UNIDO workshops are supporting the Government of Cambodia with the implementation of a major development strategy.

CAMBODIA: TRAINING ON INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND VALUE CHAINS
GMIS ROADSHOWS
TUNISIA, EGYPT, MOROCCO: CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRAINING FOR POLICYMAKERS
FOSTERING POLICIES FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF SEVEN VALUE CHAINS

“WHAT FACTORS DRIVE SUCCESSFUL INDUSTRIALIZATION?”
REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR UNIDO REPRESENTATIVES

GROWTH IN WORLD MANUFACTURING CONTINUES TO SLOW AMID RISING TENSIONS OVER TRADE
VNR WORKSHOP
POLICY provides strategic industrial policy advice to Member States in support of accelerating their industrial development. In close collaboration with the Research team, it identifies, designs, implements and evaluates policies aimed at expanding and diversifying Member States’ productive capacity.

CAMBODIA: TRAINING ON INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND VALUE CHAINS

A series of training workshops on industrial policy and value chains under the UNIDO project “Support to the Royal Government of Cambodia in its effective implementation of a major development strategy and policy through institutional capacity-building”, funded by the Republic of Korea, are taking place in Cambodia.

The first took place in July 2019 and focused on evidence-based industrial policymaking, supplementing the Cambodian government’s objective to modernize and transform the country’s industrial structure from a labour-intensive to a skills-driven one by 2025.

The second on “Leveraging global value chains for industrial development”, which took place in October 2019, aimed to build practical skills backed by data analysis in policymaking and enhance industrial policy to help local industries and firms reap the opportunities global value chains offer.

A third workshop, on “Standards and quality infrastructure for innovation”, is scheduled for late February 2020. The four-day workshop aims to sensitize policymakers to the requirements for upgrading the country’s quality infrastructure (QI) to foster sustainable economic growth and innovation. It will convey the basic principles of quality policies and metrology and seeks to initiate a cross-institutional dialogue on how to prepare the country for upcoming challenges related to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

GMIS ROADSHOWS

GMIS Connect East Africa, which took place in Tanzania in November 2019, focused on “Advanced Industrialization in East Africa: Challenges and Opportunities for the Fourth Industrial Revolution”, with around 200 participants from the public and private sector, academia and civil society from East African Community (EAC) Member States. Innovators from across the EAC region showcased their innovative concepts through elevator pitches and exhibitions.

A second GMIS road show in Africa, GMIS Connect Southern Africa, took place from 10-11 December 2019 in the form of a regional discussion forum on “Advancing Industrialization in Southern Africa: Think Globally, Act Locally – The Impact of Digital Industrial Transformation in Southern Africa”. It was attended by high-level government representatives. EQUIP’s Industry 4.0 toolbox, which was developed jointly by UNIDO and GIZ and promotes evidence-based policymaking in the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, was presented at both road shows.

The two events provided inputs to the third Global Manufacturing and Industrialization Summit, which will take place alongside the Hannover Messe, the world’s largest industrial trade fair from 10–21 April 2020.
TUNISIA, EGYPT, MOROCCO: CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRAINING FOR POLICYMAKERS

In December 2019, UNIDO introduced policymakers from Tunisia, Egypt and Morocco to the different phases of the circular economy from the perspectives of engineering, economics and law. The training programme for representatives of Ministries of Industry, Economy, Commerce, Finance and Environment held in Ferrara, Italy, was provided in collaboration with the University of Ferrara, the Centre for Research on Circular Economy, Innovation and SMEs (CERCIS) and the SEEDS Inter-university Research Centre.

The programme included meetings with representatives of Italy’s Emilia-Romagna region, clusters of private-public organizations, the energy and financial sectors, and the Centoform vocational training centre, as well as a field trip to the Renazzo headquarters of the metal recycling company, Guidetti Recycling Systems.

FOSTERING POLICIES FOR INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF SEVEN VALUE CHAINS

At a high-level meeting at the Economic Vice-Presidency of Venezuela on 22 November, UNIDO provided updates on the progress made during the first year of implementation of the project “Fostering policies for integrated development of seven value chains” focusing on the development of seven strategically important value chains. Using data collected and the value chain analysis tool, the project team found that the government’s latest policy changes (price regulation) have affected the costs of production and profit margins, which may have drastic consequences on the production in 2020.

In reaction, the Vice-President announced at the meeting that committees to improve the supply of inputs and of agricultural seeds would be set up. Further the agricultural loan programme (cartera agrícola) would be extended and the legal banking reserve (encaje legal) would be used to address the financing needs in the seven value chains. Funding for specific proposals in the cocoa industry will be provided.

The team also reported on its progress in establishing seven public-private coordination committees for the development of the value chains. This has already boosted coordination between public and private actors in value chain development and each committee is now planning and implementing concrete activities of the value chain-specific action plans that have been developed from the team’s diagnostics.
UNIDO’s Nobuya Haraguchi, together with Bruno Martorano and Marco Sanfilippo, wrote “What factors drive successful industrialization? Evidence and implications for developing countries” which was published in Structural Change and Economic Dynamics Vol. 49. Their research finds that successful industrialization is driven by a combination of factors, including a country’s initial economic conditions, factor endowments and other characteristics, such as demography and geography.

Certain variables that policymakers can control also play a crucial role, namely the promotion of public and private investments and education; the management of trade and capital openness; financial sector development and support for macroeconomic and institutional stability.

The December 2019 workshop for UNIDO representatives for sub-Saharan Africa, which was organized by the Department of Programmes, Partnerships and Field Integration, took place in Nairobi, Kenya. The objective was to update participants on UNIDO’s priorities and the UNDS reform and to strengthen the capacity of field offices in industrial country diagnostic and industrial policy formulation, as well as to enhance mutual understanding for better integration and collaboration.

The steps of a streamlined diagnostic methodology were presented, with an emphasis on collaboration between different offices for the production of a quality diagnostic document. Also highlighted were the key roles played by URs and UCRs in the streamlined diagnostic as analysts, intelligence providers and facilitators of information flows, particularly in the steps that involve the production of a country and industry profile and implementation of questionnaire surveys.
GROWTH IN WORLD MANUFACTURING CONTINUES TO SLOW AMID RISING TENSIONS OVER TRADE

UNIDO’s World Manufacturing Report for the third quarter of 2019 shows that the growth rate of world manufacturing output further declined from 1.5 per cent in the previous quarter to 1.2 per cent in the third quarter of 2019. Industrialized economies, which produce more than half of the world’s industrial output, registered a further decrease in manufacturing production.

China’s quarterly growth rate dropped below the landmark figure of 6.0 per cent for the second time in a row. The manufacturing output of developing and emerging industrial economies (excluding China) increased at a marginal rate of 0.2 per cent in the third quarter.

Several emerging industrial economies witnessed sluggish growth, e.g. India’s manufacturing output dropped by 0.6 per cent, the country’s lowest growth performance observed by UNIDO so far.

The year-on-year growth rates for industries grouped by technological intensity showed an ongoing deceleration over the last quarters. The growth rate of medium high- and high-technology industries dropped significantly from more than 5.5 per cent in the first quarter of 2018 to 1.3 per cent in the third quarter of 2019.

VNR WORKSHOP

UNIDO’s Statistic Division hosted an international workshop on data and statistics for evidence-based Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) as a joint initiative with the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) in December 2019.

The Voluntary National Review is a mechanism for the regular reviews of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) prepared by Member States and presented to annual High-Level Political Forum. It facilitates sharing of experiences in monitoring the implementation and achievements towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The workshop brought together more than 40 participants representing national statistical offices and policymaking bodies of different Member States as well as representatives from UN agencies and international non-governmental organizations. Participants presented the national SDG monitoring mechanisms and processes and discussed the measurement gaps that impede monitoring of national policies.
Disclaimer

© UNIDO January 2020. All rights reserved.

This document has been produced without formal United Nations editing. The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries, or its economic system or degree of development. Designations such as “developed”, “industrialized” or “developing” are intended for statistical convenience and do not necessarily express a judgement about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process. Mention of firm names or commercial products does not constitute an endorsement by UNIDO.

Editor: Charles Arthur, EPR/ETR/AMR
Designer: Daniel Vagnoli, EPR/ETR/AMR
All photos/visuals © UNIDO, Pexels, Envato Elements, Freepik.

We dedicate our bulletin to the broader readership, and we welcome any feedback that could help us improve the future editions.

Got any questions or suggestions? Let’s talk: prsnewsletter@unido.org