

UN/CEFACT Project Proposal

Code Management Project

Date: 2016-10-17

Change Date: 2017-11-13

1. Project Purpose

Codes are an essential component of any Machine-To-Machine information flow. Codes have been developed over time to facilitate the flow of compressed, standardized values that can be easily validated for correctness to ensure consistent semantics. Many international, national and sectoral agencies create and maintain code lists relevant to their area. If required to be used within an information flow, these code lists will be stored in their own environment and referred to as external code lists.

The project's purpose is to define the procedures and methodologies for code list usage validation, management and maintenance. The resulting rules and guidelines will primarily be mandated for all UN/CEFACT deliverables but also applicable to external organisations.

2. Project Scope

The project will define the procedures, rules and methodologies for the following identified issues. Existing rules, such as those defined in the Core Components Technical Specification, CCTS, should be taken into account and if applicable be respected.

The project should take into account any UN/CEFACT deliverable that apply codes.

The primary target audience is UN/CEFACT Experts developing deliverables using coded representations but guidance to end users should be added when appropriate.

1. Version compatibility

The ability to use the latest possible version of a code list in association with any version of a message, i.e. decoupling the versioning of code lists from the business message versions

2. Extending code lists

Evaluate if permanent extensions are possible and desirable

3. Restricting code lists

Provide rules and methodology for restricting code lists for use within specific context. Users of the UN/CEFACT libraries may identify any subset they wish from a specific code list for their own community requirements.

4. Code list validation rules

Provide rules and methodology for how to validate instance documents against an XML Schema or UN/EDIFACT message type in respect to code lists

5. Temporary codes

Provide rules and methodology for the inclusion of temporary codes that will be replaced by a permanent code at the next UN/CEFACT standardised release.

6. Externally maintained code lists

Define rules and procedures for referencing code lists maintained by organisations external to UN/CEFACT, e.g. ISO, ICC, W3C.

3. Project deliverables

The deliverables from the project will be:

- a) A User Guide, referring to UN/EDIFACT Syntax Implementation Guidelines and UN/CEFACT Technical Specifications and other specifications, which describes how to use, validate and manage and maintain codes and code lists.
- b) Updates to existing Technical Specifications, if rules and/or guidelines in the new User Guide Technical Specifications proposed in point a) contradicts existing rules/guidelines

The resulting updated Technical Specifications described in point b) will be applied for new development. Updates of existing code lists will have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

4. Exit criteria

- a) The User Guide Technical Specifications approved by the Bureau
- b) New versions of existing Technical Specifications approved by the Bureau, if applicable
- e) Procedures for code management approved by the Bureau

5. Project Team membership and required functional expertise

The project team is open to UN/CEFACT Experts with broad knowledge and experience in the area of code list management and related activities as well as in modelling techniques. Experts are expected to contribute to the work based solely on their expertise and to comply with the UN/CEFACT Code of Conduct and Intellectual Property Rights policy.

6. HoD support (required for technical standards, business standards and UNECE recommendations)

[#] Country Heads of delegation have given their support to this project. Their written expressions of support are included at the end of this proposal document.

7. Geographical Focus

The geographic focus of the project is global.

8. Initial contributions

Initial contributions will be sourced from existing documentation and standards including:

- Part 4 United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration. Commerce and Transport,
 - Chapter 2.3 UN/EDIFACT Syntax Implementation Guidelines.
 - Chapter 7.8 User Conventions for the Implementation of UNSMs under Amendment

(www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trade/untdid/texts/d423.htm)
- UN/CEFACT XML Naming and Design Rules for CCTS 2.01 Version 2.1 dated 27 May 2014

- Core Components Business Document Assembly Technical Specification, CCBDA, version 1.0
- ISO 20625 Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (UN/EDIFACT) -- Rules for generation of XML scheme files (XSD) on the basis of EDI(FACT) implementation guidelines.
- Best practice from external organisations

9. Resource requirements

Participants in the project shall provide resources for their own participation.

The continued existence and functioning of the project team shall not require any additional resources from the UN/ECE secretariat other than:

- Establishing and maintaining the project team's Web site pages with appropriate links, document download facilities, and items of interest

10. Project Leadership

The following project team is proposed:

Project Leader: Rolf Wessel

Lead Editor: Gerhard Heemskerck

11. Milestones

Yes/No	ODP Stage	Expected Completion Date (YYYY-MM-DD)
Yes ^a	Project Inception	2016-11-30
Yes	Requirements gathering	PI + 1 month
Yes	Draft development	RG + 1 months
Yes	Public Draft Review (required for Standards and Recommendations)	DD + 2 months
Yes	Project Exit	PDR + 1 month
Yes	Publication	PE + 1 month

^a The presence of "Yes" in this field in the template indicates it is required