A Year in Action 2018
UNIDO BRUSSELS OFFICE

UNIDO Brussels website
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UNIDO Brussels Liaison A Year in Action 2018

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Prepared and edited by Maud Germain and Eduin Matta Castillo.
I am pleased to present you with the 2018 edition of the UNIDO Brussels Office publication titled “A Year in Action”. The publication provides you with an opportunity to familiarize yourself with the work of the UNIDO’s Brussels Liaison Office and UNIDO’s work within the Brussels context.

The Brussels Office is an essential component of UNIDO’s Directorate for External Relations and Policy Research (EPR). EPR as a whole provides guidance on the Organization’s external relations and advocacy with its Member States and other stakeholders and partners in the United Nations system, the broader development community, civil society and academia. In addition, the Directorate oversees the Organization’s policy research and statistics activities and the Organization’s normative contribution to Member States and global development community in achieving the SDGs.

Within EPR, the Brussels Office is tasked with ensuring the effective promotion and representation of UNIDO in the local context; with raising awareness of and support for UNIDO’s programmes and activities. The Brussels Office promotes partnerships and cooperation between UNIDO and the European Union institutions, with United Nations system organizations, civil society and the private sector; The Brussels Office informs UNIDO’s headquarters on major trends and developments of strategic importance for the work of the Organization.

This is the Year in Action 2018 from UNIDO Brussels Office! We engaged in policy dialogue and cooperation with the European Union Institutions, including the European Investment Bank, the ACP Group of States, Belgium and Luxembourg, as well as with other development partners represented in Brussels, including Permanent Representations of Member States, International Organizations, Civil Society, Private Sector, plus the International Organization of Francophonie (OIF) and the African Union (AU).

Enjoy this report.

Looking ahead, 2019 will be unique with central political changes - Brexit, new European Development Aid policy, new European Parliament, new President of the European Commission, new European Commissioners, new President of the European Council, new President of the European Central Bank - all under the umbrella of the New “Multiannual Financial Framework” 2021-2027. In addition, new Cotonou Partnership Agreement between ACP Secretariat and EU will frame the new EU’s Development Agenda in 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific states for the next 15 years, will be settled in 2019.

Indeed, 2018 was eventful, 2019 will be inspiring!

Patrick J. Gilabert
UNIDO Representative to the EU, EIB, ACP, Belgium and Luxembourg

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UNIDO Field Offices

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- Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo (Democratic Republic of),
- Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar,
- Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone,
- South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe

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Asia & Pacific
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- Lao PDR, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam

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- Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey

Latam & Caribbean
- Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Uruguay
Through partnership networks UNIDO can best advance and advocate for inclusive and sustainable industrial development in order to create shared prosperity.
UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability.

The mandate of UNIDO, as described in the Lima Declaration adopted at the fifteenth session of the UNIDO General Conference in 2013, is to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) in developing countries and economies in transition.

The relevance of ISID as an integrated approach to all three pillars of sustainable development is recognized by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will frame United Nations and country efforts towards sustainable development in the next fifteen years. UNIDO’s mandate is fully recognized in SDG-9, which calls to “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation”. The relevance of ISID, however, applies in greater or lesser extent to all SDGs.

As the United Nations agency responsible for the industrialization of developing countries, UNIDO is dedicated to support economic growth, create jobs for young people and thereby contribute to poverty reduction. Within the United Nations system, UNIDO is the only economic agency to have adopted a holistic approach to development by focusing on four priority areas:

- Creating Shared Prosperity
- Advancing Economic Competitiveness
- Safeguarding the Environment
- Strengthening Knowledge and Institutions

Each of these programmatic fields of activity contains a number of individual programmes, which are implemented in a holistic manner to achieve effective outcomes and impacts through UNIDO’s four enabling functions: (i) technical cooperation; (ii) analytical and research functions and policy advisory services; (iii) normative functions and standards and quality-related activities; and (iv) convening and partnerships for knowledge transfer, networking and industrial cooperation.
Mission

UNIDO is convinced that ISID will be a key driver for the successful integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions, required to fully realize sustainable development for the benefit of our future generations.

Inclusive and sustainable industrial development means that:

- Every country achieves a higher level of industrialization in their economies, and benefits from the globalization of markets for industrial goods and services.
- No one is left behind in benefiting from industrial growth, and prosperity is shared among women and men in all countries.
- Broader economic and social growth is supported within an environmentally sustainable framework.

- Unique knowledge and resources are combined of all relevant development actors to maximize the development impact of ISID.

ISID is also included in the UN's proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

UNIDO thus brings together key private sector actors to maximize development cooperation and create long lasting partnerships. In this framework we understand the importance of SDG 17.

UNIDO IN BRUSSELS

The responsibility of the UNIDO Office in Brussels is to ensure adequate representation in Brussels to strengthen UNIDO’s visibility and interaction with the European Union (EU) and its institutions, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the ACP Secretariat, the UN System in Brussels, Belgian and Luxembourgish Authorities. The office also maintains a close liaison with Member State Missions located in Brussels.

The main objective of the UNIDO office in Brussels is to continue to further develop the partnership between UNIDO and its strategic partners, with a focus on UNIDO’s priority areas.
DG LI Yong at the European Development Days - June

The Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has taken part in the two-day European Development Days (EDDs) organized by the European Commission.

2018’s theme, “Women and Girls at the Forefront of Sustainable Development: protect, empower, invest”, resonates with UNIDO’s mandate and with the objectives set by the United Nations Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. In this regard, UNIDO co-organized and participated in one high-level panel, two lab debates and one brainstorming lab. To show UNIDO’s commitment to women economic empowerment, notably through inclusive and sustainable industrial development, Director General, LI Yong, led the UNIDO delegation at the EDDs. On the margins of the EDDs DG LI also met with personalities such as H.E. Paul Kagame, and Mr. Ambroise Fayolle.

On the first day of the EDDs, DG LI opened a policymakers’ dinner at the invitation of Friends of Europe, on the theme “Leaving no one behind – the SDG challenge of reaching the last mile”. As a keynote speaker, DG LI stressed that, “despite common perception, poverty has been reduced by half in the last decades, thanks to the industrial development of many developing countries. The manufacturing sector contributed to lift more than one billion people out of poverty in only 25 years. Through the right industrial policies and with the support of UNIDO instruments such as the Programme for Country Partnership, countries can accelerate and scale-up their industrial transformation and create thousands of jobs in a relatively short time.”
UNIDO presentation to ULB students participating in the MUN conference in NYC  
**February**

UNIDO presented the work of the United Nations to a group of students from the Université Libre de Bruxelles who were going to participate in the Model United Nations in New York. UNIDO Brussels Office presented the cooperation between the UN and the EU in Brussels, and the specific work that UNIDO conducts on a daily basis in Brussels.

UNIDO Chemical leasing workshop  
**March**

UNIDO organized a chemical leasing workshop at the UN House in Brussels. The event gathered participants from the private and public sector to discuss the aspects of chemical leasing such as its sustainability and how to implement it successfully. At the end, participants and speakers had time to discuss questions.

International Business Forum on the Gambia  
**May**

UNIDO Representative Christophe Yvetot met with Gambia President, H.E. Adama Barrow on the margins of the International Business Forum at the Gambia Conference to reaffirm UNIDO’s support to Gambia’s industrialization with agribusiness, value chains, skills for youth, energy and environment.

Meeting at ACP Secretariat on sustainable investments and value chains  
**May**

During a workshop held at the ACP Secretariat, UNIDO, the World Bank and the International Trade Center and the EU joined together to discuss the implementation of the EU Funded Programme ‘Supporting business-friendly and inclusive national and regional policies, and strengthening productive’; activities under this programme will be carried in the six ACP Regions.

AU Workshop “Towards an integrated and harmonized implementation approach of the UN 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the AU agenda 2063”  
**June**

UNIDO Representative presented the Agency’s activities to the Group of African Ambassadors in Brussels and its vision to fully achieve the SDGs, especially SDG 9 “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation”, for which UNIDO is the lead implementing agency.
UNIDO held a workshop on the Global Network of Regional and Sustainable Energy Centres at the UN House in Brussels. The workshop aimed to begin a dialogue between the European Commission (EC), and representatives of African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries ahead of the conference on “Regional Cooperation to Accelerate Sustainable Energy Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Developing Countries” in Vienna, Austria.

UNIDO contributes to Forum of the African Diasporas
June

UNIDO took part in the Forum of African Diasporas. Participants and speakers expressed their visions, hopes and analyses towards collective, concrete and constructive recommendations. Topics discussed included the implication of the Diasporas in Africa, migration, youth employment, new financing tools for projects, innovation and new forms of engagements.

UNIDO meets with 400 toits
September

UNIDO joins the 400 toits movement for the end of homelessness in Brussels. Modular housing is a success that could to be transposed in developing countries and help achieving the SDGs.

UNIDO representative exchanges with Kaneka
September

UNIDO had an interesting dialogue with Kaneka representatives. Kaneka’s innovative technology on biodegradable polymer PHBH can be a way forward to reduce plastic pollution, especially in Africa.

Workshop on Global Networks of Sustainable Energy Center
September

UNIDO held a workshop on the Global Network of Regional and Sustainable Energy Centres at the UN House in Brussels. The workshop aimed to begin a dialogue between the European Commission (EC), and representatives of African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries ahead of the conference on “Regional Cooperation to Accelerate Sustainable Energy Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Developing Countries” in Vienna, Austria.

UNIDO and ACP discuss the role of Industry in the Post Cotonou process
September

ACP SG Dr. Patrick Gomes welcomed UNIDO’s new Representative Mr. Patrick Gilabert to exchange views on how to build together solid industrial strategies that benefits the 79 ACP Countries. Industry and Private Sector Development lie at the heart of the ACP Negotiating Mandate for the Post Cotonou.
UNIDO visits the Borealis plant in Antwerp
September

UNIDO visited the premises of the Borealis plant in Antwerp in order to learn how Petrochemicals Europe deals with the challenges of the industry. The representative presented their strategy in terms of sustainable development and how to effectively deal with chemical waste.

Smart Specialization in JRC, Sevilla
September

Mr. Fernando Santiago, from the department of Policy Research was invited to contribute to the first global workshop “Smart Specialisation: from the EU to the world” organized by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission. He intervened in the panel titled: “Smart Specialisation, a possible tool for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals?”

UNIDO at the 17th Francophonie Summit - October

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) took an active part at the 17th Francophonie Head of States Summit held in Yerevan, Armenia.

Held under the theme “Living together in solidarity, shared humanistic values, and respect for diversity: a source of peace and prosperity in La Francophonie”, 2018’s edition of the summit saw Louise Mushikiwabo from Rwanda elected as new Secretary General of the International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF).

UNIDO and the OIF share 47 Member States in Africa, Central America, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia and the Pacific. The two organizations were able to recognize, through UNIDO’s presence, the importance of inclusive and sustainable industrial development for poverty reduction through the creation of quality jobs, especially for women and youth.

“Today, it is the family of La Francophonie that meets! Colourful, united by a language spoken by 300 million francophones from five continents! UNIDO is proud to be part of this Summit in Yerevan,” said Patrick Gilabert, UNIDO Representative to the European Union.

UNIDO also took part in the Yerevan Economic Forum organized earlier in the week on the sidelines of the Summit. The event aimed to develop a common perspective on economic cooperation based on the Economic Strategy for La Francophonie which aims to strengthen the francophone economic space in order to address economic, social, energy and environmental issues.
Meeting with the President of Armenia, Yerevan  
October
In the framework of the Yerevan Economic Forum, Mr. Patrick Gilabert and UNIDO Country Representative in Armenia, Ms. Anahit Simonyan, seized the opportunity to greet H.E. Mr. Armen Sarkissian on behalf of UNIDO Director General and congratulate Armenia for the organisation of such high-level Summit and UNIDO’s involvement with the International Organisation of Francophonie (OIF).

UNIDO visits the Armenian Armaths Engineering Labs  
October
During his mission to Armenia, Mr. Gilabert met with some brilliant students from the Armath Engineering Laboratories. At Armath Engineering Laboratories kids aged 10-18 are introduced to science, technology, engineering, and math education through interactive after-school classes, exciting competitions, innovative camps and more.

UNIDO at the Global Diaspora Week  
October
The theme of 2018 year was “Boosting the Digital Agenda and Innovation for Development”. UNIDO Representative to the European Union, Mr. Patrick Gilabert presented the Organization’s programmes for adding value to agricultural products during a panel on the Diaspora innovations for Agricultural productivity and sustainability.

UNIDO attends the Global Girls Summit  
October
UNIDO attended the Global Girls Summit in Brussels. The Summit saw activists and campaigners come together to connect, inspire, discuss girls' rights and problem-solve global girls' issues. Her Majesty the queen of the Belgians said: “We need to ensure that girls have equal access to health, education and work.”

ECOWAS Commissionner visits Brussels  
November
ECOWAS Commissioner for Industry and Private Sector Development, Mr. Mamadou Traore met with the different services of the European Commission responsible for infrastructure quality, standardisation, and international trade, such as DG GROWTH, DG TRADE, DG AGRI, DG DEVCO, and DG SANTE. The ECOWAS delegation also met the entities responsible for standardisation, the reduction of trade barriers and accreditation: CEN-CENELEC and BELAC, they shared European best practices with the commissioner.
UNIDO Representative, Mr. Gilabert, went on a mission to Paris, as a follow-up to the Francophonie summit, held in Yerevan, Armenia, in October 2018. Mr. Gilabert met with H.E. Ter Stepanian, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia in France. Mr. Gilabert and H.E. Mr. Stepanian had a fruitful exchange on the work UNIDO is doing in Armenia and how to further improve it.

In addition to the exchange with H.E. Mr. Stepanian, Mr. Gilabert met with some representatives of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF). On this occasion UNIDO and OIF started a dialogue on the added value that UNIDO can bring to the development of francophone Countries, especially in Africa. UNIDO and the OIF will strengthen their cooperation and identify potential joint activities that benefit their Member States.

For the celebration of the 2018 UN Day, the United Nations Brussels Team launched the “Back to School” campaign in the framework of which several UN Agencies in Brussels engaged with students from high schools. UNIDO paid a visit to the students of the Lycée Français “Jean Monnet” and UNIDO Representative, Mr. Gilabert, presented the activities of the United Nations and UNIDO.

UNIDO participated in the second edition of the Global Science, Technology and Innovation Conference (G-STIC), in Brussels. Organized by VITO, G-STIC brought together leading Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) stakeholders to discuss how new technologies can facilitate the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda.

UNIDO was invited by the African Union to participate to the retreat of the African Ambassadors in Brussels, organized by the AU. During the retreat UNIDO reiterated its firm support to assist African Countries in the implementation of the third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III).
22 November 2018 - The European Investment Bank (EIB) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) have co-hosted the EIB Africa Day 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. UNIDO’s Director General, LI Yong, and EIB President, Werner Hoyer, opened the high-level event, alongside H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of Ethiopia.

This year’s EIB Africa Day focused on the theme of sustainable industrialization in Africa, and emphasized the importance of inclusive and sustainable industrial development for the continent’s future. The high-level panels of the event approached the topic from business, policy and financing angles, while reflecting on such key international milestones as the Third Industrial Decade for Africa (IDDA III) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The event brought together a significant number of stakeholders, including government representatives, representatives of Regional Economic Communities, development finance institutions, UN agencies, the private sector, NGOs and academia.

UNIDO partners with the Government of Ethiopia on a Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) to support the country in achieving its industrial development goals. The Programme’s priority initiatives include the development of an industrial park focused on the leather industry – Modjo Leather City – which is supported by the EIB.

The EIB, based in Luxembourg, is the long-term lending institution of the European Union (EU) and is owned by the EU Member States. It makes long-term finance available for sound investment in order to contribute towards EU policy goals both in Europe and beyond. The EIB is present in more than 160 countries and has been active across Africa since 1963.

UNIDO joined forces with the other UN Agencies in Brussels for the campaign “Stand-up for human rights”. To mark the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a global campaign was launched worldwide; the UN Agencies in Brussels organized a series of activities and engagement with stakeholders at the European Parliament.

UNIDO Brussels Office organized in cooperation with the African Union, Africa Industrialization Day (AID). The theme for this year’s event was “Promoting Regional Value Chains in Africa: a pathway for accelerating industrialization of Africa in the context of AfCFTA and IDDA III”. The event featured speakers from the private sector, Ambassadors, and experts.
Through joint policy advocacy and concrete projects in the field, the EU and UNIDO are working together to ensure that poverty and hunger can be alleviated within the next generation. Both institutions share the same vision: the private sector is the primary driver of growth and jobs, and that its development needs to be supported by smart public policies and solid institutions.

Over the last decade, the European Union Institutions have become a major donor for UNIDO. Together with its Member States, the European Union is the largest contributor. The European Union has regularly invested in UNIDO’s technical cooperation programmes and projects and the cooperation has mainly been developed through policy dialogue and joint programming on the basis of developing countries’ needs and requests. The annual review of cooperation and the structural dialogue institutionalized in Brussels and in the field should contribute to more cooperation in the future. In fact, from Brussels to the field, EU priorities and policies converge with the mandate of UNIDO, its role for implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa 2016-2025 (IDDA III), the new EU Consensus on Development and the new Cotonou Partnership Agreement. Aligned with global needs, the cooperation focuses on Africa and Asia. However new horizons of cooperation have opened up in Europe’s Neighbourhood as well as the Caribbean and the Pacific.
The cooperation between UNIDO and the EU has made it possible to implement projects all around the globe under different thematics. The policy convergence between the two organizations means that the cooperation has a great impact on the development capacities of beneficiary countries. UNIDO and the EU mainly cooperate on matters related to advancing economic competitiveness which encompasses many different avenues of work, such as investing in technology and innovation, supporting and setting up export consortia, helping countries meet global standards for exports, the development of entrepreneurship capabilities and helping boost trade competitiveness amongst others. The EU and UNIDO have also collaborated on issues related to creating a shared prosperity and safeguarding the environment through numerous means and with the help of many other actors and networks throughout the world.
In the face of a rapidly changing global economic landscape and increasing inequalities, a strategy for sustained growth must ensure a form of industrialization that makes opportunities accessible to all people and broadly distributes income and non-income gains across society. The inability of countries to fully integrate solutions to social issues into targeted industrial and economic policies undermines the developmental potential of industry, thus widening income inequality gaps.

Against this background, UNIDO concentrates its efforts on the development of agro-industries, increasing the participation of women and youth in productive activities, and human security in post-crisis situations. UNIDO’s services for the development of agro-industries focus on adding value to agricultural production by strengthening linkages between agriculture, industry and markets.

UNIDO supports the transformation of enterprises from the informal sector to the formal sector, with a special focus on simplifying and improving access to administrative company registration services. It also strives to improve women’s participation in entrepreneurial activities.

Based on its experience in post-crisis and human security programmes and projects, UNIDO responds to complex emergencies through activities that contribute to socio-economic as well as environmental and energy security both at national and local level.

What we do to promote shared prosperity

Agribusiness and rural entrepreneurship development

Through technical assistance, UNIDO links resources and markets in the agribusiness value chains and strengthens forward and backward industrial linkages in order to leg up economic transformation of countries, improve employment, income opportunities, and sustainable livelihoods.

Women and youth in productive activities

The primary focus of UNIDO’s activities in this area is on the knowledge, skills, technologies and business support services needed to enable women and youth to engage in productive activities, generate income, and thereby reduce poverty. UNIDO assists governments in developing policies that are gender and age-responsive.

Human security, post-crisis rehabilitation and migration issues

The empowerment of communities in countries and regions emerging from crisis situations is addressed through UNIDO initiatives promoting post-crisis productive rehabilitation, reconstruction and sustainable livelihoods.
ENPARD Technical Assistance: Producer Group and Value Chain Development

The overall objective of the programme is to support the Government of Armenia in ensuring an efficient and sustainable agriculture contributing to better conditions in rural areas. This programme aims to improve the capacity of farmers associations and cooperatives and to establish agricultural and non-agricultural pilot value chains contributing to the development of rural areas, development of improved agricultural inputs and production systems.

Ethiopia - Leather Initiative for Sustainable Employment Creation (LISEC)

The overall objective of the action is to create greater economic and decent employment opportunities, especially for young men and women through the development of the Ethiopian leather industry and the Modjo leather industrial park, but also contribute to the reduction of irregular migration from Ethiopia by creating greater economic and decent employment opportunities.

UNIDO technical assistance to the project Stemming irregular migration in northern and central Ethiopia

The present project contributes to reduce irregular migration from Northern and Central Ethiopia by creating greater economic and employment opportunities. The main objective of this project is to support the Government of the FDR of Ethiopia (GoE) in the creation of decent and productive work for young women and men through the development of high potential sectors such as agro-industries and related (e.g. textile, leather, metal working, edible oil, etc…).

Employment opportunities and entrepreneurship development for migrant youth, refugees, asylum seekers and host communities in Khartoum State

This project aims to improve the institutional capacities of the four Khartoum State Vocational Training and Employment Centres (VTECs) in terms of planning, management development and staff training in relation to the needs of Sudan’s economic modernization programme and SDG n°9.

Enhanced Local Value Addition and Strengthening Value Chains

The UNIDO project to enhance local value addition and strengthen agor-value chains is a sub component of the integrated programme launched by EU in the Greater Bahr El Ghazal region in South Sudan to contribute to the improvement of food security and income of the rural population.
Support to the semi-industrial processing of sugar cane in Madagascar

The project is implemented in close collaboration with the Malagasy Center of the Sugar and Sugar Cane, with the overall objective to contribute to poverty reduction in rural areas through a sustainable and inclusive development of the sugar cane value chain. The expected result is to improve the productivity of the semi-industrial sugar cane sector and to add value to products as a mean to generate more income, integrating small scale independent producers.

Support programme for the upgrading of the vocational training system in Côte d'Ivoire

This project aims to support and promote vocational training and integration of young people in Cote d'Ivoire. A functioning vocational training system in the country is essential for the resumption of economic growth and social stability. All stakeholders and beneficiaries are unanimous on the need to have sufficient training capacity of high quality, in line with the needs of the national economy.

Support to technical and vocational training for Liberia’s youth

Liberia’s youth constitutes nearly half of the Liberian labour force but is exposed to high unemployment, underemployment and vulnerable employment rates. The global commodity prices crisis, combined with the effects of the Ebola crisis, have devastated the Liberian economy and worsened youth’s fragility problems. A socially and economically marginalised young population can pose serious risks to national security, social cohesion and stability. Efforts to improve their employability are constrained by a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

Support to Employment Creation in Mongolia (SECIM)

Agriculture and Rural Development as major sectors in Mongolia are offering opportunities and development potentials. Taking into account that many people working in agriculture are members of poor households, the relationship between job creation, employment, private sector development and trade is pivotal for the diversification of Mongolia's economy. The project SECIM aims to contribute to an inclusive economic growth and to support alleviation of income inequality in Mongolia.
Industry is a seedbed for entrepreneurship, business investment, technological progress, the upgrading of skills, and the creation of decent jobs. All these factors contribute to sustained productivity improvements that can ensure pro-poor outcomes and contribute to increased living standards, particularly in developing countries. In addition, better access to domestic and international markets can make an enormous contribution to developing countries’ fight against poverty.

Many people in many developing countries, in particular in the Least Developed Countries, live in an agrarian, often subsistence economy. Many young people grow up without opportunities to learn entrepreneurial and industrial attitudes and skills, resulting in poverty with persistent unemployment or underemployment. Entrepreneurship is therefore an inclusive process that enables the bottom billion – women and men – in rural as well as urban areas, to achieve social mobility. Entrepreneurship also transforms economies and enhances industrial development, inclusively and sustainably, from individual and grass-root levels.

Against this background, UNIDO supports programmes towards investment and technology promotion, SME development, trade capacity-building, and entrepreneurship development.

**What we do to promote advanced economic competitiveness**

**Supporting small and medium industry clusters**
UNIDO aims to boost the development of a competitive private sector and contribute to poverty reduction by building sustainable linkages between small-size enterprises, their larger scale business partners and support institutions.

**Competitive trade capacities and corporate responsibility**
UNIDO aims to improve the competitive supply capacities of developing countries, and enable their enterprises to meet international market requirements, including quality, safety, and corporate responsibility-related standards.

**Industrial Upgrading and Modernization Programme (IUMP)**
The IUMP aims to contribute to economic growth and facilitate regional integration of developing countries and economies in transition by increasing the capacities of local industries for value added generation, economic diversification, exports and employment creation.
The National Quality Infrastructure Project (NQIP) for Nigeria: Building Trust for Trade

The overall objective of the NQIP project, which is one of the three components of the EU private sector Support Programme, is to support the enhancement of the national quality infrastructure. Its purpose is, through the development of missing quality infrastructure and the enhancement of the existing one, to improve quality, safety, integrity and marketability of Nigerian goods and services and remove technical barriers to trade by having an adequate, effective and sustainable National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) in place, consistent with international and regional principles and practices.

Central Africa Quality Infrastructure Program

The objective of component 2 of the PACIE entitled "Competitiveness and evolution towards the common market and support for the EPA" is to strengthen the competitiveness and diversification of productive sectors. The present program, the Central African Quality Infrastructure Program (CAQIP), is part of component 2 of the PACIE. The PIQAC, implemented by UNIDO, aims to support Central African countries to Implement an operational quality infrastructure in priority areas to strengthen trade capacities and competitiveness of the region.

Support Programme for the Improvement of the Competitiveness of the Cameroonian Economy

The overall objective of PACOM is to strengthen the competitiveness of the Cameroonian economy by improving productivity and improving the quality of enterprises, thus enabling the implementation of the two components of the commercial strategy desired by the State: enhancement of the comparative advantages of competitive sectors on export markets (regional and international) and development of national enterprises on the domestic market, particularly in the subcontracting sector.

Cultural and Creative Industry Clusters in the Southern Mediterranean region

This project aims to help and strengthen clusters through the implementation of UNIDO’s Clusters and Business Linkages methodology as well as through capacity building. The selected clusters will benefit from multi-faceted market access assistance, also through partnerships with public and private entities. The project will also foster information dissemination and knowledge sharing as well as through workshops and regional meetings that will foster the exchange of best practices and success stories.
Industrial Restructuring and Upgrading Programme-Central Africa

The Programme for the Restructuring and Upgrading of Central Africa (PRMN) is an integral part of component 2 of the PACIE (Competitiveness, Trade and Common Market) and aims to contribute to the strengthening of Central Africa's productive capacities, so that the sub-region can face, in a sustained manner, the dual challenge of regional and global integration.

West Africa Competitiveness and Quality Infrastructure Project (WACQIP)

To stimulate industrialization in the region, the WACQIP has the aim to strengthen the industrial competitiveness of the 16 West African states through value chain development and an enhanced level of production, transformation and export capacities of the private sector. The main project interventions are the development of sustainable value chains, supporting MSMEs, and facilitating a platform for dialogue on industrialization between states and the private sector including enhancing the capacity of member states to develop and implement industrial development policies along the value chain.

West Africa Competitiveness Programme - Ghana Component

The programme proposes interventions for development and enhanced competitiveness of three product groups with strong regional and global value chains potential for job creation and growth through value chain linkages by connecting industries in Ghana with those of the region which supply input for processing or market for Ghanaian industry. These are Processed Fruits, Cassava and Cosmetics and Personal-Care Products.

West African Quality System. Support for the implementation of the ECOWAS quality policy

West African Quality System - Support for the implementation of the ECOWAS quality policy. The overall objective of the Programme is to support the implementation of the regional quality policy of ECOWAS aiming at “establishing a framework for the development and operation of suitable, relevant, efficient and effective quality infrastructures to facilitate intra-regional and international trade, protect the consumer and the environment, and promote sustainable economic development”
Strengthening sustainable supplier development in the goat cheese value chain and fostering business linkages with the tourism industry in Cabo Verde

Overall, the project seeks to strengthen sustainable supplier development in the goat cheese value chain on the islands of Boa Vista and Fogo, and to foster business linkages with the tourism industry in Cabo Verde. More specifically, the project intends to apply the UNIDO cluster development approach to develop one goat cheese cluster in Boa Vista and one goat cheese cluster in Fogo and to foster business linkages for both of them with the national tourism industry.
Pollution, climate change, habitat destruction and over-exploitation of natural resources such as fresh water and fisheries are doing great harm to human health, wellbeing and livelihoods, especially among poorer regions, and is undermining the prospects for a long-term resilient and robust economy. One of the prerequisites for industry to flourish in a sustainable manner is the availability of an assured supply of affordable and clean energy, together with improved resource efficiency.

The risks of climate change are well documented and its impacts are already affecting people and ecosystems. Meeting the climate challenge requires industries and institutions — both public and private — to be able to assess and understand climate change, design and implement adequate policies and to work towards resource efficient societies and low emission growth. Against this background, UNIDO supports countries in their environmental management efforts, including the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the provision of sustainable energy. It helps create new green industries, establishing national road maps for greening the supply chain, determining benchmarks and indicators, disseminating and sharing best practices, running clean technology programmes, undertaking various capacity-building exercises and

What we do to safeguard the environment

**Resource-efficient and low-carbon industrial production**

Environmental protection in enterprises has been undergoing structural changes in recent years. UNIDO enables countries to achieve a reduced level of consumption of natural resources, greenhouse gas and other emissions and industrial wastes in industrial processes.

**Energy access for productive uses**

UNIDO enables countries increase their competitiveness through the use of renewable energy, thus achieving sustainable low-carbon industrial development. It is responsible for enhancing the use of renewable sources of energy and efficient use of energy by industry

**Implementation of multilateral environmental agreements**

UNIDO supports countries in meeting their obligations under the major Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA), such as the Montreal Protocol, the Stockholm Convention, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
SWITCH MED, Demonstration and Networking Components

The objective of the SWITCH-Med Initiative is to facilitate the shift toward Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in the Southern Mediterranean Region. To do so, the programme will stimulate the demand and the supply side of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in southern Mediterranean countries, by acting on the key drivers and barriers, existing economic conditions and legislative frameworks. It will support industry, emerging green entrepreneurs, civil society and policy makersthrough policy development, demonstration activities and networking.

Promoting market-based deployment of clean energy technology solutions in municipal waterworks

This pilot initiative aims at creating model pathways of market-based approaches to the cost effective deployment of clean energy technologies in municipal waterworks in Sub-Saharan Africa. The implementation of this pilot initiative will focus on South Africa and create a solid basis for a market-based replication and scaling up in the country and in the SADC region.

A sustainable and climate-friendly phase out of ozone-depleting substances and hydrofluorocarbons mitigation actions

The project is implemented by GIZ together with UNIDO and UNDP and it aims to assist seven (7) countries of this region with their political transformation processes in fulfilling their obligations under the Montreal Protocol (MP) and promoting climate-friendly solutions for phasing out ozone-depleting substances.

Mitigating toxic health exposures in low- and middle-income countries

This project aims to help governments and communities heavily impacted by pollution in low- and middle-income countries, especially least developed countries (LDCs), take locally-led action to improve the health and livelihood of those communities by breaking pollution exposure pathways and preventing future toxic emissions. It will influence and enable national, regional and international decision-makers to take concrete action, and address the impacts of pollution on the environment, the natural resources, the economy and the public health in the long term.
IOMC Toolbox for Decision Making in Chemicals Management-Phase III: From design to action

The Project builds on Phase I and II of the IOMC Toolbox project. Phase I focussed on the development of a proof-of-concept version of the IOMC Toolbox to assist countries to identify practical and cost-effective chemicals management options developed by IOMC Participating Organizations. During Phase II, the proof-of-concept version was pilot-tested, further developed and some functionalities were improved. to policy makers, private sector, especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
On the 17 October 2018, UNIDO’s Representative to the European Union (EU), Patrick J. Gilabert, signed an agreement with the United Nations Secretary-General’s representative to the EU, Barbara Pesce-Monteiro, to officialize the move to the new One UN House in Brussels. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding signifies a new beginning for the UN family in Brussels, which is joining forces to promote cooperation and effectiveness, and deliver better results to the European Commission, Secretariat of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, European Investment Bank (EIB) and Belgium.

Working as one UN has huge benefits: it decreases the costs for each agency, enhances development results and impact by bringing together the comparative advantages of the UN organizations within a single strategic location. It also allows for more transparency and greater inclusive participation and cooperation between the different agencies. This move is in line with UN Secretary-General’s reform that aims, among others, to enable common services and to raise the share of UN common premises to 50 per cent by 2021.
View Common Spaces

The premises assure UNIDO compliance with all energy efficiency standards and allow costs reduction.
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