



**THE ADVISORY GROUP ON APEC FINANCIAL SYSTEM
CAPACITY-BUILDING
A Public-Private Sector Initiative**

First Meeting 2014
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Great Room III & IV, The Langham Hotel
Auckland, New Zealand

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Date: 4 February 2014

Meeting: Auckland, New Zealand

Proposed Financial Inclusion Work Plan, 2015-2016

Foundation for Development Cooperation

Purpose: For information.

Issue: Proposed Financial Inclusion Work Plan for 2015-2016.

Background: This document outlines a proposed work plan for the Advisory Group's Financial Inclusion Agenda for the 2015 and 2016 calendar years, for initial discussion and for decision in ABAC II (Santiago). The series of activities proposed aim to continue and reinforce the success of previous Advisory Group activities, as well as introduce new initiatives to further engage ABAC stakeholders in increasing financial inclusion.

Proposal /Recommendations: Following are proposed elements:

- Facilitation and Implementation of the 2015 and 2016 Asia-Pacific Forum on Financial Inclusion
- Publication of the 2015 and 2016 Asia-Pacific Forum on Financial Inclusion Report
- 2015 and 2016 Asia-Pacific Forum on Financial Inclusion and Post-Forum Report Evaluations
- A Framework to Assess the Financial Inclusion Policy and Regulatory Environment
- Supervisory Capacity Building Training for Financial Inclusion in Banking

Decision Points: Review and provide suggestions for further discussion and consideration during ABAC II in Chile.



1. Facilitation and Implementation of the 2015 and 2016 Asia-Pacific Forum on Financial Inclusion

- Provides a platform for high-level dialogue amongst financial regulators and policy makers.
- Fosters innovating thinking and building capacity.
- Provides specific recommendations for regulators/policy makers to further support financial inclusion.
- Anticipated locations: 2015 Philippines, 2016 Peru



2. Publication of the 2015 and 2016 Asia-Pacific Forum on Financial Inclusion Report

- Summarizes topics and discussions from participating stakeholders.
- Provides specific recommendations to policy makers and regulators.
- Widely disseminated (both hard and soft copies).
- Presented at annual APEC Finance Ministers Meeting.



3. 2015 and 2016 Asia-Pacific Forum on Financial Inclusion and Post-Forum Report Evaluations

- Aims to provide evidence of positive changes within APEC economies as a result of the Forum and Report.
- Highlights specific outcomes such as new partnerships, programs, policies, etc.



4. A Framework to Assess the Financial Inclusion Policy and Regulatory Environment

- Aim to develop a framework tool for assessing the improvement in policy and regulatory settings.
- Uses a top-down approach, focusing on issues and their interpretation within economy-specific contexts.
- Provides a structure that will assist the assessment of regulation, its subsequent supervision, and provide insight into how appropriate regulation may be framed or enhanced over time.
- Plan to pilot use of the framework in 2015, with a further roll-out in 2016.



5. Supervisory Capacity Building Training for Financial Inclusion in Banking

- The development and delivery of financial inclusion initiatives requires both regulatory and industry capacity.
- Supervisory training program will be equally applicable to both regulators and industry.
- Adaptable for entry level regulators, senior policy makers and regulators as well as industry participants.
- Training will examine current best practices and issues as they affect the regulation and supervision of financially inclusive products and services with a focus on microfinance products.
- Aim to pilot training in 2015 with a broader roll-out in 2016.



Further initiatives also being explored.

Aim to have a full proposal completed for discussion at ABAC 2.