UNIDO showcases its work at Hannover Messe

At this year’s Hannover Messe, the world’s leading industrial trade fair that attracted over 6,500 exhibitors and 250,000 visitors and was held from 25 to 29 April.

UNIDO showcased a range of technical assistance programmes in the areas of trade, investment and technology promotion. The overarching theme was “Together for a sustainable future” which is being used this year to mark the Organization’s 50th anniversary.

Co-exhibitors included a delegation from the Government of Ethiopia which promoted the Ethiopia International Agro-Industry Investment Forum, and representatives of various UNIDO Subcontracting and Partnership Exchange (SPX) Centres, as well as from the Nigeria Quality Infrastructure Project. UNIDO also organized two side events, one on investment opportunities in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the other on regional cooperation for sustainable energy.

PCP Ethiopia

Monitoring mission to Addis Ababa

Ciyong Zou, Director of UNIDO’s Department of Partnerships and Results Monitoring, and Dejene Tezera, team leader for PCP Ethiopia, took part in a programme monitoring mission to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 18 to 21 April. They held a series of meetings with Government officials, development partners and development finance institutions to discuss the progress of PCP and ways to further strengthen cooperation, in particular with the African Development Bank, the China Development Bank and the World Bank Group.

Government of Ethiopia prioritizes UNIDO’s institutional capacity-building project

The National Technical Task Force of the PCP for Ethiopia has approved a UNIDO institutional capacity-building project to be implemented within the framework of the PCP. The three-year project has an estimated budget of USD 1.5 million.

The project will focus on building the technical capacity of government institutions to:

- Access, manage and analyze data;
- Generate industrial, sectoral, market and investment intelligence to support investors and policy development; and
- Design, implement, monitor and evaluate industrial policies.

UNIDO conducted an initial five-day training course on country diagnosis and sectoral competitiveness for staff of the Ministry of Industry and four affiliated national institutions - the Leather Industry Development Institute, the Textiles Industry Development Institute, the Food Beverages and Pharmaceutical Industry Development Institute, and the Meat and Dairy Industry Development Institute. The training was commended by participants. An end-of-course evaluation recommended that the Government of Ethiopia prioritizes this PCP component.
Integrated agro-industrial park initiative gains momentum

The Government of Ethiopia has allocated USD 300 million towards the development of infrastructure for integrated agro-industrial parks (IAIPs), one of the focus areas of UNIDO’s PCP for Ethiopia. Funding will be released in July, at the start of the Ethiopian fiscal year. The Government has also agreed to finance the second phase of IAIP development, to be implemented by UNIDO. The next steps include finalizing the engineering design of IAIPs and building institutional capacity for the national body responsible for the development and management of the parks.

African Development Bank discusses financing for IAIPs

A team of experts from the African Development Bank met with the Government of Ethiopia, UNIDO and other stakeholders to identify possible areas of collaboration based on UNIDO’s feasibility studies of four pilot IAIPs. They also discussed complementarities between IAIPs and other agro-industry related development projects in the country, including on agricultural crops procurement zones, rural transformation centres and agro-industry growth corridors.

Local investor forum in Addis Ababa promotes IAIPs

Over 100 participants attended a local investment forum focusing on the IAIP initiative that took place on 4 May in Addis Ababa. The event featured presentations on the PCP for Ethiopia and the IAIP initiative. Forum participants included national investors, company representatives, industrial association leaders, representatives from the Ministry of Industry and the media. Participants voiced their strong support for the programme and expressed interest in exploring business and investment opportunities as the parks develop.

Germany and Italy - first stops of Ethiopia investment promotion roadshow

Ethiopian Government officials are conducting roadshows to select countries in Asia, Europe and the Middle East in preparation for the first International Agro-Industry Investment Forum being held from 5 to 7 October in Addis Ababa. Co-organized by UNIDO, the roadshows will promote specific investment opportunities in Ethiopia’s agro-industries and allied sectors, with an emphasis on the integrated agro-industrial parks initiative.

The first roadshows came to the cities of Hannover, Hamburg and Munich, from 22 to 27 April and from 8 to 12 May. The Ethiopian delegation, led by Ahmed Abtew, Minister of Industry, and Admassu Nebebe, Director General of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation, held a series of meetings with representatives from the Government of Germany, the German Engineering Federation, the Hannover Chamber of Industry and Commerce, and the Chief Executive Officer of Hannover Messe, among others. The Ethiopian stand, part of the UNIDO pavilion at the Hannover Messe, also attracted a large number of industrial associations and private companies interested in participating in the upcoming investment forum.

Italy hosted the second roadshow from 9 to 16 May. The Ethiopian delegation, led by Mebrahtu Meles, State Minister of Industry, met with industrial associations in the cities of Modena and Parma. The event gathered many agro-industry related companies interested in investing in or relocating production to Ethiopia. The delegation also met with the heads of Assolombarda and Confesercenti, associations representing small and medium-sized enterprises in the manufacturing sector of northern Italy.

The Italian Trade Agency hosted a special event to promote investment opportunities in Ethiopia, which featured a presentation by the State Minister of Industry and interventions. It was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Economic Development of Italy, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and UNIDO. Representatives of over 120 Italian companies also attended the event.

The next roadshows will be held in Austria and the Netherlands at the beginning of July.

For more details on the investment promotion roadshows, visit https://isid.unido.org/aife1.html

Mebrahtu Meles, Ivan Scalfarotto, Roberto Luongo and Diana Battaggia at Country Presentation on Ethiopia, Rome, Italy.
South-South and triangular industrial cooperation component kicks-off

In early May, representatives of UNIDO, the China-Africa Development Fund (CADFund) and the Bingtuan Group, the largest agricultural company in China, conducted a joint mission to Senegal to meet with key stakeholders and explore investment opportunities in the rice sector. Despite the significant rice-growing potential along the Senegal River Basin, the country currently depends largely on rice imports for its consumption needs.

The state company SAED, Société Nationale d’Aménagement et d’Exploitation des terres du Delta du Fleuve Sénégal et des Vallées du Fleuve Sénégal et de la Falémé, organized field visits for the delegation. As a result of the mission, Bingtuan Group and SAED identified several joint venture possibilities. UNIDO will facilitate the establishment of the potential joint venture and develop a technical assistance project for the rice value chain, as part of the South-South and triangular industrial cooperation component of the PCP. This project will support the Government of Senegal in its goal of achieving rice self-sufficiency by 2017 by increasing total production of white rice by 600,000 tons.
Validation of programmes funded by the Global Environment Facility

Two programmes, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to be implemented within the framework of the PCP for Senegal, were validated during workshops conducted in Dakar at the end of April. The workshops brought together representatives of the Government of Senegal, development partners, financial institutions, the private sector and UNIDO.

Validation workshop for GEF project on support for agricultural value chains resilience in Dakar.

The first workshop reviewed the GEF project on support for agricultural value chains resilience. Stakeholders discussed ways to increase synergies between UNIDO’s PCP for Senegal and activities supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Development. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment and the GEF focal point in Senegal will review the project document before its final submission. The project is part of the broader GEF programme on fostering sustainability and resilience for food security.

The second workshop focused on the GEF pilot programme on sustainable cities. The Diamniadio integrated industrial park, one of the focus areas of the PCP for Senegal, will be part of sustainable cities programme. Diamniadio is expected to become a model of a sustainable city for West Africa, as well as an industry and investment hub that integrates energy efficient, renewable energy and cleaner production solutions. The workshop was chaired by representatives of the Ministry of Environment and included participants from the World Bank Group, a key implementing partner of this programme.

National Steering Committee meeting discusses 2016 Priority Action Plan

On 12 May, the National Steering Committee of the PCP for Senegal met to review progress made and agree on the next steps of programme implementation. The 2016 Priority Action Plan, prepared by UNIDO, was on the agenda. It will be validated following a review.

Workshop on private sector engagement

On 19 May, representatives of key national industrial associations and over 30 private sector companies gathered at a workshop organized by the Government of Senegal. The event was a follow-up to an awareness-raising workshop organized in February. The workshop focused on business and investment opportunities within the PCP for Senegal and looked at efforts to mobilize private sector engagement for the implementation of industrial projects within the Plan Sénégal Emergent.

Upcoming UNIDO technical mission to advance development of industrial parks

A team of UNIDO technical experts will be in Dakar from 23 to 27 May. The mission is expected to finalize the business plan for the Diamniadio integrated industrial platform and launch a preliminary study for the development of new industrial parks. The Diamniadio business plan will consolidate the initial financial and economic analysis prepared by UNIDO, together with the Agence d’Aménagement et de Promotion des Sites Industriels (APROSI), and the Directorate General for Economic Policy and Planning of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. UNIDO will work closely with APIX, the national investment promotion agency, to ensure that the business plan reflects investors’ needs, and in particular infrastructure development. The mission will also review the draft legislation for special economic zones in Senegal.

PCP Peru

In March, a UNIDO team travelled to Lima to define the key components of the framework document for the Programme for Country Partnership for Peru. The team also examined ways to develop synergies with a range of existing national programmes.

The key objective of the mission was to identify national institutions for membership in the Partner and Donor Working Group (PDWG). The PDWG will serve as the national coordinating body for partnership and resource mobilization for the PCP. The Ministry of Production, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru reviewed the terms of reference for the PDWG and voiced their strong support for its establishment.

Significant advances were made in defining activities for PCP components, such as innovation and quality, value chain and enterprise development, sustainable industrial parks, industrial resource and energy efficiency, and renewable energy.

Upcoming milestones for the PCP Peru include finalizing the programme framework document and launching the inception phase.
UNIDO accompanies Government of Peru delegation to OECD environmental performance review

In March, UNIDO’s team leader for PCP Peru accompanied a delegation from the Government of Peru to OECD Headquarters for a presentation on the country’s Environmental Performance Review (EPR). The Peruvian delegation comprised representatives from the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The OECD Environment Director recognized the strong efforts undertaken by the Government Peru in supporting the preparation of the review, which was elaborated in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America. The EPR stressed the importance of aligning development policies and investment promotion strategies with environmental targets, challenges that are being addressed in the PCP for Peru.

Peru is undertaking 18 reviews in various policy areas in the process of accession to the OECD.