

Japan-ASEAN Digital Workshop

1. Objective

ASEAN member states and Japan have been working closely in promoting digitalization to further enhance the connectivity and growth of the regional economy. One of the key issues is cross-border data transfer, and there has been growing convergence among regulatory approaches to reap the benefits of data flows while meeting legitimate public policy objectives¹, which can also be deemed as realizing Data Free-Flow with Trust (DFFT). In line with the ongoing regional dialogues between APEC and RCEP members as well as at the global level such as the WTO E-commerce Joint Statement Initiative, G20 and OECD, this workshop aims to share the experiences of ASEAN member states and Japan to bring innovative discussions in the context of the ASEAN-Japan relations and to facilitate DFFT. The workshop is open not only to the government officials of the member states and ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) but also to participants from the industry to welcome constructive ideas and business perspectives.

2. Participants

- Digital related government officials from 10 ASEAN member states (AMS)
- ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC)
- Digital related industry executives, trade associations

3. Program Outline

This workshop is designed as a substitute of a training and exchange program originally planned in 2020 inviting selected ASEAN government officials. Given prolonged global pandemic, the organizer CFIEC decided to hold half day online workshops as an alternative of the original program. Taking advantage of this online event, in addition to the core participants (digital related government officials), their colleagues and stakeholders (business, academia, etc.) who are interested in the realization of DFFT and/or digitalization are welcomed to sign up to this workshop. (prior registration is necessary)

Date : 29 June 2021. Tuesday

Time: From 15:00 to 18:00 (JST).

¹ <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/ca9f974e-en.pdf?expires=1622525490&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=FDDED89996CBBCF3015EB7372AEA52C54>

4. Agenda (subject to change)

Subtitle: Issues and Outlook on realizing DFFT

Time (JST), Subject	Contents	Presenter/Facilitator
14:50-	Registration (on-line) (Teams)	
15:00-15:05 (5 min.)	Opening remarks	Akira Kojima , President, CFIEC, Japan Junichiro Kuroda , Director- General, Multilateral Trade System Dept., METI Japan
15:05-15:20 (15 min.) Business perspective on DFFT	Case study on the importance of DFFT for expanding business overseas and making investment decisions	Hiroaki Tsumori , Project Manager (Traffic Counter), Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
15:20-15:40 (10 min. x 2) ASEAN business perspectives	ASEAN business perspectives:	Stan Singh , PIKOM Counsellor, Malaysia/ APICTA Chairman Nattida Sanguansin Pink , Managing Director, Buzzebees Co., Ltd, Thailand
15:40-15:55 (15 min.) DFFT: the experience of Japan	Introduce Japanese government initiatives on DFFT and share views on related issues (including WTO JSI on E-commerce)	Ryoji Uchida , Deputy Director-General for Digital Trade Policy, METI Japan
15:55-16:10 (15 min.) Personal Data Protection	Japan's legal framework of personal data protection and DFFT	Yoichiro Itakura , Attorney at Law, Hikari Sogoh Law Offices, Member of Board of Directors, CFIEC
16:10-16:40 (30 min.) Domestic frameworks related to E-commerce	Overview of Japan's domestic frameworks related to e-commerce (e.g. consumer protection, spam regulation, cybersecurity, taxation)	Takuma Yamagishi , Assistant Director, Multilateral Trade System Dept., METI Japan
16:40-16:55 (15 min.)	Latest policy framework and initiatives in ASEAN to facilitate DFFT (e.g. ASEAN data	Le Quang Lan , Head of Division, ICT & Tourism

ASEAN regional initiatives	transfer mechanisms)	Division, ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC)
16:55-17:55 (60 min.) Discussion among participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perspectives on challenges related to digitalization and global rule-making - Possible way forward (including int'l cooperation) on addressing developmental issues regarding digitalization - QAs plus takeaways <p>-----</p> <p>Q1. What are the participants' views on foreign platform businesses and big-tech industries? Are they posing a threat to the economy, or providing benefits to consumers and businesses?</p> <p>Q2. Are there concerns on global digital trade rule-making (e.g. restrictions on cross-border data transfer and data localization, protection of proprietary information such as source code)?</p> <p>Q3. What are the developmental challenges on digitalization that need to be addressed? How can the global community tackle them?</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>Facilitator:</p> <p>Toru Kajiwara, Director, Services Trade Division, Economic Affairs Bureau, MOFA Japan</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p>All the participants</p>
17:55-18:00 (5 min.)	Closing Remarks & Conclusions	

Expected speakers could provide insightful ideas and share information on the current issues and actual applications within their country / industry represented and/or region-wide.

*Time difference between Japan and ASEAN member countries:1 hour to 2.5 hours.

*Language: English