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In 2013, the Division on Technology and Logistics (DTL) continued with determination to carry out activities related to its core expertise: science, technology and innovation (STI), including ICTs; transport and trade facilitation; and capacity building.

Among the highlights of this year, our work on Trade Facilitation reached significant importance in 2013, particularly in the context of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement - the first multilateral trade agreement adopted to date by the WTO. Since its inception 50 years ago, UNCTAD has been a trailblazer in this area. For instance, UNCTAD’s continued work on trade facilitation led to the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency and the Columbus Ministerial Declaration on trade efficiency in 1994. This declaration was instrumental for the inclusion of trade facilitation in the WTO agenda at the Singapore Ministerial Conference in 1996. The present report includes a summary of all the activities undertaken in 2013 by the Division to foster trade facilitation in the pre and post-Bali era, including the work of UNCTAD’s Customs automation programme, ASYCUDA.

In the area of STI and ICT, the Division continued working enthusiastically on different fronts (research, technical assistance and consensus building) to raise awareness of the important role that STI, including ICTs, can and must play in the development process. This work has been of relevance, particularly in the context of the discussions on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. I also wish to highlight the important work undertaken by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), especially in monitoring the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society. In addition, the CSTD was entrusted with a Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation on internet policy issues, whose meetings began in 2013.

On capacity building, the following encapsulates the efforts made by DTL: in 2013, more than 3500 individuals were trained in activities organized by the Division.

As with previous editions, the DTL Activity Report presents a summary of the main activities carried out by the Division in 2013. However, this year there is an added component. The Report introduces the following four icons to highlight the results of our activities:

- For those activities that have produced concrete impact on the ground
- For those activities that have contributed to consensus building
- For those activities that have contributed to enhanced efficiency
- For those activities that have provided new tools and capabilities, empowering participants.

To conclude, I would like to thank our donor agencies and countries, whose support and commitment have made possible many of the activities described in this Report.
INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is the focal point of the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. The Division on Technology and Logistics, also known under the abbreviation DTL, is one of the substantive divisions within the organization.

Through policy research and capacity building, the Division on Technology and Logistics supports the economic development and competitiveness of developing countries and economies in transition in a knowledge-driven and globalized world economy. Its activities seek to increase access to knowledge and technology – including ICTs – and to foster innovation, by helping countries design and implement technology and innovation policies for economic growth and sustainable development. The Division also carries out a large research and technical assistance work programme aimed at developing efficient trade logistics services in transport, trade facilitation and customs.

A word of thanks is expressed to the donor agencies and countries as well as our partners, without whose support the activities described in the report could not take place.
THESE ARE THE MEN AND WOMEN THAT WERE TRAINED IN 2013 BY THE DIVISION ON TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS.

LEARN MORE ON WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN THIS REPORT
Bringing to developing countries the future of science and technology

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION  P.3
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Bringing to developing countries the future of science and technology

1 annual report on key topical issues: The Cloud Economy and Developing Countries

2 Science, Technology & Innovation Policy Reviews

4 resolutions
2 by ECOSOC and 2 by the General Assembly

A Strong involvement in international fora and events

2 Commissions:
the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) and the Investment Enterprise and Development Commission.
A. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Today there is growing awareness that science, technology and innovation (STI), including ICTs, are essential to achieve the goals the international community has set for itself in terms of sustainable development in every possible dimension of this concept: social, cultural, environmental and economic. This view has been expressed in different international fora, such as the Rio+20 summit and UNCTAD XIII Conference in Doha, where UNCTAD’s member States agreed that the “development of a strong STI capacity is key to addressing many of the persistent and emerging trade and development challenges that developing countries face”. In this context, in 2013 UNCTAD’s Division on Technology and Logistics continued supporting member States’ efforts to strengthen their technological and innovation capabilities through research and analysis, consensus building and technical assistance.

1. RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

a. Technology and Innovation Report 2014

2013 has been an intense year of preparation for the next edition of the Technology and Innovation Report (TIR), which will focus on promoting innovation policies for industrial development. The Report aims to analyze the experiences of several developing countries in linking technology and innovation policies to industrial development goals, and to propose recommendations for improved coordination between national and sectoral level innovation policies and overall industrial development of countries. For the first time, the 2014 edition of the Report will contain primary data collected in coordination with national agencies in several countries including Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, India and Thailand. As part of this, an Expert Group Meeting was held in April 2013 in Geneva, where scholars and policy makers commented at length on the outline and initial draft of the first two chapters. Following this, field missions to collect data have been conducted in Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania.

b. UNCTAD Current studies on science, technology and innovation

UNCTAD’s Current Studies on Science, Technology and Innovation has two new additions to the series. A first Current Studies Paper entitled Technology in Action: Good Practices in Science, Technology and Innovation Policies for Women in South Asia presents a compilation of STI policies and interventions that can potentially contribute to the reduction of gender inequality and improve the situation of women in South Asia. It shows that the STI policies support and foster the creation of capacities at two levels: 1) the creation of complementary capacities and the strengthening of skills that allow individuals and communities to make the most of the recent availability of STI developments; and 2) as tools to enhance the impact of larger programs and initiatives aimed to improve the livelihood of women. Training activities are critical to ensure that women reap the potential benefits of technological developments.

A second Current Studies paper entitled Internet Broadband for an Inclusive Digital Society deals with the rapid spread of broadband and the issues of inclusiveness it raises. Despite the rapid advances in the sector and spread of its use in certain parts of the world, a digital divide in Broadband connectivity, both between and within countries, has been growing. This study provides an overview of certain key issues relating to broadband ICTs in the context of international objectives for socio-economic development. It summarizes recent research, policy developments and practices associated with broadband ICTs around the world, and examines a set of initiatives for the promotion of broadband.
c. Studies on transfer of technology

In response to the request by member states to conduct further analytical work in the area of technology transfer, UNCTAD conducted two reports on this topic.

The first report, *Case studies in Technology Transfer from Africa, Asia and Latin America: the cases of Integrated Circuits in Taiwan Province of China, Buttons in China, Automobiles in South Africa and Biotechnology in Argentina* provides contrasting experiences of the role of technology transfer and absorption in different industries and regions. The analysis illustrates the specific challenges that industries of different levels of technological complexity have faced to develop in these countries. The case studies also examine the measures that have been put in place, with different degrees of success, by governments, industry and other actors to facilitate and accelerate the process of technology adoption and absorption.

The second report, *Technology Transfer Strategies for Development*, examines the overall context in which technology transfer takes place, identifies existing technology gaps and explores the general conditions required to enable improved rates of technology transfer and absorption.

2. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

a. Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews

A number of developing countries are currently benefiting from UNCTAD’s expertise in reviewing national STI policies. For instance, Oman has embarked on an ambitious science, technology and innovation review to address two strategic national development objectives, namely: enabling a process of economic diversification to support long-term economic development and ensuring the availability of adequate human resources to accomplish such an objective. The STIP Review of Oman has been conducted and discussed with national stakeholders in 2013. Over 80 stakeholders from various government agencies, academic centres and industrial sectors broadly endorsed the findings of the STIP Report and expressed support for its recommendations.

Framework for Science Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews

The STIP Reviews mentioned in this report have been guided, from the start of the project, by the *Framework for Science Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews* developed by UNCTAD in 2011.

The use of the framework as a guideline for the process has provided notable results including greater clarity among national stakeholders on what to expect from the process and increased participation at the national level in the process, in particular through the involvement of a national steering committee that ensure high-level commitment to the review process.

For example, in Oman a STIP Grand Council has been established to attain the highest level of political support for the STIP Review process. In the Grand Council have participated His Highness Tariq Al-Said, Personal Adviser to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos and Chair of the Research Council, His Excellency the Adviser to HM Sultan for Economic Planning and the Ministers of Commerce and Industry, Education, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Manpower. As a result, high-level policy makers have participated early on in the process in the discussion of the preliminary findings and recommendations, and have pledged continued support for the STIP Review process.

The rich feedback provided by the STIP Steering Committee, and the active involvement of a high number of stakeholders at the national workshop, where the preliminary findings were presented, are an indication of the usefulness of the new interaction mechanisms introduced in the implementation of the STIP Reviews.
is expected that the final outcome document of the STIP Report will be officially presented in the first half of 2014.

**Thailand**, a country with significant achievements in investing in human resources, strengthening infrastructures and developing competitive sectors in manufacturing and services, is now confronting the risk of being caught on the middle-income trap. As part of its strategy to avoid that risk, Thailand asked UNCTAD to review its national innovation system to support long-term development goals. The first fact-finding mission for the STIP review of Thailand took place in October 2013. The first draft of the report will be discussed with national stakeholders in early 2014.

In **Viet Nam**, a number of discussions and exchanges with the Government took place in 2013 in preparation of the STIP review of the country, which is expected to be launched in the first half of 2014.

The STIP review of the **Dominican Republic**, which had been introduced to national stakeholders in July 2012, was presented to the international community at a dedicated session during the 16th session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) in 2013. The review has provided useful proposals for the strategic orientation of STI policy in the Dominican Republic, in particular revisions to the strategic plan for science and technology. Its presentation to the international community offered further insights on some good practices on STI policy actions.

In the case of **Peru**, the STIP Review had an impact on the National Report of Peru on Progress Towards the Achievement of the Internationally Agreed Goals, including the Millennium Development Goals presented by the government of Peru at the Annual Ministerial Review held during the High-level Segment of the substantive session of 2013 of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). For instance, this report states in:

- Paragraph 25. “Many of these actions are based on recommendations contained in studies by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (2009), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) (2011), OECD (2011) and others, which demonstrate that, in order to ensure sustained long-term growth with convergence towards the income levels of richer OECD countries, resources must be allocated to innovation and technology transfer, which should be considered as a public good.”
- Paragraph 57. “The UNCTAD, OECD and public research institute studies influenced the design of this reform, which brings together as a network the former Fisheries Technology Institute and the CITEs under the new name of the Production Technology Institute.”

> Mr. Angel Gonzalez Sanz, Chief Policy Review Section, in a meeting with Mr. Phiraphan Phalusuk, Minister of Science and Technology, during the STIP Review mission to Thailand.
The impact of STIP reviews: outcomes from Peru and Ghana.

The results of policy action, and particularly in the area of science, technology and innovation, where long-term investments are often required, are more visible in the medium to long-run. Nevertheless, two to three years after the finalisation of the STIP reviews a number of results are already visible. The following are some of the outcomes of the STIP Reviews of Peru and Ghana that have been identified during the ECOSOC parallel event on Policy Lessons from Promoting STI for Development.

**STIP Review of Peru**

- The review has increased awareness among policy makers and other stakeholders in the country.
- A number of changes have been introduced to strengthen the institutional framework for STI governance.
- In 2012, the first National Survey of Innovation in the Manufacturing Industry was conducted as a further step to support evidence-based policy making.
- The allocation of financial resources for innovation has increased. For instance, a second loan from the Inter-American Development Bank has been approved.
- In 2013, the former Fisheries Technology Institute became the Production Technology Institute, to which the public Centers of Technological Innovation have been attached. This has strengthened the Centers of Technological Innovation as recommended in the STIP review.
- National stakeholders have stated interest to assess the implementation of the recommendations.

**STIP Review of Ghana**

- The Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST) was established while the STIP Review process was being finalized and it has enhanced high-level coordination.
- The STIP Review process renewed interest in STI policy as part of national development policy.
- The Science & Technology Policy Research Institute (STEPRI) has continued to provide support on STI development in the country since the Review process.
- A new Science, Technology and Innovation Policy has been drafted and enacted.
- A national program of action was designed after the review process.
- Cooperation with World Bank has provided additional resources and possible funding for follow-up.

b. Technical assistance based on the TIR Series

During 2013, technical assistance based on the Technology and Innovation Report Series was implemented for the first time. Pursuant to a request received by the Commission on Science and Technology (COSTECH) of Tanzania, UNCTAD conducted high-level consultations in the country on how to better integrate the policy recommendations of the TIR 2012 into the ongoing revisions of the country’s science, technology and innovation policy. UNCTAD recommendations on this topic are expected to be submitted for consideration by COSTECH in 2014.
Ideas into action

“COSTECH recognizes the benefit of implementing the recommendations of TIR 2012, as these will facilitate technological capability building, technology transfer and innovation promotion in the country. COSTECH is confident of the opportunity to benefit from South-South collaboration as stipulated in the TIR 2012 report.”

Mr. Hassan Mschinda, Director General, COSTECH, United Republic of Tanzania

c. A new initiative: Enhancing policy making capacities in the area of innovation

Policy makers from developing countries often face important challenges in terms of identifying which STI policies are relevant to their specific contexts. To address this situation, in 2013 UNCTAD developed a capacity development programme aiming at enhancing local STI policy making capacities through a dual approach: the provision of training on STI policies, in partnership with local institutions; and the setup of an international network of STIP makers. The programme, for which UNCTAD obtained funding through the United Nations Development Account at the end of 2013, will leverage the lessons learnt from the STI policy reviews and UNCTAD’s analysis and know-how. It will also draw upon the network of STI experts and institutions that UNCTAD has developed from its various undertakings in the area of STI policies for development. The first activities of this programme will be implemented in 2014.

d. Collaborative support: Integrating the innovation dimension in national strategies

In 2013, following a request by the International Trade Centre (ITC), UNCTAD examined ways to include an innovation component in the national export development strategy that the Government of Myanmar is developing with the support of ITC. UNCTAD participated in the first national consultation organized by ITC in Myanmar in May 2013 and held a number of interviews with relevant national stakeholders on the areas of innovation which may underpin the country’s export strategy. Based on this, UNCTAD prepared a set of recommendations on supporting innovation among exporting firms in Myanmar, which will be part of the national export development strategy.

e. Improving access to medical products in developing countries

Ensuring access to medical products is a complex undertaking requiring national governments, the international community and all stakeholders to balance the availability of quality-assured medical products (supply side) with meeting public health needs in an accessible and affordable way (demand side). Supporting local production is one means by which governments in the developing world may seek to maintain this balance.

The European Union report funded entitled Improving access to medical products in developing countries through capacity building for local production and related technology transfer, aims at helping developing country governments in this respect, and seeks to address the promotion of local production of medicines, in particular in the African context. In this project UNCTAD is partnering with the World Health Organization.

As part of the project, UNCTAD is in the process of completing a Policy Manual on Local Production and Access to Medicines. The Manual will serve as the background document that will structure the capacity building activities planned as part of the project.

3. CONSENSUS BUILDING

a. Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission

The efforts of UNCTAD in promoting dialogue and consensus building through intergovernmental work continued through the fifth session of UNCTAD’s Commission on Investment, Enterprise and Development in May 2013, where a sub-
stantive discussion on financing innovation for development took place. The presentations and subsequent debate provided insights into the challenges that policymakers in developing countries face in overcoming financing gaps and promoting higher investment in innovation. The Commission considered in particular the cases of Tanzania and Thailand. The Commission also heard presentations on experiences with venture capital in a cross-section of countries in different parts of the world and considered a number of instruments that can help to support increased investments in innovation. The debate also acknowledged that a holistic approach to promoting innovation through the inclusion of aspects other than financing, such as technology transfer, linkages between research institutions, business and government, human capital development and infrastructure, was required to ensure the success of the efforts made to improve financing mechanisms.

b. ECOSOC parallel event on Policy lessons from promoting STI for development

UNCTAD held a side event on Policy Lessons from Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation for Development during the High-level segment of the 2013 Annual Ministerial Review of ECOSOC, which focused on science and technology. The event discussed the design and implementation of STI policies and presented key conclusions regarding lessons learnt and good practices to ensure effective STI policy design and implementation in developing countries. Experts argued that STI policy action is vital for development, but noted that both policy design and implementation pose significant challenges for policy makers. Participants identified elements that were critical for success in the process of undertaking STI policy reviews. Two elements that were identified were high-level commitment in the country and a clear purpose agreed by national policy makers. The timing of the exercise is also critical. And collaboration with other agencies can promote success by bringing in additional financing and/or expertise. In contrast, a lack of support through development programs that largely neglect STI policy can is debilitating factor.

c. Other contributions to policy debate and consensus building

UNCTAD has participated and contributed inputs regarding the relevance of science, technology and innovation for long-term sustainable development to the post-2015 Development Agenda, during the 6th session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in New York. As part of the United Nations System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda, UNCTAD co-led the authoring of a thematic think piece with WIPO entitled Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development in the global partnership for development beyond 2015. This think piece put together the contributions from various UN agencies on this highly relevant topic as a contribution to the ongoing discussions on the way forward in the 2015 context.

UNCTAD has also provided support to the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (held in Istanbul in May 2011) by contributing a number of suggestions regarding the principles that should guide the proposed technology bank and the potential functions for the bank, for a science, technology and innovation-supporting mechanism for LDCs. These suggestions include the notions that these instruments should be LDC-driven, match the financing of access to licences with capacity-building activities, ensure the additionality of resources, facilitate both technology search and acquisition, include funding by firms for innovation activities, and provide some networking mechanisms for innovation.

B. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

There is increased recognition around the globe of the opportunities ICTs offer for sustainable development. However, there is also growing awareness of the challenges, related, for example, to information security, privacy and
widening digital divides. UNCTAD’s support aims to help member States keep abreast of trends in the information economy, build capacity in relevant areas and contribute to dialogue and policy harmonization. During 2013, this work was facilitated by financial assistance from the Governments of Finland, Germany, the Republic of Korea and Sweden.

1. RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

a. Information Economy Report 2013

The Information Economy Report 2013: The Cloud Economy and Developing Countries emphasizes that cloud computing offers the potential for enhanced efficiency and innovation. But it also notes that options for cloud adoption in low- and middle-income countries look different from those in more advanced economies. While free cloud services such as webmail and online social networks are already widely used, the scope for cloud adoption in low- and middle-income countries is much smaller than in more advanced economies. In fact, the gap in availability of cloud-related infrastructure between developed and developing countries keeps widening. Access to affordable broadband Internet is still far from satisfactory in developing nations, especially in the LDCs. In addition, most low-income countries rely on mobile broadband networks, characterized by low speed and high latency and therefore not ideal for cloud service provision.

The report says developing countries should waste no time in raising their awareness and understanding of the cloud’s opportunities and risks in order to be able to make informed policy decisions. It is also important for them to address legal and regulatory concerns related to cloud use. While there is no imperative to develop specific laws or regulations on cloud computing, key reform areas include privacy, data protection, information security and cybercrime. The report notes that about 100 countries – 40 of which are developing economies – have data privacy laws in place, but there is no harmonized international privacy framework regulating data transfers across borders. Development partners can contribute to the financing of cloud-related infrastructure, the establishing of appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks, and the building of capacity in relevant areas.

Said about the IER 2013

“The choice of the theme for the report could not have been more appropriate.”

KJ Joseph,
Ministry of Commerce, Chair,
Centre for Development Studies,
India

“The IER 2013 is the most comprehensive and authoritative source that provides much needed evidence to understand how developing countries can harness the cloud’s efficiency and cost savings for economic and social development.”

Nir Kshetri,
Associate Professor,
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

The Report was launched in December at press conferences in six countries, and presented at special research seminars in several other locations. In many cases, the events were organized in partnership with
other UN organizations (ESCWA, Virtual Institute), Governments, universities and private sector associations. The analysis and recommendations have been well received by governments, the private sector and academic experts alike.

b. IT Sector and public procurement

A study entitled Promoting Local IT Sector Development through Public Procurement was published in early 2013. It includes three country case studies (Kenya, Senegal and Sri Lanka). The study was jointly produced with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). It was presented at the Business Africa Week in Germany, at the WSIS Forum 2013 and during the Global E-Government Forum in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

c. Harmonization of e-commerce legislations

As part of UNCTAD’s work on strengthening the capacity of countries to adopt harmonized legislation for e-commerce, UNCTAD and the ASEAN Secretariat jointly published the Review of e-commerce legislation harmonization in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. It provides an up-to-date assessment of the current state of legislation in the region, maps prevailing gaps, identifies emerging challenges and makes specific recommendations towards furthering harmonization in different areas. The UNCTAD-ASEAN review was welcomed by the ASEAN members, who found the outcome valuable for the region to advance in this area. Some of them, such as the Philippines, presented the main findings of the Review at dedicated national events.

d. ICT statistics

Additional research and methodological work was undertaken in the area of ICT statistics. UNCTAD co-chaired with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) a Task Group of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development focusing on ICT and gender statistics. The work involved the commissioning of a background study to identify the need for additional indicators in this field. The study served as a basis for the discussion during an expert meeting held in Mexico City in December 2013. The report will be published in early 2014.

Following a proposal in the IER 2012, GIZ and the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) teamed up with UNCTAD to develop a new survey tool aimed at help national IT associations measure the ICT sector. The joint work received full support from the Board of WITSA and was presented during the Global Policy Action and Trade Summit in Sao Paulo in November 2013. This should facilitate access to essential data for informing policy-making on how to enable the growth of the ICT sectors.

2. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

During 2013, UNCTAD saw continued strong demand for its ICT-related technical assistance. It reached all developing-country regions, and relied on extra-budgetary support from the Governments of Finland and Sweden. ICT-related technical assistance work this year focused on two main areas: measuring ICT for development and ICT and law reform.

a. Measuring the information economy

UNCTAD’s support to member States in the area of ICT statistics aims to improve the availability of indicators and data related to the information economy. Without access to reliable information, policymakers are at a disadvantage when formulating, implementing, evaluating and monitoring their policies. There is still a lack of reliable data in most low-income countries.

UNCTAD carried out a survey of 183 National Statistics Offices to collect data related to the information economy. This exercise was conducted as part of UNCTAD’s role within the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development. The direct collection of the relevant Core Indicators was supplemented with data from Eurostat. UNCTAD’s statistics on the information economy are all available online (http://unctadstat.unctad.org/ReportFolders/reportFolders.aspx).

The workshop provided an extraordinary impulse to the ICT measuring of enterprises for the countries of the region.

Pablo Tactuk,
Coordinator of the Working Group on ICT Indicators of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and Director-General of the National Statistical Office of the Dominican Republic

Together with the ITU, UNCTAD led the work of the Partnership to enhance the availability of gender-disaggregated ICT indicators and data. In 2013, work also began on developing better measurement of international trade in ICT services and ICT-enabled services. A Partnership Task Group led by UNCTAD was established, with other members comprising UNESCOA, ITU, OECD and WTO. UNCTAD commissioned a first study which will take stock of the current landscape as regards measurement of trade in relevant areas. The work involves close interaction with the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services.¹

UNCTAD undertook a number of training and capacity building activities. Such activities are based primarily on the organization’s Manual for the Production of Statistics on the Information Economy, which has now been translated into Portuguese (and will soon be available in Russian). They expanded in 2013 thanks to the funding from Sweden. For instance:

- A Training of Trainers was organized in Valencia, Spain in collaboration with the ITU, leading to new trainers being certified to deliver the training course on information economy statistics (March).
- A training workshop was organized for Latin America and the Caribbean in Panama City, Panama. It introduced 20 statisticians from 18 countries to a module to collect data on ICT use by businesses that could be included in business surveys in the region. Drawing on UNCTAD’s Manual, the module was developed by UNCTAD and the working group on ICT indicators of the Statistical Conference of the Americas. The goal is to increase the availability and quality of comparable data and indicators on the information economy, in order to support regional and national ICT policies.
- UNCTAD organized a session in a regional ITU workshop for the CIS countries in Azerbaijan on the Harmonization of Telecommunication/ICT Indicators with International Standards (April). The workshop recommended that a regional training should be organized on measuring the information economy in 2014.
- UNCTAD contributed to the organization of a training workshop held in Beijing on measuring the information economy and e-commerce in China (June). More than 70 participants were trained, including 13 from, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Sudan, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
- During a regional workshop in Uruguay for Latin American countries on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators, UNCTAD delivered a session on measuring the information economy, introducing the model module developed in collaboration with the Statistical Conference of the Americas in March (May). The workshop was organized by ITU in cooperation with UNCTAD.
- A regional training for Lusophone countries was organized in Maputo, Mozambique (November). The training was organized together with the UNECA Africa Centre for Statistics and was delivered to staff of national statistical offices and other institutions in charge of the production of official statistics on the information society in Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe and Timor-Leste.

¹ The Task Force is convened by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and consists of Eurostat, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), UNCTAD, the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).
The work on measuring ICT was also presented in the context of several other international meetings in Geneva (WSIS Forum), Mexico City (World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium) and Paris (OECD WPIIS meeting).

b. ICT and law reform

The importance of creating an enabling legal and regulatory environment has gained urgency, as a result of the expanded reliance on ICT applications such as e-commerce, mobile commerce and cloud computing in developing countries. In this context, UNCTAD has continued over the years its assistance to developing countries in this area. In 2013, a number of technical cooperation activities were undertaken in cooperation with UN regional commissions, UNCTAD and different regional institutions.

In Africa, in August 2013, the 10th Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Transport, Communications, and Meteorology (TCM) approved for implementation the East African Community (EAC) Framework for Cyberlaws (Phase II). EAC Partner States are advancing in the implementation of Framework I and II. The enactment of cyberlaws is becoming even more relevant as the EAC moves towards greater use of e-government applications and services.

The development of cyber laws in the region is critical to underpin the realization of full potentials in regional e-commerce, electronic financial transactions and business processes outsourcing

The Honorable Musa Sirma, Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of the East African Community and Minister for the East African Community, Kenya

A new project was launched together with the TrainForTrade programme of DTL, targeting countries in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). In cooperation with ECOWAS, UNCTAD carried out its first TrainForTrade distance learning training course on the Legal Aspects of E-Commerce.

In April 2013, a special briefing session (Yaoundé, Cameroon) was organized by UNCTAD, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation for parliamentarians from Australia, Cameroon, Namibia, Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Republic of Tanzania. The session examined international and regional
best practices on key legal aspects of e-commerce and cyber security. This was the second event of this kind organized by UNCTAD for parliamentarians. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation have expressed their wish to continue collaboration.

"I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to UNCTAD together with the CTO and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for organising a briefing of the Commonwealth Members of Parliament attending the Commonwealth Cyber-security forum in Yaounde, Cameroon…"

H.E. Prof. Makame M. Mbarawa (MP), Minister for Communication, Science and Technology, United Republic of Tanzania

In Latin America, at the request of the Governments of Cuba and Ecuador, UNCTAD organized (together with ITC and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung) a two-day seminar on E-Commerce, SMEs and Development in February 2013. The seminar aimed at raising the awareness of Latin American government experts and officials on the development dimension of e-commerce, including the legal issues.

Cooperation with UNODC and ITU continued during the period on the preparation of a draft UN-Wide framework on Cybersecurity and Cybercrime, which was endorsed in August 2013 by the working group. The draft was discussed in late 2013 by the Chief Executive Board of the United Nations.

More broadly, cooperation with other partners working in the field of e-commerce legislation – such as UNCITRAL and regional Commissions and groupings (African Union, ECA, ESCWA) – continued in the form of participation in workshops, coordination of projects, inputs to publications and information sharing.

c. ICTs for Women’s Entrepreneurship Development

The joint UNCTAD-ILO project launched in 2012 to revise the ILO framework for assessing women entrepreneurship development (WED) policies and to better reflect the ICT dimension was completed at the end of 2013. One of the main outputs of this project is a practical guide entitled Empowering Women Entrepreneurs through Information and Communication Technologies. This publication will serve as a resource to support the formulation of evidence-based policies empowering women entrepreneurs through ICTs. The revised ILO framework for WED assessment has already been tested in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, and the ILO has started the process of undertaking an assessment in Morocco. In addition, the Asian Development Bank has made use of the framework in four countries in Central Asia. The UNCTAD-ILO project was included as a best practice case study in a new report from the Broadband Commission on Gender in 2013.

"I would like to thank UNCTAD team … for its valuable collaboration and support in successfully conducting the Review, which came up with recommendations for ASEAN Member States to consider in enhancing their e-commerce regulatory frameworks. I would also like to thank UNCTAD for the continued support offered to ASEAN, particularly in the area of information security and enhancing cyberlaws."

Tran Dong Phuong, Director for Finance, Industry and Infrastructure, ASEAN Economic Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat
d. Other activities

During 2013, UNCTAD received several requests for additional technical assistance. The Government of Egypt requested assistance on developing a national strategy for e-commerce. The Government of Ethiopia requested support in a range of ICT-related areas, including an ICT Policy Review with a focus on the software industry, ICT statistics and e-commerce legislation. These requests will result in new activities during 2014.

3. CONSENSUS-BUILDING ACTIVITIES

In terms of consensus building activities, UNCTAD contributed to the organization of several meetings and events and supported the work of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and the UN Group on the Information Society (UNGIS).

UNCTAD also contributed to consensus building activities as co-organizer to the WSIS Forum 2013, held in May at ITU Headquarters in Geneva. The Forum attracted more than 1,800 WSIS Stakeholders from more than 140 countries, and provided an opportunity for multi-stakeholder visioning and discussion on the WSIS+10 process. UNCTAD also helped to co-organize the WSIS+10 Review Meeting in Paris and the Open Consultation process for the WSIS+10 Review High-Level Event planned for April 2014.

Finally, as a member and co-chair of UNGIS (a group of 30 international organizations), UNCTAD contributed to drafting the joint statement on the Post-2015 Development Agenda issued by the Group. The Statement, which was submitted to the UN Secretary-General and to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, was well received and represented an example of constructive collaboration within the UN family. The Statement proposes that the potential of ICTs as key enablers of development, and as critical components of innovative development solutions, be fully recognized in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. ICTs should be fully acknowledged as tools that can help empower people, enable wider exercise of human rights, including freedom of expression, foster access to information, open up employment opportunities, and expand access to learning, education, and basic services. The Post-2015 Development Agenda should also reflect lessons learnt during the past decade in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. Finally, interaction between the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the WSIS+10 Review processes will be established to create synergies.

C. COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) is a subsidiary body of ECOSOC. UNCTAD is responsible for the substantive servicing of the Commission. The Commission provides the General Assembly and ECOSOC with high-level advice on science, technology, and innovation, and their implications for development. Since 2006, the Commission also serves as the focal point in the United Nations system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

In 2013, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) held its intersessional panel in January in Lima (Peru) and its sixteenth session in June in Geneva. As requested by the ECOSOC, the Commission considered two priority themes during the year:

- Science, technology and innovation for sustainable cities and peri-urban communities.
- Internet broadband for an inclusive digital society.

The deliberations conducted during the inter-sessional panel, in particular on the two themes, provided useful inputs to the work of the Commission. During the sixteenth session in Geneva, the Commission also reviewed the progress on the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the
The second one, Resolution 2013/9, Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, made specific recommendations to stakeholders. Among other things, it called upon all stakeholders to keep the goal of bridging the digital divide between and within countries, taking into account considerations of gender, culture, youth and other under-represented groups. The resolution also reiterated a call to stakeholders to prioritize the development of innovative approaches that will stimulate the provision of universal access to affordable broadband infrastructure services for developing countries, in order to ensure the development of an inclusive, development-oriented and people-centered information society.

Both resolutions were adopted by consensus by ECOSOC in July 2013.

The 2013-2014 Inter-sessional Panel of the CSTD took place in Washington DC, from 2 to 4 December 2013. The meeting was attended by more than 50 prominent experts from about 40 countries. It addressed the two priority themes of the seventeenth session of the CSTD, due to take place on 12-16 May, which are:

- Science, technology and innovation for the post-2015 agenda.
• ICTs for inclusive social and economic development.

**General Assembly**

UNCTAD presented the Report of the Secretary-General on *Science and Technology for Development* and on *Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels*, at the 68th session of the General Assembly in October 2013, thereby contributing to facilitating policy dialogue and consensus-building at the highest level of United Nations intergovernmental processes.

The General Assembly adopted two resolutions at the end of the session: one on *Science, Technology and Innovation for Development* (resolution 68/220) and the other one on *Information and Communications Technologies for Development* (resolution 68/198).

**CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation (WGEC)**

Pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 67/195, the Chair of the CSTD established a Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation to examine the mandate of WSIS regarding enhanced cooperation on internet public policy issues, as contained in the Tunis Agenda. The Working Group is expected to provide recommendations to the Commission, at its seventeenth session in 2014, on how to fully implement this mandate, through seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders.

UNCTAD, as the Secretariat of the CSTD, organized the first two meetings of the Working Group (WGEC). The first meeting was held in Geneva in May 2013. The Working Group prepared a questionnaire to be used as the primary means to collect stakeholder views on various aspects of enhanced cooperation. The CSTD Secretariat provided support in the administration of the questionnaire.

At the second meeting, also held in Geneva in November 2013, members took stock of the questionnaire responses and discussed ways and means to move forward. Several members of the Working Group also submitted contributions of draft recommendations to be further considered at the next session of the working group, scheduled for February 2014.
Planting the seeds for progress in developing countries
Empowering for development

3 countries joined the Port Training Programme

5 years of renewed cooperation with the Port of Marseille

3 language networks in our Port Training Programme

3 regional courses for policy makers

6 short courses for Geneva-based diplomats
A. TRAINFORTRADE

The TrainForTrade programme focuses on developing skills and knowledge through innovative approaches. It emphasizes the importance of training local experts as trainers in order to create sustainable knowledge sharing processes, promotes networking and south-south cooperation amongst beneficiaries, and continuously develops new learning tools. It carries out technical assistance projects for training and capacity building with core components on international trade and development and promotes cross-divisional cooperation within UNCTAD. It also operates the Port Training Programme through four language-based networks. Moreover, advice is provided on the use of information and communications technology (ICT) to promote knowledge sharing, networking and competence building. Funding was received from a range of donors including France, Ireland, Norway, Spain and Switzerland. Furthermore the beneficiary ports of the Port Training Programme continued contributing financially to the Trust Fund. This self-sustaining aspect indicates the level of commitment and interest from the participating national port communities, including Benin, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Ireland, Malaysia, Namibia, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, the United Republic of Tanzania and Togo.

- **30** face-to-face and e-learning courses in cooperation with other UNCTAD programmes
- **27%** 27 per cent women from developing countries, including 13 least developing countries, participated in these courses
- **842** trade operators, of which, 29 developing countries, including 13 least developing countries, participated in these courses
1. PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE SHARING, NETWORKING AND COMPETENCE BUILDING THROUGH ICT

TrainForTrade promotes the use of interactive and collaborative learning technologies such as Learning and Content Management Systems. It hosts a distance-learning platform (learn.unctad.org), using a free and open source Learning and Content Management System (LMS) in order to facilitate the sharing of information and technology in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The platform gives course participants easy access to learning materials and facilitates chat sessions. The Section contributed to the use of LMS for the Staff Development and Learning Section (SDLS) of the United Nations Office at Geneva. This platform is used by more than 1,000 students each trimester and provides efficient access to the language course materials.

2. CAPACITY BUILDING

TrainForTrade has a long experience in delivering tailor-made assistance to developing countries and economies in transition to build their capacity to integrate into the world.

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**UNCTAD Advisory Group Meeting on the Strengthening of Training Capacities and Human Resources Development**

The Advisory Group Meeting on Developing Skills Knowledge and Capacities through Innovation E-learning, M-learning, Cloud-Learning, held on 10 December 2013 in Geneva, dealt with the use of new technologies for knowledge sharing and capacity building training in developing countries. A total of 15 UN agencies took part in the discussions examining some of the current initiatives developed or implemented by international organizations and/or universities in the field of distance learning, with an aim to advise UNCTAD on the implementation of innovative solutions for the building and sharing of knowledge. The Advisory Group commended UNCTAD on its efforts to integrate innovative learning solutions into course development and delivery, and they recommended that this practice be reinforced. The group stressed the importance of using information and communication technology (ICT) that is adapted to the target population, considering the available technology and learner’s motivation. Further, the experts underscored that ICTs are most effective when they are used to enhance the learning experience, rather than to replace the traditional modes of learning.

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**PORT AUTHORITIES AROUND THE GLOBE  TRUST US**

*They contribute financially to the costs of the training*
The programme emphasises the importance of developing knowledge services for local people, by local people. TrainForTrade trains local experts (89 trainers, 29% of them women) in their countries to enable them to become trainers on trade-related issues. 552 trade-operators (26% women) benefited from this process which represents 4,000 hours of delivery. This creates local ownership and sustainability of the capacity development process.

The programme launched a TrainForTrade Project in West Africa in 2013, to strengthen capacities in the area of e-Commerce in eight West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Senegal and Togo) and in collaboration with UNCTAD's ICT Analysis Section and the ECOWAS Commission has since included Cote d'Ivoire, Niger and Nigeria as beneficiary countries. The project will support the implementation of the existing legal frameworks on e-transactions at the national level through capacity building workshops organized for the period 2013-2015.

As part of the project, needs assessment missions were undertaken between March and August 2013 in selected West African countries in order to assess local technical capacities and identify suitable training rooms for project activities. This was followed by two Training of Technical Tutors workshops (one in French and one in English). A total of 34 participants, including 7 women, successfully completed the Training of Technical Tutors (ToTT).

The programme also delivered, during the last trimester of the year, the e-learning course on “The Legal Aspects of e-Commerce”, composed of 8-modules (available in French and English). Sixty per cent of the 179 registered participants successfully completed the course. Very good results were achieved in the countries that benefited from the mission analysis and training of tutors workshops.

“...I think thus far this is my most liked topic. In the Gambia and like most jurisdictions in Africa, we do not have a Data Protection Act and working for an institution with Shared Service Centres around the globe, I find this topic most relevant to my daily activities as an in-house for Standard Chartered Bank.”

Omar F. M’Bai,
Head of Legal & Company Secretary,
Standard Chartered Bank
Gambia Limited

TrainForTrade and BioTrade

UNCTAD's BioTrade Initiative and TrainForTrade Programme organized an e-Learning course on "BioTrade and Value Chain Development", from March 25 to April 7, 2013. The course provided participants with the skills and abilities to create, disseminate and adapt the knowledge and tools required to develop value-chains in bio-trade. A total of 24 representatives from Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru completed the course and received certificates.
Collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Angola — Growing Sustainable Business Project

Following the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNCTAD and UNDP Angola in November 2012, TrainForTrade organized six capacity-development activities within the framework of UNDP Angola’s Growing Sustainable Business Project. This collaboration allowed the TrainForTrade programme to maintain an active presence in the country and to capitalize on the results obtained during the first Angola project implemented between 2007 and 2011. Three workshops on “Sustainable Tourism for Local Development” were delivered in the Provinces of Namibe, Malanje and Kuando-Kubango, gathering more than 75 local stakeholders. Two technical workshops on “Managing Sustainable Tourism Projects” were also organized for representatives from the public sector, business, and civil society on “Productive Capacities and Poverty Reduction in the LDC: the case of Angola”.

Creating linkages between stakeholders of the tourism sector

In Angola, TrainForTrade completed in 2013 a cycle of activities of its component “Sustainable Tourism for Development” that started in 2007. The entire cycle included five awareness workshops on sustainable tourism for local development at national and local levels, a national study on “mapping the tourism situation in Angola”, a study tour of Angolan officials to Mozambique, followed by a restitution and dissemination workshop, and a national workshop on managing sustainable tourism projects gathering the public and private sector as well as representatives of civil society. As a result, more than 200 Angolan stakeholders were trained, innovative sustainable tourism projects drafted, and linkages between national stakeholders strengthened. The linkages established between the private sector and local communities during the activities contributed to supply chain development, connecting local producers to coastal hotels.

UNCTAD’s contribution to UNDP Angola’s Growing Sustainable Business Project

1 Memorandum of understanding

3 workshops on “Sustainable Tourism for Local Development”

2 technical workshops on “Managing Sustainable Tourism Projects”

1 workshop on “Productive Capacities and Poverty Reduction in the LDCs”

150 people trained

*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.*
3. THE PORT TRAINING PROGRAMME

The Port Training Programme plays a vital role in supporting port communities in developing countries in the quest for efficient and competitive port management. Talent management and leadership development is a crucial part of the Programme. It operates through four language-based networks (English, French, Spanish and Portuguese) in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

The Programme hosts the course on “Modern Port Management”. It permits the sharing of expertise and best practices through annual regional meetings bringing together port officials from different countries and through partnerships that have been established with European ports who share their knowledge and expertise with ports in the South.

The Modern Port Management course targets middle and senior managers. Eight modules are delivered over a two-year span. To obtain the UNCTAD Certificate in Modern Port Management, participants must complete each module and defend a dissertation. These dissertations (about 150 each year) have proven useful for the port communities in improving their services.

In 2013 fifty-nine courses were held globally for 381 participants (29% women) and 89 trainers (29% women) from 19 countries, including 8 LDCs. The Programme offers train-the-trainer courses and coaching sessions in order to support capacity development of the instructors. The Port Training Programme is a solid example of capacity development as local trainers are actively engaged in training their own staff.

a. English-speaking network

The second cycle of the Port Training Programme was completed in Ghana, Indonesia, the Maldives, Namibia and the United Republic of Tanzania in cooperation with the Dublin Port Company, Port of Cork, Belfast Harbour Commissioners and Irish Aid. A total of 71 candidates (thirteen women) were awarded the Certificate in Modern Port Management after having successfully defended their final dissertations.
In July 2013 TrainForTrade and the Belfast Harbour Commissioners organized an International Coordination meeting to assess the results and impact of the second cycle of the English-speaking network of the PTP. The meeting brought together representatives from the programme’s main stakeholders; including in particular, the Irish Government, the Irish port partners – Dublin Port Company, Port of Cork and Belfast Harbour Commissioners, and port communities from Bangladesh, Ghana, Indonesia, Nigeria, the Philippines and Tanzania.

The Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland highlighted the importance of the TrainForTrade Port Training Programme in Ireland’s strategy to promote both trade and development, stating that the TrainForTrade Programme remains a strategic and relevant response to the great growing trade opportunities and development challenges in developing countries. He reaffirmed Irish Aid’s commitment to strengthening the programme.

During the meeting, Irish Aid presented the conclusions of their evaluation of the English-speaking network of the PTP. The evaluation found the programme to be effective, relevant, efficient and sustainable. At the meeting’s conclusion, the stakeholders reaffirmed their commitment to the programme and agreed to implement a third cycle (2013 – 2015).

In preparation for the third cycle of the programme, TrainForTrade organized a Coaching Workshop in the Philippines in November 2013, with the aim of strengthening the ability of focal points and local instructors to organize, deliver and assess the different modules of the Modern Port Management course. A total of 19 senior managers (nine women) from participating ports in Ghana, Indonesia and the Philippines completed the course. The end-of-module evaluations confirmed the workshop was highly-regarded by course participants.

In 2013, TFT also launched the third cycle of the English-speaking network of the PTP in Indonesia. A total of 25 middle managers (two women) from Indonesia Port Corporations and from the Indonesian navy participated in the course that will conclude in 2014.
b. French-speaking network

The French-speaking African members of the Port Training Programme in Africa held final dissertation panels and organized new training cycles in Gabon, Djibouti, Benin and Cameroon.

Sixteen participants in Benin, 18 in Cameroon and 16 in Gabon successfully defended their dissertations and were awarded UNCTAD’s Modern Port Management Certificate.

A regional Training of Technical Tutors workshop was organized by TrainForTrade in Dakar, Senegal, in September 2013. The objective of this workshop was to enable participants to organize and manage e-learning sessions. A few participants from the Port of Conakry and the Port of Lome also benefited from this training opportunity. The Autonomous Port of Dakar is currently in its ninth training cycle, with final dissertation panels envisaged for the first half of 2014.

The annual Coordination Meeting of the French-speaking network took place in March 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Director Generals and Focal Points of the ports of Benin, Cameroun, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, Togo and Senegal reviewed the activities of the past year, exchanged best practices, and agreed on the way forward. Representatives of the Ports of Congo, the Democratic Republic

Results of Irish Aid’s evaluation of the English-speaking network of the Port Training Programme

During the International Coordination meeting in July 2013, evaluators highlighted the following points from the evaluation:

- The programme is strongly valued and endorsed by port senior managers and graduates.
- Cycle II has made clear progress towards building management capacity and sustainability, shown by the increasing pool of graduates and trained local tutors and mentors.
- There is a direct benefit of increased skills for participants’ professional performance.
- The programme leads to increased organization awareness of staff talent.
- The promotional track record of participants within their organizations is positive and supports the motivational impact of the programme.
- The wider benefit to the port communities of participants’ increased awareness of the role of port operations in local and regional economic development, as well as international best practice and their exposure to new ideas.

> Course participants of the 3th cycle of UNCTAD’s Port Training Programme in Indonesia.
Inter-American Committee on Ports of the Organization of American States held in September 2013 in Cartagena - Colombia, and received the support of Latin American and the Caribbean port communities. The Spanish-speaking network has been reinforced in 2013 by the active participation of the Dominican Republic’s port community. National instructors, trained by TrainForTrade, have delivered modules of the Modern Port Management course to the Dominican Republic’s public and private port stakeholders. Peru started in 2013 the implementation of the third cycle of the Port Training Programme and has also delivered modules 1 to 4 of the above-mentioned course.

B. COURSE ON KEY ISSUES ON THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AGENDA

The Regional Course on Key Issues on the International Economic Agenda (also known as the “Paragraph 166 Course”, in reference to paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action), primarily targets policymakers and academics, both in government ministries and agencies, and in permanent missions to the United Nations in Geneva. It is delivered in two forms:

(a) three-week regional courses for economic policymakers and academics working in the government; and
(b) short (half day) courses for Geneva-based country delegates.

The regional courses are designed to provide policy makers with a comprehensive overview of how economic factors such as international trade, finance, investment and technology are related to one another and how appropriate and relevant economic policies in these areas can bring gains from integration into the globalized economy. The curriculum is focused on regional specificities, while taking into account global economic developments. It is indeed important...
for policy makers from each region to take note of such global developments when considering national development policies and objectives and how the gains from trade and investment can help to meet these objectives. The policy development dimension therefore plays a critical role in the design of the curriculum.

The curriculum includes five modules: (1) macroeconomic management of an economy; (2) foreign direct investment and enterprise development; (3) the role that science, technology and innovation can play in development; (4) trade logistics, transport and infrastructure; and finally (5) trade policies. The curriculum consists of presentations, debate sessions, critical review of policies and role playing in policy development, highlighting coherence and coordination throughout the five modules.

1. REGIONAL COURSES FOR POLICY MAKERS AND ACADEMICS

Three regional courses were organized in 2013.

In Latin America: The first course took place at EAFIT University, Medellin, Colombia for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region. Eighteen policy makers from Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay participated in the course.

Marc Ramsay
from Belize

This course was run with the EAFIT University, Medellin, Colombia for the third time in February 2013 (two previous courses were delivered with EAFIT in 2009 and 2007). The curriculum was designed by UNCTAD, UNECLAC and
EAFIT experts. Sharing best practices in policy development is an important and integral part of the course. In this regional program, several presentations by Medellin experts were shared with policy makers, especially in the areas of investment, enterprise development, knowledge and innovation policies (in particular for SME development), as well as trade negotiations.

In Africa: The second course for the region took place at the University of Mauritius. The 24 participants in this course came from Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, the Seychelles, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo and Zimbabwe.

This program was run with the University of Mauritius in August 2013. The course was designed and delivered by UNCTAD and UNECA as well as Mauritian experts, including in particular: a representative from the Mauritius Employers’ Federation, who shared his vision of the development strategy of Mauritius; experts from the Mauritius Board of Investment, the SME Development Agency of Mauritius; and that from Enterprise Mauritius, who dealt with policy initiatives to attract FDI and promote linkages between TNC and SMEs. Empretec Mauritius and the Port of Mauritius also shared their experience in developing business skills and management practices.

The University of Mauritius was awarded multi-year venue status by the Advisory Body at UNCTAD when it met earlier in 2012 to review the proposal from the University. As a multi-year venue, the University will host the course over three editions (covering the period from 2013 through 2017) and provide national experts for the design and delivery of the curricula.

In Asia: the third course, for the Asia-Pacific region was hosted by the Singapore Cooperation Program of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The 18 course participants came from Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Tuvalu and Viet Nam.
Courses. The objective of these courses is to update Geneva-based policymakers on the most recent issues and developments in the international economic agenda. The program is demand driven, with delegates proposing topics that are of relevance to them. Their suggestions are complemented by courses on emerging topics on which UNCTAD conducts research.

**Improving efficiency to provide better services**

Over 150 delegates participated in these short courses. The objective of these courses is to update Geneva-based policymakers on the most recent issues and developments in the international economic agenda. The program is demand driven, with delegates proposing topics that are of relevance to them. Their suggestions are complemented by courses on emerging topics on which UNCTAD conducts research.

Improving efficiency to provide better services

Online application and registration processes are now available for both the regional and short courses for Geneva-based delegates. Online application for regional courses is undertaken when nominees are identified by their Governments. For the short courses, Geneva-based delegates can easily register on the course Web platform and choose the short course that they wish to attend. All regional and short course materials are published on the program’s e-learning platform at http://p166.unctad.org/. The materials include the presentations and background readings, and, in the case of short courses, videos of most presentations that have been delivered. The program uses these and other ICT tools to perform online evaluations of the regional courses, including a second survey 6 months after the end of each regional course, impact assessment surveys (taken directly after the short course). The results help to measure the impact of the knowledge and experience acquired by the participants, and their relevance to their professional duties.
Seizing the opportunity to make a difference
Trade and transport efficiency for growth

1. Review of Maritime Transport in its 45th year

10th year Liner Shipping Connectivity Index

4 Transport Newsletters with 2900 subscribers

29 national trade facilitation implementation plans

Advisory services
INTRODUCTION

There have been many changes in recent years in the way that goods are traded, transported, distributed and sourced. New patterns of trade have emerged, containerization has increased, information technology has advanced, and new and critical issues such as environmental sustainability have arisen. Together these trends not only affect the physical movement of goods, but they also have important implications for the policies, laws and regulations underlying cross-border flows. As a result, developing countries are facing new challenges ranging from enhancing basic transport infrastructure and logistics needs, to undertaking the necessary reforms that would promote an enabling framework for transport and trade development. They are also facing mounting pressure to reconcile economic, social and environmental considerations for a sustainable development. The Trade Logistics Branch assists developing countries in addressing these challenges, through the three traditional UNCTAD pillars: research and analysis, technical assistance and consensus building.

A. TRANSPORT

1. RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

a. Review of Maritime Transport

The UNCTAD Review of Maritime Transport, a highly respected source of maritime information and analysis, focuses on key developments affecting the maritime transport sector. The 2013 Review covered trends in the international seaborne trade; world fleet, including its structure, ownership and registration; freight rates and vessel prices; ports, connectivity, and intermodal transport as well as the legal and regulatory framework. A special chapter was dedicated to transport issues in landlocked developing countries (LLDCs).

The 2013 Review estimates global seaborne trade to have increased by 4.3 per cent, with the total exceeding 9 billion tons in 2012 for the first time in UNCTAD’s record. Driven in particular by growing domestic demand in China and increased intra-Asian and South-South trade, growth in seaborne trade remains, nonetheless, subject to persistent downside risks facing the world economy and trade. Freight rates have remained low and volatile in the various market segments (container, liquid and dry bulk). Information on recent developments in transport finance including ship finance as well as in relation to the growing role of private equity as a new source of finance for the sector was disseminated through Chapter 3 of the 2013 edition of the Review.

Some key challenges and opportunities facing maritime transport have been highlighted with the closely related issues of energy security and costs, climate change, and environmental sustainability. The latter environmental sustainability continues to be perhaps the most unsettling. Climate change in particular continues to rank high on the international policy agenda, including its relevance to shipping and port businesses. Other key opportunities with regard to maritime transport lie in areas relating to deeper regional integration and South–South cooperation; growing diversification of sources of supply; and access to new markets, facilitated by cooperation agreements and by improved transport networks (e.g. the Panama Canal expansion).

The RMT 2013 special chapter on “Landlocked countries and maritime transport” provides an overview of recent progress made in understanding impediments to accessing sea-shipping services for the trade of goods between landlocked territories and overseas markets. The Review proposes a new paradigm for transit based on a conveyor-belt concept, which aims to achieve a continuous supply of transit transport services, supported by institutional frameworks and infrastructure. Given the review of the Almaty Programme of Action that is to take place in 2014, this proposal could form part of the set of actions to be taken as part of a new agenda for landlocked and transit developing countries.
Reactions to the Review of Maritime Transport 2013
Well received as usual, due to the excellent professional views, statistics, analysis and commentaries as well tendencies and the whole works.

UNCTAD Readership Survey 2013

b. The way to the ocean
A study titled “The way to the ocean” (which deals with issues related to transit corridors servicing the trade of LLDCs) was published in 2013 as the preparatory work for the forthcoming 10-year review of the Almaty Programme of Action was underway. The study examines the similarities and differences between LLDCs and how their relationship with their transit neighbours affects their trade. The study calls for greater co-operation between landlocked developing countries and transit neighbours. In particular, it calls for:

- the development of corridor management arrangements;
- greater emphasis upon the reliability and predictability of transit operations and;
- the development of consolidation centres to create critical mass.

c. Liner Shipping Connectivity Index

A milestone for UNCTAD in 2013 was the publication of the UNCTAD Liner Shipping Connectivity Index (LSCI) in commemoration of its 10th year. The LSCI captures how well countries are connected to global shipping networks and, consequently, how easily they access containerized trade. The latter is what makes the LSCI a global reference. The importance of containerization for global trade has only recently been fully understood. Citing The Economist, “Containers have been more important for globalisation than freer trade” (The Economist, 2013). A study by ESCAP and the World Bank also found that liner shipping connectivity, as measured by UNCTAD’s LSCI, had a stronger impact on trade costs than the indicators for “logistics performance”, “air connectivity”, “costs of starting a business” and “lower tariffs” combined.2

The Transport Newsletter is increasingly incorporated in broader economic analysis and indicators, such as the WEF’s Global Enabling Trade Report, ESCAP’s new International Supply Chain Connectivity Index and the latest United Nations report on “World Economic Situation and Prospects”.

Technical Assistance and advisory services
UNCTAD continued its activities in capacity building programmes and training of delegates, students and representatives from the public and private sectors in transport-
related issues. It also participated in regional conferences to advise on best-practices in the field of transport and logistics.

UNCTAD staff delivered training as part of UNCTAD’s P166 course in Colombia and Mauritius, participated in panel discussions and gave presentations on substantive issues at different events (including, the International Forum for Shipping, Ports and Airports, Hong Kong; the OECD Port Cities conference in the Netherlands; and the Third African Logistics Conference in Tanzania). Presentations were also delivered in the presence of delegations visiting Geneva from the government of Ethiopia as well as the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean and a group of Colombian University Students on a study tour. Furthermore, UNCTAD participated and engaged in the transport-related debate on sustainable finance at the International Transport Forum held in Leipzig, Germany in May 2013.

UNCTAD provided policy advice and hands-on assistance to Nigeria Exim Bank (NEXIM) on the use of public-private partnership (PPP) models for SEALINK project development as well as for terminal concessions and shipping services. The SEALINK project is a regional project headed by NEXIM aiming to build an efficient coastal sea transport system that will promote inter-regional trade as well as cabotage services for both passenger and freight in the West and Central African States (ECOWAS).

UNCTAD also continued the implementation of the on-going joint UNESCAP/UNCTAD/ECA project for “Capacity Building of Control Authorities and Transport Operators to Improve Efficiency of Cross-border Transport in Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries” in East Africa Central Corridor. In this respect, national cluster development agents in three countries (Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi) were recruited in collaboration with the Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (TTFA) to apply the CT-TPM Toolkit (a transport facilitation toolkit, which includes UNCTAD cluster development methodology and the ESCAP Time/Cost-Distance methodology) at the country level.

The ultimate results of the project will lead to the formulation of national and corridor action plans for transport facilitation.

2. CONSENSUS BUILDING

a. Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport and Trade Facilitation

The first session of the Multiyear Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation, was entitled “Transport and logistics innovation towards the review of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2014” and provided a useful stock-taking exercise of the progress made and the pending issues for the 2014 review process. Experts examined, for instance, transport transit development policies, transport corridors, and the possibilities for improvement offered by technology and innovation. Experts agreed in underscoring the role that UNCTAD should play in researching and analysing, disseminating and allowing the exchange of successful experiences as well as in providing technical assistance as appropriate to requesting countries. In particular, the meeting recommended that:

- technology-based and innovative solutions should be applied to transit transport systems;
- transit corridors are appropriate institutional frameworks to manage transit trade;
- regional integration and cooperation initiatives should be actively pursued to foster further trade and,
- strengthened multilateral rules would help facilitate transit and international trade further.

b. Ad-Hoc Expert Meeting on Transport and Trade Facilitation

An Ad-Hoc Expert Meeting entitled “Transport Observatories” took place in Geneva on 25 October 2013, in response to a number of requests received from member countries to assist with the establishment and operation of Transport Observatories. The meeting was a fact finding exercise designed to contribute to a better understanding of the functions and requirements of a Transport Observatory.
Experts from the private sector (including a large delegation from the African Union of Shippers Councils) as well as governments and academia exchanged information on recent and on-going activities in this area and discussed potential future collaborations; including the role UNCTAD could play in assisting countries to develop Transport Observatories.

**B. TRADE FACILITATION**

Global standards in trade facilitation and transport can help in transferring good practices and technologies to developing countries, thereby contributing to development as this helps to enhance governance and streamline processes, which save time and money. The savings are not only for the private sector traders and operators, but also for the public sector. Many specific trade facilitation measures, such as pre-arrival processing, automation, electronic submission, Direct Trader Input (DTI), or risk assessment, help to reduce the time it takes to process trade transactions.

Most trade facilitation measures improve revenue collection. For developing countries, Customs duties and taxes collected at the border tend to account for a far higher share of government revenues than in developed economies. It is important for developing countries to increase such revenue, not only through increased trade, but also through specific trade facilitation measures that reduce the risk of revenue loss.

UNCTAD’s work on Customs automation (See section D) and other trade facilitation reforms is directly linked to the introduction of measures that enhance developing countries’ capacities in the above mentioned area. By implementing Customs reforms, training stakeholders or creating national trade facilitation platforms, UNCTAD’s technical assistance and capacity building programmes in 2013 assisted a large number of developing countries. Traders and public sector officials have benefited from efficiency gains, processes have become more transparent, a growing number of transactions have been made in the formal rather than informal sector, thereby helping governments to increase revenues.
TRADE LOGISTICS

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON TRADE FACILITATION PROJECT PROPOSALS IN 2013

Major achievements/results during 2013

By December 2013, UNCTAD successfully concluded several trade facilitation projects linked to the multilateral negotiations on trade facilitation. Within these projects, during the year 2013, UNCTAD conducted seven regional and inter-regional events on trade facilitation implementation and regional cooperation in St. Lucia, Benin, Rwanda, Tanzania, India and Nepal. UNCTAD also produced nine national trade facilitation implementation plans, and an in-depth study titled “The new frontier of competitiveness in developing countries: Implementing trade facilitation”.

UNCTAD’s trade facilitation projects have an impact on its member countries’ development in two major ways. First of all, their contribution to development is through the easing of trade. This impact is straightforward and has long been recognized. There is a second, and

> From left to right, representatives from Bhutan, Rwanda, Nepal, Uganda, Bangladesh, Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania with their respective Trade Facilitation Implementation Plans, during the interregional forum on Trade Facilitation in Geneva in November 2013.
significant link to development. Indeed, the reforms also help to:

- generate better quality employment,
- get small traders into the formal sector,
- make economic activities more transparent and accountable,
- promote good governance,
- strengthen IT capabilities,
- and generally help modernize societies.

A specific achievement of UNCTAD’s work on trade facilitation has been the furthering of the understanding of developing countries of the different trade facilitation measures negotiated at the WTO, done through UNCTAD’s research, advisory services and support to consensus building. Thereby, allowing developing countries to better participate in the negotiations and contribute to the Trade Facilitation Agreement reached in Bali on 7 December 2014.

A key step in many trade facilitation reforms is the establishment of an appropriate and efficient mechanism for stakeholder consultations. To this end, UNCTAD has successfully supported the creation of national trade facilitation committees in several developing countries. In autumn 2013, UNCTAD launched its online repository with information on more than 80 Trade Facilitation Bodies around the world. In addition, the Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade (GFPTT - www.gfptt.org) has been

3 http://unctad.org/TFcommittees

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**The New Frontier of Competitiveness in Developing Countries: Implementing trade facilitation**

On 8 July 2013, on the occasion of the fourth Global Review of Aid for Trade in Geneva, high-level representatives of 27 Governments and organizations, including UNCTAD, issued a “Joint Statement – Trade Facilitation Assistance” for trade-facilitation implementation. The statement emphasized the benefits of concluding a trade-facilitation agreement in Bali and highlighted the Governments/organizations’ strong commitment to continue to provide support for its implementation.

The national implementation plans approach, developed by UNCTAD, which complements the WTO needs assessments is an important step in this direction, but remain one part of the whole journey, which, in the end, will rely extensively on the countries’ capacity to maintain an inclusive and productive national dialogue on the trade-facilitation reforms. In this context, supporting the establishment and operationalization of national trade-facilitation committees in developing countries will prove to be an important element in effectively implementing and monitoring needs and progress under an eventual WTO agreement.

The UNCTAD study, on “The New Frontier of Competitiveness in Developing Countries: Implementing trade facilitation”, finished in 2013, consolidates the findings of 26 national Trade Facilitation implementation plans in LDCs, middle-income developing countries, landlocked and transit developing countries, and small island developing economies. The study clearly indicates that assistance is required for many trade-facilitation reforms and that not only financial aid is needed: indeed significant efforts in long-term sustainable capacities, technological and institutional infrastructure development, and training and reforms aimed at better governance will also be required.

The study also shows that there is a need for developing countries to evaluate the specific requirements for technical assistance. Developing countries need to plan the implementation of the trade-facilitation reforms in terms of time, technical assistance and capacity-building, and the sequencing of actions required to ensure full compliance with their trade-facilitation commitments.

*Source: UNCTAD, “The new frontier of competitiveness in developing countries: Implementing trade facilitation”, UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2013/2*
used as a platform for a forum and an information-centre by the working groups involved in UNCTAD Trade Facilitation projects. The GF-PTT communicates through both, physical meeting and a web-based platform for all major organizations involved in trade facilitation. It is a “Single Window” for development partners to share information and coordinate their activities related to trade and transport facilitation.

In 2013, UNCTAD implemented two national trade logistics projects. The Trade and Transport Facilitation Project in Pakistan focused on advisory services to the Ministry of Commerce. In Ethiopia under a project with the Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Service Enterprise, UNCTAD provided review and advisory services for the modernization of the company.

C. POLICY AND LEGISLATION

During the year UNCTAD continued to carry out substantive work in accordance with its mandate in the field of transport and trade facilitation. Specific focus areas were:

- environmental challenges and the need to promote environmental sustainability and climate resilience in maritime transport, in particular ports,
- legal and regulatory developments affecting transport and trade,
- relevant trends currently reshaping international shipping and seaborne trade patterns, and
- maritime security and piracy.

Work on emerging challenges, in particular climate change impacts on maritime transport and the need for adaptation, is increasingly recognized as relevant and timely by the international port community, governments, institutional partners and academia. The Secretary General of the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH), for example, recently observed that “IAPH is happy to work together with UNCTAD to tackle the issue [climate change impacts and adaptation in ports] as this is one of the most critical issues surrounding our industry”.

1. RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

UNCTAD continued to carry out substantive research on a number of policy, legal and regulatory developments affecting trade and transport in developing countries. These included developments in relation to international conventions, rules and standards in the field of commercial law and commercial transport law; international seaborne trade, maritime piracy and environmental challenges,
in particular climate change. Relevant information was disseminated through inter alia, Chapters 1 and 5 of the 2013 Review of Maritime Transport (RMT) as well as through substantive analytical reports. Chapter 1 of the 2013 edition of the RMT notes, in particular that international shipping is facing an evolving complex environment that involves both challenges and opportunities, including in the demand and supply mismatch, continued global economic uncertainty and geopolitical tensions. Chapter 5 provided information about important legal and regulatory developments that are of particular interest to the international shipping and trading community. These included the entry into force of the 2006 Maritime Labour Convention (20 August 2013), and of the 2002 Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea (23 April 2014), as well as a range of regulatory developments relating to maritime and supply-chain security, maritime safety and environmental issues, in particular climate change and the need to curb greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from shipping.

a. Maritime Piracy

By its very nature, shipping is particularly vulnerable to piracy and the threat of armed robbery. As piracy activities evolve and become more sophisticated, the problem becomes a multifaceted and complex transnational security challenge that threatens lives, livelihoods and global welfare. It has broad repercussions for all countries, whether they are coastal or landlocked, developed or developing. UNCTAD published last year two reports specifically on the maritime piracy challenge, focusing particularly on piracy as experienced in East and West African waters since 2005. The first report *Maritime Piracy: an overview of trends, costs and trade-related implications* describes the scope and the extent of the challenge, identifies key issues at stake and highlights relevant impacts, costs and the broader trade-related implications of piracy. The second report, *Maritime Piracy: an overview of the international legal framework and of multilateral cooperation to combat piracy* presents an overview of current anti-piracy response mechanisms and takes stock of relevant anti-piracy regulatory initiatives as well as other initiatives pursued.

b. Implications of climate change for transportation: enhancing the climate-resilience of seaports

Ports are key-nodes in transport networks that link international supply-chains and are vital to global trade. At the same time, ports are exposed to weather and climate-related risks and are potentially vulnerable to a range of climate change impacts, with broader implications for international trade and development. Given the strong interdependence of world economies, trade, and transport networks, enhancing the climate-resilience of world seaports is therefore of global strategic economic importance. In this context and pursuant to its mandate, UNCTAD continues to carry out work to help improve understanding of issues at the interface of maritime transport and the climate change challenge with a view to helping developing countries formulate and implement adequate policies and measures that enhance the climate resilience of their transport systems, in particular ports.

Following the 2011 Expert Meeting on “Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation: A Challenge for Global Ports” and drawing on its earlier related work, UNCTAD has recently carried out a “Port-Industry Survey on Climate Variability and Change”. Designed in consultation with port industry stakeholders, including in particular the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH), the online survey seeks to improve understanding of weather and climate-related impacts on seaports and to identify data availability and information needs, as well as current levels of resilience and preparedness among ports. The survey is expected to provide relevant information and data that are essential for risk-assessment and adaptation planning, including in particular for ports in developing regions. Relevant data, in a format suitable for analysis, was obtained from 42 respondent ports, which together operate and manage over 60 ports. Analysis of responses received is underway and results will be published in the course of 2014.
2. CONSENSUS BUILDING

UNCTAD contributed to the preparations, as well as to the substantive discussions of the 5th Session of the Trade and Development Commission, held in Geneva in June 2013. The Commission discussed trends currently reshaping international maritime transport and trade, including the growing importance of developing countries in the demand for maritime transport services, as well as their increasing market share in the supply of maritime business. Other issues examined included climate change concerns, which are shaping transport policies and strategies of the future, as well as a range of regulatory issues affecting global trade and transport.

3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ADVISORY SERVICES

UNCTAD has developed a project proposal with a focus on climate change adaptation for ports and other coastal infrastructure in small island developing states (SIDS). The proposal which was shortlisted for funding under the United Nations (UN) Development Account aims to enhance understanding and technical knowledge among policy makers, transport planners and transport infrastructure managers from SIDS of the impacts of climate change on coastal transport infrastructure, in particular seaports and airports. It also aims to build their capacity to develop adequate adaptation response measures. Key deliverables of the project, include among others, developing a methodology/framework for use as a tool by SIDS in their assessment of priorities and adaptation needs relating to coastal transport infrastructure (ports and, as appropriate, airports). The project is expected to be launched in the second quarter of 2014.

In 2013, UNCTAD also continued to provide advice and policy guidance in response to requests received from various governmental and intergovernmental entities as well as non-governmental organizations. In addition, UNCTAD also delivered presentations at relevant fora and training events. These included, in particular:

- a Scoping Workshop on Sea Ports and Climate Change organized in March 2013 by the European Commission Joint Research Centre (ECJRC) in Brussels, Belgium. The meeting focused specifically on climate change adaptation in ports located in developing countries as well as on the special considerations relating to SIDS;
- a stakeholder dialogue/workshop on issues relating to sustainable shipping and trade, organized in April 2013 by the Maersk Group (London). UNCTAD drew attention to issues of particular relevance to developing countries and shared key insights gained as a result of its work in the field;
- a lecture at the International Institute for the Management of Logistics (IML), École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in May 2013. The lecture focused on key externalities of transport and trade;
- lectures at the June 2013 international postgraduate course on Research in Marine Environment and Resources (RIMER 2013) in Piantzkaia-Bizkaia, Spain and of International Summer School of the University of the Aegean, on “Interactions of Shipping with the Marine Environment (ISMARE 2013), held in Chios, Greece. Lectures and presentations covered UNCTAD’s work on ship-source oil pollution and on climate change adaptation for global ports.
- the 40th Anniversary Conference of the Maritime Policy and Management held in June 2013 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The keynote address focused on maritime transport and international seaborne trade.
Helping developing countries to lift a weight off
Every day of the year, someone in the world is attending an ASYCUDA training course.

**Largest**
UNCTAD technical assistance programme

- 94 countries and territories use ASYCUDA

**Implemented in**
38 LDCs

- More than 334 missions in 2013

**2 online Newsletters**
The role of Customs departments is changing. In addition to helping Governments deal with national and international policies associated with revenue collection and fighting fraud and corruption, these entities are becoming more and more active in border protection and management. Indeed, Customs’ presence at border posts (air, land and sea) allows the prevention of illicit trade and the control of the trade of restricted goods. Moreover, in the case of disaster-prone countries, the role of Customs is crucial to expedite the deployment of equipment and relief supplies which allow humanitarian and emergency aid to reach the needed populations more rapidly and efficiently. In this environment, reform and modernization are imperative for Customs departments to ensure they are equipped to face today’s challenges. Automation is an essential part of such necessary reform and modernization efforts.

Over the past 30 years, UNCTAD has developed an Automated System for Customs Data, ASYCUDA. It has designed and developed advanced software applications for customs administrations and the trade community to assist them in complying with international standards when fulfilling import, export and transit related procedures, from (and prior to) the arrival of goods, up to their ultimate delivery to customers, after payment of duties and taxes. The system includes advanced risk-management/selectivity/valuation capabilities and very strong anti-corruption features.

UNCTAD’s competency in the complex area of customs automation is internationally recognized. The ASYCUDA system is implemented in the beneficiary countries in the framework of a technical assistance project that deliver a comprehensive package, including software, documentation, technical and functional expertise and capacity building. Training activities are of paramount importance to ensure the full transfer of ASYCUDA “know-how” to the national staff, which is essential to enable the national team to administrate and maintain the system in the long-run.

**A. SYSTEM DEVELOPMENTS**

In January 2013, ASYCUDA launched an online technical forum for the sharing of technical issues including latest news, questions,
documentation and problem solving. The forum allows IT experts all over the world to share their technical knowledge and to obtain timely solutions from any other user country facing a similar issue. Among the many advantages that this forum provides is its 24/7/365 availability regardless of location.

The year 2013 saw the consolidation and dissemination of a new version of ASYCUDA, and also a greater adoption of “secure web services” by Customs Administrations with emphasis on the setting up of e-payment and pre-arrival information services. Web-services are the essential components in the building of a customs-centric Single Window for e-customs and e-government.

Further to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the World Customs Organisation (WCO), the second half of the year saw the inception of the ASYCUDA Performance Indicators Module. Based on WCO’s experience in performance measurement methodology, and together with WCO, a priority set of performance indicators was developed by the UNCTAD’s development team. The implementation of this application is being piloted in Liberia with the assistance of WCO and funding from NORAD. Subsequently it will be made available to all requesting countries using the ASYCUDA system. The module will make the database interrogation and data mining task of Customs staff easier, in particular for post-clearance audit, risk management and the production of statistics.

Impact of ASYCUDA

The latest generations of ASYCUDA projects are implemented following a set of specific indicators established in the project’s logical framework. A number of these indicators are monitored by the National Project Team. These indicators, which cover various institutional and trade facilitation benchmarks (related for instance to revenue collection, trade facilitation processes, clearance times and the availability of reliable trade-related data) are available for impact evaluations and for determining corrective actions when required.

The recognition of the impact that ASYCUDA Projects have on user countries is reflected in the numerous requests for collaboration and partnership received during 2013. These requests take the form of:

- Memorandums of Understanding, such as those signed with World Customs Organisation (on integrity and Customs performance measurement) and with IATA (on data exchange), with regional entities such as Eurasian Economic Commission, COMESA, and ECOWAS (on solutions
at regional level for transit and risk management), or under discussion with World Trade Organisation (on extraction of statistical data elements).

- Requests for the development of applications interconnected with ASYCUDA to facilitate deployment of humanitarian and emergency aid (OCHA), to control and protect intellectual property rights (WIPO), to streamline exportation procedures for agricultural products (Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture with the support of the Netherlands), or for the import/export of Ozone Depleting Substances (UNEP).

**B. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

The technical and functional training of the national teams is a major component of ASYCUDA's technical assistance projects to ensure the necessary transfer of know-how. Such knowledge transfer establishes a sense of ownership and technical self-sufficiency as well as independence from external technical assistance, to further enhance the operations of the system. In this context, in 2013, the ASYCUDA Programme, organized nearly 230 training sessions, both technical and functional for more than 2500 participants.

During 2013, the ASYCUDA central team also continued to provide both in-country and remote technical assistance, and support for system maintenance. More than 330 support and advisory missions were undertaken by staff or consultants in the beneficiary countries. Experts from ASYCUDA user countries continue to carry out more than 60% of these missions.

The year 2013 saw the adoption of the ASYCUDA system by five new countries/territories: Jamaica, Lesotho, Saint Helena, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and the Solomon Islands.

Overall in 2013 there were 51 ASYCUDA operational technical assistance projects in operation, including 7 regional/inter-regional projects.
A sustainable approach for a sustainable project:
ASYCUDA long standing support to the
Aqaba Center of Excellence (Jordan)

In 2009, Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA) and UNCTAD's ASYCUDA Programme signed an agreement on the implementation of a Center of Excellence with the aim of developing the concepts of:

- Full electronic Data Exchange
- Single Window System virtual platform
- One-stop-shop governmental control

The Aqaba Centre of Excellence (ACE) is the result of a longstanding and fruitful cooperation between the (ASEZA) and UNCTAD in serving the trade community in Africa and the Middle East.

In addition to being a regional support office for the ASYCUDA Programme, a training center and a laboratory for software development, ACE offers a supportive environment for governments, non-state actors and policy makers to meet, share and brainstorm on trade facilitation best practices by hosting International, Regional and local workshop/seminars on ICT & E-Government related events.

The center works on the research, development and prototyping of global solutions using the most modern technology for the management of international trade operations. It permanently identifies and evaluates the most suitable ICT tools and accompanying measures in providing solutions for public, private and business communities in the Middle East and Africa.

**IT developments:**
To respond to the needs of ASEZA's Customs and Revenue commission, the following applications have been developed within the framework of a comprehensive e-government solution with real-time monitoring tools:

- A warehousing system;
- A EVR system, an automated system based on ASYCUDA managing “Visas and Residencies” to facilitate the access to the Aqaba Special Economic Zone of trade operators;
- A BDAS system, a knowledge management to facilitate decisions and follow-up.

**Training sessions:**
Answering to its beneficiary’s most common needs, ACE has designed basic and advanced functional and technical training sessions. The center’s experts are in permanent liaison with Geneva’s central team and the beneficiaries of the ASYCUDA Programme in the Middle East and Africa, identifying training needs, providing custom-made trainings and following up on impact evaluations. In this context:

- Training on trade facilitation was provided to 45 Governmental agencies from the Europe, the Middle East and Africa regions
- A total of 230 Full Training Days were delivered to over 250 trainees including 120 members of ASYCUDA national project teams since November 2011.
- Workshops on trade and transport facilitation were provided to Customs administrations, Revenue Authorities, The European Union, Ministry of Transport, UN agencies, Private sector.

**Conferences and Workshops:**
Since 2012, the center has organized the “Regional conferences on trade and transport” which have enjoyed extensive media coverage on national and international media. The 2013 Conference edition saw the participation of more than 250 representatives from 20 countries, representing intergovernmental organizations, development agencies and customs administrations.
ASYCUDA making a difference for small producers in Ethiopia: the case of the new electronic phytosanitary certification system – ASYCER

Small producers in developing countries are often confronted with the hurdle of obtaining the necessary certificates, from importing countries, demonstrating that their exports comply with all regulations for protecting health in humans, animals and plants. This is particularly the case for small agricultural producers. Such producers can particularly benefit from on-line certificates.

In 2010-2012 a new electronic phytosanitary certification system – ASYCER, was developed within the framework of a Memorandum of Understanding and a technical cooperation project between UNCTAD ASYCUDA Programme and the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs. This project builds upon UNCTAD ASYCUDA long-standing experience in automating Customs and the Dutch best practices in trade facilitation area and strong expertise on phyto-sanitary certification.

In 2013 the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) successfully piloted ASYCER. Its national version was called ETHIOePCS. The project was strongly supported by the Ethiopian Revenue and Customs Authority (ERCA) and the Horticulture Producers and Exporter's Association (EPHEA). Through the pilot phase over 50 government officials were trained. The system was installed in the MOA headquarters, in the Plant Protection Office in the Addis Ababa International Airport and in 14 exporting companies, through the ERCA's ICT network. Further to the successful piloting experience, MOA is considering to eliminate manual procedures and to gradually involve 100 exporting companies into this e-certification system.

The ASYCER electronic phyto sanitary certification system was presented by UNCTAD's Secretary-General Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, in a parallel event, during the WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali, in December 2013. During the event, the Dutch Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, who hosted the event, expressed her appreciation for UNCTAD’s cooperation and noted that “e-certification is faster and less error-prone, and saves exporters from extra red tape”.

UNCTAD Secretary-General
Dr. Kituyi at WTO Ministerial Conference, Bali 2013
MAP OF ASYCUDA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN 2013

Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) technical assistance
LIST OF DTL PUBLICATIONS OVER THE PERIOD 2009–2013

A. FLAGSHIP REPORTS
On science, technology and information and communication technologies:

- Technology and Innovation Report 2012: Innovation, Technology and South-South Collaboration (Symbol UNCTAD/TIR/2012)
- Technology and Innovation Report 2010: Enhancing food security in Africa through science, technology and Innovation (Symbol UNCTAD/TIR/2009)
- Information Economy Report 2013: The Cloud Economy and Developing Countries (Symbol UNCTAD/IER/2013)
- Information Economy Report 2012: The software Industry and Developing Countries (Symbol UNCTAD/IER/2012)
- Information Economy Report 2011: ICTs as Enabler for private sector development (Symbol UNCTAD/IER/2011)
- Information Economy Report 2010: ICTs, enterprises and poverty alleviation (Symbol UNCTAD/IER/2010)

On trade logistics:

- Review of Maritime Transport 2013 (Symbol UNCTAD/RMT/2013)
- Review of Maritime Transport 2012 (Symbol UNCTAD/RMT/2012)
- Review of Maritime Transport 2011 (Symbol UNCTAD/RMT/2011)
- Review of Maritime Transport 2010 (Symbol UNCTAD/RMT/2010)
- Review of Maritime Transport 2009 (Symbol UNCTAD/RMT/2009)

B. NON-RECURRENT PUBLICATIONS
On science, technology and information and communication technologies:

- UNCTAD Current studies on internet broadband for an inclusive society (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2013/4)
- UNCTAD Current studies on technology in action: good practices in science, technology and innovation for women in South Asia (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2013/3)
- Framework for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Reviews: Helping Countries leverage knowledge and innovation for development (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2011/7)
- Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Review of the Dominican Republic (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2012/1)
- Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Review of Peru (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2010/2)
- UNCTAD Current Studies on geospatial science and technology for development (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2012/3)
- UNCTAD Current Studies on applying a Gender Lens to Science, Technology and Innovation (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2011/5)
- UNCTAD Current Studies on implementing WSIS Outcomes: Experience to Date and Prospects for the Future (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2011/3)
- UNCTAD Current Studies on water for food: Innovative water management technologies for food security and poverty alleviation (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2011/2/Rev.1)
- UNCTAD Current Studies on financing ICT for development (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2009/5)
- UNCTAD Current Studies on green and renewable energy technologies for rural development (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2009/4)
- Promoting local IT sector development through public procurement (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2012/5).
- Mobile Money for Business Development in the East African Community: A Comparative Study of Existing Platforms and Regulations. (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2012/2)
- Review of E-commerce Legislation Harmonization in the Association of Southeast Asian Nation. (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2013/1).
- ICT Policy Review of Egypt (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2011/6)
- Measuring the Impacts of Information and Communication Technology for Development (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2011/1)
- Study on prospects for harmonizing cyberlegislation in Central America and the Caribbean (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2009/3)
- Study on prospects for harmonizing cyberlegislation in Latin America (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2009/1)

On trade logistics:
- The New Frontier of Competitiveness in Developing countries: Implementing trade facilitation (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2013/2)
- Maritime Piracy - Part II: An overview of the International Legal Framework and of Multilateral Cooperation to Combat Piracy (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2013/3)
- Maritime Piracy - Part I: An overview of Trends, Costs and Trade-related Implications (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2013/1)
- The Way to the Ocean (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2012/1)
- Trade Facilitation in Regional Trade Agreements (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2011/1)
- Reflections on a future trade facilitation agreement (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2010/2)
- Technical notes on trade facilitation measures (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2010/1)
- The development of transit ports affecting LDCs (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2009/3)
- Maritime freight rates and oil prices: an empirical investigation (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2009/2)
- Maritime Transport and the Climate Change Challenge (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/TLB/2009/1)

C. TECHNICAL AND INFORMATION MATERIAL
- Division on Technology and Logistics Activity report 2013 (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/2014/1)
- Division on Technology and Logistics Activity report 2012 (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/2013/1)
- Division on Technology and Logistics Activity report 2011 (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/2012/1)
- Division on Technology and Logistics Activity report 2010 (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/2011/1)
- Division on Technology and Logistics Activity report 2009 (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/2010/1)

On science, technology and information and communication technologies:
On cross divisional capacity building:

- Port Management Series 1: Dissertations from the second cycle of the English-speaking Network of the Port Training Programme, (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/MISC/2013/1)
- Developing Skills, knowledge and capacities through innovation: Elearning, M-learning, Cloud- Learning, Report of the Ninth Meeting of the UNCTAD Advisory Group on the Strengthening of Training Capacities and Human Resources Development (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/MISC/2013/2)
- Capacity-building for Trade and Development Flyer (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/MISC/2013/2)
- "O quadro jurídico do investimento privado na República de Angola" (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/2010/1)
- Building Knowledge and Skills on Trade-Related Policies through Training Courses for Developing Country Officials, Report of the 7th Advisory Group on the Strengthening of Training Capacities and Human Resources Development (Symbol UNCTAD/DTL/KTCD/Misc/2009/7)

On trade logistics:

- ASYCUDA World Report (Symbol UNCTAD /WEB/DTL/ASYCUDA/2011/1)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No.8 December 2013, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/ASYCUDA/2013/3)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No.7 June 2013, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/ASYCUDA/2013/2)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No.6 December 2012, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/ASYCUDA/2012/2)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No.5 July 2012, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/ASYCUDA/2012/1)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No. 4 December 2011, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/ASYCUDA/2011/2)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No. 3 July 2011, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD /WEB/DTL/ASYCUDA/2011/1)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No. 2 December 2010, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2011/1)
- ASYCUDA Newsletter No. 1 July 2010, Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2010/2)
- Brochure on Transport Newsletter, (Symbol UNCTAD /WEB/DTL/TLB/MISC/2011/3)
- Transport Newsletter No 60 (fourth quarter 2013), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2013/5)
- Transport Newsletter No 59 (third quarter 2013), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2013/4)
- Transport Newsletter No 58 (second quarter 2013), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2013/3)
- Transport Newsletter No 57 (first quarter 2013), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2013/2)
- Transport Newsletter No 56 (fourth quarter 2012), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2012/4)
- Transport Newsletter No 55 (third quarter 2012), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2012/3)
- Transport Newsletter No 54 (second quarter 2012), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2012/2)
- Transport Newsletter No 53 (first quarter 2012), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2012/1)
- Transport Newsletter No 52 (fourth quarter 2011), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2011/5)
- Transport Newsletter No. 51 (third quarter 2011). Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2011/4)
- Transport Newsletter No. 50 (second quarter 2011), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2011/3)
- Transport Newsletter No. 49 (first quarter 2011), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2011/2)
- Transport Newsletter No 48 (fourth quarter 2010), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2010/5)
- Transport Newsletter No. 47 (third quarter 2010), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2010/4)
- Transport Newsletter No. 46 (second quarter 2010), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2010/3)
- Transport Newsletter No. 45 (first quarter 2010), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2010/1)
- Transport Newsletter No. 44 (fourth quarter 2009), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2009/3)
- Transport Newsletter No. 43 (first & second quarter 2009), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2009/2)
- Transport Newsletter No. 42 (second quarter 2009), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2009/3)
- Transport Newsletter No. 41 (first quarter 2009), Web-based (Symbol UNCTAD/WEB/DTL/TLB/2009/1)

D. WEBSITES

- Division on Technology and Logistics at http://www.unctad.org/dtl