



Course on Key Issues on the International Economic Agenda

Division on Technology and Logistics Trade and gender through the lens of UNCTAD

20 February 2026, Palais des Nations



Programme

Short courses for Permanent Missions in Geneva

Organised by the Division on Technology and Logistics-Technology, Innovation and Knowledge Development Branch

Policy Capacity Building Section / P166 courses

Trade and gender through the lens of UNCTAD

Friday, 20 February 2026, Room XII

Delivered by the Division on International Trade and Commodities

Division on Investment and Enterprise, and Division on Technology and Logistics
UNCTAD

10h00 – 10h15 > **Welcome address**

Mr. Angel Gonzalez, Head, Technology, Innovation and Knowledge Development Branch, DTL, UNCTAD.

Moderator, Ms. Randa Jamal, Economic Affairs Officer, Chief, Policy Capacity Building Section/P166, Technology, Innovation, and Knowledge Development Branch-DTL

10h15 -11h15

➤ **Session 1 – Trade and Gender from the lens of UNCTAD**

This session explores the critical links between trade, gender, and development, highlighting how international trade policies can both reduce and reinforce gender inequalities. Anchored in the 2030 Agenda, especially SDGs 5, 8, 9, 10, and 17, it draws on UNCTAD’s analytical work, empirical evidence, and policy case studies to show why trade is not gender-neutral and how gender-responsive policymaking can enhance inclusiveness, productivity, and sustainable development. Participants will also gain insight into the evolving roles of international organizations and civil society in advancing gender-equitable trade governance, and how UNCTAD’s approach adds unique value to this global agenda

➤ **Presenter**

Ms. Gül Ünal, Chief, Senior Economist, Trade, Gender and Development Programme, Division on International Trade and Commodities

➤ **Q&A**



11h15 -13h00

➤ **Session 2 - Gender gaps in trade: supply chains, digital trade, entrepreneurship, and investment**

This session delves deeper into the interrelated dimensions discussed in the previous session, of gender, trade, and development by examining the structural gender gaps that influence economic outcomes. The first segment will explore gender dynamics across supply chains, highlighting persistent structural inequalities while showcasing evidence-based policies and practices that enable women's meaningful participation in cross-border trade as well as maritime transport and logistics. The second segment will explain how foreign direct investment can empower women in the host economy and suggest practical policies to leverage foreign multinationals for advancing gender parity. The final segment will focus on identifying disparities in digital trade, and entrepreneurship, analyzing how these affect women's participation in trade. Through evidence-based analysis and practical examples, delegates will gain knowledge of how gender inequalities are embedded in trade systems and how to address these gaps through formulating policies and advocacy.

➤ **Presenters**

Ms. Pamela Ugaz, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Logistics Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics

Ms. Claudia Trentini, Economic Affairs Officer, Investment Research Branch, Division on Investment and Enterprise

Ms. Mariangela Linoci, Economic Affairs Officer, eTrade Initiatives Section, E-Commerce and the Digital Economy Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics

➤ **Q&A**





Trade and gender through the lens of UNCTAD

20 February 2026, Room XII

Delivered collaboratively by the Division on International Trade and Commodities, Division on Technology and Logistics, and Division on Investment and Enterprise.

This course provides an introduction to the key links between trade, gender and development, with a focus on international trade and gender-responsive trade policies that support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Sustainable Development Goals 5, 8, 9, 10 and 17, and enhance societal resilience in times of crisis. Drawing on analytical work by UNCTAD, empirical evidence and policy examples, the course is aimed at demonstrating how trade can both reduce and reinforce gender inequalities and how policy tools can deliver more inclusive outcomes. At the end of the course, delegates will have gained knowledge of the following:

- Why the economy is inherently gendered and why gender considerations are essential for sustainable development
- Links between trade, gender and development; and why there is no such thing as a gender-neutral economic policy
- The identification of key gender gaps in trade across employment, entrepreneurship, digital access, supply chains and access to productive resources, with a particular focus on investment; and their implications for growth and sustainable development
- The roles of major international organizations, multinational enterprises and non-governmental organizations in trade, investment and gender; and the distinct analytical and policy approach of UNCTAD
- Capacity to engage in negotiations and intergovernmental processes through a gender lens





Bios of speakers for Trade and Gender Course for P166:

Mariangela Linoci is an Economic Affairs Officer in UNCTAD's E-commerce and Digital Economy Branch, where she supports women digital entrepreneurs in developing countries through targeted capacity-building initiatives and evidence-based analytical work. Since joining UNCTAD in 2011, she has worked extensively on trade, gender, and development, leading analytical research and contributing to numerous UNCTAD publications on women's participation in trade, the digital economy, and inclusive trade policies. She has also managed UNCTAD's e-learning programme on trade and gender and provided technical assistance across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. She holds Master's degrees in International Relations (Università Cattolica, Milan) and in Humanities and Political Science (University of Milan), Italy.

Claudia Trentini is an economist in the Investment Research Branch of the Division on Investment and Enterprise at the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She contributes to the production of UNCTAD's flagship publication, the World Investment Report. Her expertise includes analyzing globalization trends and their development implications. Claudia's research focuses on the internationalization strategies and operations of multinational enterprises (MNEs) and their impact on economic growth and development in host countries. Her expertise also covers SDGs investment, particularly in the energy transition, infrastructure investment, foreign direct investment (FDI) and women's empowerment, and FDI by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the European University Institute, Italy.

Pamela Ugaz is an Economic Affairs Officer in UNCTAD's Trade Logistics Branch and an international trade lawyer with over 19 years of experience in trade policy, trade facilitation, regional integration, and project management. Since 2013, she has worked with UNCTAD on technical assistance and capacity-building projects across Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific, and conducts research on supply chains, customs, and gender and trade. Previously, she worked at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the World Trade Organization, and served as Legal Adviser to Peru's Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, negotiating provisions in multiple regional trade agreements. She holds a PhD in International Trade Law from the University of Geneva and a Master's degree from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland.





Gül Ünal is Chief of UNCTAD's Trade, Gender and Development Programme and a development economist specializing in trade, gender, and macroeconomic policy. She joined the United Nations in 2010 after serving as a faculty member in economics in the United States and has since worked with UNDP's Asia-Pacific Bureau, UN Women, and as Senior Regional Advisor on Macroeconomic Policy at the UN Economic Commission for Africa. In her current and previous roles, she has worked on the integration of gender perspectives into trade and economic policy, contributing to work on inequalities, women's empowerment, green industrialization, and capacity building. Her work on gender and development has been published in academic and policy outlets. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, United States of America.

