



# 41<sup>st</sup> UN/CEFACT FORUM

2-5 OCTOBER 2023 | BANGKOK | THAILAND

# Closing Session

UN/CEFACT Bureau

5 October 2023

# Speakers



**Ms. Sue Probert**  
Chair  
UN/CEFACT



**Mr. Ian Watt**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT



**Ms. Liliana Fratini Passi**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT



**Mr. Aleksei Bondarenko**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT



**Ms. Hanane Becha**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT



**Mr. Marek Laskowski**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT



**Mr. Tahseen Khan**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# Highlights of the forum

**304**  
in-person  
participants

**60+**  
Countries

**204**  
online  
participants

**23**  
Sessions

**19**  
UN/CEFACT  
projects  
discussed

**8**  
new  
projects  
proposals

# International Supply Chain

## Domains:

- **Agriculture, Fisheries & AgriFoods Domain**  
Domain Coordinator – Erik Bosker, Gaëlle Cheruy Pottiau
- **Travel & Tourism Domain**  
Domain Coordinator – Sachin Mehta
- **Supply Chain & Procurement Domain**  
Domain Coordinator – Edmund Gray



**Mr. Ian Watt**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# Agriculture, Fisheries & AgriFoods & Trade Procedures Facilitation Domains

- **PROJECT: BRS Project Digital Product Conformity Certificate Exchange**
  - Next steps:
    - Establish expert groups in textile and building products
    - Draft BRS to Public Comment stage by May 2024
- **PROJECT: Digitization Transit Accompanying Documents – Document Requirements for Goods in Transit**
  - Next steps:
    - Finalizing White Paper on digitization transit accompanying documents
    - Webinar to present findings
- **PROJECT: Extension textile and leather BRS part 2: use case and CCBDA data structure supporting product circularity (Also known as Product Circularity)**
  - A first draft of the new use case for product circularity for inclusion in the Textile and Leather BRS has been prepared. This was circulated for team review just before the Forum. All comments and a final team review to finalize it should be done by the end of October, at which point it will be submitted to the Bureau for approval to go into public review.



**Mr. Ian Watt**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# Travel & Tourism Domain

- **PROJECT:** Business Standards for Sustainable Tourism
- **Supporting VC's:** Ian Watt
- **Domain Coordinator:** Sachin Mehta
- **Project Lead:** Tunghua TAI
- **Project Purpose:**

Several of the UN SDG's have their application in the tourism industry. Tourism, both globally and regionally can have severe negative impacts on local communities, natural resources, climate and economies. The same applies to accommodation services (Lodgings) etc. The aim of the project is to clearly define sustainable tourism, as well as to set parameters for what can and what should not be considered sustainable tourism.

- **Project status: Launch: 2019 April 01; Respond to Public Review by 2023-June-05; Publication (Plenary) 2023-Nov-10**
- **Next Steps:**

The project deliverables are: 1: White Paper containing definitions, standards, guidelines for sustainable tourism: Technical Application of Business Standards for Sustainable Tourism

# Travel & Tourism Domain

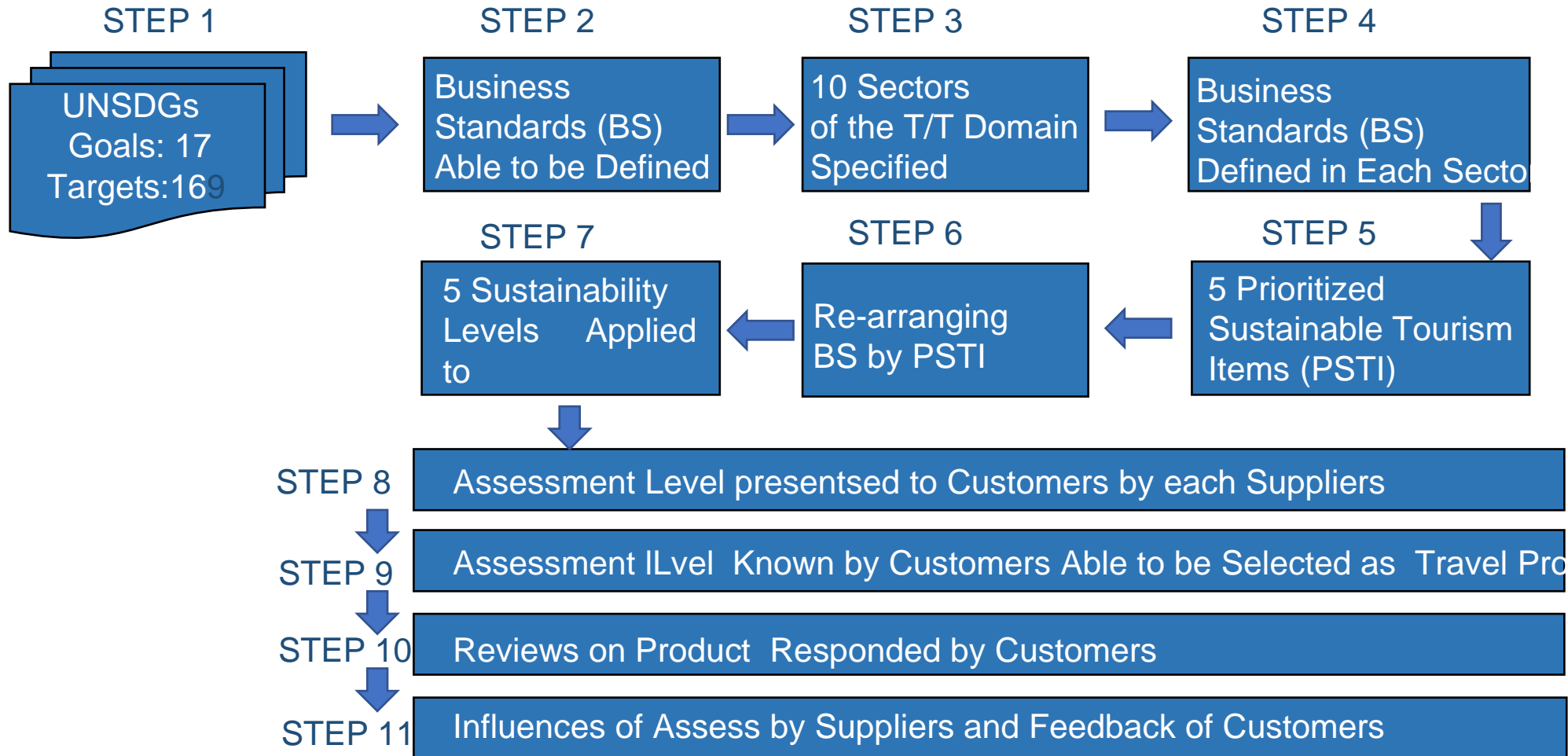
- **PROJECT:** API Transformation of EPs Technical Artefacts with Sustainability Claims
- **Supporting VC's:** Ian Watt
- **Domain Coordinator:** Sachin Mehta
- **Project Lead:** Sachin Mehta
- **PROJECT PURPOSE:**

Experience Programs Technical Artefacts Project (P1082) was completed in October in 2022, and some members in the tourism industry expect to have the artefacts transformed into API formats based on the newly constructed technical specifications of UN/CEFACT to trade Experience Programs (EPs) much lighter and easier for the use of smart phones. Therefore, this project is proposed to make API applicable to the use of the trade of EPs, which will support the facilitation of their trade. and at the same time when to trade EPs, their sustainability information based on SDGs and self-assessed by relevant suppliers could be transferred to the buyers to let them understand the level of the sustainability goal of the EPs they are going to buy. The necessary BIEs for sustainability information could be extracted from the output of Business Standards for Sustainable Tourism Project (P1078) or its succeeding one. This information could be checked by the buyers and might be commented after they have experienced. This feedback information of the buyers might contribute the enhancement of sustainability to the industry.

- **Project Status: Launch: 2023-04-01, C Completion: 2024-01-31, Publication (Plenary) : 2024-05-31**
- **Next Steps:**
  - Working based on UN/CEFACT developing procedures.
  - Each sector has defined its own Business Standards
  - Reviewing existing BRS
  - Work step by step to Complete the API Transformation.

# API Transformation of EPs Technical Artefacts with Sustainability Claims

- Overview of Steps to Assess by Suppliers and Feedback of Customers





# Travel & Tourism Domain

- **PROJECT:** Travel Agency and DMC&DMO Package Tour Project
- **Supporting VC's:** Ian Watt
- **Domain Coordinator:** Sachin Mehta
- **Project Lead:** Tunghua TAI
- **Project Purpose:**

The project enables replacing the current emails and spreadsheets used to exchange tour package data between Travel Agencies (mostly SME's) and Destination Managing Company (DMC) and Destination Managing Organization (DMO) with harmonized data and comments. (Ref red arrows in the diagram below). This will deliver additional semantic data definition into the CCL, RDM establishing the ability to write standardized APIs.

- **Project status: Launch: 2023-May-08; Completion 2024-Sep-30; Publication (Plenary) 2024-Nov-30**
- **Next Steps:**

The project deliverables are:

1. A Reference Data Models (RDM) of and APIs specifications to cover the travel agency, Destination Managing Company (DMC) and Destination Managing Organization (DMO).
2. The other related Reference Data Models (RDM) and API specifications developed and information involved.

# Supply Chain & Procurement Domain

- Progression of the CII Light Project, and
- The preceding methodology project

# International Supply Chain

## Domains:

- **Transport and Logistics Domain**

Domain Coordinator – David Roff

- **Health and Insurance Domain**

Domain Coordinator – Manuel Reimer

- **Environment Management Domain**

Domain Coordinator – Norbert Pfaffinger



**Ms. Hanane Becha**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# Transport and Logistics Domain

## Current Projects:

- Buy/Ship/Pay Data Exchange structures for Trade Finance Facilitation
- Parcel Goods Traceability in Last Mile Delivery
- Digital Identity Standardization for Trade Facilitation
- Geofence
- IMO FAL Mapping
- Cross-modal Dangerous Goods

# Transport and Logistics Domain

## The highlight of the topics:

- Track & Trace support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Digital transferable trade finance documents
- Partnership and collaboration, namely ISO, IMO, ICC DSI, DCSA, SMDG
- Standards Harmonisation, IMO Partnership Agreement and Collaboration Updates (ISO, WCO)
- Maritime Single Window and Methodology
- European Union regulations (eFTI, European Maritime Single Window Environment)

# International Supply Chain

## Domains:

- **Finance and Payment Domain**  
Domain Coordinator – Fabio Sorrentino
- **Accounting and Audit Domain**  
Domain Coordinator – Anita Patel



**Ms. Liliana Fratini Passi**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# Finance & Payment Domain

## CURRENT PROJECTS:

**Check-IBAN Open finance use case** (approved by the Bureau on July 2023)

### Scope:

The purpose of this project is to develop an information exchange standard for the Check IBAN open finance use case, to enhance cybersecurity and fraud detection measures within electronic business and international trade by immediately verifying the correct association between a given IBAN code and a certain Tax Code/VAT number.

### Deliverables:

- Business Requirement Specification
- Optional: NDR (Naming and Design Rules); RSM (Requirements Specification Mapping)

### Forum outcomes and next steps:

- The project has been officially launched in Bangkok after having gained the support of n. 3 HoD
- A first summary of the BRS has been presented and discussed during the domain meeting
- Based on this summary and on the feedback received from the experts, the domain is going to develop a first draft of the BRS
- A call for participation is in progress for this project

# Accounting & Audit Domain

## CURRENT PROJECTS:

### **Accounting & Audit Reference Data Model pilot project**

#### About this project:

- The project will develop a high-level semantic Reference Data Model in the area of Accounting and Audit under the UN/CEFACT principle of semantic hub of its Prospective Directions document of 2016.
- A proof of concept (POC) is in progress to validate a VAT/sales tax use case
- The POC demonstrates that VAT/sales tax data can be expressed in two standards (XBRL-GL and SAF-T)

#### Forum outcomes and next steps

- No activities took place this week due to domain team availability
- GEFEG training and import of existing mappings is in progress
- Agreement to develop the Accounting & Audit RDM as part of the BSP RDM
- Import the XBRL-GL standard into GEFEG
- Migrate mappings and develop the Accounting



# International Trade Procedures

## Domains:

- **Trade Procedures Facilitation Domain**

Domain Coordinator – Kevin Atkinson

- **Single Window Domain**

Domain Coordinator – Neelima Pamulapati,  
Joaquín Eugenio González Galván



**Mr. Aleksei Bondarenko**

Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# Trade Procedures Facilitation Domain

## Cross-domain working with Agriculture, Fisheries, and Agri-foods Domain

### PROJECT: BRS Project Digital Product Conformity Certificate Exchange

- Next steps:
  - Establish expert groups in textile and building products
  - Draft BRS to Public Comment stage by May 2024

### PROJECT: Digitization Transit Accompanying Documents – Document Requirements for Goods in Transit

- Next steps:
  - White Paper renamed ‘Aligning Digitization with Transit Procedures’.
  - Finalization of White Paper meeting in November 2023
  - Submission of White Paper early 2024

# Trade Procedures Facilitation Domain

## Cross domain working with E-Data Management Domain

### Formal Launch of UNECE Recommendation #49 - Transparency at Scale

This recommendation will provide guidance on scaling supply chain transparency to combat greenwashing, uplift the value of sustainable goods, and improve market access for exporting nations faced with new ESG regulations being imposed by their export market economies.

- Next Steps:
  - Finalize the project Terms of Reference
  - Final draft of Rec. 49 for public review by the end of December 2023

# Trade Procedures Facilitation Domain

## Trade Procedures Facilitation Domain proposed new projects

- **Navigating export controls**

Simplify and standardize the intricate landscape of export compliance procedures for streamlined global trade

- **Revision of Recommendation No 18: Facilitation Measures related to International Trade Procedures**

A review of Rec.18 (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition 2001) to ensure relevance for today's trading environment

- **Trade Facilitation and Youth**

Proposed White Paper to encourage and enable youth to have greater engagement in international trade

- **Governmental Export Support Measures**

An aide to businesses, particularly SMEs, seeking to access Governmental export support

**Following supportive discussions at the TPF Domain working session all proposed projects will be submitted to the Bureau for approval**

# Single Window Domain

## Outcomes and Next Steps:

- **SWD sessions:**
  - 01 June 2023
  - 17 July 2023
  - 01 and 31 August 2023
  - 07 September 2023
- Discuss the publication and impact of the [White Paper for the Methodology of Single Window Assessment](#)
- SWD Experts define the next steps for promoting and get more Use Cases for SWAM Application in new countries.
- After a possible new projects survey, SWD formalize the project proposal for:
  - [Guidelines on establishing Regional Single Window 08/25](#)
- **Forum sessions:**
  - SWD Conference
    - Briefing on SWAM and future expectations
    - Shared experience in adopting SWAM in:
      - El Salvador
      - Cambodia
      - Kyrgyzstan
      - Georgia
  - Other initiatives and project proposals:
    - Regional Single Window
    - Digitalizing Cross-Border E-commerce through UN/CEFACT Single Window Guidelines
    - Liberated platform
  - SWAM recap and strategies of promotion of application. Brainstorm and countries interested.
  - Scope, proposal, leader designation, and define timeline for projects
    - Regional Single Window
    - Cross border ecommerce

# Regulatory and eGovernment

## Domains:

- **eData Management Domain**

Domain Coordinator – Kaushik Srinivasan

- **Cross-border Management Domain**

Domain Coordinator – Amar More, Ananth Rathakrishnan



**Mr. Tahseen Khan**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# eData Management Domain - Next Steps

## Current projects

- **Digital ID Standardization for Trade Facilitation**
  - Discussed difference between identity/identifiers and focus on subject/object identification
  - Characteristics of a well constructed identifier defined and extended to make it more inclusive
  - Discussed issues of interoperability/scalability in the context of global trade
  - Table of Contents for Whitepaper finalized and content drafting in progress
- **Data Governance for Cross Border Trade**
  - Project whitepaper table of contents finalized
  - Project leader presented the focus of whitepaper and linkages of data governance in the context of data privacy, localization, use of AI etc
  - Expert members contributing/reviewing content
- **MLETR**
  - Whitepaper finalized and published

# eData Management Domain - Next Steps

## New Projects

- **Data Security and Transition to Zero Trust**
  - Focussed on stressing the importance of data security/zero trust in the context of cross border trade data exchange
  - Discussed importance of launching a project to developing material around explaining importance of zero trust and linkages to ongoing and future projects
  - Project to take into account mutual recognition in the context of trusted third party services and zero trust
  - Group concluded submitting a proposal for this project



# Methodology and Technology

## Domains:

- **Specification Domain**  
Domain Coordinator – Hisanao Sugamata
- **CCL Library Maintenance & Validation**  
Focal Point Coordinators: Ms. Mary Kay Blantz (LIB),  
Mr. Hidekazu Enjo (VAL)
- **UN/EDIFACT Directories**  
Focal Point: Mr. Gait Boxman



**Mr. Marek Laskowski**  
Vice Chair  
UN/CEFACT

# Specification Domain

## Domain Coordinator:

- Mr. Hisanao Sugamata

## Ongoing work:

- Reference Data Model (RDM) maintenance, governance, validation.
  - Proposal for a Trade Finance Reference Data Model
  - Data Pipeline Concept based on RDM: Pipeline Data Exchange Structure
  - Implement RDM in International Trade Information Platform

## Completed Projects:

- JSON-LD Vocabulary
  - Coming soon: executive guide

## Active Projects:

- [Methodology to Subset RDM based Messages](#)

# CCL Library Maintenance & Validation

## Focal Point Coordinators:

- Ms. Mary Kay Blantz (LIB)
- Mr. Hidekazu Enjo (VAL)

## Upcoming Activities:

- Library Maintenance (version D.23B)
  - Meeting October 19th 2023
- Validation (version D.23B)
  - Will follow the meeting

## Recently completed:

- Core Component Library (version D.23A)
- Validation (version D.23A)
- XML schemas (version D.23A)

# UN/EDIFACT Directories

## Focal Point:

- Mr. Gait Boxman

## Ongoing Activities:

- UN/EDIFACT Maintenance DMRs
- Validation

## Recently completed:

- UN/EDIFACT Directory (D.23A) - published September 27, 2023.

# Closing Remarks



**Mr. Yann Duval**  
Chief  
Trade Policy and Facilitation Section  
ESCAP



**Ms. Maria Teresa Pisani**  
Officer-in-Charge  
Trade Facilitation Section  
UNECE

# Save the date for the UN/CEFACT upcoming events

- 29<sup>th</sup> Session of UN/CEFACT Plenary, 9-10 November 2023, Geneva
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Team of Specialists on Environmental, Social and Governance Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Circular Economy, 23 November 2023, Geneva
- 42<sup>nd</sup> UN/CEFACT Forum, 29 April - 1 May 2024, Geneva
- 30<sup>th</sup> Session of UN/CEFACT Plenary, 2-3 May 2024, Geneva
- Meeting of UN/LOCODE Advisory Group, 6-7 May 2024, Hamburg





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**Thank you!**