



NOTIFICATION

Short courses on key international economic and development issues
for delegates from permanent missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva and the World Trade Organization

Second semester 2024
Palais des Nations, Geneva

DTL/TIKDB/MISC/2024
(cc/24/152)

The UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) secretariat is pleased to announce that another series of short courses on key international economic and development issues for delegates from permanent missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva and the World Trade Organization will be held in the second semester of 2024.

The aim of the courses is to give delegates from permanent missions an opportunity to become better acquainted with topical issues and developments on the international economic agenda as they are reflected in the work of UN Trade and Development. Course descriptions are provided below.

Three courses will be held at the Palais des Nations on Thursday, 12 September, Thursday, 3 October, and Thursday, 21 November 2024.

The courses will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be delivered in English, with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic, French and Spanish. Courses will begin promptly at 10 a.m. to allow sufficient time for debate after the presentations.

The secretariat invites permanent missions to nominate delegates who follow matters pertaining to UN Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization to attend these courses. Course applications may be completed online at [Short courses, second semester](#).

Queries concerning the courses should be addressed to Ms. Randa Jamal, Chief, Policy Capacity Building Section, Technology, Innovation and Knowledge Development Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD; Tel: 41 22 917 2718; email: randa.jamal@un.org.



Rebeca Grynspar
Secretary-General of UN Trade and Development

24 July 2024

Digital Economy Report 2024: Shaping an Environmentally Sustainable and Inclusive Digital Future

12 September 2024, Room XXVI

Delivered by the Division on Technology and Logistics

Digital Economy Report is a flagship UN Trade and Development publication, which considers the development implications of digitalization. The 2024 edition addresses the environmental footprint of digitalization in the context of trade and development, a topic that has been understudied. Environmental impacts along the life cycle of digital devices and information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure are discussed, including raw material extraction and processing, manufacturing and distribution, as well as the use and end-of-life phases. One chapter is dedicated to electronic commerce.

The course will present global trends, explain the digitalization and environmental sustainability nexus and discuss policy options, underscoring the importance of ensuring inclusive outcomes. At the end of this course, participants will have gained knowledge of:

- Main environmental impacts of digitalization
- Good practices in terms of assessing the environmental impacts of digitalization
- Environmental dimensions of digitalization and how they affect countries at different levels of development
- Development opportunities that emanate from environmental sustainability and inclusive digitalization
- Role of Governments and other stakeholders in ensuring sustainable and inclusive outcomes from digitalization
- How voices and concerns of developing countries can be better reflected in global responses to digitalization

Productive capacities and the productive capacities index: Reformulating the paths of structural transformation and sustainable development.

3 October 2024, Room XXVI

Delivered by the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes

Productive capacities are productive resources, entrepreneurial capabilities and production linkages that together determine the ability of a country to produce goods and services that help growth and development. Economy-wide, domestic productive capacities are necessary in order to advance structural transformation and economic diversification, and to enable more effective engagement by countries in the global economy through international trade, investment and production value chains. Productive capacities aim to place developing economies in the driving seat of their national development. The innovative productive capacities index of UN Trade and Development measures the level of productive capacities in 194 economies and facilitates the identification of gaps in the policy and institutional architecture under the eight components of the index, namely, natural capital, human capital, transport, energy, ICT, the private sector, institutions and structural change. The fragmented models of development and international support have produced limited results to date and a new approach is required, one that is holistic, comprehensive, multisectoral, gender-balanced, climate-resilient and long term. Fostering productive capacities is at the core of this new approach, which emphasizes the importance of reformulating structural transformation and sustainable development trajectories. Sectoral underdevelopment under certain index components and overall weak productive capacities inhibit the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, urgent actions need to be implemented to build domestic productive capacities in developing countries, particularly landlocked developing countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States.

The course will enable participants to acquire knowledge of productive capacities and the productive capacities index, including UN Trade and Development work in this area, as well as of inclusive and comprehensive policy formulation, to advance structural transformation and economic diversification through the building of productive capacities.

Trade and Development Report 2024: Challenges and Opportunities for Fiscal Space and Economic Diversification

21 November 2024, Room XXVI

Delivered by the Division on Globalization and Development Strategies

Trade and Development Report is a flagship UN Trade and Development publication, which provides analysis and data on the state of the global economy and current developments. The following are analysed through a UN Trade and Development lens: conditions of global growth; trends in international trade and in key markets; growth prospects; financial and fiscal constraints; and policies for safeguarding policy space in developing economies.

The course will enable participants to acquire knowledge of the analysis of global trends in the report, focusing on lessons on global integration stemming from the Global South, as well as responses to crises, building economic resilience, strategies for enhancing productive capacities, adding value and promoting economic diversification.

At the end of this course, participants will have gained knowledge of:

- Current trends in the global economy, international trade and key global markets
- Shifts in global integration and the governance of policy space
- Strategies for building resilience and crisis response
- Approaches to enhancing productive capacities, adding value and promoting economic diversification that centre on equitable and sustainable development