## APEC Concept Note

Please submit through APEC Secretariat Program Director. ***Concept Notes of more than 3 pages***

***(including title page) or incomplete submissions will not be considered.***

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| **Project Title:** | **Elaboration of Smart City indicators system as a guideline and a common framework for implementation of Smart City initiatives in the APEC region** |
| **Source of funds** *(Select one):* [x]  Operational Account [ ]  TILF Special Account [ ]  APEC Support Fund |
| **Committee /** **WG / Sub-fora / Task-force:** | Energy Working Group |
| **Proposing APEC economy:** | Russian Federation |
| **Co-sponsoring economies:** | USA, Japan, Canada, Indonesia |
| **Expected start date:**  | November 2013 |
| **Expected completion date:** | July 2014 |
| Project summary: Describe the project in under 150 words. Your summary should include the project topic, planned activities, timing and location: *(Summary must be no longer than the box provided. Cover sheet must fit on one page)* | Successful cities are often fundamental to successful nations. Realizing the true sense of this statement, APEC Member economies demonstrate the growing commitment to Smart City development. However, to successfully develop and manage Smart City projects, an integrated basis is required that can become a reference point for the joint efforts of APEC Member Economies aimed at sustainable development and low-carbon future. The proposed project “Elaboration of Smart City indicators system as a guideline and a common framework for implementation of Smart City initiatives in the APEC region” would try to elaborate the system of Smart City indicators for the major APEC Member Economies and the general system of Smart City indicators for the APEC region. It will take nine months from November 2013 to July 2014. The research conference will be held in Russia to discuss and disseminate the results of the project. |
| **Total cost of proposal: *(****APEC funding**+ self-funding)****USD*** 144,997.5+130,002.5=275,000 | **Total amount being sought from APEC (USD):** 144,997.5***By category:***  *Travel:* 36,437.5+self-funding *Labor costs:* 99,360+self-funding *Hosting:*  5000+self-funding *Publication & distribution:* 4,200 *Other:* self-funding |

***Project Overseer Information and Declaration:***

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As Project Overseer and on behalf of the above said Organization, I declare that this submission was prepared in accordance with the **Guidebook on APEC Projects** and any ensuing project will comply with said Guidebook. Failure to do so may result in the BMC denying or revoking funding and/or project approval. I understand that any funds approved are granted on the basis of the information in the document’s budget table, in the case of any inconsistencies within the document.

*Name of Project Overseer*

**Date:**

**Project Synopsis**

1. Relevance: Why should APEC undertake this project? What problem or opportunity will the project address and why is it important?

There is a growing commitment at both the APEC and international level to support Smart City development. Such concepts are becoming increasingly popular around many regions of the world as the need to maintain the standard of living for increasing urban population makes policy makers, academics, business and society in general scramble for workable methods of city development. Yet despite a wealth of literature on Smart City development, many “success stories” provide only one piece of the puzzle. The main challenge that lies ahead is to take full advantage of those diverse concepts and draw together theory and practice of Smart City planning, development and assessment. For APEC region, where urbanization is at the fastest rate in human history, and where the problem of sustainable city development attracted massive attention in recent years, this should be at the top of the agenda.

Realizing that successful cities are often fundamental to successful nations, the proposed project would try to review the existing system of standards in urban planning and development in main sectors such as buildings, transportation, energy, water, and elaborate a common framework for development, implementation and assessment of Smart city projects in APEC Member Economies – the Smart City indicators system – for the benefit of the whole APEC region. This holistic approach would enable APEC policy makers and researchers alike to reach conclusions on the existing Smart City experience, and could save time and money required for the elaboration of master plans for such projects. The project team will also attempt in close collaboration with experts from different APEC Member Economies to recap and set cornerstones for formulating the main “success factors” for Smart City development in the APEC region.

1. Objectives: Describe the 2-3 key objectives of the project. (e.g., to... create a framework...; ensure participants will be able to...; share experiences...; enhance understanding...; develop recommendations...; build interest...; revise strategies... etc.)

The key objectives include:

* To study and analyze the existing standards and indicators applicable for Smart City development in the APEC region;
* To create a common system of indicators for development, implementation and assessment of Smart City projects in APEC Member Economies;
* To formulate the main “success factors” for Smart City development in the APEC region.
1. Alignment: Describe how the project will help achieve APEC’s key priorities and meet your forum’s work-plan or medium-term plan.

The proposed project is aligned with general APEC focus on low-carbon society and sustainable development in its Member Economies – the goal reflected in two recent EWG meetings in Malaysia (March, 2012) and the USA (September, 2012) and included in the “Action Agenda to move APEC toward an Energy Efficient, Sustainable, Low-Carbon Transport Future” and work plan for 2011-2013.

The task of promoting the values of low-carbon and sustainable way of living is a substantial and integral part of EWG strategic goal.

1. **Methodology: How do you plan to implement the project? In this section, address:**
* ***Timeline:* Project timelines and dates for key activities and deliverables**

**Project timeline:**November 2013 – July 2014 (9 months)

**Project stages:**

*Stage 1. Exploratory and research phase (November 2013 - February 2014)*

At this stage the project team would conduct the necessary desk research, fact-finding and data analysis, as well as field interviews and surveys to understand the APEC’s existing experience in the field of Smart City development.

**Outputs:** analysis and synthesis of variety of national standards (in the field of urban development and planning, energy efficiency, transportation and governance).

*Stage 2. Elaboration of the system of Smart City indicators for the major APEC Member Economies (March - May 2014)*

The project at this stage would aimed at developing the system of Smart City indicators for the major APEC Member Economies. This system can provide a unique approach to the implementation of projects and policies regarding Smart City development on different stages from planning to reconstruction and urban renovation in the following sectors (provided as preliminary point of reference): Buildings (residential, commercial); Transport and transport infrastructure; Energy, energy and resource efficiency; Water; Environment (air quality, carbon emissions, recycling); City planning; Social cohesion; Safety; Public places; Governance (intercommunication between government and citizens). Organization of a conference/workshop where the experts in the field of Smart City development would assess the preliminary results of the project and contribute to its further development.

**Outputs:** 1). The elaborated system of Smart City indicators for the major APEC Member Economies; 2). A conference/workshop would be held in Russia aimed at discussing and disseminating the preliminary achievements of the project.

*Stage 3. Development of the general system of Smart City indicators for the APEC region (June - July 2014)*

The system of indicators will create a common framework as a basis for unification of efforts in urban development in APEC. This will also guarantee that main stakeholders involved in different spheres of urban development will speak the same language and operate the unified system of milestones and measurements. That will serve as a catalysis for sharing experience among APEC Member Economies.

**Outputs:** 1). The general system of indicators for Smart City development; 2). The final report submitted to the APEC Secretariat and to the respective government bodies and profile institutions of APEC Member Economies.

* ***Stakeholders:* Beneficiaries and stakeholders (APEC & non-APEC) and how they will be engaged**

**Stakeholders:**

Expert community – professionals currently involved in related activities on the territory of APEC Member Economies (representatives of national ministries and other governmental bodies and agencies, NGOs and commercial entities responsible for elaboration and implementation of strategies and programs on sustainable growth and Smart City development).

**Beneficiaries:**

* Direct – national governments responsible for national policies on urban and economic development, energy policy, etc.
* Indirect – citizens and communities of APEC Member Economies, who will benefit from improved urban environment, more sustainable and green communities.
* ***Previous projects/activities:* If and how this proposal builds on the findings or lessons learned from previous projects/activities, while avoiding duplication**

This proposal is based on the experience of relevant activities and projects in Russia and other APEC Member Economies. International activities implemented worldwide call for integrated basis that can become a reference point for the joint efforts of APEC Member Economies aimed at sustainable development and low-carbon future. Employing the best international experience and practices will assure more cohesive strategy for the local governments and, therefore, effectiveness of the state policies and measures in urban development.

* ***Communication:* How you plan to communicate the results or benefits of this project to others**
1. International conference will allow a lively discussion and dissemination of experience of different APEC Member Economies in urban development and resource efficient growth.
2. Final report will be presented to profile ministries and government agencies as well as wider professional community.
3. Project results will be disseminated through public media resources.