

economy specific findings with an eye to identifying APEC regional trends could serve as a catalyst for developing a consensual understanding of the process.

Secondly, and linked to the this first initiative, is that APEC could work toward building an inventory of 'best practices' across the component parts of FEEEP. The development of a user friendly inventory could also allow the existing APEC working groups to more broadly and easily take into account FEEEP issues. For example, the Economic Committee`s Task Force on Food could more easily take into account rural development programs not explicitly concerned with food production, but nevertheless programs that influence farm populations decision-making, such as non-agricultural employment opportunities.

Most importantly, there appears to be an opportunity for APEC to take a leadership role on FEEEP and the integrated assessment approach required. In many respects APEC is uniquely structured to effectively undertake this challenging task. APEC has the organizational flexibility to simultaneously develop analytical capacity in the component parts of FEEEP as well as the cross-component linkages. APEC also has the potential to co-ordinate and draw upon the analytical work of a range of expert organizations that individually lack the mandate to fully address FEEEP.