



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



**United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and
Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)**

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11 September 2023, Incheon

Economic Cooperation and Trade Division in a Nutshell

Harnessing economic cooperation and trade for the SDGs

ONE Vision: Harnessing Economic Cooperation and Trade 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 – Secretariat of UN/CEFACT**

Commission's cross-cutting priorities

69th session

promoting circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources



- ECE Recommendation No. 46 with its implementation guidelines
- “The Sustainability Pledge” Call to Action received nearly **100 pledges from 350 industry actors**
- Reference Data Model for Sustainable Development and the Circular Economy (**SDCE RDM**) Project
- UN/CEFACT standards for **connectivity and semantic interoperability**
- ECE Recommendation No.43 on Sustainable Procurement

70th session

digital and green transformations for sustainable development



ECE Recommendations No.1 and 2 on UN Layout Key



UN/CEFACT semantic data models (e.g. SDCE RDM project)



UN/CEFACT White Papers:

- Verifiable Credentials for Cross Border Trade
- IoT Standards for Trade Facilitation
- Open Finance to Support Trade Facilitation
- Blockchain for Trade and the SDGs
- AI for Trade Facilitation; and others

About UN/CEFACT

Objectives

- Simple, transparent and effective processes for global business
- Efficient and automated exchange of information
- Targeted support to SDGs 8, 12, and 17

Key tools

- Nearly 50 global trade facilitation recommendations
- 950 e-Business standards and guidelines

Means

- Public-Private Partnership
- Over 1600 experts working on 30 active projects
- Bi-annual Forums and annual Plenary sessions
- Four PDAs, 16 Domains



Public & Private Standard Development Organization's Relationship & Working Together

Working with SDOs and other organizations on standards

A comprehensive overview of organizations that support the international supply chain with private legal rules and technical standards will be launched on the DSI website in Q1 2022. Websites, role of the organization, rulebooks available, technical standards and more.

Private

Public

ICC and WTO launch first-ever standard toolkit for paperless trade

News • Geneva, 15/03/2022



- ▶ UN/CEFACT is unique among standards development organizations as it ensures interoperability and harmonization across the entire international supply chain and all modes of transport
- ▶ Anyone can participate free of charge and all UN Members States can participate in the approval process, making it extremely inclusive
- ▶ UN/CEFACT work is extensively referenced by partner organizations

Cooperation with other organizations



EC
DG-MOVE
DG-TAXUD
DG-MARE
DG-INTPA
DG-DIGIT

EEC
OECD

GS1
IPCSA
PROTECT
FIATA
SMDG
DCSA

ISO
IEC
ITU
WTO
ITC
UNCITRAL
IATA
WCO

What UN/CEFACT does: example of streamlined standards for digital transformation

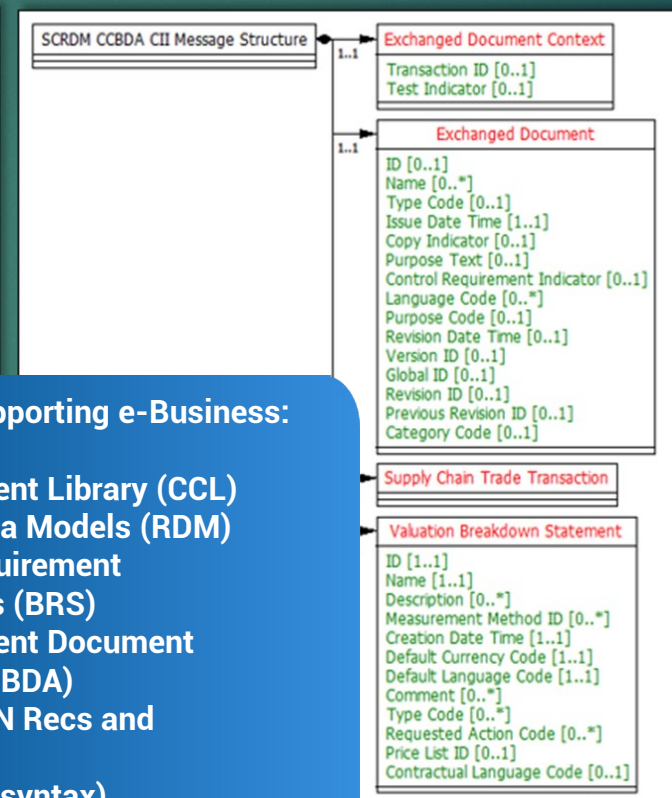
[UN/CEFACT streamlined standards page](#)

[UML diagram](#)

[Message structure \(on HTML index\)](#)

Supply Chain Management

- Supply Chain Reference Data Model (SCRDM)
- Cross Industry Invoice
 - BRS
 - RSM
 - Cross Industry Common Requirements BRS
 - e-Invoice Executive Guide English French Russian
 - XSD Schema
 - UML Diagram
 - HTML index
- Cross Industry Delivery
- Cross Industry Catalogue
- Cross Industry Quotation
- Cross Industry Remittance Advice
- Cross Industry Scheduling
- Cross Industry Ordering Process
- Cross Industry Export Packing List



- Product Net Price
- Applied Allowance/Charge
- Tax Category
- Trade Accounting Account
- Service Supply Country
- Sub-Division
- Buyer Repayable Tax Accounting Account
- Seller Payable Tax Accounting Account
- Seller Refundable Tax Accounting Account
- Buyer Deductible Tax Accounting Account
- Buyer Non-Deductible Tax Accounting Account
- Applicable Location
- Actual Currency Exchange
- Associated Document
- Effective Period
- Issuer
- Legal Organization
- Postal Address
- Authorized Registration
- Defined Contact Details

Standards supporting e-Business:

- Core Component Library (CCL)
- Reference Data Models (RDM)
- Business Requirement Specifications (BRS)
- Core Component Document Assembly (CCBDA)
- Code Lists (UN Recs and UN/EDIFACT)
- UN/EDIFACT (syntax)
- UN/XML (syntax)
- JSON-LD

UNECE TF technical cooperation activities

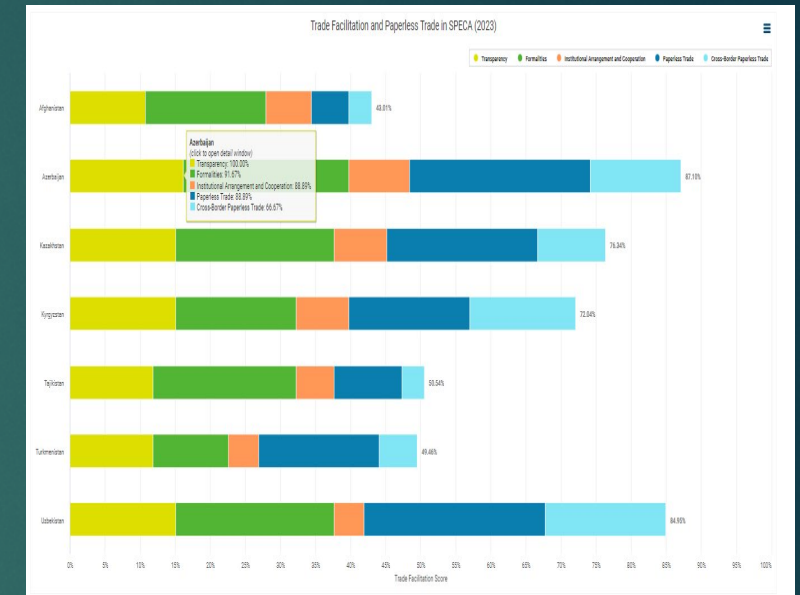
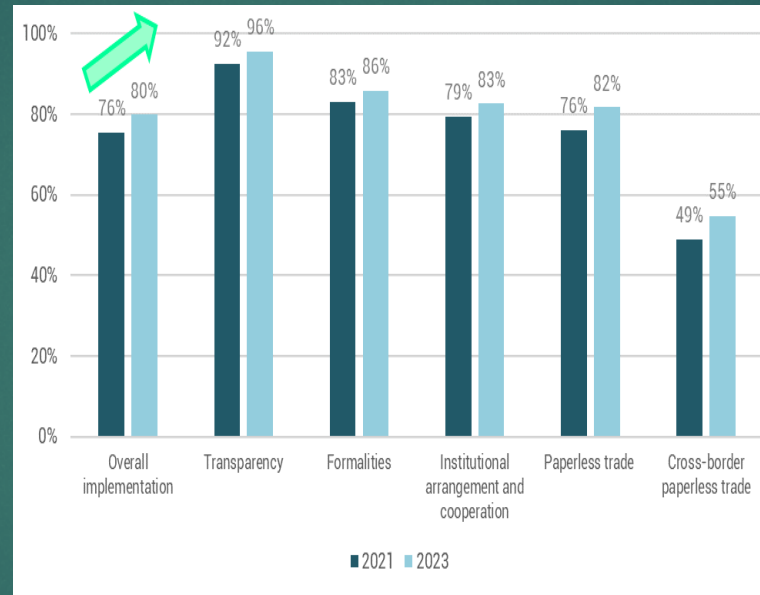
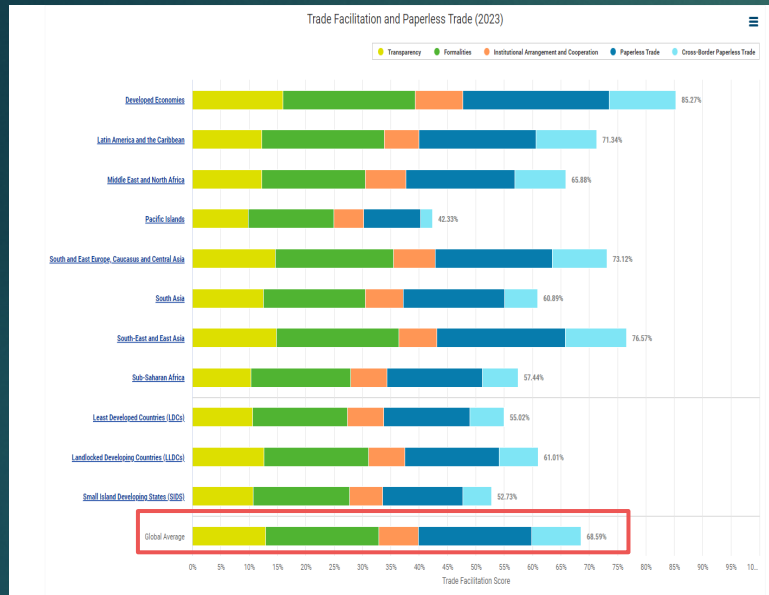
Joint activities with UN Regional Commissions and other partners

- UN Development Account (UNDAs) projects ongoing
- UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation with over 160 countries (fifth edition launched in 2023)
- EU funded project for enhancing traceability and transparency of sustainable value chains in garment and footwear, jointly with ITC, ILO (2019-2024)

Capacity building and advisory services

- Trade facilitation technical assistance projects for transition economies
- Business Process Analysis and National Trade Facilitation Roadmaps
- Blockchain pilots for global value chains (cotton, leather, wool and cashmere) piloted in **Brazil, India, Egypt, India, Peru, Turkey, Uzbekistan**; carried out in cooperation with value chain actors in **Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland and UK**
- Training Material on helping MSMEs to digitalize their procedures

Key trends from UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation, 2023





- Globally, the implementation rate of trade facilitation improved from 63% in 2021 to 69% in 2023.

- In the UNECE region, average implementation rate of trade facilitation improved from 76% in 2021 to 80% in 2023.

- In the SPECA region, average implementation rate of trade facilitation improved from 63% in 2021 to 66% in 2023.

UN/CEFACT tools supporting the implementation of WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement

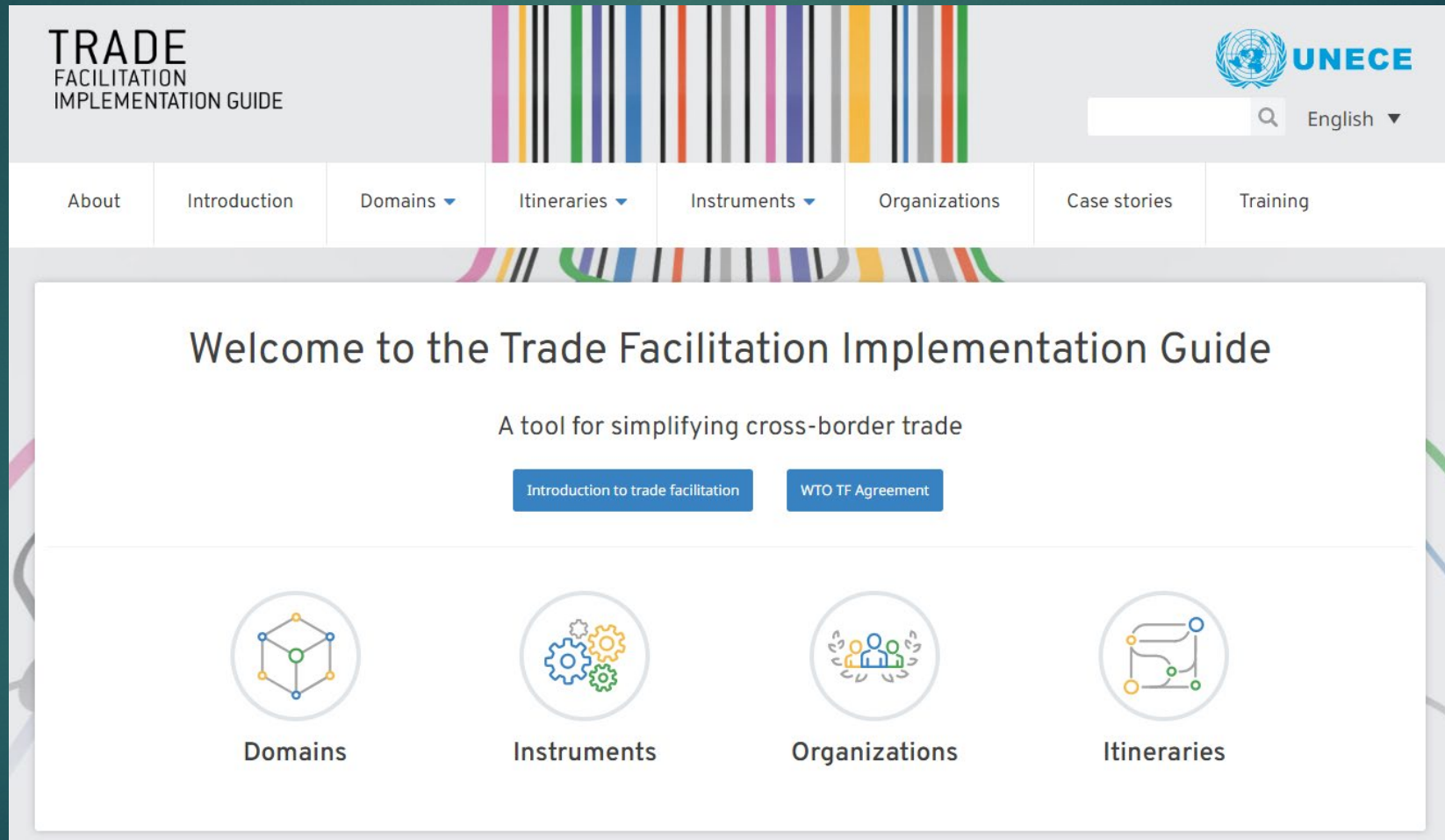
Subgroup	Measure in the Survey Questionnaire	Relevant TFA Article	UN/CEFACT Recommendation, Standard or Guideline
General trade facilitation measures  Institutional arrangement and cooperation (5 measures)	Expedited shipments	7.8	Rec 18 – Facilitation Measures Related to International Trade Procedures
	Acceptance of copies of original supporting documents required for import, export or transit formalities	10.2.1	Rec 13 – Facilitation of Identified Legal Problems in Import Clearance Procedures
	Establishment of a National Trade Facilitation Committee or similar body	23	Rec 4 – National Trade Facilitation Bodies Rec 40 – Consultation Approaches Rec 41 – Public-Private Partnerships in Trade Facilitation
	National legislative framework and/or institutional arrangements for border agencies cooperation	8	Rec 36 – Single Window Interoperability
	Government agencies delegating border controls to customs authorities		Technical Note on Terminology of Single Window
	Alignment of working days and hours with neighbouring countries at border crossings	8.2(a)	Technical Note on Terminology of Single Window
	Alignment of formalities and procedures with neighbouring countries at border crossings	8.2(b)	Technical Note on Terminology of Single Window
	Transit facilitation agreement(s) with neighbouring country(ies)		eCMR (Electronic Consignment Note) Executive Guide – Transboundary Movement of Wastes

Subgroup	Measure in the Survey Questionnaire	Relevant TFA Article	UN/CEFACT Recommendation, Standard or Guideline
Digital trade facilitation measures  Paperless trade (10 measures)	Electronic submission of sea cargo manifests		Rec 12 – Measures to Facilitate Maritime Transport Documents Procedures Rec 37 – Single Submission Portals (SSPs) Rec 33 – Single Window E-business Standards – Multimodal Waybill E-business Standards – Maritime Bill of Lading
	Electronic submission of air cargo manifests		E-business Standards – Air Waybill E-business Standards (available soon)
	Electronic application and issuance of Preferential Certificate of Origin		Rec 33 – Single Window
	E-payment of customs duties and fees	7.2	Rec 33 – Single Window
	Electronic application for customs refunds		Rec 33 – Single Window
	 Cross-border paperless trade (6 measures)	Laws and regulations for electronic transactions are in place (e.g., e-commerce law, e-transaction law)	
Recognized certification authority issuing digital certificates to traders to conduct electronic transactions			Rec 14 – Authentication of Trade Documents

Subgroup	Measure in the Survey Questionnaire	Relevant TFA Article	UN/CEFACT Recommendation, Standard or Guideline
Sustainable trade facilitation measures  Agricultural trade facilitation (4 measures)	SMEs in National Trade Facilitation Committee (i.e., government has taken actions to ensure that SMEs are well represented and made key members of National Trade Facilitation Committees)		Rec 4 – National Trade Facilitation Bodies Rec 40 – Consultation Approaches White Paper on Women in Trade Facilitation
	Other special measures for SMEs		White Paper on Women in Trade Facilitation
	Testing and laboratory facilities available to meet SPS requirements of main trading partners		
	National standards and accreditation bodies are established to facilitate compliance with SPS requirements		
	Electronic application and issuance of SPS certificates		Electronic SPS Certificate (eCert)
	Special treatment for perishable goods at border crossings	7.9	White Paper on Integrated Track and Trace for Multimodal Transport
 Women in trade facilitation (3 measures)	Trade facilitation policy/strategy to increase women's participation in trade		White Paper on Women in Trade Facilitation
	Trade facilitation measures to benefit women involved in trade		White Paper on Women in Trade Facilitation
	Women's membership in the National Trade Facilitation Committee or similar bodies		White Paper on Women in Trade Facilitation

For more information: bit.ly/unglobalsurvey2023

More information and country-specific case studies/examples – UN TFIG



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide (TFIG). The header includes the title "TRADE FACILITATION IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE" on the left, the UNECE logo on the right, and a search bar with "English" selected. A navigation menu below the header contains links for "About", "Introduction", "Domains", "Itineraries", "Instruments", "Organizations", "Case stories", and "Training". The main content area features a large white box with the heading "Welcome to the Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide" and the subtitle "A tool for simplifying cross-border trade". Below this are two blue buttons: "Introduction to trade facilitation" and "WTO TF Agreement". At the bottom, there are four circular icons representing "Domains", "Instruments", "Organizations", and "Itineraries".

TRADE FACILITATION IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

UNECE





English ▼

About Introduction Domains ▼ Itineraries ▼ Instruments ▼ Organizations Case stories Training

Welcome to the Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide

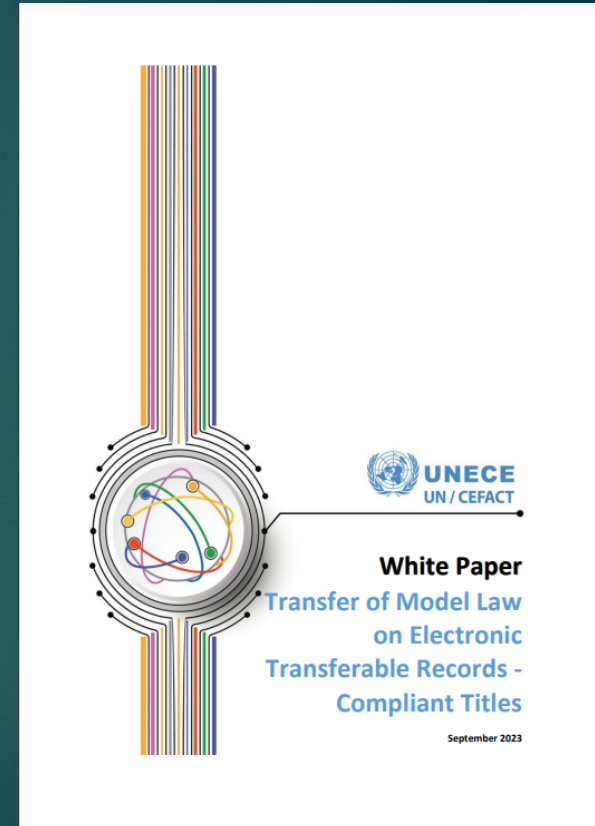
A tool for simplifying cross-border trade

[Introduction to trade facilitation](#) [WTO TF Agreement](#)

 Domains  Instruments  Organizations  Itineraries

Transfer of MLETR-Compliant Titles

- ▶ UN/CEFACT Project led by Mr. Ren Yuh Kay (Singapore), under the Supply Chain Management Domain
- ▶ Aimed at developing the framework and guidance (White Paper) on how to achieve the requirements outlined in the MLETR for electronic transferable records, while considering issues of reliability
- ▶ This guidance material looks at:
 - How Distributed Ledger Technology could be used to facilitate title transfers of MLETR-compliant title records (other feasible technologies may also be considered)
 - How existing UN/CEFACT deliverables could be used in this context
 - Key issues to consider while creating, administering and using technologies for electronic transferable records



UN/CEFACT upcoming events



41st UN/CEFACT Forum
2-5 October 2023
Bangkok, Thailand



29th UN/CEFACT Plenary
9-10 November 2023
Geneva, Switzerland

Thank you for your attention!



[Registration for
41st UN/CEFACT Forum](#)



[UN/CEFACT website](#)

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