

Item. 3 Programme of Work 2024



ECTD in a Nutshell

Harnessing economic cooperation and trade for the SDGs



ONE Vision: Harnessing Trade, Innovation and Infrastructure Investment for the SDGs

TWO Sub-programmes

- Sub-programme 4: Economic Cooperation and Integration
- Sub-programme 6: Trade

THREE Cross-cutting Themes

- Circular Economy and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources
- Digital and Green Transformations
- Support for Gender Equality and Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs)

FOUR Sections

- Cooperation and Partnerships Section
- Innovative Policies Development Section
- Market Access Section
- Trade Facilitation Section



Removing Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade in UNECE region



Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards (SCTCS) – 8th session highlights

- Substantive discussion on **digital** and **circular economy** transitions from the viewpoint of regulatory and procedural barriers to trade and launch of new approaches to conduct Studies on Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade (RPBT Studies).
- Summary of lessons learned from previous RPBT Studies.

Capacity Building and Training

- UNECE training and launch of the study on [Assessment of Trade Facilitation Framework - Republic of Moldova](#), Chisinau, December 2023.
- Validation of RPBT Studies for Armenia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, March 2024 (to be discussed at the 9th session).



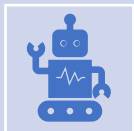
Working Party 6 (WP.6) Highlights



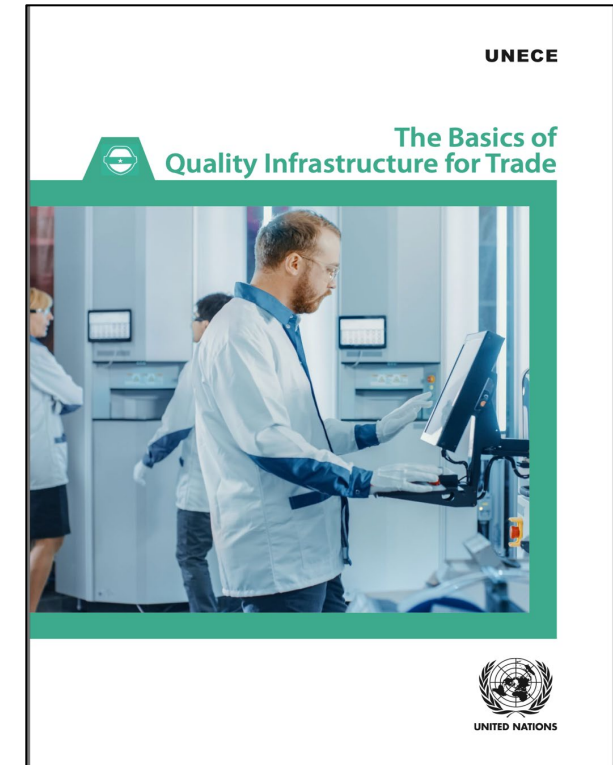
Third Forum (April 2024) of UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies with dedicated sessions on digital, green transformations.



Release of the "Basics of Quality Infrastructure for Trade," providing base descriptions of all elements of quality infrastructure for trade (November 2023).



Conference on continuous compliance (November 2023), paper dedicated to conformity of products with artificial intelligence (November 2023) and launch of project on this theme.



Working Party 7 (WP.7) Highlights



Working Party adopted three new and eight revised standards, and one new recommendation, agreed on revised TOR (13-15 November 2023) + roundtable



Seed potato rapporteur's meeting (10-12 October 2023, France)



RFSD: Roundtable on SDG2 (zero hunger), 14 March 2024 (by IBC-SFS) + side-event and regional meeting of food systems national convenors (with UN Food systems Hub + IBC-SFS)



Ongoing: full review of UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes, drafting a Code of Good Practice for DDP, food loss and waste review of FFV standards, etc.



Regional training workshop: methods and tools for inspection and sampling of fresh and dried fruit and vegetables, 4-6 June 2024, Uzbekistan (for CAWG)



ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

DIGITALIZATION AND FOOD LOSS AND WASTE REDUCTION

14 NOVEMBER 2023 | 15:00 - 18:00 CET

ROOM VIII | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA & ONLINE

Agricultural Quality standards -Training workshop

[Trade](#) ▷

[WP.7 Meetings](#) ▷

[Technical Cooperation](#) ▷

[Dry and Dried Produce \(GE.2\)](#) ▷

[Fresh Fruit and Vegetables \(GE.1\)](#) ▷

Methods and tools for inspection and sampling of fresh and dried fruit and vegetables

04 June (9:00) - 06 June (17:00) 2024

Panarams Tashkent Hotel, Tashkent Uzbekistan

Supporting United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)



Adoption of the SPECA Roadmap for Digitalization of Multimodal Data and Document Exchange along the Trans-Caspian Corridor (Baku, Azerbaijan, November 2023):

- The Roadmap envisages action for the digitalization of multimodal data and document exchange from 2027 onwards along supply chains in the Trans-Caspian Corridor, using the semantic standards and Multimodal Transport Reference Data Model of the UN/CEFACT.

Capacity-building seminar to advance to implementation of the Roadmap (Aktau, Kazakhstan, June 2024):

- Clarified the expected efficiency gains from digitalization of cargo information flows along the corridor.
- Addressed the problem of fragmentation of digitalization projects, national and modal legal regimes, as well as different syntaxes
- Explored the results of a pilot testing project, led by TRACECA, on the digitalization of the CIM/SMGS railway consignment note.
- Clarified further steps on integrating the electronic document exchange with the IT systems of national railways in five countries along the corridor: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Türkiye, and Ukraine.



Cross-cutting issues: Circular Economy and Digital Transformation (selected highlights)



- Launch of the UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation 2023, July 2023
- WTO PF session: Going circular: How the HS codes can/not support a circular economy, September 2023, jointly with Foundation Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), WCO and Chatham House, September 2023
- Circular STEP - Regional Policy Dialogue, Serbia, October 2023
- OECD Forum on Due Diligence in the Garment and Footwear Sector Side Session, February 2024
- World Circular Economy Forum, Belgium, 15-18 April 2024 (including World Circular Economy Forum Accelerator, hosted by the Mission of Serbia to the European Union)





UNECE

THANK YOU

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