Division on Technology and Logistics: Synergies between the 3 pillars

Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission, 13th session

15th November 2022

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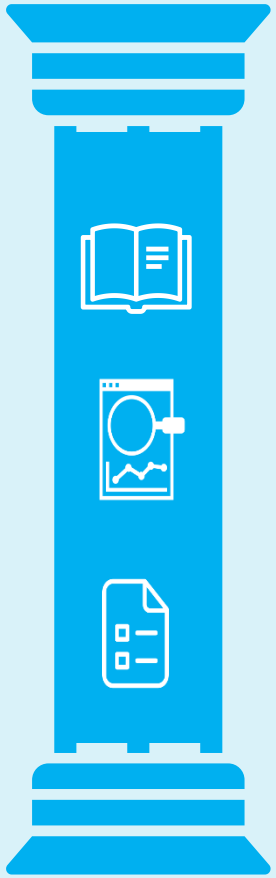
Highlights for 2021/2022

Research and analysis

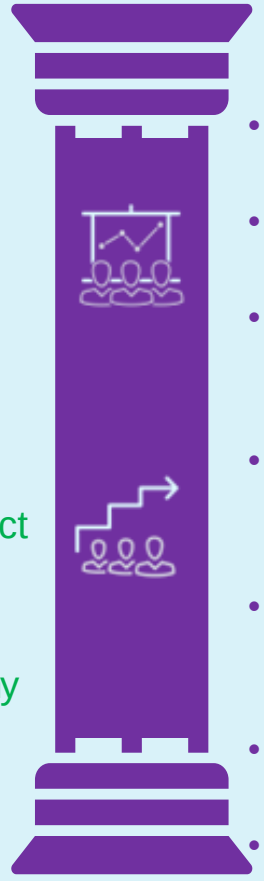


- Digital Economy Report
- Technology and Innovation Report
- Current studies on STI
- Statistics on e-commerce and the digital economy
- Technical notes on ECDE and other research products

Technical cooperation

- eTrade Assessments
- E-Commerce Strategies & capacity building
- STI policy reviews & capacity building trainings
- Technology Assessment project
- eTrade for Women
- Measuring the Digital Economy
- Paragraph 166 course
- ASYCUDA

Consensus building



- CSTD
- ECOSOC/GA
- TDB, Investment and Enterprise Commission
- IGE on E-commerce and the Digital Economy
- Working Group on Measuring ECDE
- eCommerce Week
- G20

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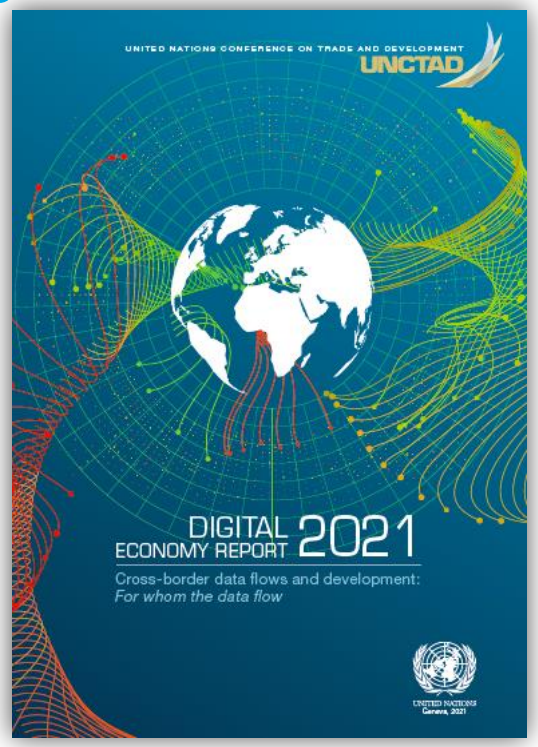
Digital Economy Report 2021

Research and analysis



- Topic: ***Cross Border data flows and development***

- Informs intergovernmental deliberations:
  - UNCTAD15
  - IGE-2023
  - UNCTAD TDB June 2022
  - eCommerce Week 2022, "Data and Digitalization for Development"
  - G20 Digital Economy Working Group (2022, Indonesian Presidency)
  - G20 Development Working Group (2023, Indian Presidency)

- Draws on technical cooperation activities:
  - eT Readies, E-commerce strategies and implementation

- 36 dissemination events

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Technology and Innovation Report

Research and analysis

- **Technology and Innovation Report 2021**– *Catching technological waves: Innovation with equity*
- **Technology and Innovation Report 2023** (forthcoming) – *Green windows of opportunity: Innovations for people and the planet*
- TIR-21 Informed intergovernmental deliberations:
  - TDB 2021
  - UNCTAD-15
  - CSTD
  - STI Forum
- Over 30 dissemination events organized

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Research and Analysis on Science Technology and Innovation

Research and analysis

- **Current studies** built on CSTD deliberations and national inputs
  - **Industry 4.0** for Inclusive Development
  - Harnessing **blockchain** for sustainable development: prospects and challenges
  - Science, technology and innovation for sustainable **urban development** in a post-pandemic world
  - Exploring **space technologies** for sustainable development
- **Catalogue of Diversification Opportunities** 2022

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Building Capacity for eTrade Readiness

Technical cooperation

- **Build on body of research** by UNCTAD and eTrade for All partners
- Regional eT Readies and E-Commerce Strategies (e.g. Pacific region, ECOWAS) **build regional consensus**
- **Implementation Support Mechanism** enables:
  - ❑ Exchange of good practices, policy dialogue between beneficiaries, continuous learning and improvement
  - ❑ Coordination with and among donors
  - ❑ Supported by eTrade for All partners

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eTrade for Women

Technical cooperation

- Strengthens **capacity of women digital entrepreneurs** to grow their businesses:
  - mentoring
  - training
  - networking
- Fosters **women's participation in policy dialogues** to shape a more gender-inclusive digital economy
- **Cross-fertilization** with eT-Readiness assessments

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Measuring E-Commerce and the Digital Economy

Technical cooperation

- UNCTAD **collects and analyses data** on ecommerce and the digital economy (DER, B2C e-Commerce index, technical notes)
- **Database** of statistics on ECDE
- Consensus building through the Working Group on Measuring E-Commerce and the Digital Economy
- Normative work:
  - Updated *Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Digital Economy (2020)*
- Feeds into technical assistance on production of statistics on ECDE

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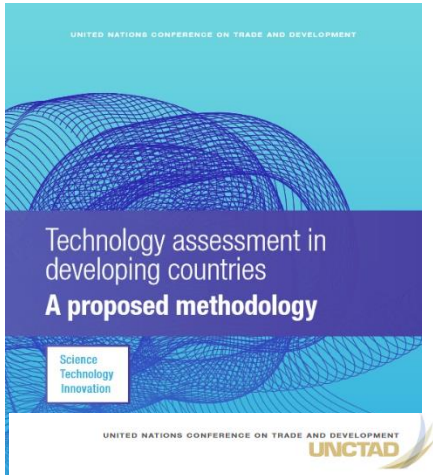
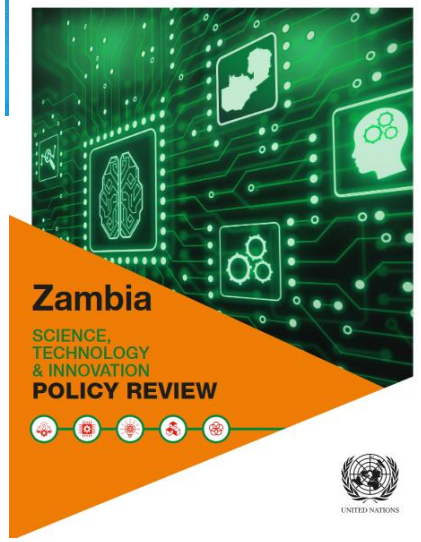
Capacity Building in Science Technology and Innovation

Technical cooperation





- **STIP reviews** Angola, Zambia (2002); Botswana and Seychelles underway
  - Link to CSTD
  - Feed-back from UNCTAD research
- **Technology Assessment** pilot project in Africa
  - UNCTAD developed methodology, guidelines
  - Approach discussed in CSTD and the Investment, Enterprise Commission
  - Applied at national level (South Africa, Seychelles and Zambia)
- STI policy training through **UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism**
  - Based on UNCTAD research in STI
- **Blockchain project** for trade facilitation with UN regional Commissions, building on research (current study) and CSTD deliberations

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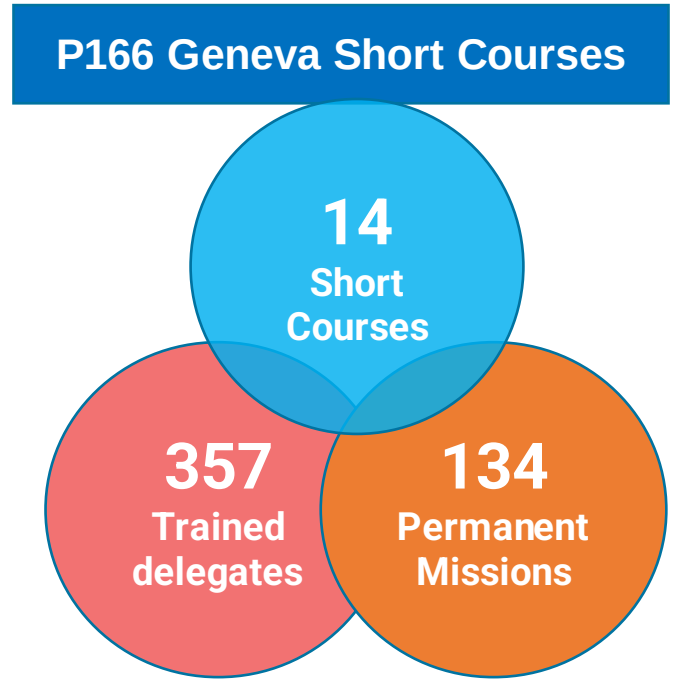
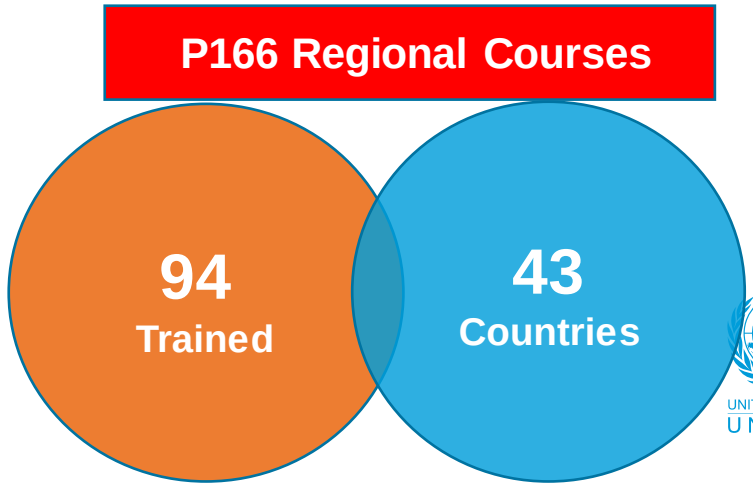
Disseminating UNCTAD-wide research through the P166 Programme

Technical cooperation

- **Dissemination tool** for whole-of-UNCTAD research work
- Adapted to specific **regional contexts**
- **Cooperation** with UN regional Economic Commissions and regional research institutes
- 2021 regional courses
  - North Macedonia
  - Egypt
- 2022 regional courses
  - Kenya
  - Argentina
  - Pakistan (upcoming)





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ASYCUDA: end to end technology transfer for trade facilitation

Technical cooperation

102 Countries & territories

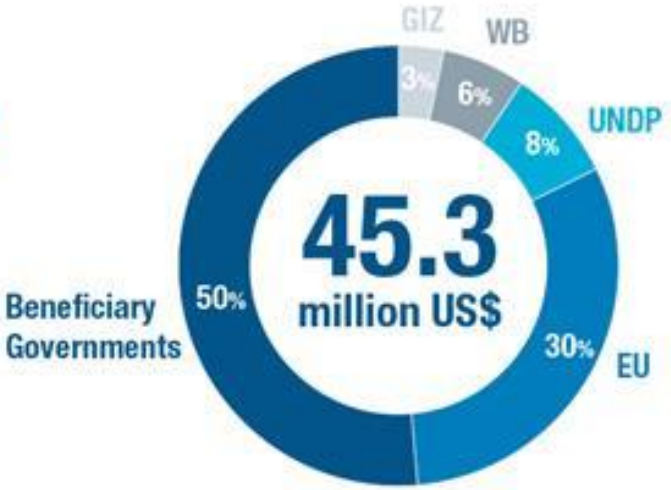
- 38 LDCs
- 34 SIDS
- 23 LLDCs

Transfer of know-how (2021)

300+ training sessions
& 3000+ participants

69 **Ongoing projects**
including 13 regional & inter-regional

Project **funding** (2021)



30 New projects **signed** (2021)

11 **Single Window projects**

- Barbados
- Burundi
- Comoros
- Jamaica
- Kazakhstan
- Rwanda
- Timor-Leste
- Turkmenistan
- Uganda
- Vanuatu
- Zimbabwe

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ASYCUDA: end to end technology transfer for trade facilitation

Technical cooperation

- Analysis of **lessons-learnt**, best practices, reviews impacts
  - Compendiums of national case studies
  - Ad-hoc research (transit, tackling COVID19)
  - Collection of statistics to support policy-making
- Feeds into **UNCTAD flagships**—Review of Maritime Transport; Economic Development of Africa Report 2020
- Supports implementation of **international standards** in trade
- Extensive **network of partnerships** with specialized agencies (eCITES, IATA, UN regional Commissions, UPU, WCO, WTO, etc.)

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Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

United Nations focal point on STI for Development

Discussions in 2022-2023:

- *Technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production*
- *Ensuring safe water and sanitation for all: a solution by STI*

Outcome: two UN Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC:

- ❑ STI for development
- ❑ Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of WSIS (i.e. ICT for Development)

➢ **Informs UNCTAD research: TIR**

TIR-2021: *Catching technological waves: Innovation with equity*
TIR-2023: Green *windows of opportunity: Innovation that is good for people and the planet*

Technical Cooperation under the CSTD

Technical cooperation

- **China**: CropWatch Cooperation—application of space tech for food security
  - ❑ Followed discussions in CSTD on space tech theme
- **Japan:** Young Female Scientists Programme & Young Scientist PHD programme
  - Offered through the Okayama University
- **Brazil**: Training in frontier technologies in agriculture (upcoming)
- **Thailand**: Training on Bio-Circular-Green innovation (upcoming)
  - ❑ Based on CSTD discussions

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Building consensus on e-Commerce and the Digital Economy

Consensus building

- **Intergovernmental Group of Experts on ECDE** 5th session in 2022: *Recovering from COVID-19 in an increasingly digital economy*
- **Working Group on Measuring ECDE:** *"Defining the digital economy for statistical purposes & measuring the gender dimension"*
  - Results in technical cooperation by UNCTAD on ECDE measurement
- **G20's Digital Economy Working Group**
  - Support to Indonesia Presidency: *Survey on Regulations of Cross-Border Data Flows and Data Free Flow with Trust*

G20 INDONESIA 2022

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Building consensus on e-Commerce and the Digital Economy

Consensus building

eTrade for all
Connecting the dots

eCommerce Week

- **eTrade for all partners** contribute to research and capacity building:
  - etReadies
  - Research on COVID-19 Global Review
  - Supports upcoming *Core E-commerce Course for policymakers*

- **eWeek** dialogues**:**
  - Research and analysis (e.g. e-commerce negotiations and digital competition, data protection),
  - Results and lessons from technical cooperation (e.g. E-Commerce Strategies and logistics).

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Partnerships within UNCTAD and with other stakeholders

- Cooperate with **all UNCTAD divisions**:
  - ❑ Research: EDAR22, Commodity report, DER…
  - ❑ Consensus building: eWeek, IGE ECDE
  - ❑ Technical cooperation: Statistics, P166
- eTrade 4 All Initiative (35 members)
- WSIS Forum
- STI Forum
- Inter-Agency Task Team for Science, Technology and Innovation for SDGs
- Contribute IATF-Financing For Development
- Enabled by generous **support of our development partners**

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