of Action</p> <p>Bangkok Goal on Bio-Circular-Green Economy</p>	<p>The One Health Sub-Working Group will examine opportunities for a unifying approach to enhancing the health of humans, animals, and the environment, to enable economies and the region as a whole to collaborate in addressing the root causes of One Health issues while building sustainable solutions. The One Health Sub-Working Group will seek to improve data-sharing of regional and domestic surveillance and monitoring systems, as well as address research, evidence, and knowledge gaps to make use of the One Health Approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of an approach to share research and evidence on One Health surveillance and monitoring systems; • Exchange information on domestic approaches to develop and implement One Health strategies; • Brainstorming of ideas for possible future voluntary initiatives for subsequent years; • Collaborate on voluntary initiatives to contribute to a regional One Health approach to the benefit of economies; • Explore opportunities to align regional and domestic One Health approaches with the Quadripartite One 	<p>APEC fora: PPFS and ATCWG</p> <p>External Organizations: The Quadripartite One Health Initiative: WHO, WOH, FAO, UNEP</p>

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
		Health Initiative (WHO, WOAHA, FAO, UNEP) to integrate work on human, animal, and environmental health across the Organization	
<p>ECOTECH Medium-Term Priorities (APA ECOTECH-related Collective Actions):</p> <p>(1) Promote and cooperate on measures that facilitate the safe cross-border movement of people, particularly in the context of changing pandemic related health and travel measures, so as to strengthen tourism, aviation and similarly affected sectors.</p> <p>(2) Enable quality and equitable health access and outcomes for all with a view to achieving universal health coverage, including by strengthening health systems, by cooperating on pandemics, vaccines, supply chains, and digital health.</p> <p>Host Year Priorities:</p> <p>(1) Interconnected: building a resilient and interconnected region that advances broad-based economic prosperity.</p> <p>(2) Innovative: Enabling an innovation environment for a sustainable future.</p> <p>(3) Inclusive: Affirming an equitable and inclusive future for all.</p>			
<p>HWG 01 2022A (Viet Nam) Promoting APEC Cooperation in Maritime Healthcare</p>	<p>10th APEC High Level Meeting on Health and the Economy Joint Statement (which recognized “that APEC economies will need to continue to support actions to improve health system efficiencies and foster an enabling local environment for stakeholders in health-related industries”)</p> <p>Putrajaya Vision 2040</p> <p>Aotearoa Plan of Action</p>	<p>This project aims to: (1) Create a platform for all APEC members to share their knowledge and best practice on maritime healthcare; (2) Create a cooperation network for APEC members in the field; and (3) Develop a compendium of applicable recommendations and feasible innovative models for APEC economies in maritime healthcare.</p> <p>The project will be conducted as a 2-day virtual workshop in the second quarter of 2023 in Viet Nam.</p>	<p>Collaboration with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)</p>
<p>HWG 04 2022A (Thailand) Strengthening Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System for Safe and Resilient Responses in Disease Outbreak</p>	<p>HWG Strategic Plan 2021-2025</p> <p>2022 APEC Priorities: Ensuring that APEC is “opened” to all opportunities, “connected” in all dimensions, and “balanced” in all aspects.</p>	<p>Optimal ability to obtain better health outcome has always been hindered by fragmented approaches on coordination and collaboration across different sectors and the emphasis on responding rather than preparing to hazard. Increased synchronization of work with capacity-building initiatives are necessary to prepare resilient emergency medical services (EMS) system in the event of future emergencies, disasters and disease outbreaks.</p> <p>This project intends to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of APEC economies in performing regular standard gap analysis (Capacity and Training Assessment) on EMS system; • Increased availability of standardized course curriculum for strengthening EMS safety towards disease outbreaks; • Increased trained personnel successfully implementing knowledge from training into day-to- 	<p>APEC EPWG</p>

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
		<p>day work; and</p> <p>A 5-day Training of the Trainers (TOT) on EMS Safety and Resilience in Disease Outbreaks will be organized in 2023.</p> <p>This workshop will also include consideration of the role of women in planning, developing and consulting process of the capacity-building endeavours towards EMS Safety and Resilience in Disease Outbreaks.</p>	
<p>HWG 08 2022A (China) Building a resilient public health system capacity for a stronger economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>Aotearoa Plan of Action</p>	<p>This project aims to share experiences and best practices through a workshop to strengthen health systems in the APEC region that enables quality and equitable health access and outcomes for all from the pandemic.</p> <p>Topics include ways that APEC economics can support a sustainable economic recovery from COVID-19, fighting COVID-19 through public health system reform and technology development.</p> <p>A 3-day hybrid Workshop will be held in Beijing, China in August 2023.</p>	<p>Collaboration with WHO and NGOs</p>
<p>HWG 01 2022S (USA) Increasing Pandemic Preparedness and Prevention in the Asia-Pacific Region through Improving Health Supply Chains</p>	<p>HWG Strategic Plan 2021-2025</p> <p>The North Star: A 2030 Strategy for Enabling Resilient Health Systems and Promoting the Health of our Populations in the Asia Pacific</p> <p>10th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health and the Economy Joint Statement</p> <p>2016 & 2017 APEC Ministerial Meeting (AMM) Joint Statement</p> <p>2016 APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM) Leaders Declaration</p> <p>2018 APEC Ministerial Chair's Statement</p>	<p>The project objective is to improve economies' capacity to prepare for future pandemics, epidemics, recurrent, emerging cross border disease threats in the APEC region by improving the resilience of health supply chains. This will be achieved through analysis of policy responses, good practice examples and case studies followed by a public-private dialogue. The project is aligned with broader efforts that are underway to build resilient and dynamic health systems and strengthen cooperation between public sector health officials, health industry representatives, and relevant multilateral institutions to inform efforts to build back better and support post pandemic recovery efforts in the APEC region.</p> <p>The project plans to conduct</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An APEC economy-level survey; • A study compiling research and survey findings; • An APEC Public Private Dialogue in 2023 	<p>Collaboration with ABAC, WHO, GAVI, academia and industry</p>

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
<p>ECOTECH Medium-Term Priorities (APA ECOTECH-related Collective Actions): Build on APEC's Agenda on Advancing Economic, Financial and Social Inclusion to enhance economic inclusion for all, including by advancing inclusive policies, including under the economic drivers of trade and investment, and innovation and digitalisation, to promote sustainable economic growth opportunities and improve quality of life for all members of society.</p> <p>Host Year Priorities: (1) Interconnected: building a resilient and interconnected region that advances broad-based economic prosperity. (2) Innovative: Enabling an innovation environment for a sustainable future. (3) Inclusive: Affirming an equitable and inclusive future for all.</p>			
<p>HWG 10 2021A (Malaysia) Regional Workshop on Dementia Prevention</p>	<p>HWG Strategic Plan 2021-2025</p> <p>"Healthy Asia-Pacific (HAP) 2020" initiative</p> <p>9th High-Level Meeting on Health & the Economy Joint Statement</p>	<p>The project aims to reduce economic burden of dementia on families, communities, and healthcare system in the Asia Pacific region.</p> <p>A 2-day hybrid event on Dementia Prevention Workshop will be held in May 2023. Activities will include: (1) Raise awareness by sharing guidelines and practice to identify and screening cognitive impairment at early stage; (2) Develop guidelines, modules and protocols to modify lifestyle to prevent and/or delay dementia; (3) Empower innovative approach to prevent dementia and establish regional network between relevant partners for evidence-based practice. Participants will gain knowledge, awareness and able to transfer to local agency and communities.</p>	<p>Collaboration with health officials, health workers, NGOs and community leaders.</p>
<p>HWG 11 2021A (Chinese Taipei) Community-based Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Integrated Care Model in Chinese Taipei</p>	<p>2021 New Zealand's APEC Priorities for "Pursuing Innovation and a Digitally Enabled Recovery"</p> <p>7th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health & the Economy Joint Statement</p>	<p>A 1-day hybrid International Conference will be held in Taipei on 22 March 2023 covering topics including: (1) Models of comprehensive care and management in NCDs; (2) Sharing of experience in NCD prevention between public and private representatives; (3) The concept of integrated care and disability coping strategies.</p>	<p>Collaboration with industry, academia, international organizations, and other external stakeholders.</p>
<p>HWG 02 2022A (Indonesia) International Workshop on the Eradication and Elimination of Tuberculosis among Frontline Healthcare</p>	<p>This project aligns with HWG Strategic Plan 2021-2025 addresses one of HWG's Objectives: Enhancing preparedness and response to public health emergencies and disasters, including prevention and control of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases.</p>	<p>This project aims to accelerate the eradication and elimination of TB. By increasing the knowledge and skills of health workers at the forefront and empowering the community, it is hoped that the TB elimination and eradication program can be achieved soon.</p> <p>A 3-Day Tuberculosis Control Workshop among Frontline Health Workers will be held in June 2023.</p>	<p>Collaboration with NGOs</p>

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
Workers			
HWG 05 2022A (United States) Incentives to Bring New Antibiotics to APEC Markets	Aligns with the Putrajaya Vision 2040 which seeks to ensure the Asia Pacific region is resilient to pandemics and other emergencies, and to foster quality growth that brings palpable benefits and greater health and wellbeing to all.	<p>A 2-day in-person Workshop will be held on the margins of SOM3 in Aug. 2023. The workshop will be informed by surveying APEC economies on existing strategies and best practices for economic incentives to antimicrobial production, including examining and addressing barriers to market entry for new drugs.</p> <p>The goal of the Workshop will be to enable APEC economies to identify and create practical regional and economy-wide economic incentive strategies to support AMR efforts, market entry, and access.</p>	<p>APEC Fora: ABAC, MAG and PPSTI</p> <p>External Organisations (not yet confirmed): CARB-X, GARDP, SECURE, AMR Action Fund, Gates Foundation, BugWorks, IFPMA, Wellcome Trust</p>
HWG 06 2022A (Chinese Taipei) Empowering the Next Generation – Investment in Preventable Infant Deaths by a Healthy Start	The North Star: A 2030 Strategy for Enabling Resilient Health Systems and Promoting the Health of our Populations in the Asia Pacific (especially on the topic of childhood developmental health issues across the life-course)	A 1-day in-person Conference will be held in Taipei on March 2024 covering topics including: (1) the future of child health in APEC economies; (2) the latest policies for child healthcare in Chinese Taipei.; (3) experiences of improving a. prenatal healthcare; b. neonatal and infant healthcare for decreasing infant mortality.	Collaboration with industry, academia, and other external stakeholders.
HWG 05 2022S (Thailand) Promoting Sustainable Economic Advancement for Women by Addressing Policy Barriers to Prevention, Control, and Elimination of HPV and Cervical Cancer.	APEC Roadmap on Cervical Cancer Prevention & Control endorsed by the 7th APEC High-Level Meeting on Health & The Economy in 2017 and updated and re-endorsed by the 11th HLMHE in 2021.	<p>A Policy Dialogue on Cervical Cancer Elimination was held on the margin of SOM3 2022.</p> <p>Cervical cancer is one of the most common cancers affecting women worldwide, with more than 600,000 new cases and more than 340,000 deaths estimated in 2020; APEC economies accounted for an estimated 38% of new cases and 35% of deaths globally.</p> <p>This project will conduct an APEC Cervical Cancer Economy Survey and convene a policy dialogue to discuss the current state of cervical cancer prevention & control strategies; prior to and immediately following the dialogue, the project will conduct research to understand current progress towards implementing the Roadmap, culminating in research and event reports to support and inform implementation, followed by drafting a Policy Dialogue on Cervical Cancer Report.</p>	Collaboration with industry, academia, WHO and other external stakeholders.

Health Working Group 2023 Work Plan

Output/Project Title	Mandate (Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE Priorities and Decisions, Strategic Plans, ABAC recommendations)	Summary of Activities	Cross-fora collaboration (within APEC and beyond APEC)
<p>HWG 06 2022S (Thailand) APEC Smart Families: Comprehensive, Holistic Policy Options</p>	<p>2021 APEC Economic Leaders' Statement: Overcoming COVID-19 and Accelerating Economic Recovery: "We will target measures where they are needed to facilitate job creation and inclusive economic recovery, including actions that enable women to participate fully in the recovery."</p> <p>2021 APEC High Level Meeting on Health and the Economy: "HLM11 welcomed cross-sector collaboration to address health-related barriers to women's economic participation."</p> <p>La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019-2030): "Address health-related barriers specific to women in the workforce, business, and entrepreneurship, such as improving workplace protections, health and safety, as well as increasing health access and awareness."</p>	<p>The objective is to build the capacity of health and economic policymakers to avoid and reverse the demographic trends that pose long-term economic challenges by focusing on the dimension of comprehensive and holistic family planning options (inclusive of both fertility planning for those individuals and families who want to have children and avoidance of unintended pregnancies) through: three expert working group sessions, a menu of policy options, and a capacity building workshop.</p> <p>A policy dialogue was held on 22 August 2022 during SOM3 2022.</p> <p>A Smart Families expert virtual meeting (Workshop Session One) was held on Dec 12, 2022; Session Two and Session Three to be held in February to May 2023.</p> <p>A Menu of Policy Options with shared with HWG in June and launched in August 2023.</p> <p>This project plans to begin Smart Families Phase 2 in September 2023.</p>	<p>APEC PPWE and private sector partner Oragnon</p>