START-UP WORKSHOP

Launch of UNCTAD Project

Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence-Powered Transparency on Trade-Related Regulations for Gender-Sensitive Policymaking in Africa

GAIN

15 October, 2026
The Hilton, Windhoek, Namibia

Time Allocation	Item	Note / Output	Responsibility
08:30 – 09:00	Registration	Morning Tea/Coffee	
09:00 – 09.15	Opening /Welcome Remarks - Country Representative - UNCTAD - ECA		
09:15 – 09:30	Introductions		All
09:30 – 10:00	Project overview - What GAIN is - Importance of NTMs and transparency	Outline project deliverables Set expectations from the workshop	UNCTAD
10:00 - 10:30	UNCTAD data collection and dissemination - Introduction to NTMs (definition, data collection process, International Classification of NTMs) - Preliminary results of trade-related regulations and NTMs collected by AI - TRAINS Online for NTM dissemination	Build basic understanding on NTMs and the data collection and dissemination	UNCTAD
10:30 – 11:00	Discussion - Validation of AI's results - What do you want to see from TRAINS Online?	Get a sense of the data in this project's scope (regulations and NTMs) Explore how AI can facilitate NTM data dissemination	All
11:00 – 11:30	National data collection and dissemination (e.g., Trade Portal) - Available portals, websites - Available information - Sources of information - Operational process to upload the information	Build basic understanding on national data collection and dissemination efforts	Country

	- How they have been used		
11:30 – 12:30	Discussion - How can UNCTAD support national data collection and dissemination effort? - How can we collaborate with other projects?	Explore where and how to publish the data, and how to build capacity in the country to maintain the data	All
12:30 – 14:00	**Lunch Break**		
14:00 – 14:30	UNCTAD gender-based trade policy - Linkage between gender and NTM	Introduce how the first component on data can be used for the second component on gender-sensitive policy	UNCTAD
14:30 – 15:00	National efforts of gender-based trade policy - Any experience of gender-sensitive policy making or review - What, how, with whom?	Gather lessons and know-how from previous experience	Country
15:00 – 16:00	Discussion - Which areas or issues do you want UNCTAD to work? - Who should be involved? How? - How can we collaborate with other projects?	Collect more inputs to implement the second component on gender-sensitive policy	All
16:00	Closing	Afternoon Tea/Coffee	

*** OPERATIONAL ASPECTS**

1 Day, Physical, 60 Participants (50% Female)

- Government officials
    - Teams who run trade portals and websites;
    - Institutions addressing trade-related regulations (see the table below)
- Private sector representatives
- Women's associations
- (If possible) associations of persons with disability
- Other UN agencies such as RCOs or UNCTs