

Workshop

# The Pacific Alliance:

## An agenda for cooperation with observer members

Vocational education & training for inclusive development and integration into global value chains

**Venue:**

Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (BDI)  
Haus der Deutschen Wirtschaft  
Breite Straße 29, 10178 Berlin  
im Hanns-Martin-Schleyer-Saal

**Berlin, 11 June 2018, 10.00-17.00**

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 **BDI**  
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Under the aegis of

 **The Pacific  
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## The Pacific Alliance: An agenda for cooperation with observer members

In 2012, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru launched the Pacific Alliance (PA), a regional integration project aiming at strengthening trade exchanges, promoting living standards and social inclusion, and enhancing the presence of the members in the Asia Pacific. The initial results have been very positive. These include significant advances in the liberalization of trade in goods, the creation of a joint platform for stock markets, joint diplomatic and trade undertakings in Asia, and achievements in society-related matters such as the visa waiver for nationals and the Alliance scholarship program.

These successes, and the belief of the Pacific Alliance in free trade and effective cooperation with partners worldwide, have attracted wide international interest, leading to 52 countries joining as observer members. The potential for cooperation between the PA members and the observer and associate countries is enormous, but until now not fully realized. The intention of the workshop is to propose a specific agenda for cooperation between the PA and its observer countries, focusing on education. More specifically, vocational education and training (VET) is an essential tool to realize fully a country's potential in terms of trade, international insertion, and inclusive development.

A major challenge for the PA is to achieve better and more targeted technical training. This would give the four members the local technical expertise required to realize their potential for further economic and social development. Technical training can facilitate inclusion in value chains, the grasp of opportunities offered by digitalisation and new technologies, and the reduction of gender and ethnic gaps, a vital challenge in the PA, along with the strengthening of the SMEs sector. The workshop consists of four thematic tables on specific VET areas where cooperation between the PA and observer and associate countries can be mutually beneficial: **Digitalisation, Foreign Language Learning, New materials and energy systems, and Medical engineering.**

The four thematic areas reflect the expertise and strengths of FAU, the OECD, and the German system. As the third workshop in the series, after the successes in Stockholm and Copenhagen, the Berlin workshop aims at putting forward a practical and feasible agenda for cooperation in the area of education between the PA and its observer members, with the OECD as a facilitator and under the aegis of the German Foreign Ministry and the Presidency of the Pacific Alliance.

### Programme:

- 10.00-10.45 Welcome by organisers and authorities
- 10.45-11.45 Panel 1: Digital Transformation
- 11.45-12.00 Coffee break
- 12.00-13.00 Panel 2: Language Skills
- 13.00-14.30 Lunch break
- 14.30-15.30 Panel 3: Energy Systems and New Materials
- 15.30-15.45 Coffee break
- 15.45-16.45 Panel 4: Medical Engineering
- 16.45-17.00 Conclusions
- 17.00-18.30 Reception offered by the PA Presidency