The Trade in Services Unit of the International Trade Centre is pleased to host a presentation of the OECD Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI) to all Geneva-based participants in ITC’s global services network.

The STRI, released in May 2014, is a highly anticipated ground-breaking measurement tool designed to help quantify barriers to trade in services.

It provides comparative country-based data on trade restrictions associated with policy measures and regulatory regimes in the services sector.

The index covers 40 OECD and partner countries and 18 services sub sectors. The STRI highlights the widespread global prevalence -and the regulatory nature of - barriers to trade in services.

The OECD also provides a set of interactive measurement tools to help services stakeholders understand the barriers to international trade in services and equip themselves better for services trade negotiations. This includes:

- a country comparison tool;
- a policy simulator to measure and test the effects of services trade policy changes;
- a comprehensive database of regulations contributing to services trade restriction.

The STRI is an innovative measurement tool for policy makers and services trade negotiators.

It can also help governments identify best practice in order to focus their domestic reform efforts on priority sectors and measures.

The presentation and discussion will be led by Ms. Hildiegunn Kyvik Nordås of the Trade Policy Linkages and Services Division of the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate.

The venue is Room E in the WTO Building. Time is 12.45 to 14.45.