

REGIONAL FORUM

SIDE EVENT:

STANDARDS ARE A CATALYST TO ACHIEVING THE SDGS

AT A GLANCE

EVENT DETAILS

- Wednesday, 6th April 2022
- 17:15 - 18:30, CET
- In person & online
- Registration link [here](#).

ORGANIZERS

- Lead organizer: UNECE / ECTD / MAS / WP.6
- Contributors: Delegation of Germany, International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- Focal points: Lance Thompson (lance.thompson@un.org) & Tauno Kangur (tauno.kangur@un.org)



"Standards are essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. By establishing technical specifications and procedures, standards facilitate product compliance, reduce transaction costs, and ensure the safety of products, processes, and services. As instruments borne by research, collaboration and innovation, standards play a fundamental role in accelerating economic growth and disseminating best practices techniques, driving progress for the 2030 Agenda."

Olga Algayerova

Executive Secretary, UNECE

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

This side event will seek to demonstrate the pervasive role of standards in achieving cooperation and improving representation of all stakeholders, especially women. Standards touch nearly every aspect of daily life from product compliance to harmonization of regulatory procedures – just reading this text on a computer implies the use of hundreds of standards.

A systemic use of internationally agreed standards ensures that governments and stakeholders alike embrace a common approach and a common solution. Dissemination and education on standardization are key to ensure the widespread adoption and use of relevant standards as well as awareness of the importance of standards.

AGENDA & STRUCTURE

- Opening and keynote
- The importance of cooperation to achieve internationally agreed standards that support the SDGs
- The importance of gender-responsive standards and how these can be implemented
- The importance of education on standardization

SESSION OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

This side event will demonstrate three key areas of the work of UNECE Working Party 6 on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies:

OBJECTIVE 1.

International cooperation to enhance knowledge sharing and improved coordination between countries (in support of SDG 17)

OBJECTIVE 2.

Enhance the representation of women in standards development and the standards developed (in support of SDG 5)

OBJECTIVE 3.

Raise awareness on the importance of standards through educational institutions to increase visibility and adoption of internationally agreed standards (in support of SDG 4)

Panel Information

Moderator: Heidi Lund, National Board of Trade, Sweden

Opening and moderating

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EVENT PARTICIPANT LIST

KEYNOTE

Elisa Olmeda - Chair, Technical Barriers to Trade Committee, World Trade Organization (WTO)

PANELLISTS

Dorothee Ulrike Schwill - Counsellor, Development Policy, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Michelle Parkouda - Manager, Research, Standards Council of Canada (SCC); Lead, Project Team 2 (Gender-Responsive Standards Methodology), UNECE Gender-Responsive Standards Initiative (GRSI)

Rosie Seville - First Secretary - Economic, Economic & Trade Team, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva; Vice Chair, UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

Marta Orviska - Professor of Finance, Banking and Investment, Faculty of Economics, Matej Bel University, City of Banska Bystrica, Slovakia

Noelia Garcia Nebra - Head of Sustainability, International Organization for Standardization (ISO)