



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2010/SOM3/SCE/005

Agenda Item: 3.3

APEC Quality Criteria

Purpose: Consideration
Submitted by: APEC Secretariat



**Third SOM Steering Committee on Economic
and Technical Cooperation Meeting
Sendai, Japan
24 September 2010**



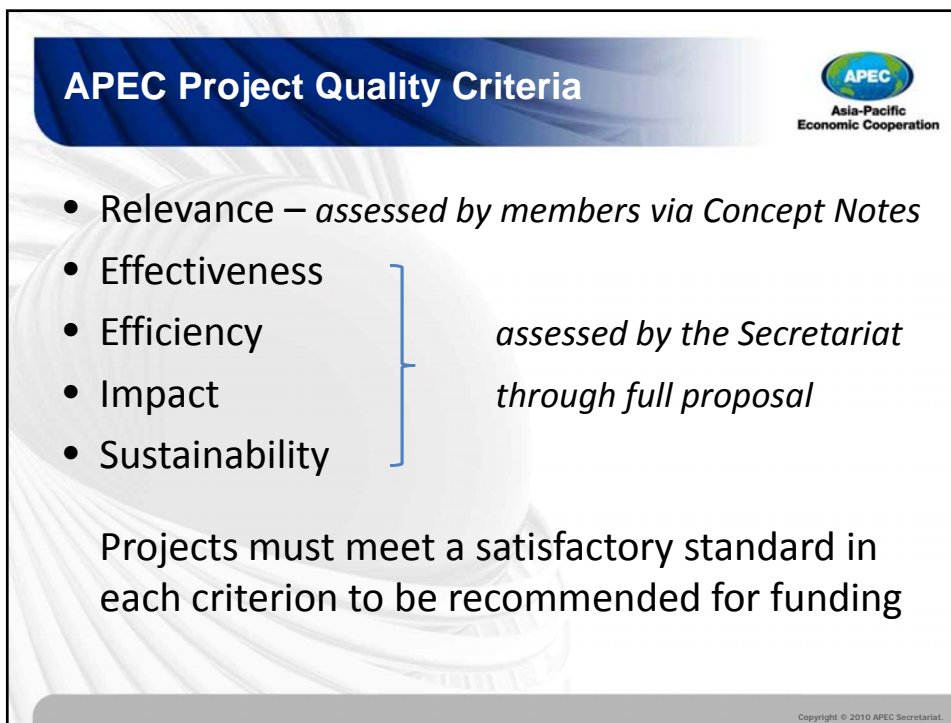
APEC Project Quality Criteria

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APEC
Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

Advancing Free Trade for Asia-Pacific Prosperity

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APEC Project Quality Criteria

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- Relevance – *assessed by members via Concept Notes*
- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- Impact
- Sustainability

*assessed by the Secretariat
through full proposal*

Projects must meet a satisfactory standard in each criterion to be recommended for funding

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Why do we have them?



- Members felt the Secretariat was not transparent in our assessment of quality
- Secretariat had no consistent definition of quality
- Criteria suggested through the 2009 Ranking and Classification consultancy
- Use started in approval session 2, 2009
- Approved by BMC at BMC 2, 2009

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Relevance



- This looks at WHY a project is proposed
- How will the proposed project and outputs contribute to APEC goal(s)?
- Why is the project important in advancing toward APEC goals?
- How is the proposal part of the project proponent's fora or group action plan?

Remember:

A brilliant idea does not always mean a good project

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Effectiveness



- Examines HOW a project will take place, particularly if a project can reach its objectives.
- Are the objectives SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timely) ?
- What is the APEC value add? Why APEC funding?
- How does the proposed activity build on previous activities? Activities of other fora?

Remember:

The project will represent APEC's brand

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Efficiency



- Examines HOW a project will take place, measuring the value for money of the project outputs versus cost of inputs.
- Is this the best “bang for the buck” for the money requested?
- Does the project comply with budget rules?

Remember:

The best VALUE for APEC doesn't always mean the lowest price.

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Impact



- This asks WHAT the project seeks to change.
- Who are the immediate targeted beneficiaries and how will they benefit?
- Who else might benefit? Is there a plan to make this happen?
- Is there a plan to communicate the workshop or research findings to a wider audience?

Remember:

*Many activities may be needed to make an impact.
Wide engagement can stimulate related activities.*

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Sustainability



- This looks at the potential for benefits to continue after the APEC project is completed.
- Who owns this activity? Where is its home?
- Is there clear engagement with stakeholders? Are they the right ones?
- Is it clear other activities will build on output or outcomes to continue toward APEC goals?

Remember:

*All projects need a leader. What is the plan to make
this project successful & contribute to APEC
goals?*

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