



2005 APEC Senior Officials' Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH)

APEC's ECOTECH Priorities

APEC focuses on the following priorities to promote sustainable growth and equitable development while assuring advancement towards free and open trade and investment in the region.

- Developing Human Capital;
- Developing Stable, Safe and Efficient Capital Markets;
- Strengthening Economic Infrastructure;
- Harnessing Technologies for the Future; and
- Safeguarding the Quality of Life Through Environmentally Sound Growth.

Recommendations for Ministers

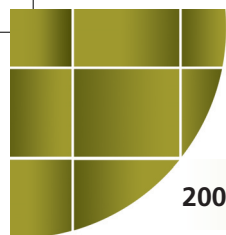
- Endorse the 2005 SOM Report on Economic and Technical Cooperation (ESC).
- Endorse the recommendations by the meeting of the second APEC/IFIs Policy Dialogue on ECOTECH in order to build collaboration with International Financial Institutions and relevant international organizations.
- Approve the modified Quality Assessment Framework (QAF), Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks for ongoing and completed APEC projects.
- Note the ESC's contribution to the reform process in APEC by facilitating an independent assessment of the implementation of ECOTECH by the Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group and the Tourism Working Group.
- Welcome the development of the APEC Invasive Alien Species Strategy Framework.

Key Messages

- Mid-Term Stock Take
 - While APEC has made impressive progress towards achieving the Bogor Goals, it is important for APEC to strengthen economic and technical cooperation to address the impacts of globalization and regional integration.
 - The e-APEC Strategy has significantly contributed to the progress made in the area of paperless trading.
- 2nd Policy Dialogue between APEC and International Financial Institutions
 - Recognized joint activities or cooperation in the areas of SMEs, trade facilitation, human resources development.
 - Will maintain communication by sharing work plans and keeping each other informed.
 - APEC Secretariat and the World Bank's Global Development Learning Network will continue the collaboration to support ECOTECH activities.
- Sustainable development and Invasive Alien Species
 - Assess the contribution of voluntary initiatives for sustainability in value chains and ascertain the comparative implication in different Economies across the Asia-Pacific.
 - The global discussion on sustainable development requires high level input by APEC Member Economies.
- Strengthening implementation of APEC's ECOTECH activities
 - An independent assessment of working groups, facilitated by ESC projects will be conducted in 2005-2006.
 - The ESC-Small Group on Evaluation continued to develop rigorous evaluation frameworks for APEC projects.

Adopted by Leaders at their 1994 meeting in Bogor, Indonesia, APEC economies committed to achieve free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific by 2010 for industrialized economies and 2020 for developing economies.

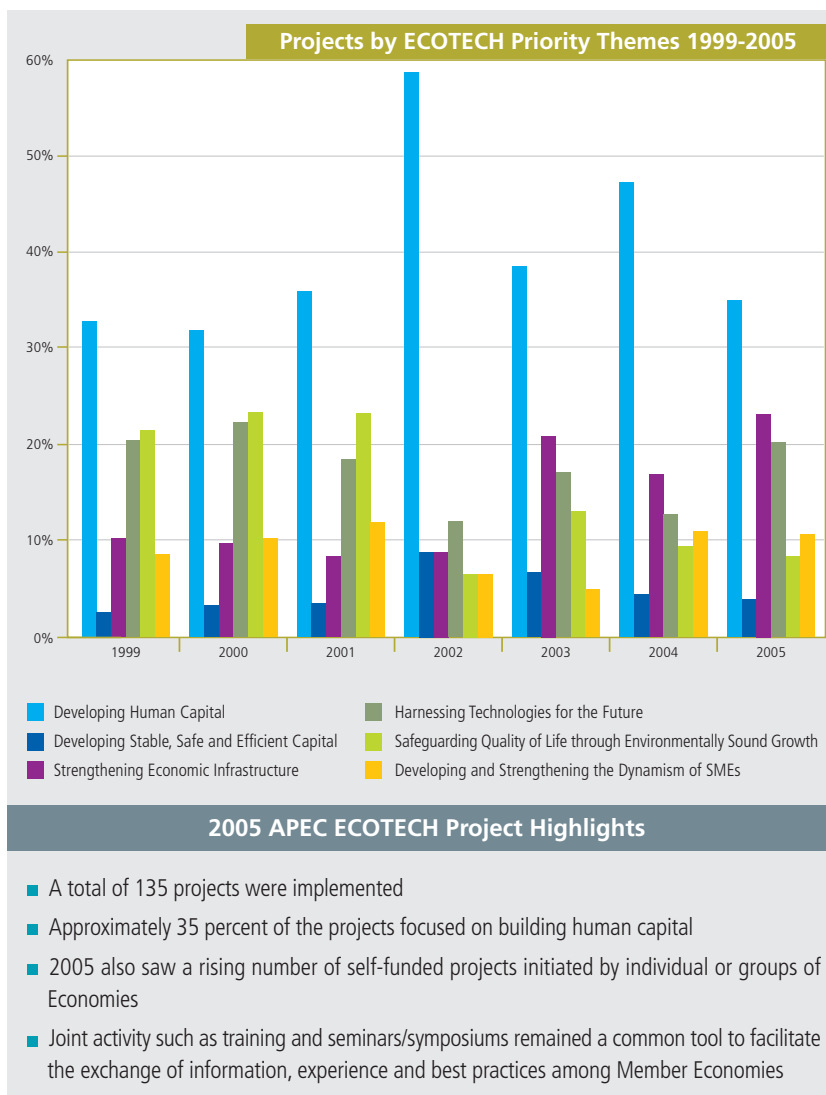




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Major Activities Supporting APEC-Wide Priorities

- Integration into the Global Economy
 - E-CERT - a web-based system for electronic health certification of agricultural exports.
 - The APEC Energy Standards Information System website (APEC-ESIS) and Standards Notification Procedure to promote harmonization of energy standards and testing procedures.
- Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building
 - Implemented the Real-Time Emergency Information Sharing System on a secure web-based server for Member Economies to communicate during a crisis.
 - APEC Guidelines for establishing Computer Emergency Response Teams.
 - A Seminar on post-tsunami reconstruction and function of port safety.
 - Best Practices and Ideas in Safety and Security to Combat Terrorism in Tourism.
- Promoting the Development of Knowledge-Based Economies (KBE)
 - Workshop on Plant Genetic Resources.
 - Seminar on Best Practices and Innovations in the Teaching and Learning of Science and Mathematics at the Secondary School Level.
 - APEC Learning Community Builders (ALCoB) at www.alcob.com
 - APEC e-Learning Training Program.
 - APEC Innovation Center for SME Development.
 - Seminar on Best Practices of E-commerce Application to Small and Medium Tourism Enterprises (SMTEs).
- The Social Dimension of Globalisation
 - Symposium on Strengthening Social Safety Nets under Rapid Socio-economic Change.
 - Seminar on Maximizing the Potential of Older Workforce.
 - Seminar on Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster Reduction project.
 - Project on Best Practices in Sustainable Tourism Management Initiatives in APEC.



2005 APEC ECOTECH Project Highlights

- A total of 135 projects were implemented
- Approximately 35 percent of the projects focused on building human capital
- 2005 also saw a rising number of self-funded projects initiated by individual or groups of Economies
- Joint activity such as training and seminars/symposiums remained a common tool to facilitate the exchange of information, experience and best practices among Member Economies

Background

The ESC was established in 1998 to assist APEC's Senior Officials in improving the management and coordination of ECOTECH activities among APEC fora, including APEC working groups and policy level committees, with a view to improving the identification and coordination of new cross-cutting issues.

To enhance the efficiency of the ESC, Senior Officials agreed in September 2005 to transform the ESC into a SOM Steering Committee with more authority to coordinate and provide policy advice to other APEC working groups and fora.



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