



UNIDO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE

INDUSTRY 2030 – INNOVATE. CONNECT. TRANSFORM OUR FUTURE.
3–7 NOVEMBER 2019, ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



Launch of the Gender Strategy 2020-23 and the Future of Inclusive Industry

Monday, 4 November 2019 | 11.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

OBJECTIVE

In the context of the theme of the General Conference, “Industry 2030 – Innovate. Connect. Transform our Future”, the new UNIDO Strategy for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (2020 – 2023), and the Beijing+25 review process, the session has two main objectives:

- To launch and present the UNIDO Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (2020-2023), which promotes UNIDO’s vision to enable women and men to equally lead, participate in, and benefit from inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID).
- To discuss how digitalization, the automatization of production, technological advances and innovation in the industrial sector present both challenges and opportunities to advance gender equality in the industry of the future; and the role of gender-responsive industrial policies to ensure that Industry 4.0 can be inclusive of those who have been left behind in the past.

The session is envisaged to encompass a strategy launch with opening remarks, followed by presentations and a moderated panel discussion, with an interactive question and answer segment.

KEY MESSAGES

- Through its mandate on ISID, and the implementation of its new Strategy for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (2020 – 2023), ensures that present and future industrial development pathways will meet the needs of women and girls as well as men and boys, thereby enabling them to fully participate as innovators, leaders and economic actors in the future of industry.
- The future of inclusive industry will depend largely on how the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) addresses current gender inequalities. To harness the full potential of future industrial practices to promote gender equality, targeted gender-responsive actions, policies and investments are essential. Industrial policies and development programmes should shape, operationalize and define an inclusive industrial future by i.e. redressing the gender digital divide, particularly in engineering and in information and communications technology, and by promoting technology-driven, innovative solutions to systemic barriers faced by women and girls to lead, participate in and benefit from industrial development.