

IIED NEWS

ISSUE 14 SEPT. 2026



2026 APEC Youth Engagement Workshop: Connectivity and Partnerships for Openness, Innovation, and Cooperation

To deepen regional youth's understanding of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and promote youth exchanges between APEC member economies, APEC Institute of Innovative Education Development organize the "2026 APEC Youth Engagement Workshop: Connectivity and Partnerships for Openness, Innovation, and Cooperation" from July 1 to 2, 2026. The two-day workshop attracted 31 young participants from 16 APEC economies, including Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Indonesia, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, the United States, and Viet Nam.

Director-General Yu-Juan Lee of the Department of International and Cross-Strait Education, Ministry of Education, noted in her opening remarks that the Asia-Pacific region faces critical challenges, including digital transformation, and that close cooperation among APEC economies is essential to regional growth. She emphasized the importance of nurturing young talent with an understanding of regional issues, APEC's operations, and cross-cultural communication skills.

The core objective of the workshop was to enhance young people's understanding of APEC across member economies and provide a platform for dialogue and exchange. The two-day program featured a range of practical and interactive activities. In addition to introducing APEC and the organizational structure and priority areas of the Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG), the workshop also featured a "Model APEC", in which participants took on the roles of diplomatic representatives and gained first-hand experience in the procedures, negotiations, and dynamics of international meetings.



2026 APEC Youth Engagement Workshop

Connectivity and Partnerships for Openness, Innovation, and Cooperation

July 1 - 2

LECTURE & NETWORKING



Participants attended a series of lectures introducing APEC, the Human Resources Development Working Group (HRDWG), APEC priorities, effective communication in multilateral environments, cross-cultural storytelling, and participation in APEC meetings. The sessions were complemented by an APEC mock election, wrap-up discussions, and tea-time networking opportunities, allowing participants to exchange experiences and build connections with youth from different APEC economies.



MODEL APEC



Participants took part in a Model APEC simulation, where they were divided into groups and assigned to different APEC economies. Each group identified an issue observed in its assigned economy and proposed possible solutions. Through presentations and Q&A sessions, participants practiced communication, negotiation, and problem-solving skills while gaining a deeper understanding of APEC meetings and multilateral cooperation.

CULTURAL VISIT



Participants visited the National Palace Museum, one of Chinese Taipei's leading cultural institutions, to explore its rich collection of art and cultural heritage. The visit provided participants with an opportunity to experience history and culture firsthand while fostering cultural exchange and mutual understanding among APEC youth.

