About the meeting
Due to the postponement of the 35th UN/CEFACT Forum in the emergency context of COVID-19, the UNECE will organise a virtual project meeting on the afternoon of the 27th and 28th of April 2020 (from 14:00 to 17:00 CET) (WebEx video-conference).

This virtual meeting is being held under the UNECE project ‘Enhancing Transparency and Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector’ (jointly implemented with ITC and ILO with the support of the EU), to convene the multi-stakeholder project experts’ groups.

The purpose of the meeting is to review progress on the key project outputs and brainstorm on the next steps for the development of the policy recommendation, the technical standards for transparency and traceability of information exchange in the textile and leather value chain, and the implementation of the first project blockchain pilot for traceability and due diligence in the cotton industry.

Agenda

Day 1 – Monday, 27 April 2020
14:00–17:00 (CET)

1. Welcoming remarks
   Elisabeth Tuerk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

2. Where do we stand with the transparency and traceability of industry value chains?
   Maria Teresa Pisani, Project Manager, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE
3. Policy recommendations and call for action for transparency and traceability of sustainable and circular value chains

The policy recommendation and implementation guidelines are being developed based on the analysis of relevant policies, legislation and guidelines at international, regional and national level, and input of key industry stakeholders and experts. Additionally, this is being complemented by a mapping of the stakeholders’ ecosystem in the industry, and the drafting of a call for action to the industry for the implementation of the recommendations in the policy document.

Moderator: Maria Teresa Pisani, Project Manager, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

- Maylis Souque – French Ministry of Economics and Finance & French National Contact Point to the OECD
- Yvonne Chileshe – Expert in Commodities & Value Chains development, Secretariat African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States
- Virginia Cram-Martos – UN/CEFACT Trade Facilitation Procedures Domain Coordinator
- Francesca Romana Rinaldi – Associate Professor, Bocconi University
- Claudia di Bernardo – Lawyer
- Rudrajeet Pal – Professor, University of Borås, Sweden

Reference documents:
- Advanced draft policy recommendation and implementation guidelines (April 2020)
- Stakeholders ecosystem, engagement strategy, and call for action (April 2020)
- Mapping of supporting policies, regulations and legislation for the policy recommendation (Apr 2020)

Q&A and experts’ inputs

Day 2 – Tuesday, 28 April 2020
14:00–17:00 (CET)

1. The value chain, data and technology model for transparency and traceability of sustainable value chains: focus on the cotton value chain

The value chain and data model for the garment and footwear sector is being developed. This is based on the ongoing business process analysis, with a focus on the cotton sector, to map and describe the industry value chain, the traceability processes for raw materials, products, parts and components, during farming / extraction / processing / assembling / finishing / transport / retail within a country and across borders, as well as locations and responsible parties, and the sustainability hot-spots at key nodes along the value chain.

The pilot to test the application of the traceability standard, developed under the project, in a blockchain system is been implemented. The situation analysis, the scope, the business and technical requirements, the partners to be involved, the outputs, the key activities (definition of the value chain model, data model and technology model), the timeframe have been identified and detailed.
Reference documents:

- Draft Business Process Analysis (BPA) for the value chain and data model for traceability of information exchange (draft April 2020)
- Progress report on the Blockchain Pilot Project
- Project document for a pilot on blockchain for traceability and due diligence in the cotton value chain (zero draft)

2. Next project milestones

- Review of the project implementation and communication plan, key project milestones, and proposed agenda of next project meetings.

- Maria Teresa Pisani, Project Manager, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE
- Frans van Diepen, State Enterprise Agency, the Netherlands

Practical Information

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Background documents

Reference/background documents will be shared by email ahead of the meeting and uploaded on the project webpage and CUE space.

Registration

Kindly inform Ms. Maria Teresa Pisani, UNECE Secretariat at maria-teresa.pisani@un.org; copied to Ms. Olivia Chassot at olivia.chassot@un.org and Ms. Olga Kharitonova at olga.kharitonova@un.org.

Registration as an UN/CEFACT expert (conditional upon approval by the Head of Delegation): https://uncefact.unece.org/display/uncefactpublic/UNCEFACT+Expert+Registration

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