



## COURSE ON KEY ISSUES ON THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AGENDA

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

### **Inclusive Diversification and Energy Transition: Prospects and challenges**

Thursday, 7 March 2024

Delivered by the Division on International Trade and Commodities  
and the Division on Technology and Logistics

UNCTAD

### **PROGRAMME**

Geneva, Palais des Nations		Room XXIV
10:00 - 10:15	<p>Welcome address, Mr. Angel Gonzalez, Head, Technology, Innovation and Knowledge Development Branch, UNCTAD.</p> <p>Moderator, Ms. Randa Jamal, Economic Affairs Officer, Chief, Policy Capacity Building Section/P166, Technology, Innovation, and Knowledge Development Branch-DTL</p>	
10:15 - 11:30	<p>Session 1 - <b>Inclusive diversification and energy transition: Prospects and challenges</b></p> <p>This session will feature highlights of the <a href="#">UNCTAD Commodities and Development Report 2023: Inclusive Diversification and Energy Transition</a>. This report explores ways in which commodity-dependent developing countries (CDDCs) can diversify production, ascend value chains and broaden their product and export base in ways that are inclusive and in line with the energy transition.</p> <p>Most economic value chains originate in commodities, such as crude oil, copper, cotton, or wheat. Developing countries reliant on exporting these primary products often face vulnerability to macroeconomic instability, delayed industrialization, and export revenue volatility due to commodity price fluctuations. Many of these CDDCs are highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change, such as extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and droughts. Recent crises have exacerbated CDDCs' vulnerabilities, stressing the need for resilience through value addition and economic diversification.</p> <p>However, diversification for CDDCs now requires an unprecedented approach: a focus on low-carbon paths amid climate change and energy transition. It is imperative for these countries to pursue growth that is less carbon-intensive without compromising their economic development. Inclusive and green diversification is possible if the right to development of CDDCs, the need to address climate change, and existing inequalities are addressed in a balanced way.</p> <p>The session will begin with an overview of the challenges posed by commodity dependence and the imperative of economic diversification. Following, it will explore the links between diversification and income inequality, and diversification and greenhouse gas emissions. It will conclude with a discussion on access to energy, a prevalent challenge that must be overcome to achieve a just energy transition.</p> <p>Through this session, the course will achieve the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raise awareness among delegates from Member Countries on the prospects and challenges for inclusive diversification and energy transition in commodity-dependent developing countries.</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gain an understanding of the enablers of export diversification, the factors that affect inequality in this process, the historical relationship between diversification and carbon emissions and prevalent issues in energy access.</li> </ul> <p>10:15 – 10:30 Commodity dependence and economic diversification. Presenter, Mr. Clovis Freire Junior, Chief, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p> <p>10:30 – 10:45 Ensuring inclusiveness. Presenter, Ms. Sofia Dominguez, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p> <p>10:45 – 11:00 Diversification and energy transition. Presenter, Mr. Clovis Freire Junior, Chief, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p> <p>11:00 – 11:15 Access to energy. Presenter, Mr. Rachid Amui, Economic Affairs Officer, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p> <p>11:15 – 11:30 Q&amp;A</p>
11:30 - 13:00	<p><b>Session 2 – Critical energy transition minerals (CETMs): Key characteristics, value chains and potential for diversification</b></p> <p>To illustrate the need for inclusive diversification and energy transition, this session will provide insights into a key sector for sustainability, the critical energy transition minerals (CETMs). The session will discuss the supply and demand dynamics, the characteristics of their value chains and their potential for fostering diversification. This session will conclude with a discussion on the importance of green industrial policies aimed at CDDCs to leverage their resources and explore new energy markets and green products for growth in the context of CETMs. Green industrial policy can help guide CDDCs towards just diversification pathways.</p> <p>The urgency to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 has led to a significant surge in the demand for CETMs, vital materials in producing electric vehicles, batteries and renewable energy technologies. However, the uncoordinated pursuit of access to CETMs risks disrupting the sustainable development paths of developing countries and further entrenching them in commodity dependence.</p> <p>Despite their critical importance, the export value of CETMs remains relatively modest in the global minerals trade. Market concentration is evident, with a few countries dominating both export and import markets for CETMs. Moreover, the upstream stages of the value chain, including extraction, processing, and manufacturing, exhibit high levels of concentration, underscoring the challenges faced by developing countries in enhancing the value of their supply chains.</p> <p>Through this session, the course will achieve the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise awareness among delegates of Member Countries regarding the importance of CETMs in the global energy transition.</li> <li>Gain an understanding of CETMs market characteristics, value chains and opportunities for diversification, highlighting the importance of green industrial policy for inclusive diversification.</li> </ul> <p>11:30 – 11:45 Setting the scene of critical energy transition minerals. Presenter, Mr. Rachid Amui, Economic Affairs Officer, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p>

	<p>11:45 – 12:00 Introducing the value chains of cobalt and lithium. Presenter, Ms. Sofia Dominguez, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p>
	<p>12:00 – 12:15 Diversification opportunities for CETMs, the case of lithium. Presenter, Mr. Clovis Freire Junior, Chief, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p>
	<p>12:15 – 12:30 Green industrial policies. Presenter, Mr. Clovis Freire Junior, Chief, Commodity Research and Analysis Section, DITC, UNCTAD</p>
	<p>12:30 – 13:00 Q&amp;A</p>