

Dec 2, 2025



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

APEC Startup Alliance for 2025 Jeju Initiative

Ministry of SMEs and Startups

I . APEC Startup Alliance

Concept

Public-Private cooperation platform designed to strengthen connectivity and collaboration among startup ecosystems across the APEC region



Objective

Launch the APEC Startup Alliance to connect startup ecosystems and stakeholders across member economies.

II. Daegu Initiative

Daegu Initiative (`05)

- Innovation Action Plan (IAP)
- SME Innovation Center
- Innovation Consulting
- Seminars & Fora

Iloilo Initiative (`15)

- Providing Bigger Voice, Better Opportunities for MSMEs
- APEC MSME Marketplace



APEC Startup Alliance Initiative (`25)

- ✓ **Connecting Startup Ecosystems**
- Leading Innovation
- Exploring Sustainability

III. Key components of APEC Startup Alliance

Management

Expand and upgrade the functions of APEC Innovation Center for the connectivity of startups in APEC regions



Key Components

① Annual APEC Startup Forum

↳ Bringing together startups, investors and global companies for networking

② APEC startup Network

↳ Establishing an offline hub to support networking

③ Online platform

↳ Integrating information on regional startup ecosystems to reduce information gaps

III-1. Annual APEC Startup Forum

Contents

Bringing together startups, investors and global companies for networking



Details

- ① Linking with startup-focused events to build a practical startup ecosystem
 - ↳ Business matching, IR pitching, exhibitions and networking
- ② Reinforcing the Alliance's capacity to support deeper collaborative initiatives
 - ↳ introduction an APEC startup visa scheme, improving investment regulations
- ③ Coordinating with APEC SMEWG meeting in Seoul, 2026
 - ↳ Inaugural Forum is planned for May 2026 in Seoul on the 1st day of SMEWG meeting

III-2. APEC Startup Network

Contents

Establishing an offline hub to support networking



Details

① Opening of the APEC Startup Alliance Center

↳ Being set up near Seoul to ensure easy access for key players of startup ecosystem

② Leveraging MSS's existing overseas startup support networks

↳ KSC(US, Japan, Vietnam, Singapore), GBC(China, Thailand, Mexico, Russia, Indonesia), KVIC(US, China, Singapore)

III-3. Online platform

Contents

Integrating information on regional startup ecosystems to reduce information gaps and support data-based policy making



Details

① Building a comprehensive database

↳ Covering the basic statistics of startups, APEC members' regulations, best practices

② Including Matching platform

↳ Enabling startups and partners to find each other by technology area, growth stage

③ Serving Communication space

↳ Supporting online communities, seminars, mentoring and other capacity-building program

Thank You

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