44th Meeting of the IEC-ISO-ITU-UNECE eB MoU/MG
Report from UN/CEFACT T+T Domain

Background

The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) Travel and Tourism Domain (T+T) has been concentrating on the standardization activities of Experience Programs Technical Artefacts based on the syntax neutral concept and developing the White Paper of Business Standards for Sustainable Tourism. But owing to the outbreak of COVID-19, the impacts on the real business of relevant experts was so serious that there was a significant delay in the above activities. The relevant activities have gradually been getting back to their normal pace now.

The Travel and Tourism Domain builds upon the structures and work items formerly established by the Travel, Tourism and Leisure working group (TBG9) and its predecessor within the UNECE Working Party 4 which was founded in the 1960s.

Under this area of activity, UN/CEFACT T+T has developed and maintains e-business standards related to travel and tourism as well as some White Papers and Executive Guides. These include key themes such as:

- United Nations Electronic Data Interchange for Administrations, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT) travel, tourism and leisure-related directories (reservation and product information exchange of airlines, rental cars, chain hotels, and some part of railways, etc.)
- Small-scaled Lodging House Technical Artefacts and the relevant Executive Guide
- Green Paper on Sustainable Tourism – Experience Programs
- Experience Programs Technical Artefacts and the relevant Executive Guide

Current and upcoming activities of UN/CEFACT T+T

Business Standards for Sustainable Tourism

The aim of the project is to clearly define sustainable tourism, as well as to set parameters for what can and what should not be considered sustainable tourism. With the help of the standards created in this project, it should be possible to differentiate sustainable from non-sustainable tourism. These standards can also assist buyers of tourism products and services to make choices with a certain amount of certainty that what they buy can be regarded as sustainable. The final draft was submitted to Bureau in Dec., 2022.

Experience Programs Technical Artefacts

Experience Programs (EPs) are being offered more and more in the travel and tourism domain not only locally and regionally but also globally. Digital information on such programs allows not only established tourism operators and travel agencies, but also-virtually anybody to access and benefit from them. The Technical Artefacts are now ready for use.

Chronology:

Final draft BRS completed in Jan. 2022, and Public Comments started in Feb. 11th to April 11th

Bureau approved in May 2022, and BRS and its Executive Guide submitted UN/CEFACT Plenary in Oct., 2022

Relevant CCLs registered in CCL22A and 22B

Semantic harmonization

The UN/CEFACT T+T Domain invites all groups within the travel, tourism and leisure space to submit their data requirements needs in order to harmonize them with existing standards and to other procedures in the supply chain. This is in line with the eB-MoU/MG resolution R07/06.