



**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

PROGRAMME

Geneva, Palais des Nations		Room XXVI
10:00 - 10:05	<p>Welcome address by Ms. Shamika Sirimanne Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics</p> <p>Session will be moderated by Ms. Randa Jamal, Project Coordinator, Policy Capacity Building Section</p>	
10:05 - 11:30	<p>Session 1</p> <p>The session will focus on the design of national investment policies and laws. The issues will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Introductionii. UNCTAD's Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development (IPFSD): guidelines for national investment policiesiii. Recent trends in national investment policies and regulations <p>Presented by Mr. Thomas Van Giffen, Investment Policy Officer, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD</p> <p>Q&A session</p>	
11.30 - 11.45	Coffee break	
11.45 - 13.00	<p>Session 2</p> <p>The session presents international investment agreements (IIAs) that take into consideration the new generation of investment policies, which place inclusive growth and sustainable development at the centre of efforts to attract and benefit from investment. The issues will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. UNCTAD's IPFSD: policy options for IIAsii. Recent trends in international investment policies and dispute settlement <p>Presented by Mr. Hamed El-Kady, International Investment Policy Officer, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD</p> <p>Q&A session</p> <p>Closing</p>	

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Investment policymaking for sustainable development

18 April, Room XXVI

Delivered by the Division on Investment and Enterprise

Developing countries face an annual funding gap of \$2.5 trillion with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals, and private sector contributions will be critical to the realization of the Goals. In line with the UNCTAD Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development (IPFSD) and the Road Map for International Investment Agreement Reform, this course will focus on the design of national investment policies and laws and international investment agreements (IIA) that take into consideration the new generation of investment policies, which place inclusive growth and sustainable development at the centre of efforts to attract and benefit from investment.

The objective of this course is to help delegates deepen their understanding of the key issues in national and international investment policymaking for sustainable development. The course will provide an introduction to the key determinants for foreign investment and discuss recent trends in national and international investment policies and regulations. Participants will gain a better understanding of the following:

- Key determinants for foreign investment
- The role investment policy plays in attracting and benefiting from foreign investment
- Recent trends in national and international investment policymaking
- Key challenges for investment policymakers
- A new generation investment policies and international investment agreement reform

Thomas van Giffen

Thomas van Giffen is an investment policy expert at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). He joined UNCTAD's Division on Investment and Enterprise in 2008 where he works on various legal and policy-oriented reports related to foreign direct investment and transnational corporations, including UNCTAD's annual World Investment Report series and Investment Policy Monitor. He provides technical assistance to Government officials and policymakers on issues related to national investment regulation and UNCTAD's Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development (IPFSD). Mr. Van Giffen has been involved in several key activities and projects for the Division, including the World Investment Forum, the G20 Investment Impact Indicators project and UNCTAD's Commission on Investment and Enterprise. He has been responsible for the development of several internal databases for investment policy research, and manages the Investment Policy Hub, UNCTAD's web-based platform dedicated to investment policy research and discussion. He has recently started the development of a new database on national investment laws and regulations and assessment of related technical assistance and research projects.

Before joining UNCTAD, Mr. Van Giffen worked for SEO Economic Research, a socio-economic research institute linked to the University of Amsterdam, as well as for the department of Economic Affairs of the Permanent Mission of The Netherlands to the United Nations and WTO in Geneva on issues related to international trade and investment. He holds a Master's degree in International Law as well as in Political Science.

Hamed El-Kady

Hamed El-Kady specializes in international investment policies and their implications on national development strategies. He has been working with UNCTAD's Division on Investment and Enterprise since 2002. He is part of the core team drafting the World Investment Report, and has authored a number of UNCTAD's series on International Investment Policies for Development. He provides technical assistance to Government officials and policy makers on issues related to international investment policies. This includes advisory services on the revision of model bilateral investment treaties (BITs), and investment chapters in regional free trade agreements. He coordinated the implementation of over forty international, regional and national seminars, workshops and conferences on investment issues worldwide. He is a member of UNCTAD's Technical Task Force on the Arab States and UNCTAD's Task Force on the World Investment Forum (WIF). He has published various articles on international trade and investment policies and their development implications. He is a frequent panelist at international conferences on investment policies, and lecturer for various academic institutions.

