



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

Update on PSU Research Projects

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APEC Study Centers
Consortium Conference
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Advancing Free Trade
for Asia-Pacific **Prosperity**



APEC Policy Support Unit (PSU)

- Since 2008, PSU has been providing APEC members and fora with professional & tailor-made **research, analysis, policy support & evidence-based policy suggestions**, in order to improve the quality of APEC's deliberations and decisions.
- PSU's work is structured around **5 core areas**:
 - 1) Trade and investment liberalization and facilitation
 - 2) Structural reform
 - 3) Connectivity including supply chain connectivity & global supply chains
 - 4) Economic and financial analysis
 - 5) Sustainable economic development

PSU Work Program

- Initiated by PSU or proposed by Senior Officials or APEC fora
- Work mostly done in-house, also with contracted external consultants and interns
- PSU's work produced in these forms:
 - ✓ Policy briefs
 - ✓ Issues papers
 - ✓ Research reports
 - ✓ Periodic reports:
 - APEC Regional Trends Analysis (biannual)
 - APEC in Charts (annual)
 - Research Outcomes: Summary of Research Projects (annual)



GROWTH PROCEEDS AT A MODERATED PACE AS RISKS INCREASE

The pace of APEC's expansion moderated as risks rose.

APEC is expected to grow slightly higher in 2018 and moderate in 2019-2020, still outpacing the rest of the world.



THE PRODUCTIVITY PARADOX

Technology has made work easier. Are we getting more productive?

Technology has improved by leaps and bounds, making productive tasks easier and more efficient.



Moore's Law describes the trend of transistors per microchip doubling every 2 years, allowing computers to be more powerful, smaller, and cheaper.

But this is not translating to labor productivity growth.



Labor productivity is how much value each worker contributes. It could be

Despite the promises of better technology, labor productivity growth has been on a downward trend.

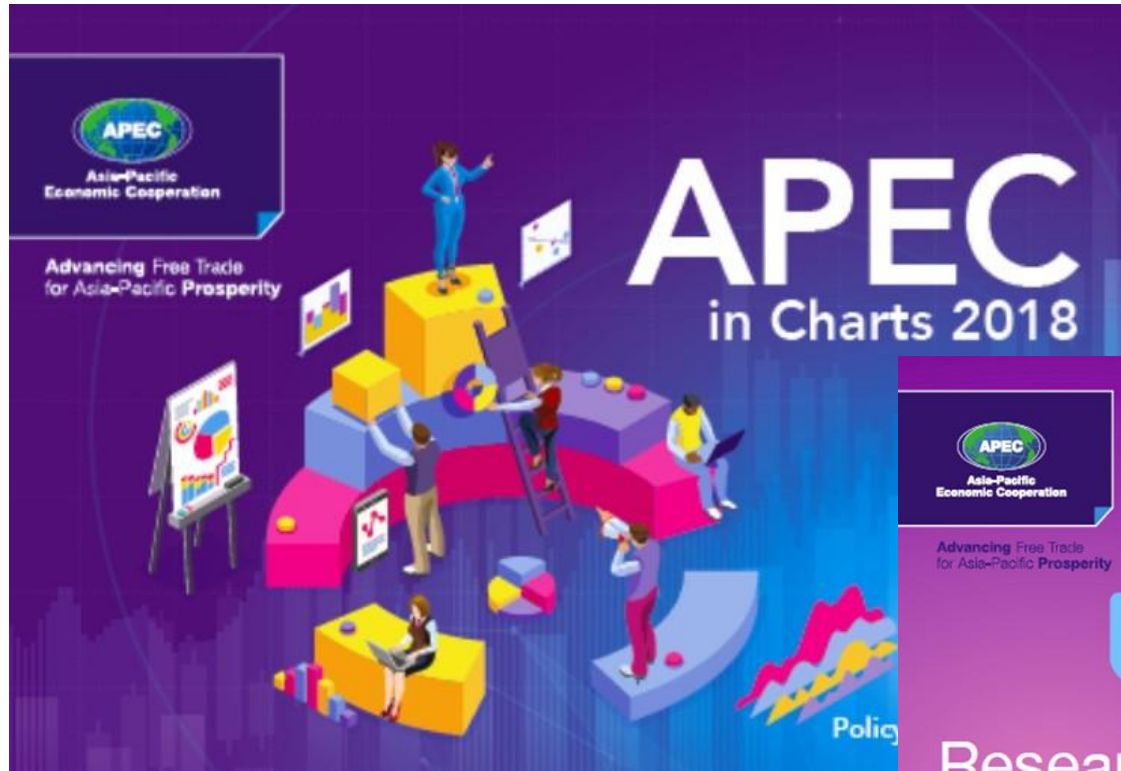
GROWTH OF LABOR PRODUCTIVITY IN APEC, 2000-2017



APEC Regional Trends Analysis

(2 reports a year)

APEC in Charts



Research Outcomes



- Completed PSU reports/papers downloadable from <https://www.apec.org/About-Us/Policy-Support-Unit/PSU-Publications>
- StatsAPEC, a statistics portal at statistics.apec.org, consisting of two databases: (1) key indicators; and (2) bilateral linkages

- Current work program (as at May 2019)

| APEC Groups | Title of PSU Project |
|-------------|--|
| CTI | Fostering an Enabling Policy and Regulatory Environment in APEC for Data-Utilizing Businesses |
| CTI | Taking Forward the Lima Declaration on the Free Trade Area of Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) - Study on Tariffs |
| CTI | Peer Review and Capacity Building on APEC Infrastructure Development and Investment (Reviewed Economy: Indonesia) |
| CTI | APEC's Bogor Goals Dashboard 2019 |
| CTI | Annual Report on Trends and Developments in Provisions and Outcomes of RTA/FTAs Implemented by APEC Economies |
| CTI | Mid-term Review of APEC Supply-Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan Phase II (SCFAP II) |

Notes: CTI (Committee on Trade and Investment)

| APEC Groups | Title of PSU Project |
|-------------|--|
| EC | APEC's Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) 2016-2018: Final Assessment |
| EC | 2019 APEC Economic Policy Report: Structural Reform and Digital Economy |
| EC-PPWE | Structural Reform Measures to Improve Women's Access to Labor Markets, Finance, and Capital |
| HRDWG | Technical Support to APEC Project on Sharing and Reporting Labor Market Information in the APEC Region |
| IEG | Investment Facilitation Action Plan (IFAP) Implementation Progress 2017-2018 |
| PPFS | Insights on the Regulatory Environment within APEC Economies and Its Impact on Trade in Services in Food Value Chains |

Notes: EC (Economic Committee); HRDWG (Human Resources Development Working Group); IEG (Investment Experts' Group); PPFS (Policy Partnership on Food Security); PPWE (Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy)

| APEC Groups | Title of PSU Project |
|-------------|---|
| PPWE | APEC Women and the Economy Dashboard 2019 |
| SFOM | Technical support to Capacity Building Package on Advancing Financial Inclusion in APEC Economies |
| SOM | Assessment of APEC Strategy for Strengthening Quality Growth (due in 2020) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APEC Regional Trends Analysis (in May and Nov) • APEC in Charts (in Nov) • Policy briefs • Updates to StatsAPEC portal |

Notes: PPWE (Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy); SFOM (Senior Finance Officials' Meeting); SOM (Senior Officials' Meeting)

- Pipeline for 2020

| APEC Groups | Title of PSU Project |
|-------------|--|
| EC | Renewed APEC Agenda for Structural Reform (RAASR) 2016-2020: Final Review |
| SOM-CTI | APEC's Bogor Goals: Final Assessment |
| SOM | APEC Strategy for Strengthening Quality Growth (ASSQG): Implementation Report |
| SOM | APEC Connectivity Blueprint 2015-2025: Mid-term Assessment |
| | <i>To be added...</i> |

- Portfolio of PSU's work

1. Trade & Investment Liberalization & Facilitation

- **Bogor Goals** (biennial reviews, final assessment in 2020)
- **Services** (studies on manufacturing related services, environmental services, structural reform in selected services sectors, services in food value chains, baseline indicators to assess progress of APEC Services Competitiveness Roadmap)
- **Trade in Goods** (studies on tariffs & non-tariff barriers, environmental goods)
- **Trade Agreements** (studies on selected chapters in RTA/FTAs implemented by APEC economies)
- **Investment** (assess progress of Investment Facilitation Action Plan)
- **Other trade topics** (studies on digital trade, e-commerce, supporting industry promotion policies, standards & conformance, single windows)

2. Structural Reform

- **APEC's Ease of Doing Business** (interim assessments, final assessment in 2019)
- **Renewed APEC Agenda for Structural Reform** (baseline indicators for mid-term and final reviews)
- **Structural Reform** (studies in relation to services, human capital development, and infrastructure, and impacts & benefits of structural reform in selected sectors)
- **Regulatory Reform** (studies in relation to green investments, promoting innovation, and improving business environment for SMEs)

3. Connectivity including Supply Chain Connectivity & Global Supply Chains
 - **Connectivity Blueprint** (drafting of blueprint 2015-2025, mid-term & final assessment, case studies on connectivity challenges)
 - **Supply Chain Connectivity** (mid-term assessment in 2019; study on applying global data standards to supply chain)
 - **Global Supply, Value & Production Chains** (studies on manufacturing-related services in GVCs, role of services trade in GVCs, integrating SMEs into GVCs)
 - **Value Chain Resilience** (studies on value chain risks, strength, connectedness & resilience)
 - **Other topics** (peer review on infrastructure development & investment, integration of remote areas, supply chain finance)



4. Economic and Financial Analysis

- **Economic, trade and investment trends** (biannual reports on APEC Regional Trends Analysis, with cyclical & theme chapters)
- **APEC in Charts** (annual printed publication)
- **Other topics** (financial inclusion, study on potential economic benefits & costs of Asia Region Funds Passport)

5. Sustainable Economic Development

- **MSMEs** (studies on SMEs in the region, their integration into GVCs, SMEs internationalization & measurement, and promoting e-commerce to globalize MSMEs)
- **Women** (biennial updates to APEC Women and the Economy Dashboard, study on gender-related constraints faced by women-owned SMEs)
- **Urbanization** (studies on urbanization & sustainable city development)
- **Food Security** (studies on food security policies & challenges)
- **Other topics** (study on tourist arrivals and inclusive growth, and human capital development)

Find out more

- PSU webpage:
<https://www.apec.org/About-Us/Policy-Support-Unit>
- Email:
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