

Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation


Symposium on APEC Connectivity Blueprint

Some examples of CTI work to enhance Connectivity

John Larkin, CTI Chair
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Advancing Free Trade for Asia-Pacific Prosperity

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Outline of presentation

- Highlight some key initiatives of CTI and its sub-fora aimed at enhancing Asia-Pacific connectivity
 - trade facilitation
 - investment facilitation
 - mobility of business persons
 - regulatory cooperation/convergence

Trade Facilitation



- Actions to address cross-border “chokepoints” set out in 2010 Supply-Chain Connectivity Action Plan
- Systematic approach to improve performance
 - policy recommendations, 2013
 - diagnostic reports in 2014
 - targeted capacity-building to begin in 2014
- New Sub-Fund established in 2014

Trade facilitation (cont'd)



- Aim for Single Window (SW) systems by 2020
 - established in 14 APEC economies
 - Work towards interoperability
- Advance ruling systems in 19 economies
- Aim for paperless trading by 2020
 - e-certificates of origin; e-manifests
- Authorised Economic Operator programs
 - Basis for MRAs
- 2011 Pathfinder on Baseline De Minimis Value (US\$100) - 10 economies

Investment Facilitation



- Actions to improve investment climate in APEC economies (IFAP 2008)
 - Maximise effectiveness and efficiency of investment administration
- Projects and capacity building to improve transparency, simplicity, predictability, security, stability, policy review, stakeholder relations

Mobility of Business persons



- APEC Business Travel Card
 - Visa free travel and express lane transit for business persons
 - 19 full members; 2 transitional members
- Possible extension of validity period from three to five years
- End-to-End process review in 2014
 - faster processing times; on-line lodgement

Regulatory cooperation and convergence



- Electronic commerce
 - Cross-border privacy enforcement arrangement
 - Cross border privacy rules system
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
 - capacity-building in border enforcement
- Standards
 - Promote alignment of domestic and international standards
- ARCAM Dialogues
 - Smart Grid interoperability standards
 - Electric Vehicle Standards

Regulatory cooperation and convergence (cont'd)



- Some sectoral examples
 - Food Safety Cooperation Forum and Partnership Training Institute Network (e.g. lab testing)
 - Convergence of medical product approval procedures by 2020
 - Chemical Dialogue Regulators' forum; G.R.E.A.T. website for GHS implementation
 - Green car development and green building standardisation

CTI Chair Contact points



- CTI Chair:
John.Larkin@dfat.gov.au
- APEC Secretariat
cw@apec.org
- Copy correspondence to:
Jules.Griffiths@dfat.gov.au