



Strengthening Local Production of Essential Medicines in Developing and Least Developed Countries

Context

UNIDO's interventions in the pharmaceutical sector have a number of dimensions at both global forum and technical assistance levels. UNIDO has been working in Ghana, Kenya and Vietnam to assist in the formulation of strategies to develop the local pharmaceutical industries and has conducted technical work to develop solutions that are necessary to support implementation of such strategies. UNIDO has been involved in many global forum activities, including the 19th session of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, and is an active member of the United Nations Interagency Pharmaceutical Committee. In 2011, the AUC Commissioner for Social Affairs invited UNIDO to form a partnership to accelerate the implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) -- an initiative initially endorsed by AU Heads of State and Government of the AU at the 2007 Accra summit.



Strategy

UNIDO's assistance is positioned at the interface between industrial development and public health. It recognizes that these two agendas are mutually reinforcing and that the industry is very complex and requires a number of different dimensions to be addressed in a coordinated fashion if sustainable progress is to be achieved. There is therefore a need for a holistic approach not only in terms of the work that UNIDO does individually but also through working with partners that have complementary skills and mandates. Through the work with the AUC on the PMPA Business Plan, UNIDO has demonstrated that it is a thought leader in the realm of local pharmaceutical production. Furthermore, through its recommendations and follow-up activities, it has displayed a willingness to work with partner organizations both within the UN system as well as other actors.

Impact/Outlook

The PMPA Business Plan represents a historic opportunity and the topic is now a top priority for many donors and multilateral organizations. UNIDO is well positioned to play a lead role in this high profile area and will continue to build strong relationships, further develop technical solutions and seek to expand its focus to include other life science products. An estimated US\$50 million is required for the first five years of the PMPA BP implementation. The AUC has invited UNIDO to take the lead on raising resources and for managing those funds.

Results:

- ♦ The AUC's PMPA Business Plan, which was developed with UNIDO assistance, was endorsed by AU Heads of State and Government at their 2012 summit and was prominent during the Abuja +12 AU Heads of State and Government summit on HIV/Aids, TB and Malaria in mid-2013
- ♦ The AUC has invited UNIDO to take the lead in developing the PMPA BP consortium; leaders at UNAIDS and WHO are strongly behind the plan and UNIDO is now collaborating closely with these organizations and the African Development Bank
- ♦ UNIDO has supported the formation and development of private sector trade associations such as the Federation of African Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (FAPMA)
- ♦ Work is ongoing with the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland to develop a technical assistance programme on operational excellence in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals
- ♦ Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) assessments conducted of 14 companies in Ghana and Kenya form the basis for the development of a broader GMP roadmap concept, an integral component of the holistic approach to transition all manufacturers to international standards of production.

At a Glance

GOAL:	Access to medicines in developing and least developed countries
MDG:	6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases 8. Develop a Global Partnership for Development
THEME:	Poverty Reduction through Productive Activities
DONORS:	Government of Germany, UNIDO
PARTNERS:	Ministries of Health and/or Industry/Trade, pharmaceutical sector
BUDGET:	Phase 4 (2013-15): EUR 3,337,586 (EUR 8 million since start)
STATUS:	Ongoing
DURATION:	2006 – 2015