



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2013/SOM3/EPWG03/

EPWG Strategic Plan 2013~2016

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: Co-Chairs



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Strategic Planning 2013-2016 (Draft)

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG)

1. Introduction

APEC members are, unfortunately, well-acquainted with such devastating events. In fact, the Asia-Pacific region experiences over 70% of the world's natural disasters. Around 40% of the world's population, or nearly 2.7 billion people, also live in the APEC region. Building resilience to disasters is therefore not only critical for APEC economies, but is essential to the lives and livelihoods of the billions living across the vast region.

APEC's Vision

We are united in our drive to build a dynamic and harmonious Asia-Pacific community by championing free and open trade and investment, promoting and accelerating regional economic integration, encouraging economic and technical cooperation, enhancing human security, and facilitating a favorable and sustainable business environment. Our initiatives turn policy goals into concrete results and agreements into tangible benefits.

In 2005, APEC formed An APEC Task Force for Emergency Preparedness (TFEP) specifically to coordinate and facilitate emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction within its member economies in direct response to the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that deeply affected much of Thailand, Indonesia and other parts of the world. In February 2010, recognizing the continued importance of TFEP's work, the Senior Officials Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE) elevated the TFEP to a permanent Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG).

In order to continue the work of the "Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Asia Pacific region: 2009 to 2015" endorsed by TFEP in 2008 and in response to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), the EPWG undertook the formulation of a new Strategic Plan for 2013 to 2016. This plan will provide a roadmap to address critical of disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness in the APEC region.

Preparation of the Strategic Plan involved reviewing important tasks, as well as the 2011 EPWG Independent Assessment undertaken by an Independent Assessor, as instructed by the SCE. Following the Strategic Planning-Process Guide for Working Groups, the EPWG assigned EPWG Steering Committee to draft the Strategic Plan; and as well as inter-sessional exchange of information, inputs and comments from EPWG delegates to develop the Strategic Plan 2013-2016 for the EPWG.

2. Vision Statement

The Emergency Preparedness Working Group is composed of the heads of emergency management agencies, working with APEC member economies and private sector officials, who share experiences, lessons learnt, tools and the latest thinking related to disaster preparedness in order to strengthen regional cooperation and domestic and collective emergency preparedness efforts. The APEC EPWG

brings together government officials from the region's various emergency services departments to build its members' capacity to better mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and natural disasters.

3. Mission Statement

The EPWG has a critical and strategic role to provide support and guidance for APEC member economies to achieve EPWG's mission of:

- To build capacity in the region so that APEC member economies can better mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and natural disasters, including by building business and community resilience and fostering private-public partnerships to protect business, trade and economic growth and communities from disruption.
- To improve coordination and enhance intra-APEC cooperation and integration of best practice emergency and natural disaster preparedness efforts in APEC, including by fostering research and collaboration, sharing knowledge, lessons learnt and best practices in the field of emergency management to better protect business trade and economic growth and communities in the Asia-Pacific region from disruptions related to emergencies and natural disasters.
- To provide APEC economies with solid information and criteria relating to the economic and social costs of disasters that has occurred in the APEC Region and, from this information. The findings from this research will provide an important resource to be used to communicate the anticipated human and economic costs of failing to take action to enhance disaster preparedness. This information can be used in direct stakeholder communication such as with economies and for public information through the media.
- To consider the findings of developed data and survey through the proposed quantitative and qualitative research to identify gaps in disaster risk reduction. The identification of these gaps will enable member economies, working with multilateral and bilateral development partners, international financial organizations and other international and regional bodies, to investigate additional initiatives to enhance regional preparedness.

4. Critical Success Factors

Recognizing the multi-faceted characteristics of natural hazards and disaster management, the capacity of this plan to achieve the Vision and Mission Statements will depend on a number of factors:

- Identifying the gaps, demands, range and diversity of natural hazards that help to enhance capacity building in APEC region.
- Developing and strengthening public-private partnerships that support business and community resilience to disasters. This includes involving all levels of government, non-government, and the private sector Engaging and encouraging public-private partnership, a greater role for women in supporting disaster resilient businesses and communities.
- Leveraging existing programs and resources to sustain long-term public-private collaboration and avoid duplication of effort.
- Engaging and developing cross-cutting collaboration with APEC fora, regional and international organizations whose work interacts with and complements the EPWG Strategic Plan priorities and objectives to ensure their awareness of and participation in EPWG projects.

- Strengthening sharing of information, best practices, and learning from experiences.
- Encouraging more direct participation of key stakeholders in the projects

5. Agreed Priorities, Objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

In order to achieve the EPWG’s mission, as based upon the development of “Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Asia Pacific region: 2009 to 2015” and in response to suggestions of the 2011 EPWG Independent Assessment, the EPWG will work on the four overarching priority areas with the following outlined objectives to enable better focus on disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness.

EPWG projects will be measured by the key performance indicators (KPIs) for their effectiveness in achieving EPWG objectives under each priority area. Member economies are encouraged and welcomed to utilize KPIs to report on the progress of projects on a voluntary basis.

Priority Area	Objectives	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
Enhancing regional capacity on disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To engage and develop cross-cutting collaboration with APEC fora, regional and international organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate further with other APEC fora to jointly work on logistics/supply chain recovery following a large-scale disaster, the economic benefits of risk reduction for SMEs, climate change and disasters, gender integration in disaster management, and the structural and non-structural measures associated with disaster risk reduction. • Invite and welcome non-APEC fora collaboration and participation. • Contribute to regional and international initiative on disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness and humanitarian assistance • Cooperate with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2 that is to be launched in 2015
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance mutual assistance in preparedness for emergency response among APEC economies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on the feasibility of travel facilitation for emergency responders • Conduct a survey to understand operational frameworks and legal regulations of emergency response • Build up a contact network for senior disaster management officials in APEC • Implement programs on enhancing emergency preparedness
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen communications among senior disaster management officials in APEC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement annual forum for senior disaster management officials in APEC. • Build up a contact network for senior disaster management officials in APEC.. • Report updates of recent disasters and progresses on post-disaster recovery

Priority Area	Objectives	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
Promoting public-private partnerships to develop joint disaster preparedness actions and build up disaster resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop and strengthen public-private partnerships that support business and community resilience to disasters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance collaboration on community-based disaster Risk management Cultivate public-private-partnerships that are open to flexible and innovative ways of working together to build business and community resilience to natural disasters
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the development of effective business continuity and critical incident tools and guides for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to reduce vulnerability and promote resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver guidelines on promoting SME business continuity plans (BCP) to strengthen reliability of supply chains Strengthen understanding and capability of SMEs to cope with preparedness for natural hazards Implement programs to vulnerability at community and SMEs level
Supporting recovery processes in disaster affected economies through long-term development approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance resilience capacities of small and medium businesses and local communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement programs to enhance resilience to natural disasters at community and SMEs level. Promote disaster preparedness at all levels: from individual, to community, local, domestic and regional level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To focus on long-term recovery of economic activity in affected sectors with a focus on business, livelihood and production losses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage private and non-government sector, including individuals, local NGOs, businesses and international organizations, to provide support Implement programs and deliver guidelines to help understand issues of disaster recovery; serve as a reference product in disaster recovery operations; assist disaster preparedness
Facilitating sharing of information, knowledge, expertise, best practices and experience learned from disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop joint research on risk, vulnerability and specific instruments for risk reduction and control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify technical capacities of member economies in preparedness and response, particularly related to technology, training, and related human and material resource development. Implement programs to introduce science and technology into disaster management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the Group's outreach and communications efforts including by improving the effectiveness and contents of the Group's website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote exchanges of good practices and lessons learned and to fill gaps in disaster preparedness Implement program to upgrade EPWG website for better contents related disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness and humanitarian assistance

6. Prioritized Implementation Schedule

The prioritized implementation schedule is updated and modified in line with EPWG Work Plan annually.

Objectives	Actions/Activities	Timeframe	Stakeholders
Agreed Objectives in affiliation with priority areas to be listed below	Member economies to fill in projects that will attain related objectives annually, including APEC-funded and self-funded projects	Project Timeline	Relevant stakeholders of the project to be listed here, including APEC and non-APEC fora
Enhance regional capacity on disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness			
To engage and develop cross-cutting collaboration with APEC fora, regional and international organizations	APEC Workshop on Global Supply Chain Resilience	2013-2015	TPTWG (the US) and EPWG
	Attend ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Meeting	2013-2016	
To enhance mutual assistance in preparedness for emergency response among APEC economies.	The Policy Dialogue on Emergency Response Travel Facilitation	2013	EPWG(Indonesia), BMG and SCCP
	APEC Capacity Building Workshop on Search and Rescue at sea	2013	EPWG (Viet Nam)
To strengthen communications among senior disaster management officials in APEC	APEC Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum	2013-2016	EPWG: 2013: Indonesia 2014: China 2015: the Philippines
	Management and Response in Asia-Pacific Region	2013	EPWG(Russia)
Promote public-private partnerships to develop joint disaster preparedness actions and build up disaster resilience			
To develop and strengthen public-private partnerships that support business and community resilience to disasters	Seminar on Enhancing Regional Supply Chain Resilience to Disasters in APEC	2014	EPWG (Thailand)
	Organisation Resiliency Planning Workshop : Building BCM capability	2014	EPWG (Singapore)
To promote the development of effective business continuity and critical incident tools and guides for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to reduce vulnerability and promote resilience	Improving Natural Disaster Resilience of APEC SMEs to Facilitate Trade and Investment	2012-2014	SMEWG (Chinese Taipei) and EPWG
	Developing Governments' Capacity to Promote and Facilitate the Effective Use of Business Continuity Planning for Organisational Resilience	2012-2013	EPWG (Australia)

Support to recovery processes in disaster affected economies through long-term development approach			
To enhance resilience capacities of small and medium businesses and local communities.	Enhancing APEC Cooperation on Community-based Disaster Risk Management	2014	EPWG (Viet Nam and Australia)
To focus on long-term recovery of economic activity in affected sectors with a focus on business, livelihood and production losses.	Workshop on Evacuation Planning and Sheltering Management in APEC	2014	EPWG (Chinese Taipei and China)
Facilitate sharing of information, knowledge, expertise, best practices and experience learned from disasters			
To develop joint research on risk, vulnerability and specific instruments for risk reduction and control	EPWG Workshop on Applying Geospatial Hazard and Risk Information and Response in Asia-Pacific Region	2013	EPWG (the US)
	Application of Satellite Technologies for Emergencies Preparedness, Management	2013	EPWG (Russia)
	Build a network of educational cooperation among APEC fora and professionals from private-public partnership	2014	HRDWG (Korea) and EPWG
To improve the Group's outreach and communications efforts including by improving the effectiveness and contents of the Group's website	Implement program to upgrade EPWG website for better contents related disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness and humanitarian assistance	2013-2014	EPWG (Chinese Taipei)

7. EPWG Project Development and Ranking

EPWG project proposals to develop capacity building activities should focus on issues/topics that will enable APEC member economies to achieve the priorities of this Strategic Plan.

Project proposals that have a direct link to the priorities of the EPWG Strategic Plan 2013-2016 will be given higher ranking by the EPWG.

8. Review of Strategic Plan

The EPWG will prepare a progress report on the implementation of this Plan before the end of 2014. A final review of Strategic Plan 2013-2016 and a Strategic Plan 2017-2020 will be presented before the end of 2016.