

## PROSPECTUS

### Online course on non-tariff measures and data collection

**Sixth edition: 12 August to 27 September 2019**

#### Background

The ability to benefit from market access opportunities depends increasingly on compliance with non-tariff measures, for example, sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical regulations and norms. These measures represent a major challenge for exporters, importers and policymakers. Although many non-tariff measures have primarily non-trade objectives, such as the protection of public health or the environment, they may affect trade and unintentionally discriminate against smaller exporters and poorer countries. It is therefore important for developing countries to understand the use of such measures and their implications for the formulation and implementation of effective development strategies.

Comprehensive, systematic and reliable information on non-tariff measures is scant and difficult to obtain. UNCTAD coordinates an international effort to improve access to and transparency in such measures. In addition, UNCTAD trains experts globally to collect and classify information about these measures. The collection of data on non-tariff measures is highly resource-intensive and requires specific technical knowledge. In this context, the Trade Analysis Branch of UNCTAD has developed an online training course that provides a comprehensive overview of the approach developed by the Multi-Agency Support Team to classify non-tariff measures and gather data. The course constitutes a useful base of knowledge and skills for policymakers, researchers and trade practitioners working with non-tariff measures. Following the success of the previous courses in 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018, UNCTAD is now offering its sixth edition. In this version, the multimedia lectures are freshly updated with a new format that will enable interactive learning throughout the course.

#### Objective and target audience

The objective of this hands-on technical course is to increase participants' understanding of transparency in non-tariff measures and of the collection of data concerning such measures. It targets two specialized audiences:

- Data collectors directly working with non-tariff measures.
- Government officials, researchers, and representatives of the private sector who wish to strengthen their understanding of non-tariff measures, use data concerning such measures, and/or who are or may be involved in the design or negotiation of policies related to such measures.

### **Prerequisites**

Candidates must hold a Master's degree in economics, law, public policy or international relations. Applications may also be accepted from graduate students that are enrolled in such programmes and hold a Bachelor's degree in one of these fields. A very good knowledge of English and familiarity with government/ministry structures responsible for setting regulations is also required.

To successfully complete course activities, participants should plan to devote at least 10 hours per week throughout the duration of the seven-week course.

### **Fees**

Thanks to the support of the Trade Analysis Branch of UNCTAD, the selected participants will be exempt from the fees associated with access to the course and the e-tutoring services provided.

### **Grading and certificate**

A passing grade of at least 70 per cent on the tests covering each module, either at the first or second attempt, is required. Participants who have successfully completed the course will receive a certificate attesting that they are UNCTAD-certified non-tariff measure data collectors.

The names of the top graduates will be placed on the UNCTAD non-tariff measures consultancy roster. Persons on the roster may be considered for future data collection or related work. Consultants will receive additional personalized follow-up training.

### **Application information and deadline**

Persons interested in applying should follow the instructions at <https://www.research.net/r/NTMData2019>. Applications must include a photograph and detailed curriculum vitae of the candidates.

The deadline for applications is 28 July 2019 (23.59 Geneva time). Incomplete applications or applications received thereafter will not be considered.

Requests for further information should be sent to Ms. Chi-Le NGO, Trade Analysis Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD; email: [ntm.training@unctad.org](mailto:ntm.training@unctad.org).

A selection committee will review each application and select the course participants based on their supporting documents and relevance of the course to their work. Participants will be advised of their selection by 7 August 2019.

## Structure

The course is divided into an introduction and five modules, with each module building on the previous one. Each module contains the following components:

- Learning objectives.
- Reading material.
- Multimedia lecture based on slide presentations (30–60 minutes).
- Exercises.
- Multiple-choice test.

The course will be run entirely from the course website. An Internet connection is required to interact with the course tutor and complete end-of-module tests.

No hard copies (printed papers, CDs, DVDs) of the course materials will be provided.

## Timetable

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Content</i>
Week 1 12–16 August	Module 1 Introduction to non-tariff measures and data collection	Module 1 Overview of non-tariff measures: definition; use and impacts; how they relate to trade policies, economic growth and development
Week 2 19–23 August	Module 2A International Classification of Non-tariff Measures	Module 2A Study of the International Classification of Non-tariff Measures; how to use the Classification to identify, classify and disseminate data on non-tariff measures
Week 3 26–30 August	Module 2B International Classification of Non-tariff Measures, chapters A and B	Module 2B Continuation of the discussion covered in module 2A, with a focus on sanitary and phytosanitary measures (chapter A) and technical barriers to trade (chapter B)

Week 4 2–6 September	Catch-up week Possibility to retake tests on modules 1 and 2 <sup>a</sup>	
Week 5 9–13 September	Module 3 Product classification	Module 3 Connection between non-tariff measures and the products affected by such requirements; how to classify the affected products using the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
Week 6 16–20 September	Module 4 Guidelines on the collection of data on official non-tariff measures	Module 4 Non-tariff measure data registration method as per UNCTAD methodology
Week 7 23–27 September	Catch-up week Possibility to retake tests on modules 3 and 4 <sup>a</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Catch-up weeks offer participants an opportunity to review the teaching material of the previous modules and retake a failed test(s) or improve their grade.