



COURSE ON KEY ISSUES ON THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AGENDA

Short courses for Permanent Missions in Geneva
Organised by the Division on Technology and Logistics-Knowledge Development Branch
Policy Capacity Building Section / P166 courses

Services value added in exports: Policies for development

Friday, 7 May 2021

Delivered by the Division on International Trade and Commodities

PROGRAMME

| Geneva, Palais des Nations | | Online |
|----------------------------|--|--------|
| 10:00 - 10:15 | <p>Welcome address, Ms. Geneviève Féraud, Head of Knowledge Development Branch, Division on Technology and Logistics, Ms. Miho Shirotori, Head of Trade and Commercial Diplomacy Branch, DITC</p> <p>Short course will be moderated by Ms. Randa Jamal, Economic Affairs Officer OIC, Policy Capacity Building Section</p> | |
| 10:15 - 11:00 | <p>Session 1: Why “servicification” is essential in economic diversification</p> <p>This session will discuss the strategic importance of services value-added for economic diversification and international trade. With concrete examples, it will explain “servicification”, i.e. increasing use of services in production, trade, and in other economic activities. Delegates will deepen their understanding of the important role services sectors play to improve a country’s productive capacity and economic diversification.</p> <p>Presented by Ms. Dong Wu and Mr. Bruno Antunes, and Mr. Vincent Valentine Trade Negotiations and Commercial Diplomacy Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD</p> | |
| 11:00 - 11:45 | <p>Session 2: How servicification can be addressed in policymaking</p> <p>This session will look at economic recovery from the crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and how services could contribute to the recovery through e.g. promoting export diversification. The delegates will learn what policies and regulatory/institutional frameworks would enhance services value-added in exports, which in turn contribute to development goals, including creation of decent jobs.</p> <p>Presented by Ms. Dong Wu, Mr. Bruno Antunes and Mr. Vincent Valentine, Trade Negotiations and Commercial Diplomacy Branch, Division on International Trade and Commodities, UNCTAD</p> | |
| 11:45 - 12:00 | Q&A session | |

Services value added in exports: Policies for development

Services provide intermediate inputs to all economic sectors, namely, the primary sector, the industrial sector and even the tertiary sector. For example, automated crop monitoring services are increasingly relevant in agriculture, software services are key in the automotive industry and telecommunications services are necessary for mobile and digital financial services.

The increased use, production, and export of services in all sectors is the “servicification” of the economy and trade. As such, the performance of the whole economy and trade is related to the effectiveness of services inputs. In developing countries, services account for two thirds of total productivity growth. UNCTAD conducted a case study on services value added in Brazil where, in 2015, services accounted for 17 per cent of direct exports and 48 per cent of the value-added of total exports.

The economic crisis triggered by the pandemic requires, with greater urgency, the use of servicification to promote export diversification, upgrading and a robust economic recovery. Servicification and its effects have not been sufficiently discussed in policy debates, including those on trade policy. This is because some servicification-related concepts disrupt some traditional analytical approaches and due to the lack of sufficient data and information on the relevance of servicification.

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The course addresses this gap by covering the relevance of servicification, related concepts and how servicification can be addressed in policymaking, including in trade policy and regulatory frameworks. Using concrete examples, it will discuss the strategic importance of services value-added for the economy and international trade. The course will shed light on the significance of servicification, in addition to providing knowledge on the services-related policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks necessary to use services value added in exports to pursue development goals.