

56th 2023

APEC SME Working Group Meeting

- 1 Outcome Report of the 2023 APEC Forum on Improving Occupational Health Management in SMEs and MSMEs (SME 02 2022A)
- 2 Update on Upcoming Project
2023 APEC Forum on Promoting Innovation for Women-led Entrepreneurship (SME 06 2022A)

01 • Project Title

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2023 APEC Forum on Improving Occupational Health Management in SMEs and MSMEs

SME 02 2022A

Forum Objective

Facilitating the exchange of information and current insights to enhance awareness of occupational safety and health, and fostering the establishment and enhancement of occupational safety and health systems within small and medium-sized venture enterprises, thereby ensuring both productivity and safety.



Forum Details

Exploring Sustainable Business Innovation for Occupational Safety and Health Challenges and Opportunities for SMEs

01
Date

June 22, 2023 (Thursday)

02
Venue

Conrad Seoul Hotel
(10, Gukjegeumyung-ro, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea)

03
Participants

105 attendees in total, including 14 speakers and attendees from APEC member economies, 6 Korean speakers, representatives from Korean organizations, embassies, and general participants.

105 in total

04
Participating member economies

Singapore, Thailand, China, Malaysia, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Viet Nam

7 economies in total

02 • Keynote speech

Professor Park Doo-yong

Hansung University and former Director of the Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA)



Title **Addressing SME's Challenges and Forging a Path Forward Amidst Recent OSH Policies** **25 minutes**

- Small and medium-sized enterprises play a crucial role not only economically but also in industrial safety and health.
- Focusing on simplicity and addressing high-risk areas is crucial in regulations and policies due to various types of SMEs.
- Targeted laws and policies are essential to address risks, especially in areas where SMEs lack capacity.
- Collaboration between the government and businesses is crucial for enhancing occupational safety and health within SMEs.
- Priority should be given to improving and supporting areas with inadequate capacity. Such endeavors can contribute to enhancing the occupational safety and health of SMEs.

03 • Panel discussion and conclusion

Discussion Topic

Strategies for Enhancing Occupational Safety and Health Practices in Small and Medium-Sized Venture Enterprises

55 minutes

Panel Discussion Contents

- Methods for managing occupational safety and health supply chains and ensuring sustainability.
- Addressing vulnerabilities in occupational safety and health for SMEs.
- Recommendations for sustainable growth in small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Responses to the adoption of various digital systems.



Panel Discussion Conclusion

- ➔ The panel unanimously agreed on the significance of sharing cases and experiences, as well as fostering collaboration to manage occupational safety and health within SMEs in the Asia-Pacific region.
- ➔ Efforts by governments and businesses are needed to enhance occupational safety and health awareness among SME employees.

04 • APEC Forum Achievements in the First Half of 2023



Achievements

A forum was held to enhance occupational safety and health in APEC's SMEs



- Trends in enhancing occupational safety and health for SMEs were shared among global SMEs within APEC, accompanied by discussions on members' support policies, thereby fostering international cooperation
- Policymakers from nine APEC member economies shared cases and experiences during the in-person event.

Member economies exchanged policies and knowledge, providing new directions and solutions for enhancing occupational safety and health in APEC's SMEs

- Offering a forum for dynamic policy exchange and knowledge sharing among APEC members, exploring fresh avenues and solutions to enhance safety and health.



Future Plans

- Forum content will be available on the website of the APEC SME Innovation Center to provide continuous information to regional SMEs
- An in-person event in the second half of the year will be expanded with APEC funds and increased networking among member economies.

05 • Future Plans and Cooperation

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2023 APEC Forum on Promoting Innovation for Women-led Entrepreneurship

SME 06 2022A



Future plan
and
points for
cooperation



The APEC Forum on Promoting Innovation for Women-Led Entrepreneurship is scheduled to take place in November in Seoul, Korea, as an in-person event



Participation and support from member economy organizations are essential to actively promote the forum to companies interested in women-led SMEs and startups.

Active promotion to companies interested in women-led SMEs and startups, along with the participation and support of relevant officials from member economy organizations, are needed.

KOSME
Korea SMEs and Startups Agency



Ministry of SMEs
and Startups

Thank You

