

UNECE Subprogramme 6. Trade

<i>Implementing entity:</i> ECE, Trade and Timber Division		<i>Budget summary (thousands of United States dollars)</i>			
<i>Relationship to the strategic framework for the period 2010-2011:</i> programme 16, subprogramme 6, expected accomplishment (b)		<i>Actual</i> 2006-2007	<i>Estimate</i> 2008-2009	<i>Estimate</i> 2010-2011	
<i>Objective:</i> To assist the less-advantaged countries in the ECE region in the implementation of trade facilitation and development measures using international standards and best practices and in the development of trade policies and strategies to facilitate their integration in the global economy.		General temporary assistance	287.7	481.5	438.6
		Consultants	34.7	12.3	14.8
		Travel of staff	48.4	48.2	66.0
		Seminars/workshops	18.9	2.3	—
		Total	389.7	544.3	519.4
<i>Expected accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>	<i>Activities/outputs/projects^a</i>			
(a) Enhanced national capacity to implement trade facilitation techniques and measures using ECE and other international standards, recommendations and best practices (b) Strengthened capacity of Central Asian countries to implement trade facilitation measures and achieve more regional trade integration (c) Enhanced capacities to promote and implement policies, strategies mechanisms supporting trade facilitation and economic integration in South-Eastern European countries	(a) Number of national or regional trade facilitation strategies, as well as national or international projects, directly implementing and/or citing ECE and other international norms, standards, recommendations and tools (b) Number of countries or economic entities establishing sustained cooperation among trade control agencies, the business community and national trade facilitation bodies with a view to supporting specific trade facilitation instruments (c) Number of networks of experts and policymakers maintained or established	<p>Technical cooperation in the area of trade facilitation will be implemented to strengthen the capacity of member States to use international standards and best practices in order to enhance the role of trade as an engine for economic growth and development. The implementation of the technical cooperation programme will draw upon the standards, recommendations and tools developed by the ECE Trade and Timber Division and the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UNCEFACT).</p> <p>Capacity-development activities will include:</p> <p>(a) Advisory services that take into account the specific needs and demands expressed by the ECE member States;</p> <p>(b) Three technical assistance projects (two donor sponsored and one funded from the Development Account) managed and implemented by the subprogramme;</p> <p>(c) Subregional, regional, and interregional training workshops to promote the efficient use of international norms, standards, recommendations and tools for trade facilitation and trade policy development;</p> <p>(d) Production of studies, policy papers and training materials on specific problems and methodologies to allow for the transfer of best practices and experience;</p> <p>(e) Establishing and strengthening networks of experts and policymakers (at the subregional, regional and global levels).</p> <p>The activities of the subprogramme will contribute to improving the implementation of ECE tools in such areas as streamlining trade information exchange (notably by advancing the concept of the “single window” for export and import clearance, data harmonization and document standardization); national public-private mechanisms for trade facilitation; and transit and border-crossing facilitation. It will strengthen the capacity of the members States with economies in transition to formulate trade policies and strategies.</p>			
<i>Output summary (participants)</i>		<i>Impact summary</i>			
	<i>Actual</i> 2006-2007	<i>Estimate</i> 2008-2009	<i>Estimate</i> 2010-2011		
Advisory services	24	28	28		
Seminars/workshops	9 (510)	14 (600)	14 (600)		
Fellowships	2	1	2		
Field projects	—	2	—		
Total	35	45	44		
		<p>In the 2006-2007 biennium, the subprogramme organized nine capacity-building workshops and provided 24 advisory services aimed at strengthening the technical capacity of national experts in trade facilitation and trade policy and supporting the establishment and/or strengthening of networks of experts on trade facilitation. During the recent meetings of UNCEFACT and the ECE Committee on Trade, 80 per cent of member States with economies in transition expressed their satisfaction with the technical cooperation services provided in the area of trade and requested even more active technical cooperation in the future. In the bienniums 2006-2007 and 2008-2009, three projects on establishing “single-window” systems were started as a direct result of activities and advisory services supported by the subprogramme (in Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), one was significantly strengthened (Serbia) and others were under consideration (e.g. in Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan). It is expected that during the biennium 2010-2011 the number of countries implementing single-window solutions will increase from 3 to more than 10. This would significantly contribute to raising the efficiency of trade procedures and good governance in foreign trade in the countries with economies in transition.</p>			

^a Indicative; subject to beneficiary requests.