BACKGROUND

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) as the “premier forum for facilitating economic growth, cooperation and prosperity for the region” generated various researches and innovations. Particularly, the Policy Partnership for Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI) provides a platform for government, academe, and the private sector to engage in fruitful discussions towards the formulation of policy recommendations.

OBJECTIVES

Related to this, the Philippines initiated the workshop entitled “Commercialization and Popularization of Research and Market-based Innovations through Policy Translation” which aimed to (1) strengthen the capability of APEC member-participants for policy translation and advocacy; (2) provide a forum for sharing and discussion of APEC economies’ experiences and best practices on health and nutrition policy translation; and (3) bring the PPSTI’s S&T initiatives to the policy agenda platform of the APEC ministers and senior officials.

METHODS

The three-day workshop brought together 124 delegates from nine APEC member-economies (Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, People’s Republic of China, Russia, Thailand, The Philippines, and The United States of America) in Manila on June 8-10, 2016 for the learning and sharing of experiences on policy translation. Selected delegates were able to walk through the process of policy translation from analysis to development of policy statements on four major and pressing health and nutrition concerns namely stunting, newborn screening, family planning and malaria.

RESULTS

As outputs of the workshop, the APEC delegates crafted major policy statements which included the following:
i) ensure that all STI activities of APEC economies incorporate policy recommendations for social benefits and commercial applications; ii) strengthen the capacity of APEC member-economies via PPSTI in translating STI activities to policies and actions; and, iii.) incorporate periodic reviews of STI-based policies within and among the APEC member-economies in succeeding APEC activities. Likewise, the delegates forwarded policy recommendations for the pressing issues of stunting, newborn screening, family planning and malaria.

CONCLUSION

The policy statements crafted shall serve as the springboard for policy-focused S&T innovations of the APEC economies.