THE COOPERATION BETWEEN UNIDO AND THE AFRICAN UNION

A longstanding partnership for poverty reduction and green growth
A Nigerian proverb says that “the Earth moves at different speeds depending on who you are”.

It is true that, over the past few years, Africa was blessed with mixed fortunes, for many different reasons. Some economies resisted better, some rebounded stronger. Still, Africa has not yet fulfilled its true potential and alas remains, in its majority, in the “bottom billion”. Many of the critical challenges that Africa faces today are related to poverty reduction, full integration into the global trading system and access to energy; and they are all at the very core of UNIDO’s expertise.

For decades, the African Union and UNIDO have been trusted partners and have together sought to play a more catalytic role in addressing these issues, thereby contributing to the continent’s sustained growth. UNIDO has provided sound analysis and policy advice, brokered stimulating information and knowledge sharing, and implemented numerous tailor-made technical cooperation activities with its African public and private counterpart institutions, at the national, regional and continental level.

The joint UNIDO-AU activities have resulted in steady growth in targeted key sectors, including leather, textile and garment, bamboo, fruits and vegetables, to mention a few. At the same time, UNIDO has contributed to strengthening the strategic and operational capacities of many industrial support institutions both in the public and private sectors.

This UNIDO-AU partnership report takes a closer look at joint activities between 2006 and 2011, drawing on successful joint programmes and future perspectives for making this new century a truly “African century”.

More than ever, the unique partnership that unites the African Union and UNIDO is needed, to address today’s challenges and to prepare Africa for a brighter future; as another African proverb says, “for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today”.

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The cooperation between UNIDO and the African Union
A longstanding partnership for poverty reduction and green growth

Overview of the cooperation ................................................................. 1
A challenging global context ............................................................... 3
The African Union: a vanguard in Africa ........................................... 5
UNIDO: a partner for prosperity ......................................................... 7
Outlook ............................................................................................. 11
UNIDO and the African Union
A longstanding partnership

UNIDO is a partner of the African Union, and shares the continent’s ultimate quest for poverty reduction, growth and wealth creation.

A longstanding partnership

For as long as most Africans can remember, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has been a trusted partner of the African Union (AU), actively contributing, through its efforts for sustainable industrial development, to the continent’s ultimate quest for poverty reduction, growth and wealth creation.

UNIDO’s support has always followed the main developments of the continent; for instance, when Apartheid ceased in South Africa, and when the Organization of African Unity (OAU) gave way to the AU, UNIDO further developed and enhanced its cooperation for the benefit of the African people. Concurrently, and throughout the years that followed, numerous AU decisions and resolutions called upon UNIDO, as one of its most valued multilateral partners, to play a growing catalytic role in the continent’s growth.

UNIDO has spared no efforts to provide the full range of its technical competencies and policy knowledge for implementing, together with its partners from the international community, numerous tailor-made technical cooperation activities with African public and private counterpart institutions, at the national, regional and continental levels.

To date, UNIDO implements over 400 projects worth almost US$200 million in Africa, with over 150 projects in the pipeline that would result in additional support worth over US$400 million in a medium-term perspective.

Within the period covered by this report (2006-2011), UNIDO’s efforts have continued to focus on agribusiness and value chain development as well as on trade capacity-building and supplier upgrading. At the same time, greater efforts were invested in unleashing the continent’s potential related to environment and energy, and in the development of sound public-private partnerships as well as of mutually beneficial South-South cooperation. As a result of UNIDO’s immediate support, and of its partnership with the AU and its subsidiary organs, key sectors such as leather, textile and garment, fruits and vegetables, etc., experienced significant growth rates. At the same time, the joint UNIDO-AU activities yielded strong institutional improvements.

Yet, while steady growth figures have been reported between 2006 and 2011, the continent’s targets have still not been fully attained, and many African countries still remain in the bottom billion. African leaders recognize that much still needs to be done and that sustainable industrial development can provide a robust foundation for their future growth ambitions. Therefore, they committed to the industrialization of the continent, both in the short and long-term, also by dedicating their 2008 Summit to “the Industrialization of Africa” and, by extension, to strengthening UNIDO’s support function to the AU.

During the Summit, the Heads of State and Government adopted the Plan of Action for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) and further called on UNIDO to continue its assistance for concrete and immediate actions; UNIDO’s support has thus been accelerated to address Africa’s crucial challenges.
Africa remains the poorest region of the world, where 34 of the 50 least developed countries are located, with a low level of industrialization and a resulting marginal role in global manufacturing.

*There exists a strong linkage between industrial productive capacity, economic growth, and level of development.*

As a matter of fact, the rapidly industrializing regions and countries are the ones that share the benefits of globalization and make progress towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In contrast, Africa has not benefited much from the process of globalization and risks not meeting the MDGs in spite of its richness in natural resources.

*Industrialization is a critical engine of growth, and key to economic and social development.*

African Heads of State and Government have taken a number of major initiatives to meet the challenges of development and to reverse the marginalization of Africa in the global economy; these include the establishment of the AU and the adoption of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) as the strategic programme of the Union.

*UNIDO and the AU have common objectives, and are natural partners.*

In June 2006, UNIDO and the AU signed an agreement reaffirming the close cooperation between the two organizations. As part of the UN system-wide support to the AU and to NEPAD, UNIDO was entrusted with the role of convener for the Industry, Trade and Market Access Cluster (November 2006). As an immediate follow-up, UNIDO initiated four technical cooperation programmes worth over €70 million to expand and upgrade the quality infrastructure in the regions of Central Africa, COMESA, ECOWAS, and SADC. At the same time, the Organization initiated numerous country-level projects including in Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda.

UNIDO accompanies the AU and its subsidiary organs in addressing crucial issues: amongst others, UNIDO provides support to the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI) and its Bureau, as well as to numerous national and regional institutions that focus on strategic activities, such as agribusiness, value chains, investment and technology, energy, cleaner production, trade facilitation and market access. UNIDO has emphasized concrete and practical support, with strong AU ownership.

*UNIDO and the AU developed a framework on accelerating industrial development in Africa.*

With the support of UNIDO, a financing and resource mobilization strategy for the implementation of the AU Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) was prepared in September 2007. The action plan was subsequently endorsed by CAMI in 2008.

The aim of the action plan is to guide Africa in its industrialization vision, involving the need to catch up with the rest of the world in industrial competitiveness by 2030, and to be in a position to consolidate and sustain its competitiveness beyond the year 2030. It encompasses
21 programmes and 49 projects covering various facets of industrial development with UNIDO committed to play a key role in the implementation of the strategy.

The action plan provides a continental framework for addressing the root causes of Africa’s low industrial development. It takes into account Africa’s past experiences with industrialization, the rich endowment of the continent in natural resources, and especially agricultural resources, as well as some recent initiatives aimed at promoting industrial development.

The action plan draws on a number of sources including the recommendations of a series of Expert Group Meetings organized jointly by the AU and UNIDO in preparation for CAMI, guidance from policies and strategies of the regional economic communities, private sector and other stakeholders, as well as from the industry experts of Member States.

The action plan identifies a number of critical priorities that need to be addressed at national, regional, continental, and international levels to promote the coherent industrial development of Africa.

A scientist working at the National Bureau for Standards in Uganda
The African Union: a vanguard of Africa

The advent of the African Union marked a major event in the institutional development of the continent.

A vanguard of Africa

On 9 September 1999, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) adopted the Sirte Declaration, which calling for the establishment of the AU, and aimed, inter alia, to accelerate the integration processes on the continent to enable Africa to play its rightful role in the global economy, while deploying efforts to address social, economic and political challenges.

The AU is the continent’s main promoter of accelerated socio-economic integration, with a view to strengthening the unity and solidarity between African countries and people. The AU is based on the shared vision of a united and strong Africa, and on the imperatives to build a partnership between governments and all segments of civil society, and the private sector. Fundamentally, the AU works for the promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent—as a prerequisite for the implementation of its development and integration programmes. The main organs of the African Union are:

- The AU Conference, which is composed of Heads of State and Government or their duly accredited representatives, is the supreme decision-making organ.
- The AU Commission, as one of the key organs of the Union, plays a central role in the daily management of the African Union. Among other duties, the Commission represents the Union and defends its interests; elaborates draft common positions of the Union and develops strategic plans and studies; ensures the development, promotion, coordination and harmonization of programs and policies of the Union. The Commission consists of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and eight Commissioners (Peace and Security; Political Affairs; Infrastructure and Energy; Social Affairs; Human Resources for Science and Technology; Trade and Industry; Rural Economy and Agriculture; and Economic Affairs).

Among the key objectives of the AU are the establishment of the necessary conditions that will enable Africa to play its rightful role in the global economy; the promotion of sustainable development at the economic, social, and cultural levels, as well as the integration of African economies; and the promotion of cooperation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of Africans.

The experience of the developed countries and of emerging powers has shown that playing a constructive role in the global economy, attaining sustainable development, and increasing living standards cannot be achieved with a weak industrial base. Africa critically requires an acceleration of industrial development and diversification of its economy to meet the challenges of development and achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as the socio-economic objectives of the AU.
AU Summits and related decisions

Over the past few years, important decisions have been taken by the AU, which are very relevant for UNIDO. These decisions include:

- 1st AU Summit (38th and last Summit of the OAU), Durban, South Africa, July 2002
- OAU dissolution and official AU beginning
- NEPAD declaration adopted
- 2nd AU Summit, Maputo, Mozambique, July 2003
- Adoption of declaration on the integration of NEPAD into the AU
- 3rd AU Summit, Abuja, Nigeria, July 2004
- Declaration on Trade Negotiation with WTO
- 4th AU Summit, Abuja, Nigeria, January 2005
- Discussions on food security
- Report of Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee on NEPAD
- 5th AU Summit, Sirte, Libya, July 2005
- Report of the Executive Council on the MDGs
- Report on the UN Reform
- 6th AU Summit, Khartoum, Sudan, January 2006
- Report of the Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee
- 7th AU Summit, Banjul, the Gambia, July 2006
- Enforcement of the gender parity principle contained in the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa
- 8th AU Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, January 2007
- Report on the outcome of the First African-American Summit
- Report on the outcome of the Africa-China Forum Summit
- 9th AU Summit, Accra, Ghana, July 2007
- Consideration of the Report of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee
- Implementation Committee on the Integration of NEPAD into the Structure and Procedures of the African Union
- 10th AU Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, January 2008
- Decision on the Implementation of the Science and Technology Consolidation Plan of Action
- Decision on the Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa
- Decision on Economic Integration
- 11th AU Summit, El Sheikh, Egypt, July 2008
- Decision on the African Peer Review Mechanism
- Decision on the Report of Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee on NEPAD
- 12th AU Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, January 2009
- Decision on the Draft African Charter on Statistics
- Decision on the Protocol on the Establishment of the African Investment Bank
- Decision on the Development of a Roadmap and Plan of Action for Micro-Finance in Africa
- Decision on the Financial and Economic Crisis and the Negotiations on the Reform of the International Financial System
- Decision on Africa-European Union Dialogue
- Decision on the Draft Statutes on the Establishment of the African Investment Bank
- Decision on the Specialized Technical Committee (STCS)
- Decision on the Food Security Summit to be held in November 2009
- Decision on the Establishment of African Permanent Secretariat for Sustainable Development and African Fund for Sustainable Development
- Decision on the African Common Position on Climate Change
- Decision on the Report of Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee on NEPAD
- 13th AU Summit, Sirte, Libya, July 2009
- Decision on the Accession of the African Union to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol
- Decision on the Situation of the African Investment Bank
- Decision on the African Common Position on Climate Change including the Modalities of the Representation
- Decision on the Preparation of the G8 Summit
- Decision on the Transformation of the African Union Commission into the African Union Authority
- Decision on the Report of Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee on NEPAD
- 14th AU Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, January 2010
- 15th AU Summit, Kampala, Uganda, July 2010
- Decision on the activity report of the PRC Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation
- Decision on the Report of the Fourth African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology
- Decision on the African Common Position and the 2010 Millennium Development Goals
- Decision on the Implementation of the African Charter on Statistics
- Decision on the Activities of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
UNIDO works towards improving living conditions in the world’s poorest countries by drawing on its combined global resources and expertise towards sustainable income generation as well as the diversification of the source of income.

UNIDO is recognized and appreciated as a highly relevant, specialized and efficient provider of key services in support of the interlinked challenges of reducing poverty through productive activities, promoting the integration of developing countries in global trade through trade capacity-building, fostering environmental sustainability in industry, and improving access to energy.

UNIDO’s long-term vision is to aspire to a world of opportunity where progress is equitable, accessible and sustainable and where the reduction of poverty is considered a common aim and global responsibility. UNIDO’s role is that of a knowledge institution, in tune with the goals of its partners and capable of making an effective contribution to sustainable industrial development.

Within UNIDO, the Africa Programme oversees the cooperation with the African Union, guided in its action by the Organization’s vision for Africa and deploying, based on country and regional demand, UNIDO’s technical capacities and expertise. The Africa Programme develops regionally coherent programmatic approaches to UNIDO’s services ensuring that UNIDO responds to the countries’ needs and requirements.

A partnership for inclusive, pro-poor growth

As the primary driver of economic growth and employment creation, the private sector has an essential role in poverty reduction. Private sector-led industrial development makes a significant contribution to bringing about the much needed structural changes that can set the African economies on a path of sustained economic growth. UNIDO provides a comprehensive range of services focused on encouraging the creation of employment and income to overcome poverty. These services are customized for the target countries and range from industrial policy advice to entrepreneurship and SME development, and from investment and technology promotion to the strengthening of agro-industries and agribusiness value chains.

Selected examples of activities in poverty reduction through productive activities are showcased on pages 10-12, and relate to agribusiness development, youth employment, manufacturing of essential pharmaceuticals, and domestic investment for competitive growth.

A partnership for strong trade capacities

Africa’s technical ability to produce competitive exportable products that comply with international standards is crucial to its successful participation in international trade. UNIDO is one of the largest providers of trade-related development services. It offers expert advice and integrated technical cooperation in the areas of competitiveness, industrial modernization and upgrading, compliance with international trade standards, testing methods and metrology. UNIDO has a recognized expertise in support of regional integration and industrial governance that has helped to design quality interventions.

Case studies on trade-capacity building are featured on pages 14-15, and focus on important regional
programmes for the upgrading of industries in East and West Africa.

A partnership for green industry and sustainable energy

Fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development. UNIDO therefore promotes sustainable patterns of industrial production and consumption. As a leading provider of services for improved industrial energy efficiency and sustainability, UNIDO assists African countries in implementing multilateral environmental agreements and in simultaneously reaching their economic and environmental goals.

Examples of the activities undertaken in energy and environment (pages 16-17) include work on scaling-up renewable energy in West Africa, on reducing land sourced impacts on coastal tourism, and on large marine ecosystems.

Joint global forum activities

High-level Conference on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-Industries in Africa

In cooperation with the African Union Commission (AUC), IFAD and FAO, a High-level Conference on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-Industries in Africa was held in Abuja in 2010. A major output of the Conference was the endorsement of the African Agribusiness and Agro-Industries Development Initiative (3ADI) to help agriculture by linking small and medium-scale agricultural producers to international markets. In line with the 3ADI, UNIDO is finalizing a programme to support agribusiness and agro-industries development in ten countries, to be implemented jointly with FAO and IFAD.

Africa Industrialization Day

In keeping with the decision of the UNGA, UNIDO has continued to facilitate the annual organization of the Africa Industrialization Day (AID) on 20 November. The theme of each year is developed through a consultative mechanism within CAMI, with facilitation from UNIDO.

African Ministers of Industry (CAMI)

In accordance with its agreement with the AU, UNIDO continues to provide technical support for the organization of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI).
A way forward

Success will depend on resources from African countries and their partners. Mobilizing these resources and using them wisely is all the more critical during a time when the global financial crisis has reduced demand for Africa’s exports, constricted foreign aid and slowed the flow of remittances from the diaspora.

Africa is not the only continent affected when its economy suffers. In today’s interconnected world, poverty and instability reverberate far and wide. A sustainable approach to industrial development in Africa can help uplift societies, protect the environment, and contribute to a better world for all.

Industrial transformation is a complex and long-lasting process, which requires, in addition to a conducive policy environment, skillful mobilization and efficient deployment of financial as well as diverse non-financial resources into productive sectors. Non-financial resources, such as physical infrastructure, human capital and technological capacities, are essential for ‘resourcing’ a sustainable process of industrialization, while financial resources are needed to mobilize the non-financial resources. UNIDO and the AU will continue to partner, for prosperity.

UNIDO continues to support an implementation strategy for the AU’s plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa.
CASE STUDY:
Agribusiness and Agro-Industries Development

PROJECT: Accelerated Agribusiness and Ago-Industries Development Initiative (3ADI)
TOTAL BUDGET: €739,000

PARTNERSHIP FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Launched at the Abuja Conference in 2010, the 3ADI concretes on the implementation of three major political mandates calling for support in agribusiness development for food security and poverty reduction namely AIDA, the 2009 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) Ministerial Plan of Action and the Abuja Declaration on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa.

All three frameworks highlight the critical role of agribusinesses and agro-industries in the process of economic development, food security and sustainable reduction of poverty and hunger especially for the world's poorest countries.

They define the priority areas where support is needed to foster sustained poverty reduction through human capital development, highly productive and profitable agro-value chains and greater agribusiness participation in domestic and international markets. The project takes place in three consecutive steps:

- Assess key constraints faced by agro-industries that limit their ability to add value to agricultural production through agro-processing, post-harvest handling, supply chain management and trade promotion;
- Develop and validate concrete interventions that promote agro-industry development in close collaboration with stakeholders and external resources;
- Assist beneficiaries and countries in resource mobilization from international finance institutions and a range of private partners, research institutions and non-governmental organizations.

LESSONS LEARNED

The 3ADI aims to share the lessons learned, and integrating successful initiatives, not only on the individual country level but also on the regional level, together with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and for Africa as a whole. Some activities at the regional level have already taken place.

The 3ADI steering committee (the partner agencies) has met with the various Regional Economic Communities during their workshop on the implementation of the AIDA in Vienna on 6-10 June. Regional events and programmes are now being considered by the various stakeholders. An example of activities on the regional level can be found on the Joint Africa EU Strategy Action Plan 2011-2013 which refers to both AIDA and the 3ADI.
CASE STUDY: 
Productive work for youth in West Africa

PROJECT: The Mano River Union Youth Employment Programme
TOTAL BUDGET: US$7,500,000

“The challenge of youth employment is pressing since the unemployment situation impinges on matters related to regional security and stability. Ever-rising joblessness among youth and the desperation that accompanies it undermines progress in those countries ... We need to go urgently beyond words by implementing sustainable and innovative measures to create jobs.”

Kandeh K. Yumkella, UNIDO Director-General

OVERVIEW
To support the urgent call from governments and other players to address the challenge of youth unemployment, UNIDO, in cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Youth Employment Network (YEN) Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), established the Multi-stakeholder Programme for Productive and Decent Work for Youth in the Mano River Union (MRU) in Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

STRATEGY/OUTCOME
The Joint Programme focuses on the promotion of youth-led businesses and social projects; the promotion of youth employable skills in partnership with the private sector; the development of sub-regional labour market intermediation (Employment services) and information services; and on the promotion of a sub-regional youth network.

Despite many challenges, the following activities were implemented and will continue:

- Under the youth employability focus, collaboration took place with 15 multinational enterprises to train youth in various industrial skills within auto mechanics, brick making, blacksmithing, carpentry, masonry and soap making.
- In Côte d’Ivoire, technical support was provided in the establishment of on-the-job training, which provided skills to 200 young people in road construction.
- In total, the project trained 5,357 youth in entrepreneurship and life skills and 620 in basic IT skills.
- Support was provided to strengthen capacities of national authorities in charge of planning and implementation of skills and entrepreneurship training. In Sierra Leone, a major employment intensive programme was developed to provide skills and work experience to young people via public works.
- Fourteen youth groups have been supported by the MRU competitive Grant Scheme and under Labour Market Information Systems enhancement component, the project has provided support towards development of action plans for the establishment of labour intermediation institutions and for the improvement of employment services and labour market information in the four target countries.
- A Multinational Enterprise study has been carried out in all four countries.
- A regional youth forum was held in Sierra Leone in May 2008, with over 120 participants in the bid to promote youth networking in the region.
- Four virtual communication hubs were established to encourage an exchange of information and experiences on issues related to youth employment.
CASE STUDY:
Producing essential pharmaceutics locally

PROJECT: Local Production of Essential Drugs
TOTAL BUDGET: €4,700,000

OVERVIEW
Health is a major challenge for Africa where millions of people die of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria every year. With timely access to appropriate and affordable medicines, many deaths can be prevented although only very few of these drugs are currently procured from African producers.

In a globalized world this might seem appropriate, but the specific realities in pharmaceuticals (e.g. the need for tight regulation, the potential for counterfeit products to enter the supply chain, the strategic importance of pharmaceutical supply, etc.) mean that further development of local manufacturing has the potential to positively impact the health outcomes in the region, as well as adding to its economic growth.

STRATEGY
To address this issue, UNIDO introduced regional projects to expand and upgrade the local manufacturing of essential generic drugs to enhance access of the poor to these drugs at affordable prices through a combination of advisory, promotional, institutional capacity-building and enterprise-level activities. To date, the following activities were implemented:

• A global market study was conducted used for reviewing and preparing business plans; the conclusions from this study have facilitated the decision on the types of medicines that would be more efficient to manufacture;

• The project facilitated and supported the formation of the Southern African Generic Medicines Association (SAGMA) that will be instrumental in promoting the interests of the Southern African pharmaceutical industry.

OUTCOME
Surveys of the pharmaceutical sectors were conducted in selected African countries; they proved useful in fine-tuning the future project interventions and in selecting target countries.
CASE STUDY: Domestic investment for competitive growth

PROJECT: AfriPANet Programme

TOTAL BUDGET: €619,000

OVERVIEW
In October 2008, at the fourth meeting of the African Investment Promotion Agency Network (AfriPANet), UNIDO launched the Regional Programme on Investment Promotion. The programme’s main area of focus is to assist selected countries to shift emphasis from quantity to quality of foreign direct investment flows, and to promote domestic investment for competitive growth.

STRATEGY
Data from the survey will help companies to recognize business opportunities and form a basis to strengthen national capacity for development of evidence-based policy advocacy and resource-efficient investment promotion strategies. In an effort to ensure the highest accuracy and reliability of data, UNIDO has trained over 200 enumerators to carry out the survey in designated countries.

During the last biennium, UNIDO pioneered the development of an online investment-related information platform, the Investment Monitoring Platform. The platform will offer an array of primary data and analysis on domestic companies and foreign investors.

To improve collaboration among the different stakeholders, a continental Programme Steering Committee (PSC) to oversee the programme was established under the auspices of AfriPANet and the leadership of the AU during an Expert Group meeting held in Addis Ababa in July 2009. Periodic meetings will be held to take stock of progress of the Investment Programme.

OUTCOME
To date, the African Investor Survey has been initiated and is being conducted in over 20 African countries.
OVERVIEW
One common obstacle faced by all African countries is to produce goods that meet the stringent standards imposed by importers in Europe and elsewhere. In support of the East African Community’s (EAC) development strategy and objectives of widening and deepening economic, political and social cooperation among the partner states, UNIDO implemented a three-year quality programme with funds from Government of Norway.

STRATEGY
The aim of the programme is to promote value addition, productivity and competitive agricultural development for cross border and international trade and provide food security. The main focus of the programme is to enhance the capacity of enterprises to produce according to international market requirements and to strengthen export-oriented support services mainly relating to conformity assessments.

OUTCOME
To date, the following activities were implemented and are envisaged to continue:

- National infrastructure and services for trade development and consumer protection established in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda;
- In May 2009, a regional SPS protocol developed and either reviewed or validated by the national and regional experts from all member countries. The protocol was approved and is expected to be ratified by the end of 2010;
- An Implementation Strategy to be used by all EAC countries developed for ISO 22000 by the NPC Kenya;
- Enterprises selected based on regionally established criteria. Gap analyses for the selected enterprises using an ISO 22000 completed for horticulture and fish sectors in August 2009 and September 2009, respectively.
OVERVIEW

The West Africa Quality Programme (WAQP) seeks to strengthen the competitiveness of enterprises and ensure compliance with international trade rules and technical regulations, especially the WTO agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (SPS) measures, through the establishment and/or the strengthening of national and regional infrastructure for quality and the provision of services for standardization, metrology, conformity assessment and accreditation meeting international standards.

STRATEGY/OUTCOME

A roadmap for the setting up of sub-regional institutional structure for coordinating standardization, certification and quality promotion was endorsed by the Central Steering Committee at a meeting held in July 2010. The programme’s second component covers member States of ECOWAS (non-UEMOA) and Mauritania which are: Cape Verde, Ghana, Guinea, The Gambia, Liberia, Mauritania, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, and focus on:

- Priority standards for regional harmonization identified
- Existing national standards bodies evaluated
- Sensitization seminars on the importance of standards for market access held in all countries
- Technical specifications for the upgrading of calibration laboratories provided
- Equipment needs for metrology and calibration laboratories identified
- Assessment of potential laboratories to move towards accreditation
SCALING UP RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN WEST AFRICA

“Rapid economic growth has often been seen as incompatible with environmental sustainability but UNIDO has long been demonstrating that this is not necessarily the case. Properly planned industrial development has the potential to provide effective solutions to environmental challenges.”

Kandeh K. Yumkella, UNIDO Director-General

In line with the Dakar Declaration on scaling up renewable energy in Africa and its related Action Plan, UNIDO is implementing two key programmes to support the scaling up of renewable energy development in West Africa. In collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a programme for the promotion of renewable energy-based mini-grids for rural electricity and productivity has been initiated.

Between the end of 2009 and the beginning of 2010, several feasibility assessments for the establishment of mini hydropower stations were conducted in Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Uganda, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. With funds from the governments of Austria, Cape Verde and Spain, UNIDO assisted the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) with the establishment of the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) in Praia, Cape Verde.

The centre was officially launched on 6 July 2010. Its main activities will cover development of renewable energy and energy efficiency markets in West Africa; policy and capacity development and quality assurance; designing financing mechanisms; and implementation of demonstration projects with potential for regional scaling-up. A special partnership between Brazil and ECOWAS will help support the activities of ECREEE and open up opportunities for South-South cooperation, and technology and know-how transfer. Over the next biennium, the regional programme will push for the development of similar regional centres in the other sub-regions.

ECOTOURISM: TO REDUCE LAND SOURCED IMPACTS ON COASTAL TOURISM

This project started in 2008 and is being implemented in nine African countries (Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, and Tanzania). It is based on the identified issues and proposals of the Ministerial and Heads of State meeting held in Johannesburg at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and the thematic group on coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).

The aim of the project is to capture Best Available Practices and Technologies (BAPs and BATs) for contaminant reduction, develop and implement mechanisms for sustainable tourism governance and management that measurably reduce degradation of coastal ecosystems from land-based sources of pollution and contamination, assess and deliver training and capacity requirements emphasizing an integrated approach to sustainable reduction in coastal ecosystem and environmental degradation; and develop and implement information capture, information processing and management mechanisms and information dissemination.

So far, the BAT/BAP review has been undertaken. Training in Needs Assessment in 11 demonstration sites has been conducted. In 2009, the project produced a Best Available Techniques and Best Available
Practices document that presents an array of good practices around the world in order to inform and assist counterparts to select the most suitable to their situations. In 2010, among others, the project trained 11 national demonstration project coordinators.

PROTECTING LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IN WEST AFRICA: GUINEA

The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) re-affirmed an ecosystem-based approach to addressing environmental concerns and issued a renewed call for action on ocean and coastal governance. This call was formulated in the WSSD Programme of Action to meet Millennium Development Goal 7 (MDG 7). Targets include restoring depleted fish stocks by 2015 and establishing representative systems of Marine Protected areas around the world by 2012.

As a response to WSSD, UNIDO initiated the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) Programme. The project is being implemented in the GCLME area whereby beneficiary countries include Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Congo Democratic Republic, Cote d’Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone and Togo.

The trans-boundary waters of this region are rich in diversity and are of crucial regional and global economic, ecologic and social importance. Approximately 40 per cent of the region’s 300 million people (more than half of the population of the African continent) live in the coastal areas of the GCLME, many of whom are dependent on coastal and marine resources for their food security and livelihood. However, these coastal areas are affected by a number of human activities such as the over-exploitation of fishery resources, pollution from land-based settlement activities, industrial, agricultural, urban and domestic sewage run-off, and mining activities.

The long-term goals of the project, therefore, include the recovery and restoration of depleted fisheries and degraded habitats, reduction of land and ship-based pollution by establishing a regional management framework for sustainable use of living and non-living resources in the GCLME area. To date, the following activities were implemented:

- A Trans-boundary Diagnostic Analysis to identify the root causes of environmental degradation in the GCLME has been completed;
- A Strategic Action Plan to reverse the presently observed trends in ecosystem deterioration has been developed and endorsed by all 16 countries;
- The Interim Guinea Current Commission has been established and a decision to establish a permanent Guinea Current Commission was taken in Ministerial Meeting of July 2010; and,
- A total of six national and three regional demonstration projects are near completion.

In the second phase of the GCLME project, the Strategic Action Programme will be implemented with results from the first phase used for scaling up as well as strengthening the Guinea Current Commission’s institutional capacities. In order to implement this second phase additional external financial support and substantive financial commitments by the GCLME countries will be required.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3ADI</td>
<td>African Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>African, Caribbean and Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>AfriPANet</td>
<td>Africa Investment Promotion Agency Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGECC</td>
<td>Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIDA</td>
<td>Action Plan for the Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMC</td>
<td>Programme Approval and Monitoring Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>BAT</td>
<td>best available technique</td>
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<tr>
<td>BEP</td>
<td>best environmental practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>BPR</td>
<td>business process re-engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAMI</td>
<td>Conference of African Ministers of Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCA</td>
<td>common country assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCS</td>
<td>carbon capture and storage</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEB</td>
<td>United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEMAC</td>
<td>Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>COAST</td>
<td>Collaborative Actions for Sustainable Tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSR</td>
<td>corporate social responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States</td>
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<tr>
<td>EIF</td>
<td>Enhanced Integrated Framework</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>economic partnership agreement</td>
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<td>ERP</td>
<td>enterprise resource planning</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<td>GEF</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>GMSC</td>
<td>Gender Mainstreaming Steering Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>HACT</td>
<td>Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCFC</td>
<td>hydrochlorofluorocarbon</td>
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<tr>
<td>HP</td>
<td>Hewlett-Packard</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPPM</td>
<td>HCFC phase-out management plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPPMG</td>
<td>Harmonized Project and Programme Management Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICHET</td>
<td>International Centre for Hydrogen Energy Technologies</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAD</td>
<td>International Fund for Agricultural Development</td>
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<td>ILO</td>
<td>International Labour Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>INEX</td>
<td>International Network for Educational Exchange</td>
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<td>ISO</td>
<td>International Organization for Standardization</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITC</td>
<td>International Trade Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITPO</td>
<td>Investment and Technology Promotion Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITU</td>
<td>International Telecommunication Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCOR</td>
<td>Leading Change and Organizational Renewal</td>
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<tr>
<td>LDC</td>
<td>least developed country</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIFE</td>
<td>Learning Initiative for Entrepreneurs</td>
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<td>MDG</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goal</td>
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<td>MVA</td>
<td>manufacturing value added</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCPC</td>
<td>National Cleaner Production Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIP</td>
<td>national implementation plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norad</td>
<td>Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NYDA</td>
<td>National Youth Development Agency</td>
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<td>ODS</td>
<td>ozone-depleting substances</td>
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<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development</td>
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<td>OLADE</td>
<td>Latin American Energy Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAC</td>
<td>Programme Approval Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCBs</td>
<td>polychlorinated biphenyls</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCOR</td>
<td>Programme for Change and Organizational Renewal</td>
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<tr>
<td>REACH</td>
<td>Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals</td>
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<tr>
<td>RECP</td>
<td>resource efficient and cleaner production</td>
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<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAICM</td>
<td>Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>SID</td>
<td>Society for International Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>SME</td>
<td>small and medium enterprise</td>
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<td>SPX</td>
<td>Subcontracting and partnership exchange programme</td>
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<td>STC</td>
<td>Screening and Technical Review Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEP</td>
<td>Solving the E-waste Problem</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCPR</td>
<td>triennial comprehensive policy review</td>
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<tr>
<td>TEST</td>
<td>transfer of environmentally sound technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>UEMOA</td>
<td>West African Economic and Monetary Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCHAIN</td>
<td>University Chair on Innovation</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCT</td>
<td>United Nations Country Team</td>
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<td>UNCTAD</td>
<td>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</td>
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<td>UNDAF</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Framework</td>
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<td>UNDAP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Plan</td>
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<td>UNDG</td>
<td>United Nations Development Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNECA</td>
<td>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</td>
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<td>UNECE</td>
<td>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</td>
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<td>UNEP</td>
<td>United Nations Environment Programme</td>
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<td>UNHabitat</td>
<td>United Nations Human Settlements Programme</td>
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<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>United Nations Industrial Development Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNU</td>
<td>United Nations University</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNU-MERIT</td>
<td>United Nations University Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute of Innovation and Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNU-WIDER</td>
<td>United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNWTO</td>
<td>World Tourism Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIC</td>
<td>Vienna International Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>WIPO</td>
<td>World Intellectual Property Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>WTO</td>
<td>World Trade Organization</td>
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