

## Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Innovation in Public Transportation (INPUT) Competition

## INVITATION

To Whom It May Concern,

Funded by the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Policy Partnership for Science, Technology & Innovation (PPSTI), and with the strong support of China's Ministry of Science & Technology, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Shanghai, it is our pleasure to invite you to register expressions of interest in assisting with the soon to be launched Innovation in Public Transportation (INPUT) Competition.

INPUT will be launched on **September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020** through all participating institutional and organisational channels. We would be honoured if we could count your assistance to disseminate a competition notice and call for applications, and you / your representatives would be very warmly received at the launch event in Shanghai, China, at the Shanghai International Convention Centre.

The INPUT Competition aims to contribute towards APEC's vision for institutional capacity building and people-to-people connectivity and will offer awards for the best practice sharing of the innovative urban mass transit solutions, focusing on transportation focused academic institutions and small to medium enterprise product developers and manufacturers.

In doing so, INPUT seeks to positively impact on the mobility and inclusion of academic and industry professionals and innovators involved in the creation of mass transit solutions, the production of transportation technology, and the operation of public transport services.

The competition will encourage applicants from throughout APEC's 21 member economies, especially from:

- 1. Technical & scientific students, academics & professionals engaged in public transport research or work;
- 2. SMEs, inventors & entrepreneurs within member economy transportation industries.

Finalists will be invited to present their innovative public transport products, technologies or services, with their expenses covered, at the INPUT finalist presentations and awards ceremony set to take place on 25th-26th May 2021.



We would sincerely appreciate your help in promoting INPUT as a way to establish better linkages between transportation industry operators, transport-focused technical and scientific institutions and aspiring entrepreneurs throughout APEC, which we believe is crucial for the benefits of mass transit infrastructure development, institutional capacity building and people-to-people connectivity to be progressed.

We also plan to engage leading scientific and technical experts concentrated in the mass transit field to form an adjudicating panel of experts to assess applicant works, shortlist finalists and determine award winners. Their involvement will also provide impetus for capacity building, knowledge sharing and the discussion of best practice in the region's diverse public transportation sectors, and facilitate the advance of scientific and technological policy priorities towards integrated and intelligent urbanization for APEC's population centers.

INPUT is intended for all forms of urban public transport solutions with the core aim of benefiting APEC's developing urban centres through the dissemination of know-how relating to public transportation innovation, partnership, integration and commercialization.

In putting forward very broad competition eligibility criteria for systemic, technological, product-based or service-oriented innovations within the fields of public transportation, it is hoped that the competition will attract the broadest and most diverse array of participation possible.

We also explicitly welcome and encourage applications of system, technology, product and service solutions aimed at benefitting women, in addition to children, the elderly and people with disabilities.

If you are willing to attend the launch event on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, then please respond to this invitation as soon as possible and at the latest by **August 21<sup>st</sup> 2020**. If you are interested in helping to promote the INPUT Competition, in recommending nominations for inclusion in the selection of the panel of experts, or have any further queries please call our international representative Dan Scrimgeour on +86 21 6295 1237 or by email <u>dan@shanghai-intex.com</u> and ZiFeng Yang on +86 21 64668216 or by email zfyang@casiccb.com

Yours Sincerely,



Program Director, APEC-PPSTI

Project Overseer Office

APEC-INPUT Working Committee