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Mitigating the Effect of the COVID-19 Crisis for the Economies of the SPECA Countries

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Regional cooperation in SPECA: a building block for multilateralism

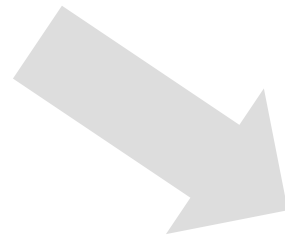


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Multilateralism is a necessity



Regional cooperation offers clear **benefits**



Reconnecting economies

Reversing the disruption of trade and transport

Addressing transboundary risks

Building trust

Regional frameworks for collaboration



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- Covid-19: a crisis that has increased **uncertainty**
- **Reducing uncertainty** is key in the response to the crisis and supporting the recovery
- **Regional frameworks for collaboration** can make a critical contribution to diminish uncertainty

UNECE's response: policy tools



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Facilitate connectivity	Address transboundary and other risks	Support a green and resilient recovery
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance cooperation and implementation of a harmonized regulatory framework for border crossing• Promote digital implementation of existing legal transport instruments• Facilitate trade through the exchange of electronic information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote the use of existing multilateral environmental agreements to deal with various risks.• Foster transparency, traceability and risk management through the use of standards• Promote and enhance statistical frameworks to improve the basis for decision-making, including in relation to disasters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance resilience and efficiency through improved resource use, including through circular economy approaches• Address the implication of the crisis in urban centers and engage cities as drivers of the recovery• Promote sustainable infrastructure, including through private sector participation

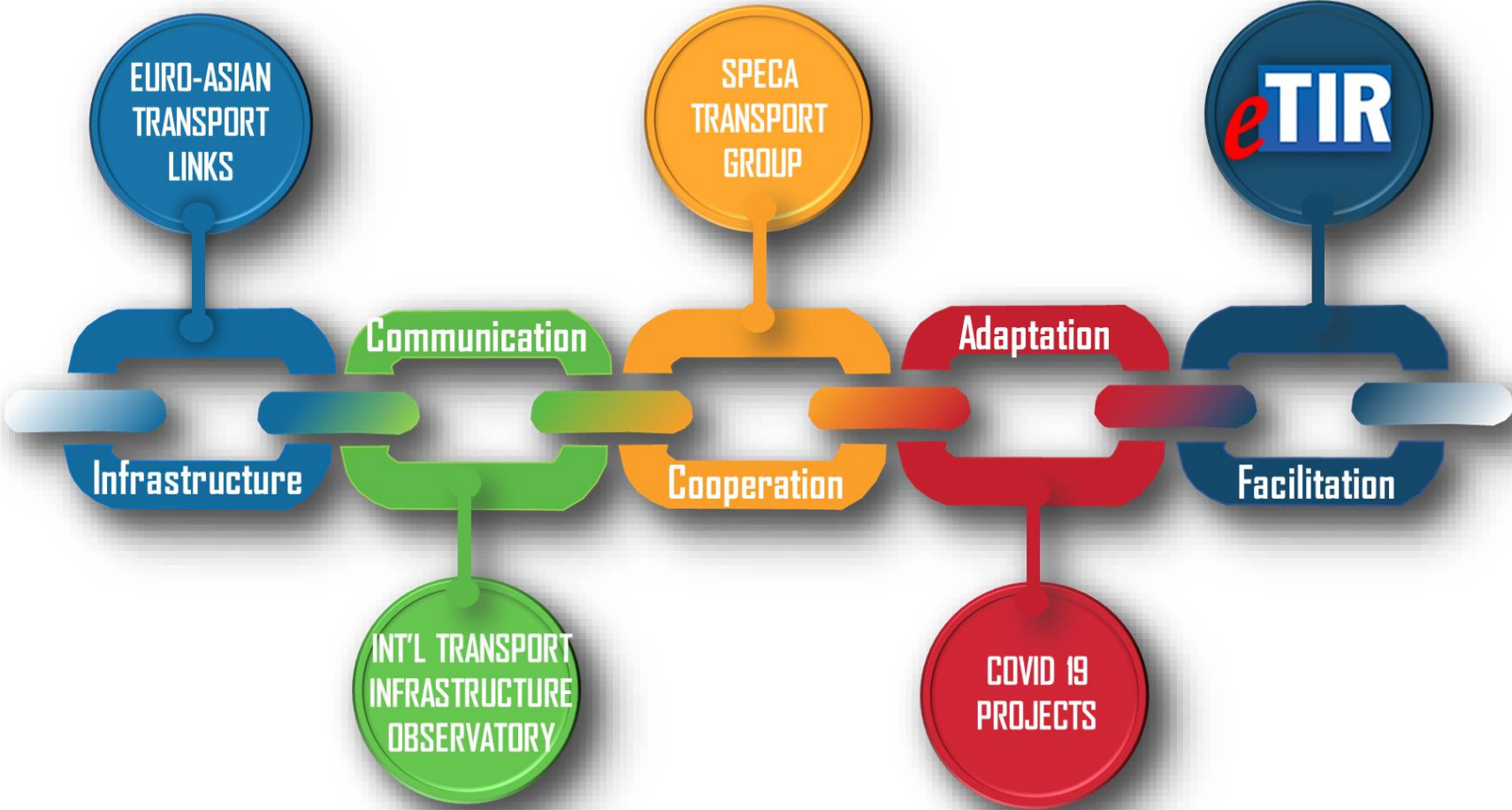


Some examples of UNECE work:

- Observatory on Border Crossings Status
- Normative instruments to facilitate transport –eg. eTIR
- Standards and recommendations for trade facilitation
- Support to trade dematerialization



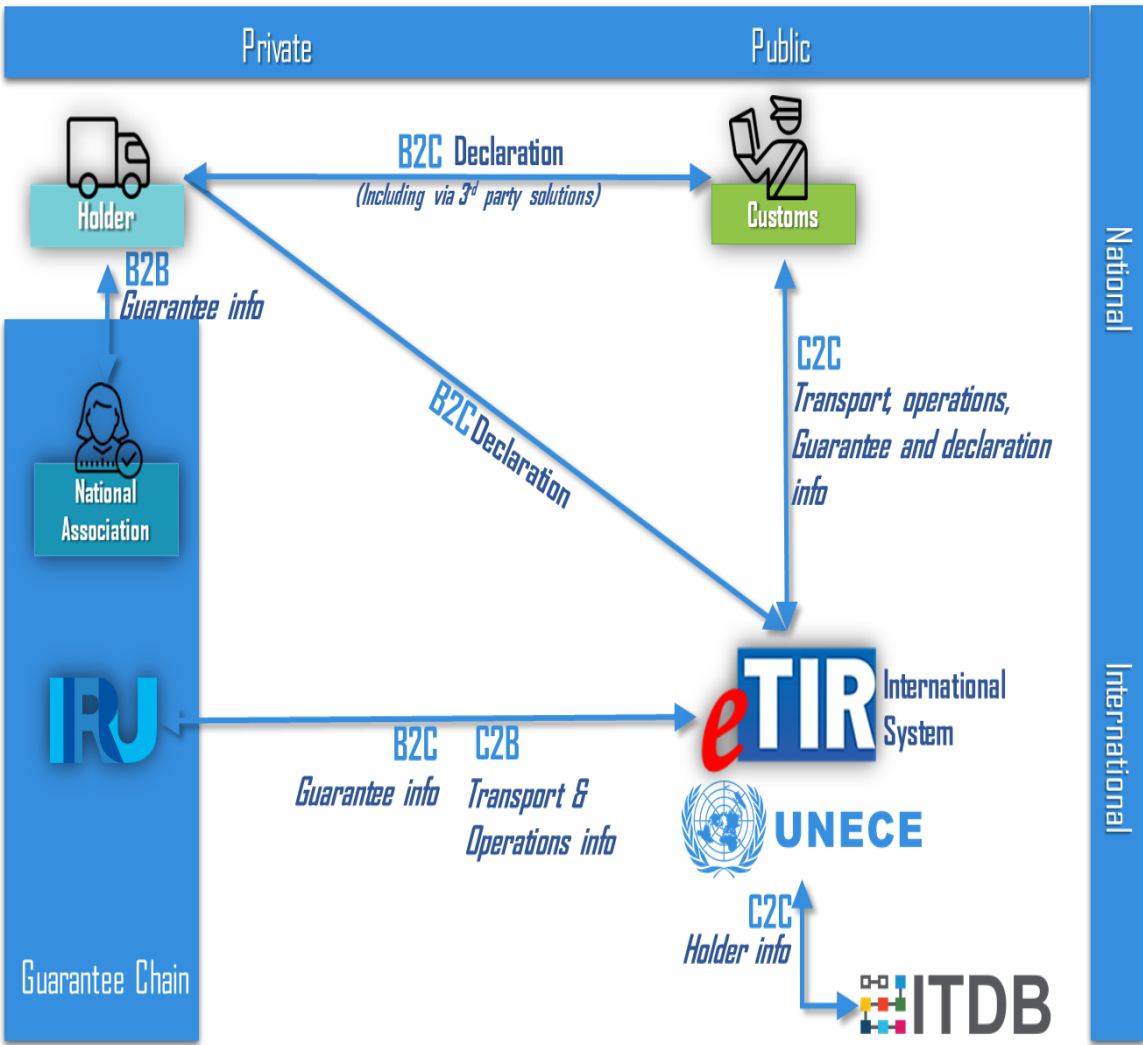
Mitigating the Effect of the COVID-19 Crisis in Transport



Implementation of eTIR International



More information on eTIR here:



eTIR International

- **Customs to Customs** electronic solution;
- Already, **16 countries + EU (28 countries)** started discussions / projects for interconnection;
- 76 Contracting parties
- **Contactless, Paperless, Seamless and Global** solution;

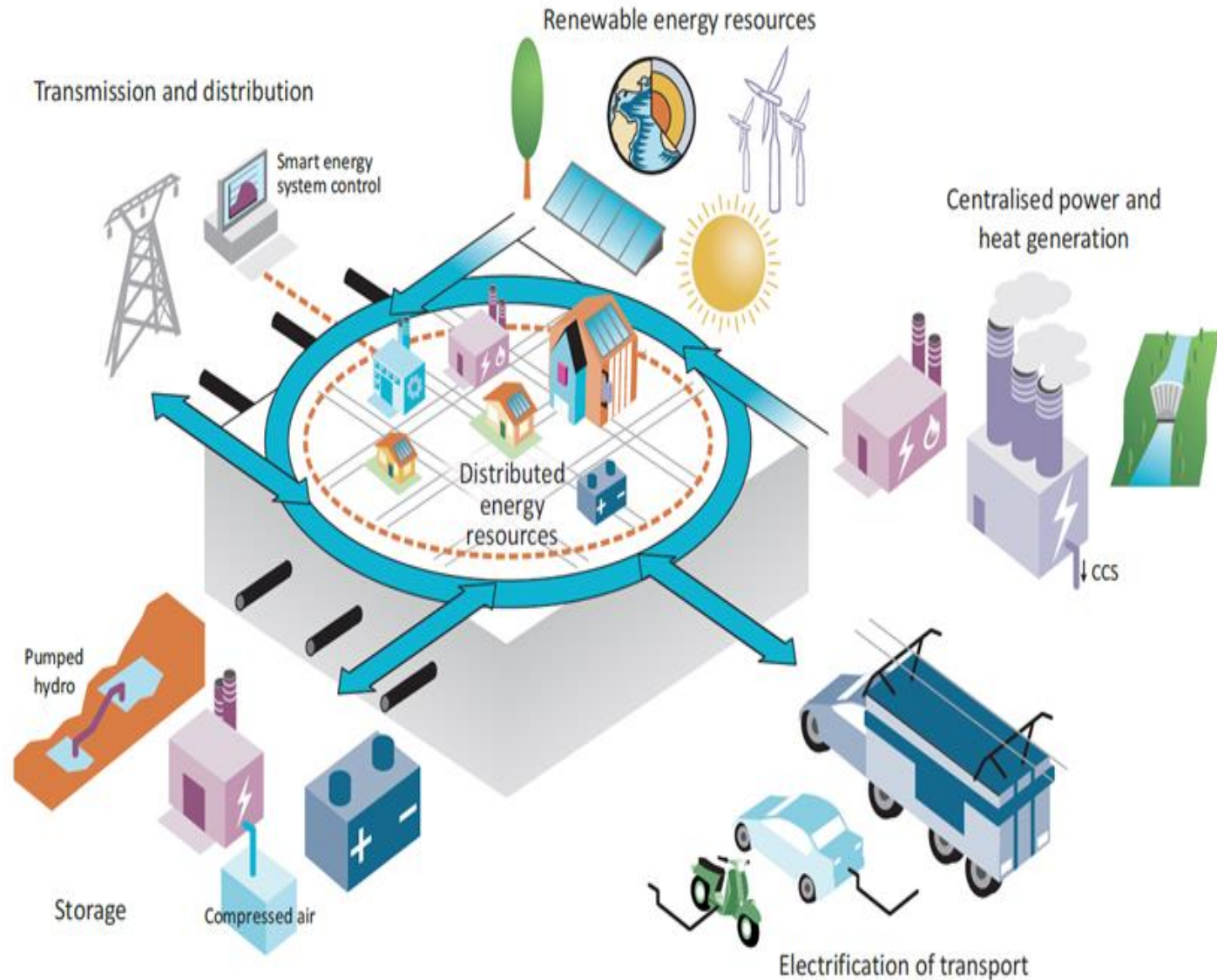
Mitigating the Effect of the COVID-19 Crisis in Transport



- Euro-Asian Transport links operationalization (the Corridor Management Groups);
- 20 years of the SPECA Working Group on Sustainable Transport, Transit and Connectivity (SPECA transport connectivity strategy);
- COVID-19 adaptation
 - UNECE-led Observatory on border crossing status due to COVID 19;
 - Transport and trade connectivity in the age of pandemics (project including several UN stakeholders);
 - UNECE Multidisciplinary Advisory Group Meetings on Transport Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis (June and September 2020)
 - “Open the borders” campaign and special measures for the TIR Convention;
 - Regional Dialogue on Strengthening transport connectivity in the SPECA region and beyond in the era of COVID-19 (29/09/2020).

Deep Transformation of the Energy System

ENERGY





Envelope

Materials
Design
Construction

Systems

HVAC
Plug-ins

Services

Food
Water
Waste

***High Performance Buildings
Deliver Quality of Life:
Comfort, Health,
Affordability, Efficiency,
Sustainability***

Energy

On-site
Off-site

ICT

Smart Connect
& Monitor

Mobility

City design
Low-C
mobility

Transboundary risks



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Some examples of UNECE work include multilateral environmental agreements:

- **Air:** increasing life expectancy by one year is a tangible achievement
- **Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment:** open for accession to all UN member States



Green and resilient recovery



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Some examples of UNECE work:

- **Increasing resilience and efficiency** : building standards and platforms for the **circular economy**- the theme of the 69th session of the ECE (April 2021)
- **Engaging new actors**: First UNECE Forum of Mayors, 6th October 2020



UN response to the COVID- 19 crisis in trade, innovation and PPPs

UNECE's mandate since 1947: ensure international cooperation to recover from major crises

Strengthen countries' resilience by re-enforcing sustainable trade and economic cooperation
Benefit from joint activities of the UN (5 Regional Commissions and UNCTAD): UN Development Account Project in response to the challenges of COVID-19

Limit infection through dematerialization (UNECE UN/CEFACT work stream on harmonizing standards for electronic exchange of data and documents in multimodal corridors)

Analyze non-tariff measures to prevent them from becoming barriers (UNECE study on NTMs)

Make PPPs "People First", strengthen the resilience of local communities and mobilize funding to rebuild economies and societies

Harness innovation for sustainable development in SPECA (UNECE work stream in support of SPECA WG on Innovation and Technology)

Build back better: Concentrate on the circular economy - the topic of the next UNECE session

Multimodal corridor approach:

Ready standards or standards under preparation

Documents on which to work

pilot project

1. Standards (executive guide; business requirement specification; business name structure; subset; CCL structure; XLS guideline structure; HTML index, using as a model the e-CMR standard) www.unece.org/unecefact/mainstandards.html, already prepared for the following:

UML diagram;

- eCMR
- Cross Industry Invoice
- Cross Industry Delivery
- Cross Industry Catalogue
- Cross Industry Quotation
- Cross Industry Remittance Advice
- Cross Industry Scheduling
- Cross Industry Ordering Process
- Material Safety Data Sheet Details (MSDS)
- Contract Financial Execution Management
- Market Research Information
- Verified Gross Mass (VERMAS) documents
- International Forwarding and Transfer documents
- Smart container information
- A number of agricultural certificates, accounting and other

- eCMR

These standards you can find at www.unece.org/unecefact/mainstandards.html:

1. Standards to be finalized in Sept. 2020

- Provisional booking
- Firm booking
- Booking confirmation
- Shipping instructions
- Waybill
- Status report
- Status request
- Packing list
- RAS

- Bill of Lading (BoL) / maritime waybill)
- Packing list

1. Standards to be finalized in Sept. 2020

- Inland water transport documents
- Maritime documents
- CIM/SMGS Consignment Note;
- SMGS Consignment Note;
- CIM/SMGS Wagon List (freight manifest) (Appendix 7.2 to point 20, see <https://www.cit-rail.org/en/freight-traffic/manuals/>)
- Invoice for Customs
- eCERT (sanitary-phytosanitary certificates and basis for other certificates): Revise implementation guidelines (+ schema, subset) for the different certificates, aligned to the Buy-Ship-Pay Reference Data Model

- BoL / maritime waybill
- Invoice for Customs
- SMGS, CIM/SMGS or CIM Consignment Note
- CIM / SMGS Wagon List (Appendix 7.2 to point 20)
- Container List (Appendix 7.4 to point 20)
- Handover sheet (Appendix 3 to SI to SMGS) <https://osjd.org/api/media/resources/1603431>
- Inland water transport documents
- CO, C/O (preferential or non-preferential)

Align data in these documents with UN/CEFACT standards and reference data models

The need for PPPs



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Mobilizing financing to build back better: the case of PPPs
GDP reduction and public debt increase across the SPECA countries place a heavy burden on Governments to find resources to build back better

E.g. Tajikistan: growth is expected to fall to 1% in 2020, down from 7.5% in 2019; public debt is expected to increase to 51% of GDP in 2020 from 45% in December 2019

Ensure that Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) develop infrastructure that puts sustainable development at its core and people as its main beneficiaries

To achieve successfully integrated “People-First” infrastructure projects, local Governments should start with the implementation of specific valuable pilot projects after close consultations with local community leaders.

UNECE’s Guidelines and other instruments on “People-First” PPPs



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Thank you!

www.unece.org