



# ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND TRADE STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES



**Mrs. Virginia Cram-Martos, Director  
UNECE Economic Cooperation and Trade Division**



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR EUROPE



# UNECE Work Areas



## Statistics



## Population



## Sustainable energy



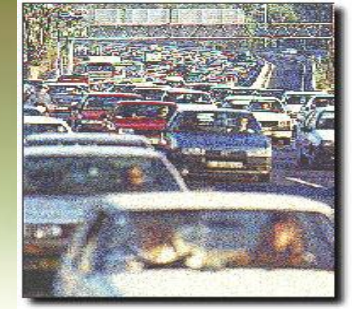
## Economic cooperation & integration



## Housing & land management



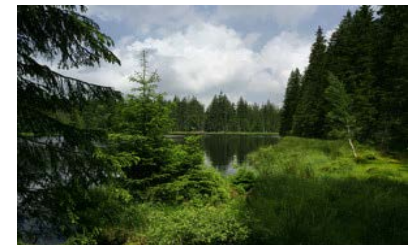
## Environmental policy



## Transport



## Trade



## Forests



# UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

## Mission

Improve the ability of business, trade & administrative organizations to exchange products & services effectively

## Objectives

Simple, transparent & effective processes for global business

Efficient & automated information exchange

## Outputs

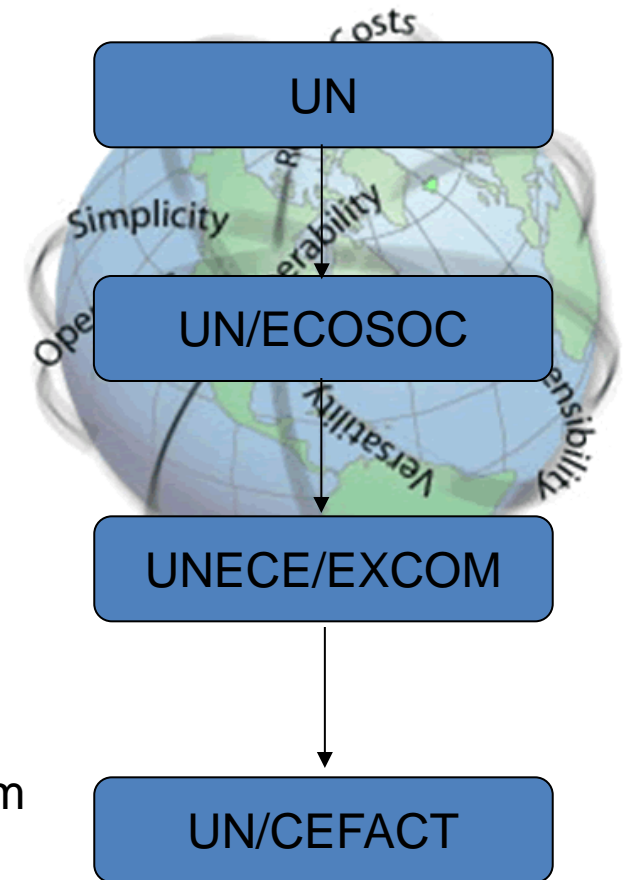
Global Trade Facilitation & Electronic Business  
Recommendations & Standards & Technical Specifications

## Means

Public Private Sector Partnership of more than 300 experts from government and business

Intergovernmental Plenary plus two expert Forums per year

Virtual meetings every week



**Global Remit**



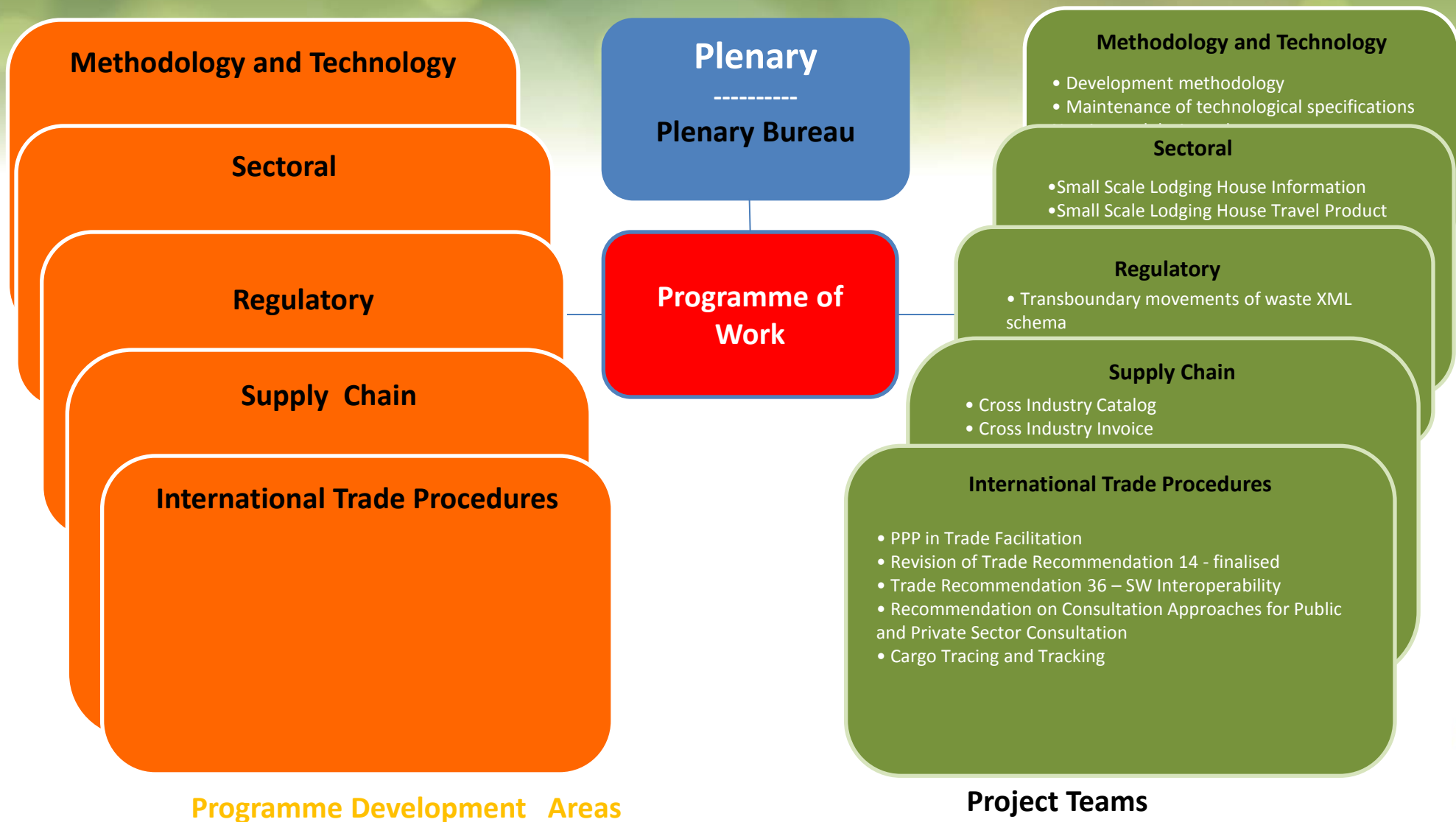
# UN/CEFACT: Outputs

- **Internationally agreed recommendations**
- **Business/Technical Standards**
- **Common Libraries and Directories**
- **Glossary, Reference Models, Guides, Handbooks, training materials, etc...**





# UN/CEFACT Governance Structure





# UN/CEFACT Open Development Process

- **Basic principles:**
  - Open participation by anyone designated by Heads of Delegation (HoDs) to UN/CEFACT (all UN Member States)
  - Global input encouraged
  - No IPR-protected items in outputs
  - Compliance with UN/CEFACT's [IPR policy](#) and [Code of Conduct](#)
  - ALL documents available on-line during the whole process
- **Project proposal** includes “**exit criteria**” to be met for successful completion
- **Project inception** needs support from 3 HoDs and subsequent approval by UN/CEFACT Bureau
- **Technical work** undertaken by UN/CEFACT Experts from public and private sectors



# UN/CEFACT Open Development Process: Key Steps

- **Inception:** after Bureau's approval, "Call for Participation" sent out by project leader
- **Requirements Gathering:** initial contributions collected in requirements log
- **Interim Draft:** draft-projects circulated for comment
- **Mandatory Public Reviews:** minimum 60 days of public consultation on UN/CEFACT website
- **Project Exit:** each project must undergo a final quality assurance exercise to verify that the final draft has addressed the stated requirements of the project. The conclusion of this process leads to Bureau or Plenary Approval and then Publication
- **Publication:** final documents published as UNECE documents
- **Maintenance:** changes requested by implementers may lead to new projects

**All documents publicly available during the whole process!!**



# UNECE International PPP Centre of Excellence

- Collects international PPP best practices
- Develops international standards
- Helps countries with voluntary compliance
- Works as one UN (UNECE on behalf of UN Regional Commissions & with UNDP)





# PPP International Standards for the SDGs

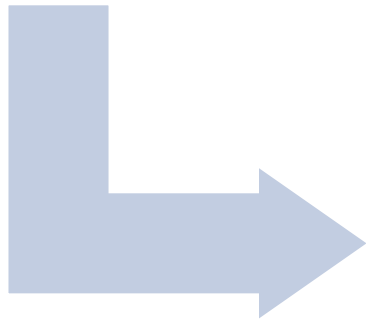
- Zero Tolerance to Corruption in PPP Procurement
- Health
- Transport Infrastructure (Roads, Rail, Airports, Ports)
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Water and Sanitation
- Education



# The process of developing standards in the ICoE on PPPs

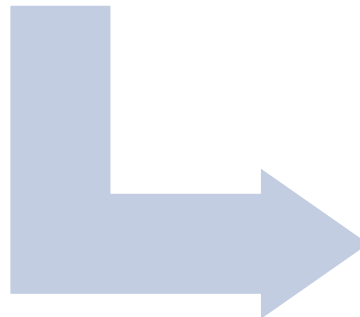
**PPP Best Practices**

- PPP Specialist Centres



**International PPP Standards**

- UNECE PPP Project Teams



**Implementation**

- UNECE PPP Business Advisory Board



# PPP Standard Development Process: The Process by which Standards are developed through Project Teams



- 1 » Project initiation by the intergovernmental process
- 2 » Stakeholders' mobilisation to prepare the first draft of the standard
- 3 » Developing the initial draft with stakeholders' feedback
- 4 » 60 days Public Review
- 5 » Endorsement by the TOS PPP Bureau and TOS PPP
- 6 » Approval by CECI
- 7 » Maintenance of standards



# Details of the PPP standards setting process

## Project initiation

- Approved by TOS Bureau + Explicit support of 3 governments
- Project leader
- Purpose, scope, list of deliverables, geographical focus, list of members, resource requirements, schedule

## Stakeholder mobilization

- UNECE secretariat & Project Leader mobilize stakeholders
- All participants agree to IPR policy and code of conduct.

## Initial draft

- 1 month for feedback from PPP BAB & key stakeholders (World Bank, the ADB, the EBRD, the EIB/EPEC, the OECD, UNCITRAL, UNCTAD, IPFA and CICA)



# Details of the PPP standards setting process (cont)

## Public Review

- Standard on the UNECE website for 60 days
- All received comments are logged & registered with the Project Team's responses on public website
- If significant changes, revised standard posted again for 30 days
- Process repeated as needed

## Endorsement

- Endorsement by the TOS PPP Bureau
- Request for endorsement to PPP TOS

## Approval

- Standard approved by the PPP Centre of Excellence

## Maintenance

- Review to take into account new developments as needed



# Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards

## Four Specialized Sections

- Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
- Dry and Dried Produce
- Seed Potatoes
- Meat



## Mission

- Develop quality standards setting minimum requirements (commercial quality, maturity, sizing, tolerances, presentation, marking)
- Prepare explanatory material
- Promote UNECE standards worldwide, organize capacity-building for awareness and implementation

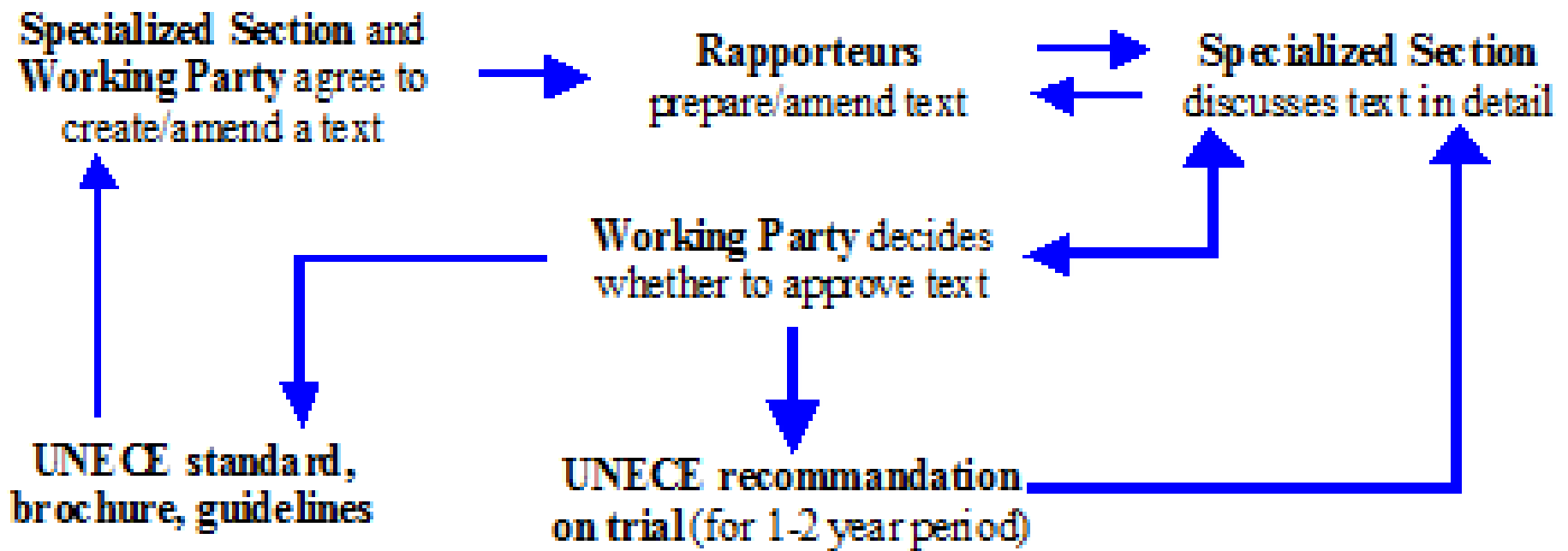
## Participation

- Global





# UNECE Agricultural Quality Standards Development Process





**Thank you !**

[virginia.cram-martos@unece.org](mailto:virginia.cram-martos@unece.org)