



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2017/SOM1/EPWG/011
Agenda Item: 9.2

APEC Emergency Preparedness Capacity Building Center 2017 Workplan

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Chinese Taipei



**11th Emergency Preparedness Working Group
Meeting
Nha Trang, Viet Nam
18-19 February 2017**

APEC Emergency Preparedness Capacity Building Center (EPCC)

2017 Workplan

Introduction

To invite and invest joint efforts on improving regional resilience against natural hazards

The key to ensure sustainable economic growth is to minimize possible interruptions on economic activities. In the last 15 years, APEC member economies have been facing tremendous challenges to business operations due to natural hazards.

In light of this, Chinese Taipei proposes to establish the EPCC with a view to bringing in regional synergies and resources to meet the needs of ensuring sustainable economic development. (Enhancing regional digital preparedness on natural hazards to safeguard communities and business in the Asia-Pacific, 2015/SOM1/006; Established APEC Emergency Preparedness Capacity Building Center, EPCC, 2015/SOM2/006). Following the establishment of “APEC Emergency Preparedness Capacity Building Center (EPCC)”, the ToR was endorsed intersessionally by the EPWG on 15 March 2016. The EPCC office opened in January 2017 for operation. EPCC will focus primarily on cross-cutting and cross fora capacity building efforts through scientific research on emergency preparedness issue. It is planned that EPCC will submit its working plan to the EPWG in SOM1 2017. (2016/SOM3/EPWG/014)

Based on close partnerships and collaborations among EPWG, SMEWG and PPSTI, the EPCC could serve as a platform for APEC (EPWG) to strengthen innovation and capacity building. Chinese Taipei welcomes joint efforts from member economies to implement practical and scientific-based training programs and establish local knowledge databases in disaster risk reduction.

For facilitating cross-fora collaboration in cross-cutting issues, the EPCC will provide human capacity investment and technology transfer scheme to strengthen regional disaster resilience for both public and private sectors to ensure better emergency preparedness. The EPCC will seek for cross-fora collaborations with PPSTI, SMEWG, TPTWG, TWG, TELWG, ISTWG, CTWG, HWG, and ABAC to ensure its contribution.

Objectives of 2017

Promoting Capacity Building

This proposed initiative meets the objectives of the APEC Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness and Response in the Asia-Pacific Region, the APEC Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Framework, Enhancing Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in Response to Climate Change from 10th Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum in Iquitos “Emergency Preparedness for Supply Chain and Emergency Food Security”. EPCC will provide capacity building planning and consultation and tailor-made, knowledge-based information for APEC economies in a timely manner to mitigate the impact of disasters. In order to fulfil EPWG’s mandate and continue to promote better emergency preparedness in the region, the EPCC will undertake the missions: **Raise Risk Awareness, Empower Grass-root Capacity on Disaster Risk Reduction and Enhance Resilience**

APEC Members Economies are encouraged to set up agenda on building human capacity and open dialogues with the EPCC as Friends of EPCC. The process to implement the future projects require collaborations, partnerships and investments based on a regional-to-global mainstream leading synergies among all stakeholders.

The EPCC activities for 2017:

EPCC will also ensure cross-fora collaboration in particular with regard to the implementation of the APEC DRR Action Plan. As planned, EPCC will host annual capacity building events. In 2017, the anticipated activities are listed as following:

- EPCC in Operation
- Carry out cross-fora information circulations among EPWG, PPSTI, ACTWG, CTI, SMEWG, HRDWG, TPTWG, PPWE and ABAC to collect inputs and comments.
- Develop background study to collect current status of DRR for conducting business after the recent actions implemented in the APEC region.
- Host the APEC Summit/Expert/High Level Policy Dialogue/Meetings among critical stakeholders including governments, industries, leading research institutes and experts.
- Host EPCC's 1st Training Workshop in Taipei
- Host the EPCC 2017 Annual Conference and High Level Policy Dialogue (Back-to-Back with the 11th SDMOF)
- Publish outcomes

Expected outcomes:

In 2017, EPCC will focus efforts on supporting of APEC properties to make contributions to upholding APEC's main pillars of human security. Meanwhile, EPCC will bring in innovative landscape of disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness for the coming year. It will directly benefit both public and private sector of APEC economies and non-governmental organizations. The six pillars of 2017 EPCC expected outcomes are:

- (1) Supply Chain Resilience
- (2) Digital Resilience
- (3) Critical Infrastructure Resilience
- (4) Financial Resilience
- (5) Labour Mobility Resilience
- (6) Food Security