

Environmental, social and governance (ESG) traceability of supply chains

Virtual via Zoom and in Room W

17 October 2022 16:30 – 18:00 CET

This event is being organized in the context of "Trade and Environment Week 2022".

Abstract:

The complexity of global value chains in the fashion industry makes it difficult to identify points where adverse effects on people and the planet are occurring. Traceability and transparency can play an important role to determine the information needed for locating and addressing these problems and to devise customized solutions.

This session will explore how tracking and tracing data along supply chains can accelerate the shift towards sustainable and socially responsible business models and consumption choices.

The session will build on the joint UNECE and ITC initiative to strengthen sustainable and circular business models in the garment and footwear sector (UNECE "The Sustainability Pledge, including UN/CEFACT Policy Recommendation N°46, implementation guidelines and an information exchange standard). It will showcase the results of the recent blockchain pilots, where companies from the cotton and leather value chains tested the use of blockchain to trace the origin and the social and environmental performance of items. Based on experiences from the fashion industry, speakers will discuss the potential of expanding the UNECE traceability and transparency approaches to other high impact sectors, such as agri-food, and extractive industries. Throughout, the session will give particular attention to MSMEs, vulnerable groups, and economic actors from developing and transition economies, with a view to ensuring that ESG transparency and traceability serve as enablers for – rather than barriers to – international trade.

Panel:

Speakers

H.E. Mr. Ulugbek Lapasov, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva (tbc)

Mr. Christian Hudson, EU G7 G20 Environmental Diplomacy Support, GIZ

Ms. Eloise Touni, Programme Officer, Global Environment Facility projects, UNEP

Ms. Ruby Lambert, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, UN FSS, UNCTAD

Mr. Paul Roeland, Transparency Lead, Clean Clothes Campaign

Moderation: Ms Elisabeth Tuerk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

This event is organized by: UNECE

The event will be held on Zoom and in room W at the WTO premises.