

## **Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) Proposed Work Plan for 2021**

### **Introduction**

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) are essential to advancing economic growth and mitigating global challenges, such as COVID-19. As such, the APEC Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) supports effective STI policy-making and international cooperation by leveraging the diverse expertise of the private, academic, and public sectors. Specifically, PPSTI policy statements, recommendations, and activities support an enabling environment for scientific research and market-based innovation, and facilitate STI capacity building in the APEC region.

Through PPSTI, member economies will continue to share lessons learned and best practices to leverage STI to support an inclusive and sustainable economic recovery. PPSTI recognizes the disproportionate impact that pandemics, including the COVID-19 pandemic, can have on certain populations (such as women, early career researchers, and Indigenous Peoples) and will continue to work with key partners to identify and mitigate challenges, so that the APEC region can leverage and benefit from their valuable insights and experiences. In addition, PPSTI will continue to raise awareness about the APEC Women in STEM Principles and Actions and encourage their adoption, and support the implementation of the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019-2030).

The PPSTI 2021 theme and priorities will guide its meetings and project proposals, and will inform policy recommendations for APEC Ministers and Leaders. PPSTI will also support the Putrajaya Vision 2040, including its “Innovation and Digitalisation” pillar, which aims to “empower all people and businesses to participate and grow in an interconnected global economy.”

In 2021, PPSTI will conduct a comprehensive evaluation of its Strategic Plan (2016-2025). Through this initiative, PPSTI will evaluate progress on Key Performance Indicators and identify new and emerging opportunities for PPSTI to support the APEC region and its leaders. The results will inform PPSTI’s work moving forward and will guide and shape PPSTI project proposals.

PPSTI will continue to collaborate with the Health Working Group (HWG), Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL), Human Resources and Development Working Group (HRDWG), Energy Working Group (EWG), Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG), Life Sciences Innovation Forum (LSIF), Chemical Dialogue (CD), Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS), Senior Finance Officials’ Meeting (SFOM), Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG), Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE), Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) and other APEC fora involved in STI, to avoid duplication and support common goals. PPSTI will also continue to work with its long-term partners, the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Macao, China, and ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COSTI), among others.

PPSTI notes the APEC 2021 theme “Join, Work, Grow Together” and policy priorities, including “Pursuing Innovation and a Digitally-Enabled Recovery”. Building on this, the PPSTI theme will be “Building Resilience in STI Systems for post-COVID Recovery and Future Shocks”, with accompanying PPSTI priorities:

- 1) Leveraging Diverse Knowledge Systems for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth
- 2) Strengthening Digital Networks and Tools to Support Capacity Building and Advance Science, Technology and Innovation
- 3) Building Public Trust through Open Science and Communication

### **1. Fora governance in 2021**

- 1.1. Hold two PPSTI meetings: SOM1 – PPSTI-17 in February 2021 and SOM3 – PPSTI-18 in August 2021.

- 1.2. Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the PPSTI Strategic Plan (2016-2025).
- 1.3. Report on annual progress and achievements on PPSTI-led initiatives and projects to the SOM Steering Committee on ECOTECH (SCE). In 2021, this includes reporting on the Comprehensive Evaluation of the PPSTI Strategic Plan (2016-2025).
- 1.4. Conduct Chair (2022-2023) selection process from October-December 2021 for a two-year term.
- 1.5. Revise the PPSTI Terms of Reference to consider and incorporate outcomes from the Comprehensive Evaluation of the PPSTI Strategic Plan, as well as the PPSTI Standardized Fora Assessment, as appropriate.

## **2. Expected Outcomes/Deliverables for 2021**

- 2.1 Host a policy discussion on building resiliency and leveraging STI expertise to support post-COVID recovery. This discussion will include a focus on supporting diverse knowledge systems (including through women and Indigenous and ethnic minorities) for inclusive and sustainable growth.
- 2.2 Develop a PPSTI-endorsed policy statement based on the PPSTI 2021 theme and discussions at PPSTI meetings. PPSTI will submit text inspired by this statement to APEC Ministers and Leaders.
- 2.3 Contribute to and support APEC's broader initiatives, including the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019-2030), the APEC Connectivity Blueprint, and the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap.
- 2.4 Encourage uptake and adoption of the APEC Women in STEM Principles and Actions.
  - 2.4.1 Work with APEC member economies to strengthen the collection of gender-disaggregated data.
- 2.5 Hold an APEC Research and Technology (ART) Seminar during SOM3 on how STI will contribute to building the resilient society and economic system after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2.6 Award the ASPIRE Prize at PPSTI-18 based on New Zealand's proposed theme "Diverse Knowledge for a Sustainable Future."
  - 2.6.1 Support the promotion of the diverse knowledge systems of indigenous and ethnic minority cultures within the APEC region.
- 2.7 Enhance dialogue and collaboration with the private sector and academia to ensure closer alignment between STI policy, academic research, and the needs of the private sector in the APEC region.
  - 2.7.1 Invite partners from academia and the private sector to participate in PPSTI meetings as delegates or Non-Member Participation (NMP).
  - 2.7.2 Increase engagement at APEC Project level with the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) to enhance private sector cooperation opportunities, and with the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) to support academic participation.
- 2.8 Coordinate activities with APEC fora, including the APEC Health Working Group (HWG), Telecommunications and Information Working Group (TEL), Energy Working Group (EWG), Ocean and Fisheries Working Group (OFWG), Life Sciences Innovation Forum (LSIF), Chemical Dialogue (CD), and Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG), Small and Medium Enterprises Working Group (SMEWG), and Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy (PPWE).

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2.9 Implement ongoing and upcoming PPSTI projects and activities (listed below in Section 3), and encourage member economies to propose Concept Notes (CNs) for APEC Sessions I and II.

**3. Itemized Work Plans for 2021**

| Title  | Summary of Specific Plans   | Mandate<br>(Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE<br>Priorities and Decisions,<br>Strategic Plans and to ABAC<br>recommendations) | ECOTECH Priorities<br>and/or<br>Host Year Priorities   | Cross-fora<br>collaboration<br>(Within APEC<br>and beyond<br>APEC) |
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| <b>ANNUAL ACTIVITIES</b>   |   |   |  |  |
| <p><b>(APEC-funded : PJ to be updated)</b><br/> <b>APEC Climate Center (APCC):</b><br/>                     APEC Climate Symposium 2021</p>                                      | <p>The APEC Climate Symposium 2021 will explore effective communication strategies and best practices in delivering the climate services to the public through public-private partnership for a successful emergency preparedness. APCC will continue to raise awareness, build partnerships, promote the implementation of climate information and services in minimizing loss and damages caused by climate change.<br/>                     The Symposium is planned to be held as a hybrid(both online/in-person) event in July.</p>  | <p>Annual PPSTI activity<br/>                     Endorsed by PPSTI 2020</p>  | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation<br/>                     - Host Year Priorities: Increasing Inclusion and Sustainability for Recovery</p> |  |
| <p><b>APEC Research Center for Typhoon and Society (ACTS)</b><br/>                     APEC Resilient Science and Technology</p>   | <p>Economic development and sustainability can be severely impacted by climate extremes and natural disasters on extensive interruptions to daily livelihood, lifeline systems, critical infrastructure or education. Under APEC, through cross-fora a coordination and collaboration, Policy Partnership for Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) and Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) provided one of the best platform to synergy resources at regional level to benefit APEC stakeholders on strengthening disaster risk management and sustainable development. Considering the dynamics and diverse impacts of natural disasters, we encourage the continuous investment on science, technology and innovation for resilience city on adaptation countermeasures in APEC region.</p> <p>To echo the 2021 priority of “Increasing Inclusion and Sustainability for Recovery”, Chinese Taipei extended our sincere invitations to PPSTI member economies to join the ACTS annual activities - 2021 APEC Resilience Week held in Taipei on resilient society toward APEC inclusive and sustainable growth amidst COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Self-funded Cover sheet will be submitted for the project session of 2021.</p> | <p>Annual PPSTI activity</p>  | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p>   | <p>Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG)</p>                 |
| <p><b>APEC Mentoring Center for the Gifted in Science (AMGS):</b><br/>                     AMGS Cross Mentoring Research Activity 20-21, APEC Youth Scientist Journal Vol.12</p> | <p>Ongoing<br/>                     AMGS Cross Mentoring Research Activity (CMRA) is to encourage teen researchers with mentoring from scientists in the region. AMGS makes the online space where they can meet based on IT infrastructure and support them to carry out research activity in their field of interests. AMGS Journal is annual publication resulted from AMGS CMRA.<br/>                     7th Online Conference for Teen Researcher will be in June, 2021.</p>  | <p>Annual PPSTI activity</p>  | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p>   |  |

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| <p><b>APEC Research &amp; Technology (ART) Program 2021</b></p>   | <p>The ART Workshop will be held in New Zealand, back-to-back session with PPSTI 18 during SOM3. Dates and location are to be confirmed.</p> <p>The main theme of ART workshop will be developed in alignment with 2021 PPSTI theme and priorities, and in cooperation with PPSTI member economies. At this moment, the tentative theme for the workshop is regarding how STI will contribute to build the resilient society and economic system after the COVID19. We will discuss “what is resilient system?”, “What role should STI have?”, and “How will the APEC economies cooperate?”</p>   | <p>Annual PPSTI activity</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> | <p>TBD</p>   |
| <p><b>APEC Research Center for Advanced Biohydrogen Technology (ACABT)</b></p>  | <p>Conduct the annual events which are APEC-ACABT Workshop and Short-term training program, date and venue to be determined.</p> <p>Plans to submit the Concept Note on Session 2, project title to be determined.</p>  | <p>Annual PPSTI activity</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> |  |
| <p><b>APEC Science Prize for Innovation, Research, and Education (ASPIRE) ASPIRE 2021</b></p>   | <p>ASPIRE promotes collaboration, innovation, entrepreneurship, and excellence among young scientists in the APEC region, and highlights the importance of cross-border research in APEC. The 2021 ASPIRE Prize is to be awarded at PPSTI-18.</p> <p>The topic for the prize is “Diverse Knowledge for a Sustainable Future”.</p>   | <p>Annual PPSTI activity</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> | <p>Private Sector sponsors: Elsevier and Wiley (research publishing companies)</p> |
| <p><b>APEC Center for Technology Transfer</b></p>   | <p>Industrialization of technologies unlocks potential and improves quality of economic growth and we can take it as long-term growth strategy to achieve resilient recovery. Varied Innovation platforms, such as incubator, industrial technology research institute and laboratory, which performs as carrier of industrialization of technologies, has become indispensable in increasing sustainability for innovation and recovery. APCTT plans to work on a project in this regard. The project is intended to promote innovation platforms of technology industrialization to reignite momentum for economic recovery. A webinar will be held in 2021 to exchange insights in different innovation platforms for industrialization of technologies in the Asia-Pacific region. Concept Note will be submitted for the 1st project session of 2021.</p>  | <p>Annual PPSTI activity</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> |  |
| <p><b>Asia-Pacific Center for Theoretical Physics (APCTP)</b><br/>APEC YST (Young Scientist Training)<br/>APEC TRP (Topical Research Program)</p> | <p>Ongoing.</p> <p>The <u>APEC YST program</u> as an annual program has been endorsed by PPSTI with the support of the Korean government since 2015. It has been implemented in the name of a multi-year self-funded project. APCTP opens a few positions for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Young Scientist Training (APEC YST) program at the postdoctoral fellow level in theoretical physics and related fields in 2020 and requests APEC member economies to nominate at least one person for the APEC YST postdoctoral positions. APEC study center is also invited to nominate candidate.</p> <p><u>APEC TRP</u> aims at providing means to jointly develop new initiatives and research across all fields in science, technology, and innovation through APEC research network. APEC TRP would contribute to bringing together scientists from APEC Centers, policymakers and people of the Asia Pacific region and beyond by serving as a bridge to the less-connected and less-supported research communities of some APEC economies. It would also increase the mobility of researchers across the Asia Pacific region and foster the establishment of scientific excellence.</p> | <p>Annual PPSTI activity</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> |  |

| 2021 PPSTI PROJECTS/INITIATIVES (ONGOING AND UPCOMING)  |  |  |  |   |
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| Title   | Summary of Specific Plans  | Mandate<br>(Leaders/Ministers/SOM/SCE<br>Priorities and Decisions,<br>Strategic Plans and to ABAC<br>recommendations)  | ECOTECH Priorities<br>and/or<br>Host Year Priorities   | Cross-fora<br>collaboration<br>(Within APEC and<br>beyond APEC)   |
| <b>Building Regional Capacity and Knowledge in Earth Observations using Data Cube Technology / James Pitman / Australia</b>   | Earth and marine observation (EMO) technology enables evidence-based resource and emergency management, helping communities predict and mitigate environmental risks and make informed decisions and policy on land and water management, including food, water and energy security, economic development and disaster management. This self-funded project is working to build EMO capabilities across the APEC region by building a technical data cube capacity in Chile. Significant progress has been made in 2020 towards the goals of the project, despite the considerable challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in the Latin American region. A small working group has been formed to plan the project workshops going forward. This working group currently includes Australia, and representatives from Chile and Mexico. This will soon also include a representative from Peru. These workshops will be held online throughout 2021.   | The project continues to deliver on several APEC priorities and strategic plans, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2018 APEC Earth and Marine Observation Framework;</li> <li>PPSTI's 2021 theme of Building Resilience in STI Systems for post-COVID Recovery and Future – EMO technologies will be critically important for a digitally inclusive and sustainability APEC region.</li> </ul> | This project aligns with New Zealand's 2021 three key priorities of economic and trade policies that strengthen recovery, increasing inclusion and sustainability for recovery, and pursuing innovation and a digitally-enabled recovery | This project is a collaboration between the Australian Government's CSIRO, and the Chilean Data Observatory - a public-private partnership which was formed by the Chilean Ministry of Science, Technology, Knowledge & Innovation, the Chilean Ministry of Economy, Development & Tourism, University Adolfo Ibáñez and Amazon Web Services. |
| <b>(APEC Funded: PPSTI 03 2019A)<br/>APEC Startups Incubator Capacity Building Symposium towards Digital Society<br/><br/>PO : Ms. GUO Jieni<br/>Beijing International Exchange Association of China<br/><br/>Leading Economy:<br/>People's Republic of China</b> | The Project focuses on inevitable trends of digital society, aiming at enhancing understandings to the so called 'accumulative effect' in startups incubator, and examine the interactions between STI policies, incubators and startups, APEC Startups Incubator Capacity Building Symposium towards Digital Society will highly value 4 issues as follow. 1) Policy incentives for startups incubator. 2) Incubator capacity building and entrepreneurship ecology. 3) Incubator helps MSMEs for digital transformation. 4) Female entrepreneurs and executives capacity building through incubator.<br><br>The project plans to organize a 3-day seminar in China on 25-27, August 2021, with stakeholders from governments, academia and enterprises exchanging policies and analysing case studies. The report on APEC incubators will be released and policy recommendations on APEC incubator capacity building are expected to be concluded during the discussion of the Symposium.<br><br>Project report with case studies and policy recommendations, cross-fora concept paper and final completion report will be submitted after the completion of all events. | The project supports 26 <sup>th</sup> APEC Finance Ministers' Meeting-Joint Ministerial Statement and APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap.   | - ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation  |   |

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| <p><b>PPSTI 02 2019A – Promoting Innovation City Development in APEC Region and Cooperation to Contribute to Regional Integration 4.0 and Sustainable Growth</b></p> <p><b>PO: YUAN Hui, Tianjin Science and Technology Exchange Center</b></p> <p><b>Leading Economy: People’s Republic of China</b></p> | <p>One self-funding webinar event was held in Jul. 2020 in Nanjing, China;<br/>Outcome document of the Project is on progress;<br/>An upcoming APEC-funding event is scheduled to Apr. 22 in Shenzhen, China.</p>  | <p>The project supports APEC 2019 priorities, - Integration 4.0 and Sustainable Growth. For Integration 4.0, development of technological, industrial parks and clusters in innovation cities are integrating to the trend of industrial revolution 4.0. Networking about innovation cities stimulated by the Project could further result as improvement to a more favorable environment for science, technology and innovation cooperation; and the smart technologies include internet for information, communication, industry etc. as well as green technologies, are core elements of infrastructure and strategies for cities' innovative and sustainable growth.</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> <p>- HOST Year Priority: increasing inclusion and sustainability for recovery</p> |  |
| <p><b>Capacity Building Workshop on Promoting Participation of Youth Female in STEM and Innovation Entrepreneurship</b></p> <p><b>PO: ZHANG Zhang, Academy of International Innovation &amp; Strategy</b></p> <p><b>Leading Economy: People’s Republic of China</b></p>                                   | <p>An upcoming event is planned to be held in period of Jul. – Aug. in 2021.</p>   | <p>The project supports the APEC priority of 2020, - human potential, when its objective is to help youth women in the region activate and make fully use of their own advantages on science, technology and innovation, and reduce the influence of their gender, age, and social status, with support of policies and resources, to create their start-ups and entrepreneurship.</p>   | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> <p>- HOST Year Priority: increasing inclusion and sustainability for recovery</p> | <p>PPWE</p>  |
| <p><b>Innovation in Public Transportation (INPUT) Competition</b></p> <p><b>PO: Mr. Yang Zifeng, Innovation Cooperation Center (Bangkok), Chinese Academy of Sciences Mr. Dan Scrimgeour, Shanghai INTEX Exhibition</b></p> <p><b>Leading Economy: P. R. China</b></p>                                    | <p>1. Commencing from the launch of the INPUT Competition on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020, this project has been actively promoted through open calls for participation targeted at APEC’s transportation industries via 6 EDM send-outs and numerous social media posts.</p> <p>2. The project’s website - <a href="http://circ.railmetrochina.com/en/competition">http://circ.railmetrochina.com/en/competition</a> - has been operated daily to update information and progress on the project.</p> <p>3. Over 20 experts from Australia, China, Hong Kong, China, Korea, Malaysia, Russia, Thailand and US have been confirmed.</p> <p>4. A total of 64 application work declarations have been received as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020, 36 from universities and 28 from enterprises.</p> | <p>The project will contribute to APEC Grow Strategy, specifically on the promotion of sustainable growth through innovative best practice in the Asia-Pacific region, the reduction of economic disparities and improving economic and social well-being through encouraging the improvement of public transportation services. The project also aligns closely with APEC priorities of 2019 - urban and digital integration, especially around smart cities and mass transit sector sustainability.</p>  | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p>   | <p>TPT-WG, China Association of Metros, Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), Connected Vehicle Trade Association (CVTA), and others</p> |

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| <p><b>(Self-funded project)<br/>STI for the resilient system after COVID-19</b></p>  | <p>This self-funded project focuses on two points. First, it aims to share the knowledge and experiences about developing and applying science and technology to respond the COVID-19 among the member economies by creating video materials. Second, it discusses what the society will be after the COVID-19 in terms of resilient system, and the role of STI to build the resilient system.<br/>We are currently developing the project proposal and the project will begin in Feb. The expected outcomes will be a policy paper, video materials and a workshop(linked with the ART workshop)</p>   | <p>To be proposed</p>   | <p>Increasing inclusion and sustainability for recovery by building a better society for all people and generating a green recovery; and Pursuing innovation and a digitally enabled recovery by accelerating the APEC region's work in these areas.</p> | <p>TEL WG<br/>KAIST</p>  |
| <p><b>Capacity Building for Digital Innovation using Block-chain technology</b><br/><br/><b>PO: Mr. LUO Zhigang, Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, Chinese Academy of Sciences</b><br/><br/><b>Leading Economy: People's Republic of China</b></p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Three best practices in China about blockchain application in low carbon areas have been collected.</li> <li>2. Two best practices in other regions about blockchain application in green supply chain and financial areas have been collected.</li> <li>3. Some policy recommendations have emerged.</li> <li>4. The coming workshop is under preparations (planned to be held in Sept. 2021).</li> </ol>   | <p>The project will contribute to the APEC Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap by promoting block-chain applications and putting forward policy coordination suggestions among APEC regions.</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation<br/><br/>- HOST Year Priority: Pursuing Innovation and a Digitally-Enabled Recovery</p>   | <p>E-Commerce Steering Group(ECSG) and Digital Economy Steering Group(DESIG)</p> |
| <p><b>(APEC funded: PPSTI 02 2020A)<br/>AI Policy Recommendation on Digital Transformation for Healthcare Ecosystem</b></p>  | <p>This project aims to address different AI technologies which can allow to reduce the workload of medical professionals, and examine pertinent policies to be carried out in the digital healthcare ecosystem. Benefitting APEC economies through digitalization, innovation, and commercialization connectivity to achieve healthcare quality growth through the sustainable innovation of AI technologies turn-key solutions by encouraging a greater participation among policy makers, researchers, and private sectors for the development of digital transmission through capacity building program.<br/>Chinese Taipei will host a workshop with the purpose of demonstrate how to implement AI in healthcare and discuss the current status of digital transformation in the APEC region. Subjects are included but not limited to: AI model for healthcare early stage screening, application to establish a support system to improve healthcare quality and efficiency ---Taking AI Box as an Example and Lessons learned in the field trial. To avoid possible risks due to COVID-19, this workshop will be presented as a Webinar. Chinese Taipei will share a case study of digital transformation technology applied to the healthcare system and the current policies adopted to support its implementation.<br/>AI Policy Recommendation on Digital Transformation for the Healthcare Ecosystem: policy recommendations for each APEC member will be delivered by Nov 2021.</p> | <p>Endorsed by PPSTI in 2020</p>  | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p>   |  |



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| <p><b>(APEC funded: PJ number to be updated)</b><br/> <b>The Policy Recommendation on Improving Supply Chain Performance with Digital Manufacturing technology amid Pandemic Crisis</b></p>                          | <p>This project aims to share the best practice on utilizing additive manufacturing technology to enhance supply chain connectivity by hosting a workshop &amp; an online consultation event, and delivering a policy recommendation report in 2021. Experts from governments, private sectors, and academia will be invited to share experiences on diagnosing barriers, integrating STI resources, and harmonizing policies with the ultimate goal of helping SMEs escape from the middle-income-trap and achieve supply chain resilience in APEC. Chinese Taipei will hold one workshop to demonstrate how traditional manufacturing process is transformed with digital technologies and to share and collect best practices of building supply chain resilience. Moreover, an online consultation event will be organized to identify causes of supply chain inefficiency among the member economies and to give recommendations based on the approaches proposed.</p> | <p>Endorsed by PPSTI in 2020</p>  | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p>   |                                       |
| <p><b>(APEC funded: PJ Number to be given later)</b><br/> <b>APEC Virtual Center: Online Learning and STI Exchange to Enhance International Trade for MSMEs in Environmental Goods and Services (EGS) Sector</b></p> | <p>This project aims at increasing the global competitiveness of MSMEs in environmental goods and services sector (EGSS) by supporting capacity building in environmental STEM, international market research and marketing through the mode of online learning. This mode is selected to overcome unpredictable variables affecting the global market such as COVID-19.</p> <p>This project plans to provide: 1) online business-to-business (B2B) technology training program through online learning management system (LMS) to reduce cost, time and travel associated with international trade for MSMEs and 2) massive online open courses (MOOC) on environmental regulations of selected APEC economies to support S&amp;T capacity building and international market research for MSMEs.</p>   | <p>Endorsed by PPSTI in 2020.</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technology and Innovation, Capacity building<br/>         -Host Year Priorities: Pursuing Innovation and a Digitally-Enabled Recovery</p> | <p>APEC SME Working Group (SMEWG)</p> |
| <p><b>(APEC funded: PPSTI 05 2019A) Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM): Best Practices, Norms and their Implementation within APEC Region</b><br/> <b>Sharapiya Kakimova</b><br/> <b>Chile</b></p>          | <p>The Project focuses on unintegrated and fragmented water management approaches that drives greater shortage of water resources on global level beyond climate change drivers. The project aims to be able to share best practices, norms, regulations, and implementations on local and international levels. The project will host a one on-site event in Santiago for 3 days in September 2021 (it might be changed for virtual event depending on covid-19 situation worldwide) In November 2020 a contractor for the project was hired.</p>  | <p>Endorsed by PPSTI in 2019</p>  | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p>   |                                       |

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| <p><b>(APEC funded: PPSTI 01 2019A) Research Network for Women in STEAM Innovation</b></p> <p><b>Marcela Oñate</b><br/><b>Chile</b></p>  | <p>This Project focuses on a recognized need to advance in greater inclusion of women in the regional economy and address gender barriers in women's participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) and in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) sectors. The project is set to make visible women professionals and researchers, through building a Research Network for Women in STEAM. This Network will reflect women representation, helping to prevent the exclusion of women experts and encourage the connectivity of actions that will strengthen the STEAM ecosystem. A workshop held in Santiago, Chile during 3 days (including 1 day field trip) in August 2020. The outcomes expected are: (i) to exchange ideas and promote best practices; gender perspective in research; (ii) to design a women's network in STEAM for APEC economies through engaged discussions (iii) to better understand the challenges by visiting related institutions in Chile; (iv) to set an online network for Women in STEAM Network, to build upon the experience and provide continuity of the project. The network will be open and accessible to researchers and professionals in all regions.</p> <p>The project has modified initial planning due to travel restrictions, lock down, and other restrictive measures taken worldwide because of COVID-19 pandemic. The workshop will be a full virtual event to be held in September 2021, and the online platform is on its final development stage.</p> | <p>Endorsed by PPSTI in 2019</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> |  |
| <p><b>(APEC funded PPSTI 04 2020): Connectivity Platform to Promote STI cooperation in APEC region on Different Levels</b></p> <p><b>Sharapiya Kakimova</b><br/><b>Chile</b></p> | <p>The project proposal is in the process of review by PMU. The project seeks to develop an on-line platform to strengthen cooperation in APEC regions by connecting regional stakeholders in STI (decentralized actors mainly), through identifying their natural and socio-economic advantages (NSEAs to be identified), as potential sites/themes for STI cooperation in order to create greater socio-economic growth in the region.</p> <p>The on-line platform includes the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Data collection on decentralized stakeholders in economies and capitalization on scientific potential of their NSEAs and the technological and economic spillovers they may create.</li> <li>2. Development of strategy to promote cooperation between stakeholders and support design of collaborative frameworks for policy strategies to promote the long-term scientific, social, and economic benefits of their advantages.</li> <li>3. Promotion of opportunities for research collaboration, studies, etc. within the region and creation of safe digital space for networks building, etc.</li> </ol> <p>The project provides equal access to multiple participants from the region and beyond, and by doing so it seeks to maximize STI impact on society in general.</p>   | <p>Endorsed by PPSTI in 2020</p> | <p>- ECOTECH Priority: Technologies and Innovation</p> |  |

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List of PPSTI Initiatives that support the [Implementation Plan](#) of the La Serena Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth (2019-2030) and its Key Action Areas (*Empowering women through access to capital and markets; Strengthening women's labor force participation; Improving access of women to leadership positions in all levels of decision making; Support women's education, training and skills development and access in a changing world of work; Advancing women's economic empowerment through data collection and analysis*).

- Building on the PPSTI COVID-19 Policy Dialogue (held in August 2020), PPSTI will continue to work with key partners to identify and mitigate challenges to impacted populations (such as women) to leverage and benefit from their valuable insights and experiences.
- PPSTI will continue to raise awareness about the APEC Women in STEM (WIS) Principles and Actions and encourage their adoption, including through concept notes submitted to the PPSTI Review Panel—who encourages reference to how the project incorporates specific principles and actions. The APEC WIS Principles and Actions highlight the importance of encouraging women's participation in STEM and of enhancing their capabilities and opportunities in these fields.
- PPSTI recognizes the importance of collecting gender-disaggregated data and will continue to advocate for its collection in all APEC economies.
- In February 2021, PPSTI will host a policy discussion on building resiliency and leveraging STI expertise to support post-COVID recovery. This discussion will include a focus on supporting diverse knowledge systems (including through women and Indigenous and ethnic minorities) for inclusive and sustainable growth.
- In 2021, PPSTI will also host the Capacity Building Workshop on Promoting Participation of Youth Female in STEM and Innovation Entrepreneurship (planned for July – August 2021) and a workshop to support the Research Network for Women in STEAM Innovation (planned for September 2021).