

UN/CEFACT Project Proposal

Proposed project name:	Use of Artificial Intelligence in Trade Facilitation		
Date submitted:	01-03-2021	Project proposed by:	Kaushik Srinivasan
Date last updated:			

1. Project purpose

Required

Artificial intelligence (AI) is shifting global value chains and international trade pattern. Artificial intelligence (AI) has a transformative effect on international trade. Specific applications in multiple areas such as analytics and cognitive services are diminishing trade barriers.

AI undoubtedly will underpin productivity growth, economic growth and create new opportunities in facilitating trade

The purpose of this project is to look at AI's role in trade facilitation in the context of UN/CEFACT's mandates and create whitepapers that focus on how AI can be used to facilitate trade processes and key issues that need to be looked into while leveraging AI capabilities in collecting, processing, analyzing data and extracting inferences from the data

Potentially, this work could also provide guidance to data providers, application developers and technology adopters

2. Project scope

Required

NOTE: Specify project scope in terms of in-scope and out-of-scope items within the context of the UN/CEFACT Programme of Work. Include a description indicating the relationship between this project and other UN/CEFACT projects, if known. In the case of a project whose deliverables include proposed Recommendations and Standards, include projects outside of UN/CEFACT of which this project could be considered a duplicate, if any, and explain why it is not.

The project scope is to define and create white papers on the best practices in implementing secure data flow during cross border trade with a view to examining:

- How AI technology could be used to facilitate trade and related processes in international supply chain including study of areas such as data privacy, AI based trade policies, use of AI in e-Commerce and payments
- How existing UN/CEFACT deliverables could be used in AI applications
- Possible changes to existing UN/CEFACT deliverables, or new deliverables, that could be considered in order to support AI trade facilitation applications

All of the above will be examined from the perspective of UN/CEFACT's mandates in order to provide input to the Bureau, Programme Development Areas and Domains on

- 1) Possible future work and a possible common approach
- 2) Application developers as a potential new user group for UN/CEFACT standards

3. Project deliverables

Required

NOTE: Provide name and description of each deliverable.

Deliverable 1:	A white paper on technical aspects of AI and its relation to UN/CEFACT deliverables
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Deliverable 2:	A business case/process oriented whitepaper on how AI technology could be used to facilitate cross border paperless trade
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4. Exit Criteria

Required
NOTE: For each deliverable, list the criteria that, when met, will indicate the deliverable has been completed.

Exit Criteria for Deliv. 1:	Draft white paper ready for publication
Exit Criteria for Deliv. 2:	Draft white paper ready for publication

5. Project Team membership and required functional expertise

Membership is open to UN/CEFACT experts with broad knowledge in the area of:	Artificial Intelligence technology and/or trade facilitation and related business processes
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In addition, Heads of Delegations may invite technical experts from their constituency to participate in the work.
 Experts are expected to contribute to the work based solely on their expertise and to comply with the UN/CEFACT Code of Conduct and Ethics and the policy on Intellectual Property Rights.

6. HoD support

NOTE: At least three HoD support is required for Technical Standards, Business Standards and UNECE Recommendations – and at the request of the UN/CEFACT Bureau. (See annex IV for an optional template).
NOTE: Projects that require HoD support must obtain this within 6 months of Bureau provisional approval.

N/A			
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7. Geographical focus

The geographical focus of the project is global

8. Initial contributions

The following contributions are submitted as part of this proposal. It is understood that these contributions are only for consideration by the Project Team and that other participants may submit additional contributions in order to ensure that as much information as possible is obtained from those with expertise and a material interest in the project. It is also understood that the Project Team may choose to adopt one or more of these contributions “as is”.

List any initial contributions:

- Initial contributions include existing descriptions and technical specifications for the UN/CEFACT:
- AGAT document “Artificial Intelligence Demystified” (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2021/19)
 - Core Components Library (CCL);
 - Business Requirement Specifications (BRs),
 - Requirement Specification Mappings (RSMs) and
 - Reference Data Models (RDMs) as well as
 - already published material on AI technology and implementations,
 - Blockchain work undertaken by UN/CEFACT

9. Resource requirements

Participants in the project shall provide resources for their own participation. The existence and functioning of the project shall not require any additional resources from the UNECE secretariat.
NOTE: If specialized resources are required to complete the project, and such resources are not available within the Project Team, then those requirements should be clearly identified.

Any additional request:	
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10. Proposed project leadership

Leader:	Sray Agarwal	E-mail:	sray.agarwal@publicissapient.com
Co-Lead:		Email:	

11. Milestones

Note: repeat for each deliverable, if different.

The following are draft milestones of the project.

Yes/No*	ODP Stage	Expected Completion Date (Approval + XX months)
Yes	Project Inception	Approval + 2 month
Yes	Requirements gathering	Approval + 3 month
Yes	Draft development	Approval + 9 month
No	Public Draft Review	
Yes	Project Exit	Approval + 12 month
Yes	Publication	Approval + 12 month

* NOTE: The following stages are obligatory: Project Inception, Project Exit and Publication. Public Draft Review is obligatory for recommendations, business standards and technical standards. The presence of "Yes" in the field indicates that the stage is required for the project and an expected completion date should be provided.