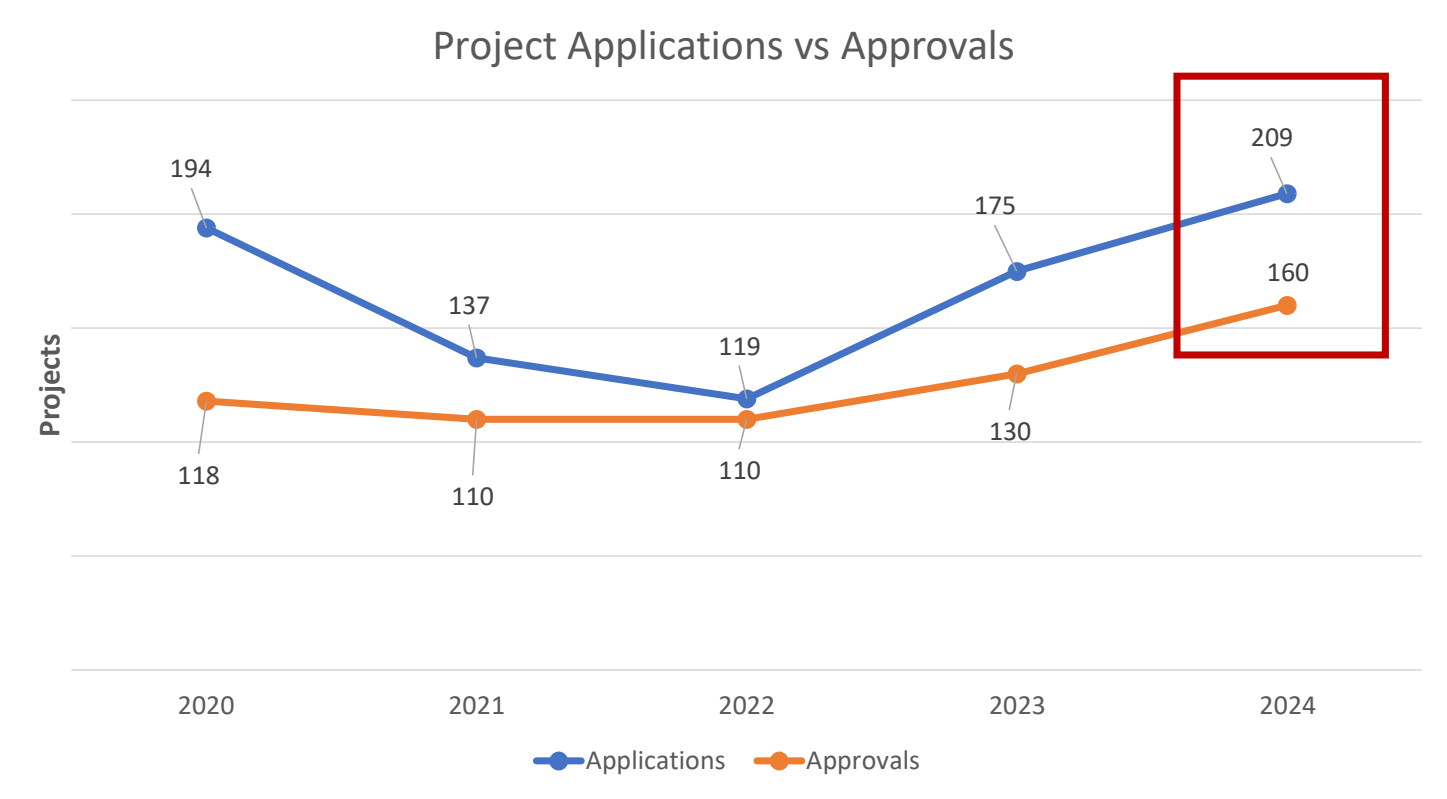
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

# Plenary Briefing on APEC Projects for PPFS

Project Management Unit, APEC Secretariat

SOM 1 2025 | Korea

# APEC-Funded Project Approvals (2020-2024)




Note: **76%** of projects approved over these 5 years (2020-2024)

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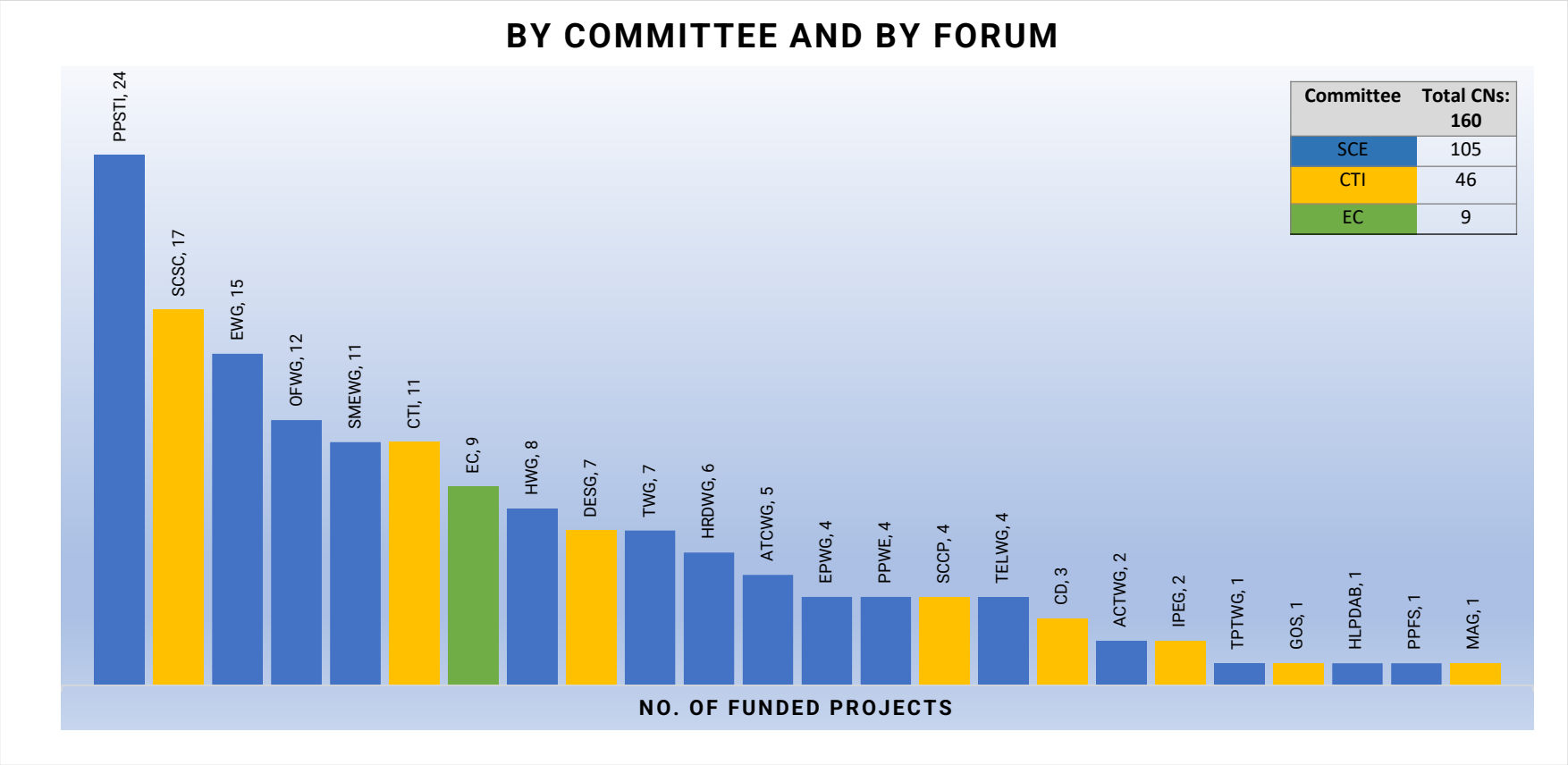
# 2024 APEC-Funded Project Data

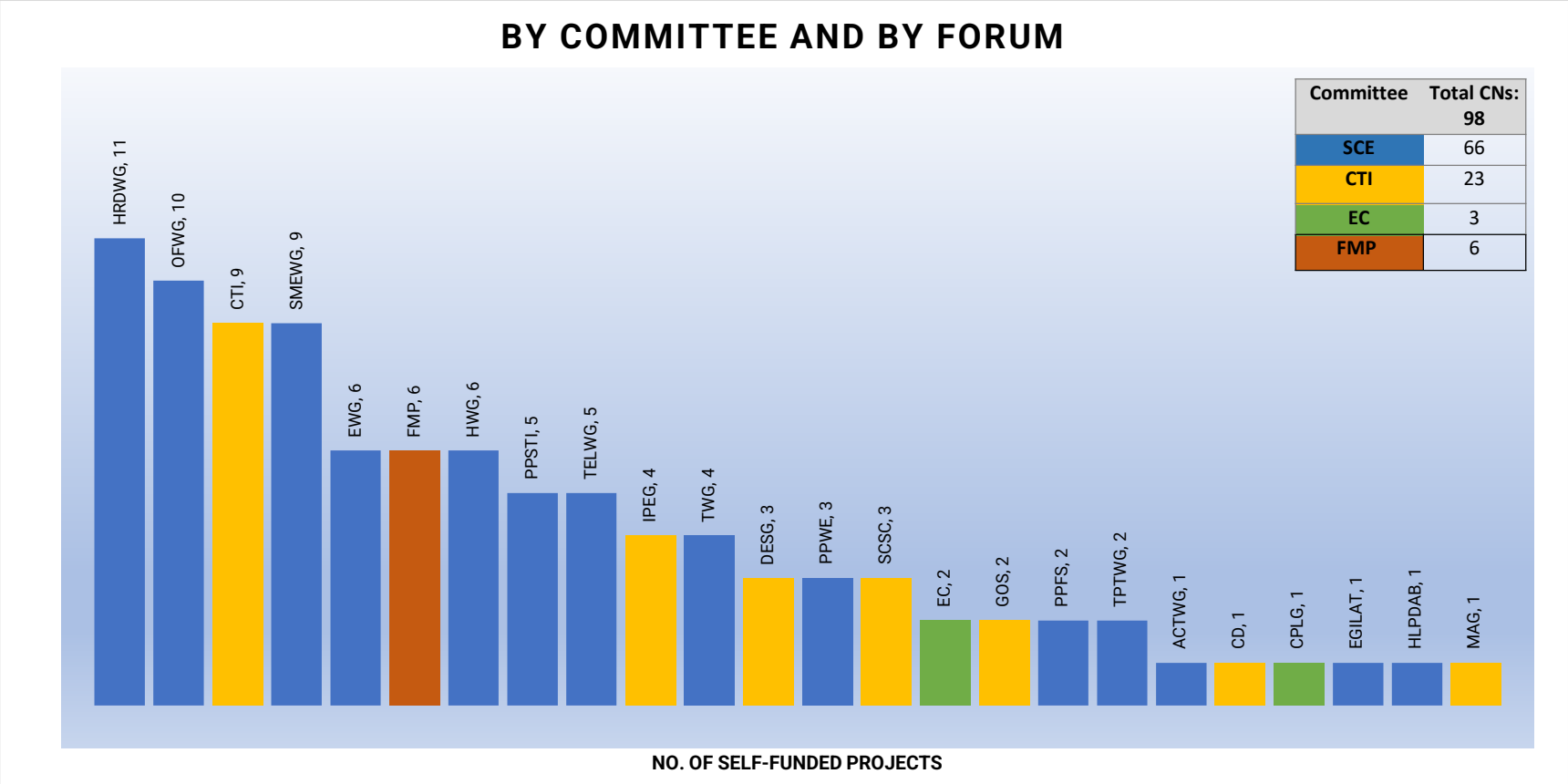
## Distribution of **160** APEC-Funded Projects across APEC Fora




| Forum | No. of Funded Projects |
|---|---|
| PPSTI | 24 |
| SCSC | 17 |
| EWG | 15 |
| OFWG | 12 |
| SMEWG | 11 |
| CTI | 11 |
| EC | 9 |
| HWG | 8 |
| DESG | 7 |
| TWG | 7 |
| HRDWG | 6 |
| ATCWG | 5 |
| EPWG | 4 |
| PPWE | 4 |
| SCCP | 4 |
| TELWG | 4 |
| CD | 3 |
| ACTWG | 2 |
| IPEG | 2 |
| TPTWG | 1 |
| GOS | 1 |
| HLPDAB | 1 |
| PPFS | 1 |
| MAG | 1 |

# 2024 Self-Funded Project Data

## Distribution of **98** Self-Funded Projects across APEC Fora




| Forum | No. of Self-Funded Projects |
|---|---|
| HRDWG | 11 |
| OFWG | 10 |
| CTI | 9 |
| SMEWG | 9 |
| EWG | 6 |
| FMP | 6 |
| HWG | 6 |
| PPSTI | 5 |
| TELWG | 5 |
| IPEG | 4 |
| TWG | 4 |
| DESG | 3 |
| PPWE | 3 |
| SCSC | 3 |
| EC | 2 |
| GOS | 2 |
| PPFS | 2 |
| TPTWG | 2 |
| ACTWG | 1 |
| CD | 1 |
| CPLG | 1 |
| EGILAT | 1 |
| HLPDAB | 1 |
| MAG | 1 |

# 2024 Funded Project Completion Data

## September 2023 - August 2024

**US$9.27m**

**total allocated APEC funding**

Only 53% spent

**100**

**APEC Publications**

Including best practice reports, peer reviews, symposium summaries, research studies and analysis reports

**TOP 3**

**priorities targeted in projects**

Sustainable Growth (46%)
Trade and Investment (20%)
Inclusive Growth (20%)

**56%**

**delivered by developing APEC economies**

61 projects completed

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# 2024 Funded Project Completion Data

## September 2023 - August 2024

**121**
**capacity building events**

44 in person
32 virtual
25 hybrid

**10**
**member economies represented**

in each project (on average)

**67%**
**from travel-eligible economies**

39% domestic participants (from the same economy that staged the event)

**53%**
**female participants**

women outnumbered men as participants at APEC project events (compared to 2023 – 51% male participants)

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# APEC Project Data - PPFS

## Summary

**Project Approval**
(2022-2024)

**Project Approval**
(2024)

**Approval** Rate
33%

**Completed Projects**
(2022-2024)

**Completed Projects**
(2024)

**Self Funded Projects**
(2022-2024)

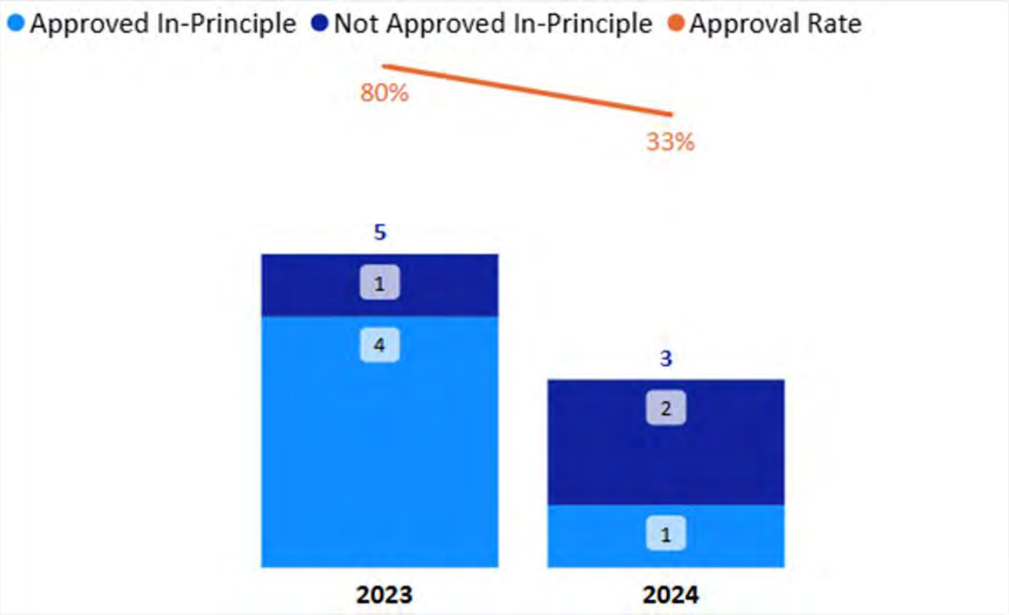
**Self Funded Projects**
(2024)

# PPFS Projects: APEC-funded and Self-funded

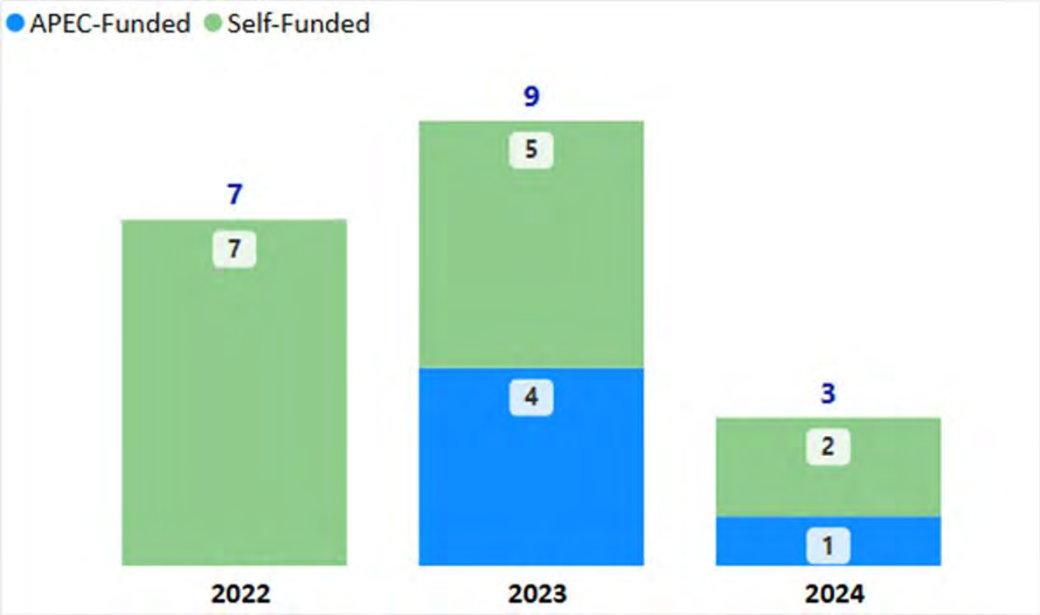
## Summary (2022-2024)

### APEC-Funded Approvals

Total budget: $587K




### APEC-Funded vs Self-Funded

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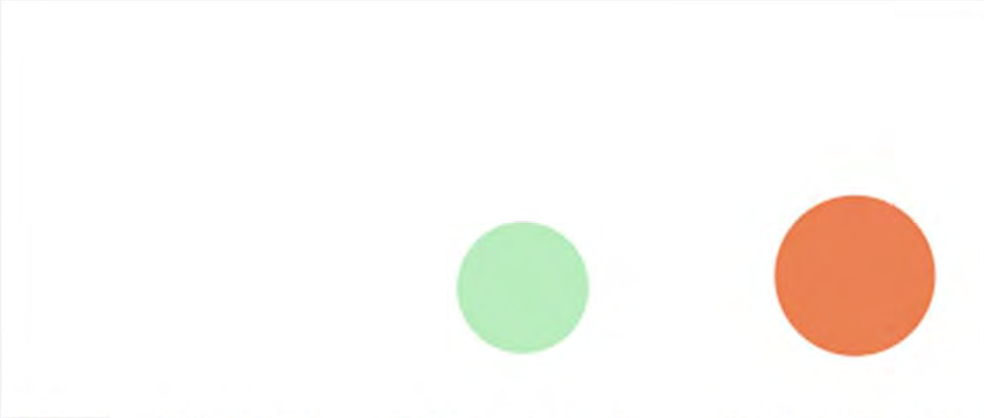
# PPFS Project Themes

(since 2023) Linking Projects with
the Putrajaya Vision 2040 Drivers and Aotearoa Plan of Action Objectives

## Primary PV Drivers



| Forum | 1. Trade and Investment | 2. Innovation and Digitalization | 3 Sustainable and Inclusive Growth |
|---|---|---|---|
| PPFS | | 2 | 3 |

## Primary APA Objectives

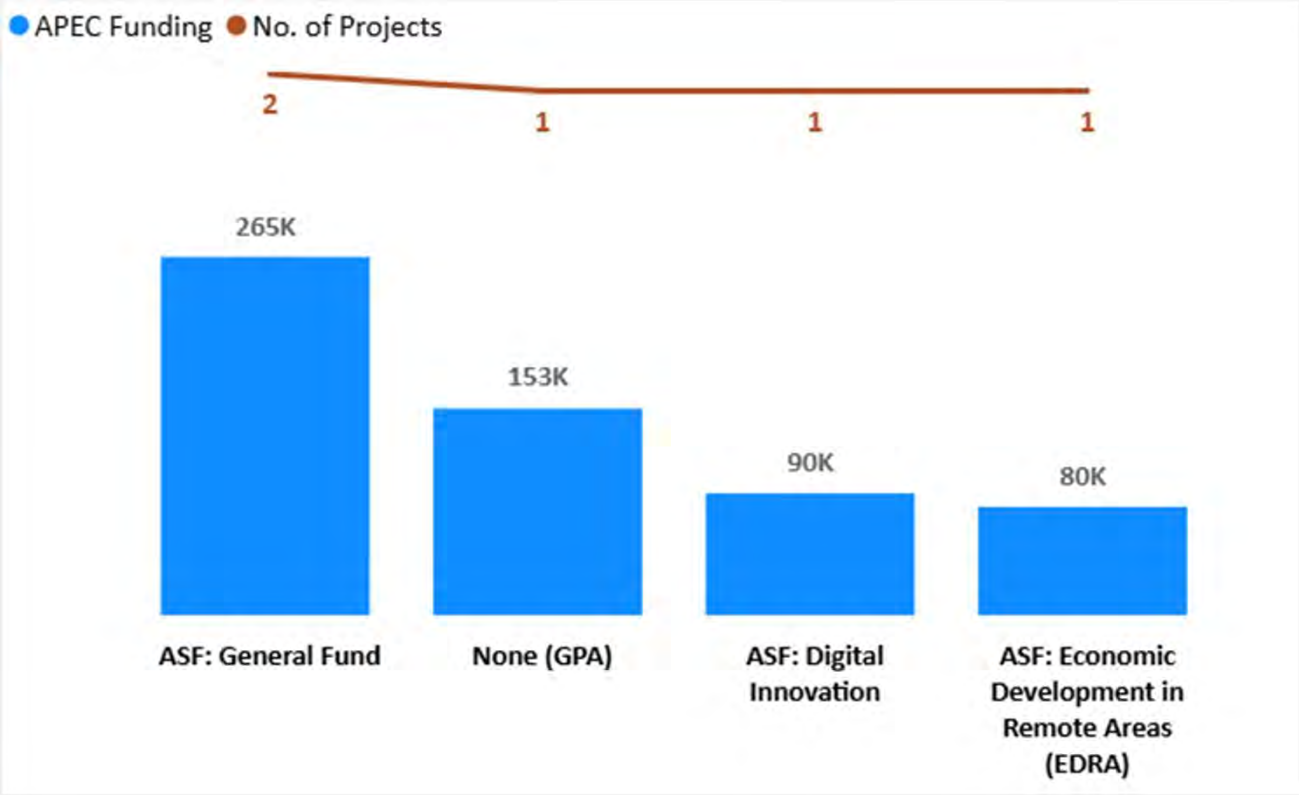
| APA Driver | Top APA Objectives | Number of Objectives Identified |
|---|---|---|
| 2. Innovation and Digitalization | 2.1 Structural reforms and innovation | 1 |
| 2. Innovation and Digitalization | 2.2 Digital economy and global interconnectedness | 1 |
| 3. Strong, Balanced, Secure, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth | 3.1 Economic resilience and health & wellbeing inclusiveness | 1 |
| 3. Strong, Balanced, Secure, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth | 3.2 Human resource development and skills for the future | 1 |
| **Total** | | **5** |

# PPFS Projects: Top Funds Accessed

Summary (2022-2024)

**APEC-Funded Approvals**

Total budget: $587K

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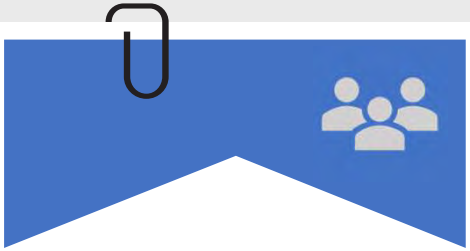
# 2024 Project Completion Across Fora
# Findings and Recommendations



**Declining Economy Participation**

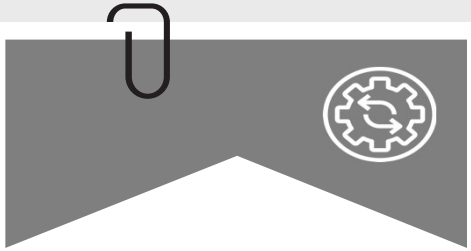
Majority of project event participants come from same economy. Project topic may be of key deciding factor.

**Ensure relevant project topics**

**Underspent APEC Funds**

40% percent of the completed projects underspent their budgets by 50% or more.

**Maximise funding for Capacity Building**



**Not Completing by Default Deadlines**

Half of the completed projects took much longer than 15 - 20 months to complete.

**Increase project implementation time**

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# Project Session 1, 2025, Dates

| Date* | Concept Note-Related Actions |
|---|---|
| **Thursday, 13 March** | **CN Submission Deadline**:<br><br>Project Overseers submit Concept Notes to Program Directors (via email) |
| **Tuesday, 8 April** | **CN Endorsement Deadline**:<br><br>All the Concept Notes are endorsed by all relevant fora (via email) |
| **Wednesday, 16 April** | **CN Upload Deadline**:<br><br>Project Overseers upload the endorsed Concept Notes (on APAS) |
| **29 April – 16 May** | Responsible APEC Fora assess Concept Note eligibility and conduct scoring (on APAS) |
| **27 May – 2 June** | BMC provide in-principle approval of Concept Notes (via email) |
| **Tuesday, 3 June** | **Announcement of Funding Outcome**:<br><br>Project Overseers are notified of funding results (via email from APAS) |

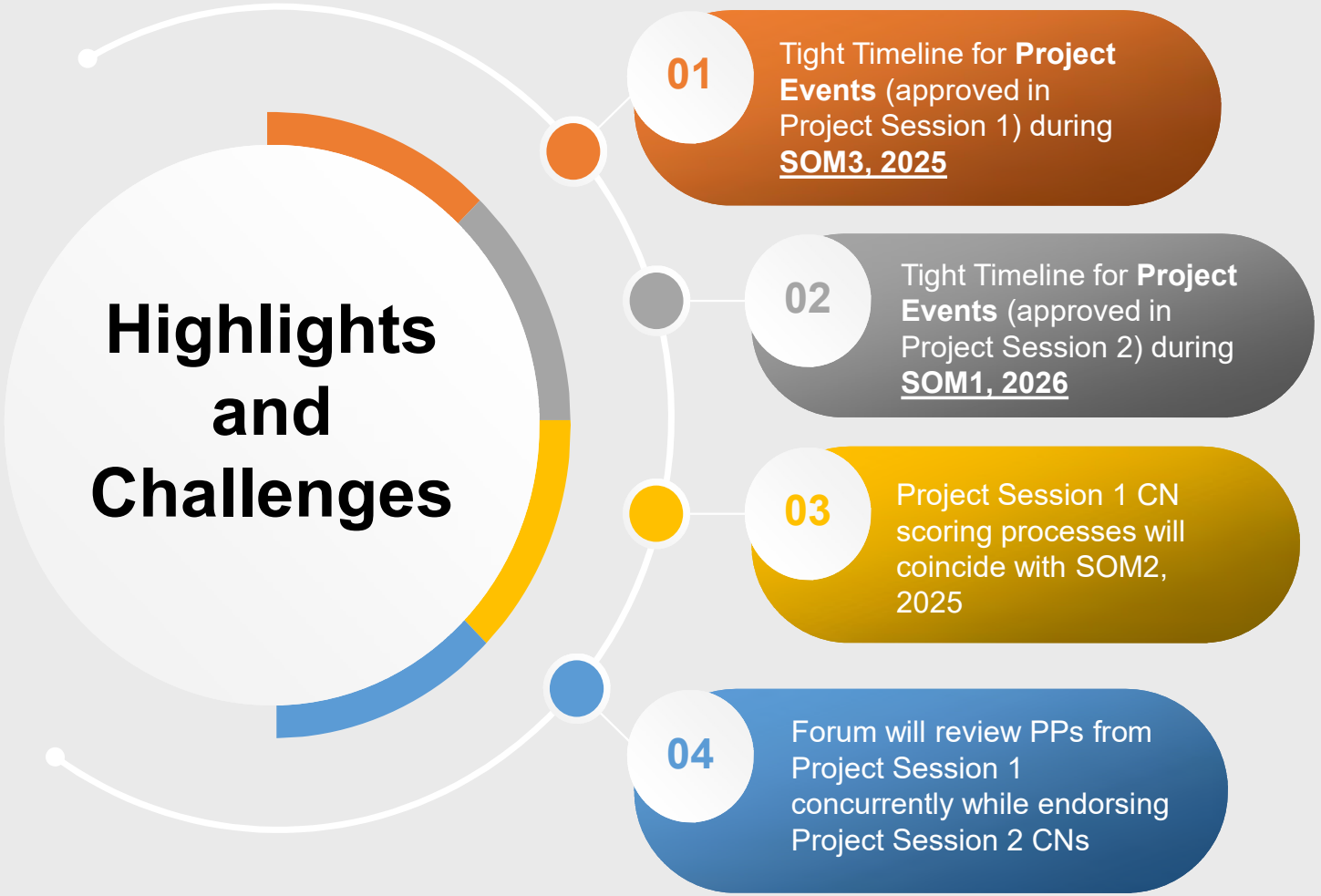
*All submission deadlines are set at **12:00pm (Noon) Singapore Time**

# Project Session 1, 2025, Dates

| Date* | Project Proposal Note-Related Actions |
|---|---|
| **Monday, 23 June** | **PP Submission deadline**:<br>Project Overseers submit Project Proposals to Program Director on APAS |
| **From Wednesday, 23 July** | Upon completion of endorsement, Project Overseers submit the endorsed Project Proposal on APAS |
| **July to November 2025 (1st batch: First 40 Proposals)**<br><br>**November 2025 to January 2026 (2nd batch: Remaining Proposals)** | Project Overseers notified of Final Approval (for Implementation)<br>Note: Final approval given only when the Proposal reaches satisfactory rating by the Secretariat and is approved by BMC |

*All submission deadlines are set at **12:00pm (Noon) Singapore Time**

# Highlights and Challenges



# Thank you

For queries, please write to pmu@apec.org

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