
7-8 April 2016, Tokyo, Japan

April 2016

Forum Partners

- Organizers
  - APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC)
  - The Foundation for Development Cooperation (FDC)
  - Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)

- Partner
  - Citi Foundation

- Collaborators
  - Many!
Forum Overview

135 participants
• 30 Government
• 105 Private sector, academic, civic organizations

Main topics:
• Credit bureaus and credit information systems
• Insurance as a foundation of economic growth in the APEC region
• Unlocking cross-border opportunities for the poor
• Promoting savings via formal channels: challenges and opportunities
• Digital finance: extending reach to MSMEs
• Financial literacy through education
• Digital finance and consumer protection
• Insolvency: moving beyond stability to growth

Summary Report
• To be published in July
• Disseminated to over 1,000 APEC stakeholders

Conclusions and recommendations

Credit bureaus and credit information systems
• Financial + other data adds value
• Use non-traditional data in credit scoring for small loans
• Data privacy of subjects remains a concern

Insurance as a foundation of economic growth
• Proportional regulation + digital delivery of products requires alignment across ministries and departmental policies
• Need to augment mobile technology with human interaction to build the trust and capability of new clients in different market segments
Conclusions and recommendations

Unlocking cross-border opportunities for the poor
• Increasing focus on packages of products customers seek, and less on single products from individual providers
• Remitters consider convenience and trust as well as cost – government can facilitate transparency and foster competition on remittance options available

Promoting savings via formal channels
• Regulation needs to be channel-specific, i.e., need clear designation of responsibility between agents and financial services providers
• Financial inclusion and education are ecosystems

Digital finance: extending reach to MSMEs
• Systems interoperability can lead to greater efficiency, innovation, lower costs and convenience for consumers
• MSME credit requires supporting services such as financial infrastructure provided by the public and private sector

Financial literacy through education
• Having a national financial education program and strategy can lead to better overall outcomes
• Integration with national school curricula, tailoring to age groups and training of educators can lead to better outcomes
• E-learning platforms across a range of educational fields are increasing
Conclusions and recommendations

Digital finance and consumer protection

• New challenges – different customers, multiple agents, technology interface, who’s responsible?
• Suitability of products for clients, privacy and data protection will present increasing challenges
• ‘SupTech’ and ‘RegTech’ can ease compliance burdens, enable rapid consumer feedback, early detection of problems, and communication to consumers

Insolvency: moving beyond stability to growth

• Sound insolvency and secured transactions regimes aid in the effective redeployment of capital and risk assessment
• Balance needed: between rights of creditors and debtors; liquidation & reorganization; efficiency & legal fairness