



Chile's APEC 2019 Themes

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The priority on **Digital Society** will seek to take forward work on the digital economy by: (a) implementing the Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap; (b) measuring the Internet and Digital Economy in APEC; and (c) holding a High-Level Dialogue on the Internet and Digital Economy.

To implement the Internet and Digital Economy Roadmap, Chile proposes four steps: (i) improve regional connectivity through telecommunications; (ii) develop efficient, coherent and comprehensive regulatory frameworks for digital-related policies; (iii) develop rules for e-commerce and digital trade between APEC economies; and (iv) design an APEC education, training and knowledge strategy that reflect the opportunities of new technologies.

On the measurement of the Internet and the Digital Economy, the deliverables being proposed include a common measurement methodology and an annual report on digital policies.

The proposed High-Level Dialogue on the Internet and Digital Economy will seek to bring together relevant APEC fora, business, academe, end users, technical communities and civil society to better understand the issues and opportunities that digitalization brings.

Integration 4.0 is regional economic integration that embraces the changes brought about by the 4th industrial revolution. It covers key APEC milestones such as the APEC Connectivity Blueprint, the APEC Strategic Blueprint for Promoting Global Value Chains Development and Cooperation and the APEC Supply Chain Connectivity Framework Action Plan, among others. While not specifically named under this priority, it was clarified that Chile will continue to push initiatives relating to the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), services, investment, etc.

The key issues being proposed under this priority include: (a) enhancing APEC economies' integration in global value chains; (b) promoting smart borders through interoperable trade e-single windows in APEC; (c) promoting smart logistics by improving the understanding of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programs within APEC, developing common standards for AEO programs within APEC to encourage the adoption of the Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) among economies, and developing transit and transshipment customs practices and regulations within APEC to enhance the utilization and efficiency of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) among APEC economies; (d) promoting smart trade by integrating Good Regulatory Practices as model chapter of the FTAAP; and (e) enhancing skills mobility within the APEC region.

Given the economic costs of limiting the participation of women in the labor force and noting that women continue to lag behind men in terms of their ability to join the labor force, under the theme of **Women, SMEs and Inclusive Growth** Chile proposes work that would seek to: (a) develop an 'Action Strategies Toolkit' to attract, retain and promote women in industries that are traditionally dominated by men such as mining, transportation and energy; (b) bridge the digital literacy gender gap through a gap analysis; (c) advance women's economic empowerment through the development of gender responsive data

initiatives; and (d) reach agreement on a separate declaration (to be called the Santiago Roadmap for Women and Inclusive Growth and annexed to the Leaders' Declaration) which will serve as a guiding statement to further gender equality within APEC.

On SMEs, work envisioned for 2019 includes: (a) making business easier in APEC economies through a high-level dialogue focusing on how ICT and e-commerce services assist SMEs, a workshop of electronic certification and digital signatures, promoting the APEC MSME Marketplace, developing common standards for use in providing information to the APEC MSME Marketplace, and holding a workshop on the impact of the fintech industry on SME access to finance, investment and public policies; and (b) survey of SME-related provisions in FTAs of APEC economies and drafting framework provisions on SMEs for future FTAs and an eventual FTAAP.

Under **Sustainable Growth**, Chile proposes to focus on the essence of development – i.e. economic growth that is people-centered and that is balanced, inclusive, sustainable, innovative and secure. Issues to be addressed include preventing and reducing marine debris; combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; sustainable energy for a better quality of life; and developing common standards for smart cities.