



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2020/SOM1/PPSTI/053

Agenda Item: 4

Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation Backgrounder

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: PPSTI Chair



**15th Policy Partnership on Science,
Technology and Innovation Meeting
Putrajaya, Malaysia
13-14 February 2020**

Background

APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) is the primary APEC sub-fora on Science, Technology and Innovation. The partnership was formed in 2012, when APEC agreed to broaden the mandate of the Industrial Science and Technology Working Group (ISTWG) to include in its discussions innovation policy development and to intensify cooperation among governments, businesses and academia.

Opportunities For Engagement

PPSTI provides a platform for knowledge sharing between industry, academia, and governments on best practices and challenges. PPSTI welcomes your participation in knowledge sharing, PPSTI projects, initiatives and developing policy recommendations. If you want to know more information on PPSTI or are interested in participating, please contact the PPSTI focal point of your economy or through the Program Director of PPSTI:
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APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI)

Mission

PPSTI's mission is to support the development of science and technology cooperation as well as effective science, technology, and innovation (ST&I) policy recommendations in APEC through collaboration between government, academia, private sector and other APEC sub-fora.

The PPSTI's main tasks are:

- to develop ST&I policy recommendations that promote research & development and the dissemination and commercialization of innovative technologies;
- to encourage economies' innovation capacity building, including absorptive capacity, through the development of human capital, scientific research and infrastructure;
- to encourage the sharing of best practices and success stories to support the establishment of seed and venture capital investment funds as well as incubators and accelerators within APEC;
- to encourage an environment that enables cross-border investment in cutting-edge technologies;
- to develop networks/platforms that foster STI cooperation;
- to strengthen cooperative projects and programs related to science, technology and innovation;
- to facilitate voluntary, market-driven dissemination of technology and promote measures to create a relevant legal framework and regulatory environment;
- to discuss potential mechanisms to evaluate the impact of science and innovation cooperation within APEC to better inform policy recommendations.



Priority Themes

Each year the APEC host economy defines priority themes relevant to the region. Malaysia, as host country, has determined the theme for APEC 2020 as 'Optimising Human Potential Towards a Future of Shared Prosperity'. To support this goal the PPSTI will focus on three key areas:

- 1) **Advancing ST&I for Sustainability** - promote innovation for sustainability to support the transition to a low carbon economy and circular economy through industry 4.0, digital technology and green technology, including green financing;
- 2) **Research Connectivity for Commercialization** - harness big data through open science initiatives to promote commercialization and to provide solutions for common challenges faced by APEC economies; and,
- 3) **Inclusivity in Science** - promote social inclusion and gender quality in science; address the ST&I advancement gap in the APEC region by enhancing technological capacity in micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Operation

PPSTI meets twice a year, normally as part of the APEC Senior Officials' Meetings. Participation at PPSTI meetings includes not only member economies, but also the APEC Business Advisory Council Principal Advisor, three-year-guests (Macao, China, APRU and WIPO) and the private sector. In order to have robust discussion and diverse perspective, PPSTI actively encourages the private sector to join its meetings, provide input and participate in the formulation of policy recommendations.

PPSTI conducts its work through three subgroups on: 1) Building Science Capacity, 2) Promoting Enabling Environment for Innovation, and 3) Enhancing Regional Science and Technology Connectivity.

Activities

Since its creation, PPSTI has sponsored many ST&I-related projects to promote (1) capacity building through shared experiences (2) strengthened ST&I policies and encourage the adoption of innovative technologies and techniques to support APEC economies, and (3) greater ties with other APEC fora and strengthen those with the private sector. PPSTI also hosts flagship annual and bi-annual activities including the following APEC Science Prize for Innovation; Research and Education ("ASPIRE"); APEC Innovation Policy Sharing Seminar; APEC Research and Technology Workshop and PPSTI Centers Cooperation Conference.

Centers

Reporting to the PPSTI, the following nine APEC Centres strive to foster greater ST&I across the APEC region.

- APECCTT (APEC Center for Technology Transfer), (China), <http://www.apectt.org/>
- APCTP (Asia Pacific Center for Theoretical Physics), (Republic of Korea), <https://www.apctp.org>
- APEC CTF (APEC Center for Technology Foresight), (Thailand), <http://www.apecforesight.org/>
- ACES (APEC Cooperation for Earthquake Science), (Australia, China, Japan, USA), <http://www.aces.org.au/>
- APCC (APEC Climate Center), (Republic of Korea), <http://www.apcc21.org/main.do?lang=en>
- AMGS (APEC Mentoring Center for the Gifted in Science), (Republic of Korea), <http://www.amgs.or.kr>
- ACABT (APEC Research Center for Advanced Biohydrogen Technology), (Chinese Taipei), <http://www.apecadvbioh2.org/>
- ACTS (APEC Research Center for Typhoon & Society), (Chinese Taipei), <http://www.apectyphoon.org/index.html>
- APEC-VC (APEC Virtual Center for Environmental Technology Exchange), (Republic of Korea), www.apec-vc.com