



From the Director

Welcome to our newsletter!

I am pleased to share with you the first issue of PPF's newsletter, keeping you informed about the key areas of our work amid the unfolding global health and economic crisis: COVID-19. In many ways, the pandemic crisis has impacted the development industry including UNIDO.

PPF has witnessed the immediate impact on our programmatic activities and field operations including the country level working conditions at this time of pandemic crisis. Given the current situation we anticipate new requests, as well as adjustments in our programmatic services at the field level.

PPF stands ready to contribute in crafting UNIDO's vision to support industry and in the operationalization of a strategy to respond to the requests of Member States in cooperation with our development partners including other UN entities.

For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best regards,

Ciyong Zou

RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS: SELECTED PIPELINE INITIATIVES

FOOD SECTOR TO GET A BOOST IN ARAB REGION WITH UNIDO- ITFC ASSISTANCE

Potential to boost the growth of food sector in the Arab region is under UNIDO's pipeline in collaboration with International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC). Responding to the requests of various governments on ways to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the food sector in the region, UNIDO is exploring avenues for cooperation with ITFC, an autonomous entity within the Islamic Development Bank Group. ITFC aims to advance trade to improve the economic condition and livelihood of people across the Islamic world. Based on the initial discussions between ITFC and UNIDO, potential areas of collaboration would be on food security, safety and processing. PPF through Arab Regional Division and PCD are coordinating with AGR/FSN on this potential initiative.

SUPPORTING IRAN ON MITIGATION MEASURES

Procuring treatment equipment as well as ensuring safe disposal of medical waste are among the immediate mitigation measures proposed by UNIDO to deaccelerate the spread of COVID19 in Iran. Responding to an appeal by the Iranian Ambassador to UNIDO, H.E. Mr. Kazem Gharib Abadi on 4 March, UNIDO Headquarters, in assistance with its Beijing office, swiftly responded with a project proposal to assist Iran in fighting the pandemic, based on a similar initiative implemented in Hubei province. The proposal seeks procuring treatment equipment and training medical waste workers in safe and environmentally sound waste management methods. The concept note was presented to the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) for funding from China's South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund. The Ministry of Health and Medical Education of Iran will be the main executing agency.

PROMOTING TERROIR FOOD PRODUCTS IN GEORGIA

Food products especially the terroir food, or local products with distinct characteristics of the region, could help, protect and improve women's livelihoods, particularly of those affected by COVID-19 crisis. A comprehensive mapping exercise of typical food/terroir products was undertaken recently by UNIDO in Georgia. The project with funding support from the Czech Government identified numerous products like cheeses made by local artisans, dried fruits, beverages, among others. In view of the high potential for scaling up local production, UNIDO developed recommendations for a technical assistance project on enhancing value of the terroir products. PPF is supporting and facilitating this initiative, including resource mobilization through Europe and Central Asia Division working closely with TII/BCI that leads the technical implementation of the project.

SUPPORTING KENYA ON LOCAL PRODUCTION OF PPE

UNIDO is leading an initiative to support the local production of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including fabrication of equipment (for establishment of field hospitals if needed) and respirators/ventilators. At the request of United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and the Ministry of Industry, noting the global shortage of PPE, the initiative is a public health and economic response to COVID-19 crisis in Kenya. UNIDO is partnering with the Ministry of Industry and Enterprise Development, Kenya Bureau of Standards, Kenya association of manufacturers, UNDP and WHO. Potential donors who have expressed support in the initiative are the European Union and USAID.

REDUCING CONTAMINATION RISK IN LEBANON

Reducing contamination risks related to COVID-19 to the industrial sector by promoting safe operations in industries, factories and businesses in the country is the new initiative developed by UNIDO's Lebanon Country Office. The intervention aims to develop Standard Operating Procedures for various stages of operations (handling of raw material, processing and distribution) along with producing communication material including videos, brochures and posters, for wide dissemination to maximize their outreach. Developed in partnership with the Ministry of Industry in close coordination with WHO and the Ministry of Health, the initiative will help industries to continue/resume working in a safe environment.

MITIGATING, ASSESSING IMPACTS IN MADAGASCAR

Supporting the local production of facial masks in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry, WHO, local textile enterprises among others is one of the initiatives that UNIDO Field Office in Madagascar is working on.



In addition, as part of the UN wide response in the country, UNIDO is partnering with ILO to carry out a rapid survey to assess the impact of COVID-19 in the labor sector, particularly in the private and manufacturing sector. A joint proposal will be developed with the view to access UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (COVID-19 MPTF) to support SMEs in mitigating the socio-economic impact of the pandemic crisis in the country.

ASSESSING IMPACT ON THAILAND'S INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

UNIDO supports Thailand in assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the country's industrial sector and on the progress towards achieving SDG 9. The industrial sector assessment initiative is a part of the UN Country Team (UNCT)-wide socio-economic assessment of COVID-19 in the country, consists of a detailed survey focusing on the most affected areas, including SMEs, regional disparity of the industrial sector and effectiveness of the stimulus

package. UNIDO will collaborate with the Federation of Thai Industries for dissemination of the questionnaire. In addition, UNIDO will capitalize on its access to Thai SMEs through its ongoing projects. UNIDO Regional Office Hub in Thailand is working with HQs, relevant TC departments as well as with Research & Industrial Policy Advice Division on this initiative.



PARTNERING WITH INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION IN MOZAMBIQUE

Within the context of CP Mozambique, UNIDO is collaborating with the Industrial Association of Mozambique (AIMO) to advocate for extraordinary measures to support the manufacturing sector amid the economic impacts of COVID-19 crisis. Country Office in Mozambique has worked with the association in developing its strategic vision, prior to the pandemic crisis. In light of the current situation, UNIDO supported AIMO in identifying mitigation measures that are structural to the preparation of Country Response Plan which is currently being finalized. Through its advisory services, UNIDO will continue its collaboration with the association including the possibility to develop concrete technical project to support the manufacturing sector.



LEADING AGRO-INDUSTRIAL VALUE CHAINS PROPOSAL IN PHILIPPINES

The UNCT in the Philippines, led by the UN Resident Coordinator, endorsed the Joint SDG proposal on “Support to improving public and private sector investments for climate and nature-based solutions in priority agro-industrial value chains toward the integrated achievement of the SDGs in the Philippines”. UNIDO will lead this USD 7 Million joint programme, which has been endorsed by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Philippine Central Bank, in collaboration with FAO and UN Women. Priority will be given to vulnerable value-chain players and local government units that were severely-affected by recent emergencies and shocks, (e.g. COVID-19 and bird flu/African swine fever), having the urgent need to build back better, and challenged with reduced capability to access financing.

SUPPORTING INDUSTRIAL REACTIVATION THROUGH REGIONAL COOPERATION IN LAC

UNIDO has initiated a project to empower countries in the LAC region to accelerate the implementation of SDG 9 through South-South and triangular cooperation, networking and partnerships. The project aims inter alia at strengthening high-level dialogue for monitoring and promotion of SDG 9 through regional networking and establishing an online platform for innovative business-related partnerships and leverage resources to support SDGs implementation in selected sectors. This project will consider key priority areas for boosting the economies of LAC countries after the pandemic crisis. Another regional project submitted to EB is the fresh water aquaculture with focus on employment generation designed as part of UNIDO's response to the crisis in the LAC region.

ACTIONS/MEASURES BY PPF

Taking into consideration the overall guidance provided by the organization as well as the importance of health and safety of all PPF staff and consultants the department is adjusting the way to work and implement activities during the current global pandemic crisis.

The following actions, measures have been undertaken since the middle of March 2020:

1. Monitoring and reporting: field network

- Daily monitoring of UNIDO field network on the pandemic and containment measures by public authorities and the UNCT
- PPF through OID coordinates the collection and analysis of information about the status and developments related to COVID-19 at the country level
- OID jointly with HRM and FIN continue to provide timely advice to field offices on the implementation of the decisions of UNIDO's management and UN Designated official at the country level
- Particular emphasis is placed on the importance of gaining an overview of the requests for technical support from Member States to cope with COVID-19 and the Country Preparedness and Response Plans
- Weekly teleconferences of the Regional Divisions with FOs; close follow ups and reporting would trigger action by TC departments

2. UNIDO Business Contingency Planning to support TC operations

- PPF is coordinating closely and ensuring updated UNIDO business contingency plan in each of the field offices in accordance with the local UN guidelines, measures

ADVANCING STRATEGIC APPROACHES

SUPPORT TO POST-CONFLICT COUNTRIES

Identifying the key stages such as early recovery, reconstruction and transition to development for involvement as well as providing specific focus for the technical assistance interventions in priority areas, is UNIDO's renewed approach in post-conflict countries. The approach includes a sub-section on UNIDO's response to COVID-19 pandemic in post-conflict situations. PPF through its Arab Regional Division is leading the formulation in close cooperation with relevant departments.

through its Regional Division - Asia and the Pacific is leading the operationalization of UNIDO's SIDS strategy in cooperation with relevant departments.

MAPPING OF IFI's RESPONSE PROGRAMMES

Many of UNIDO's International Financial Institution (IFI) partners have released large financial support packages for developing Governments to help them overcome the negative impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The latest version is available on the UNIDO Intranet by accessing the following link: https://intranet.unido.org/intra/FI_Partnerships_Knowledge_Base.

BUSINESS SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS: FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

A number of business sector partnerships are in the making, culminating into 45 business sector related advice request (eight legal entity and pre-checks, six full due diligence screening reports, 31 partnership set-up modality support) since the beginning of the year. In addition, UNIDO is taking part in UN Global Compact to join the Action Platform "Sustainable Infrastructure for the Belt and Road Initiative to accelerate the SDGs" and actively participating in the regular UN Private Sector Emergency Focal Points calls, which has produced a harmonized approach on due diligence screening during the COVID-19 crisis as well as advice on business sector response in the form of a Business Guide. UN Private Sector Emergency Focal Points can be accessed at: (https://www.connectingbusiness.org/system/files/2020-04/COVID19-BusinessGuide_8April20_0.pdf).



SIDS STRATEGY (2019-2025)

UNIDO aims to streamline its support to SIDS member states and to implement the commitments made under the SAMOA Pathway. Following the adoption of the SIDS Strategy at UNIDO's 18th GC, the SIDS task force has kick started to operationalize the strategy, with the aim of scaling up and integrating UNIDO interventions in SIDS, among others. China's IDF has recently financed an innovative South-South Cooperation project aiming to promote sustainable social, economic and environmental development in Fiji and the wider region of the Pacific Islands and Territories (PICTs) through increased use of solar PV technology solutions. PPF

In order to provide UNIDO's technical departments, Regional Divisions and FOs with a comprehensive overview of the different IFI-financed initiatives, PPF though PCD has completed a holistic Mapping of IFI's Response Programmes to COVID-19. The Mapping can help identify programmatic overlaps between the COVID-19 specific service packages being offered by UNIDO and the concrete assistance needs of UNIDO's Member States within the context of IFI-financed operations. The Mapping will be updated continuously, as the situation further evolves.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GEF ON SOLID COURSE DESPITE COVID-19 CRISIS

UNIDO has submitted 14 concepts (PIFs) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat for the benefit of 15 countries and additionally one global project for consideration under the next GEF-7 Work Programme. The total grant amount of these concepts adds up to more than USD 63 million. At the GEF Council Meeting, which will be held virtually at the beginning of June, the final list of concepts that can be taken forward will be approved and subsequently developed into full-fledged projects and contributing to UNIDO's active portfolio as net approvals in 2021/2022.

UNSDCF: UNIDO TOWARDS ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

The Organization has just finished the review and analysis of the latest draft of the consolidated companion package to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). PPF through OID led the preparation and submission of UNIDO's inputs with particular attention to the new Common Country Assessment (CCA) and the relevance of the economic dimension of development, the new configuration of UNCTs, and the cooperation framework design, signature, funding and implementation aspects. UNIDO's contribution placed emphasis, once more, on the relevance of economic transformation as an engine to underpin and achieve the SDGs.

INTENSIFYING ENGAGEMENT IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Reinvigorating a business model of strategic engagement with emerging donors: Building capacities of national counterpart institutions and raising awareness about the benefits of cooperation with UNIDO is a new project initiated by PPF through its Europe and Central Asia Division. It aims to intensify and streamline UNIDO's engagement with the target group of emerging donor countries in the European region. Part of the key activities of the project are baseline analysis of emerging donors' profiles, mapping stakeholders engaged in industrial development, overview of national strategies and instruments related to industrial development, analysis of official development assistance policies, priorities and trends among others.

UNIDO INTRODUCES BUSINESS PLAN FOR EFFICIENT FIELD OPERATIONS IN LAC

In 2019, the FOs in the LAC region developed business plans to assist them in identifying cooperation opportunities with local governments, donors, private sector etc., and play a more active role in TC in close collaboration with technical departments. The approach follows the DG vision for FOs taking more prominent role in TC. In the context of the current COVID-19 crisis, FOs are called to increase their role in TC to ensure business continuity of UNIDO's work. The pilot introduction of business plans in the LAC region is certainly a step in this direction and will contribute to a more efficient and localized services to Member States.

ENHANCING PROGRAMMATIC APPROACHES

UNIDO continues to support the roll-out of the Programmes for Country Partnership (PCPs) following contingency plans developed in consultation with the government, in line with the respective national preparedness and response plans for COVID-19 and emerging priorities. PCP Teams are working to identify and respond to specific needs for UNIDO advisory and technical support to help governments mitigate the impacts of this emergency, in coordination with development partners in the country.

PCP CAMBODIA: GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF) TO SUPPORT SEZ DEVELOPMENT

The GCF Readiness Framework Agreement signed between UNIDO and GCF enables UNIDO to act as a delivery partner for the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme. Under the framework of PCP Cambodia, this GCF proposal was developed by UNIDO in close consultation with national stakeholders and approved

by the Executive Board in March 2020. More information on the proposal can be accessed at: https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/readiness-proposals-cambodia-unido-ctcn-strategic-frameworks_1.pdf.

PCP EGYPT FAST-TRACKS PROGRAMMING WITH STRONG SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT

The programming phase of the PCP Egypt was recently finalized with the strong political support of the Government of Egypt. Arrangements are being made for the signing of the PCP programme document by the Director General and the Prime Minister of Egypt, Mustapha Medbouli. A high-level PCP launching event will be organized in Cairo once the situation allows.

Two new projects are being launched as the PCP Egypt gears up for implementation: (i) A project on the inclusive and sustainable development of the tomato value chain with a budget of USD 2.2 million, funded by Italy and

Slovenia; and (ii) A project supporting inclusive green growth with a budget of USD 4.4 million, funded by Switzerland. The first project is part of the "value chain" component of PCP, while the second is part of the "green industry" component.

PCP ETHIOPIA AT THE HEART OF MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS IN TIME OF CRISIS

The UNIDO Regional Office Hub in Ethiopia is working with UNDP, FAO, IFAD and ILO in the preparation of the





socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19 in Ethiopia. PCP Ethiopia is expected to play a pivotal role in three joint programmes being developed, particularly addressing the post-crisis phase. The programmes will support economic revitalization and job creation through close interaction between agriculture and manufacturing, as well as the formal and informal sectors, through: (i) Assistance to MSMEs; (ii) Job creation in urban areas, including industrial parks; and (iii) Assistance to farmers and rural enterprises in value chain recovery and food security.

The ROH in Ethiopia was approached by a German company wishing to set-up the production of ventilators and other small medical equipment in Ethiopia, also for further distribution in the East Africa region. The project involves various partners, including universities and private sector foundations. UNIDO will deploy its “convening function” and support project coordination, together with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and WHO, among others.

PCP ZAMBIA: PROGRAMMING PHASE UNDERWAY

The country diagnostic exercise was launched recently with the objective to validate the tentative priority

areas of PCP Zambia: (i) Improving the policy environment; (ii) Industrial skills development; and (iii) Promoting value addition in light manufacturing. UNIDO’s key counterpart, the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, called for support and participation of all stakeholders in the process of PCP programming. UNIDO’s newly established PCP Programming Team is also conducting a partner mapping in Zambia.

STREAMLINING UNIDO’s CP APPROACH

PPF, through OID and its coordinating function related to the CPs, conducted an assessment of the CP portfolio and presented the results at the occasion of a CP Coordination Meeting held in March. CP achievements, challenges and proposed solutions, as well as overall portfolio priorities for 2020 were also discussed at the meeting, which gathered Regional Division Chiefs and CP managers from both HQ and the field. Moving forward, PPF priorities include enhanced monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the CP portfolio, the need to further optimize human and financial resources by developing a streamlined CP approach, and ensuring strong alignment between the CPs and the UNSDCFs.

CP ARMENIA PROGRAMMING LAUNCHED

UNIDO in close cooperation with the Government of Armenia kickstarted the CP programming work in March. The design of the CP will be inevitably shaped by the aftermath of the current COVID-19 crisis. The CP should be able to accommodate short-term, as well as long-term government needs and reflect evolving donors’ priorities. PPF is coordinating the country diagnostic activities with Research & Industrial Policy Advice Division.

PAVING THE WAY FOR NEW CP IN CUBA

Promoting industrial parks, enhancing the use of renewable energy, promoting pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries are a few of the focus areas of the new CP for Cuba 2021-2024, currently being developed by UNIDO. The Cuban government acknowledged UNIDO’s role and contribution in advancing ISID under the previous CP (2016-2020) aligned with the country’s development goals. With the strong support of the Government, UNIDO endeavors to mobilize funding support for the new CP which builds on the success of the previous CP.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Event: BRIDGE FOR CITIES 2020, Vienna, 17-18 September 2020

Organized by UNIDO in cooperation with the City of Vienna and the Finance Center for South-South Cooperation, Bridge for Cities 2020 will focus on accelerating the decade of action for the achievement of SDGs announced by the UN Secretary-General. The event will be hosted at the Palais Niederösterreich in Vienna.



Event: AFRICA INDUSTRIALIZATION SUMMIT, 16-20 November 2020

The first ever Summit on Africa's Industrialization, will be held during the Africa Industrialization Week from 16-20 November 2020. This was agreed upon at the 33rd Ordinary Session of the African Union Heads of States Summit (HoS/G) held in February 2020. The Summit will be organized by the AUC, UNIDO, UNECA, the AfroChampions Initiative and the Government of Niger. The summit will provide a platform to discuss concrete actions to boost Africa's industrial development in the 21st Century, and therefore contribute to the UN's Decade of Action aspirations to accelerate sustainable solutions to the world's biggest challenges.



NEW PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

- **Issue Paper - Rethinking City-to-City Partnerships under the 4th Industrial Revolution**

In 2019, UNIDO and EUROCITIES jointly developed an Issue Paper titled 'Rethinking City-to-City Partnerships under the 4th Industrial Revolution', which investigates how bilateral and multilateral partnerships among cities could have a positive impact on cities' efforts to achieve their development goals, as well as those set in the 2030 Agenda. The issue paper can be accessed at: https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2019-09/Bridge4Cities%20Issue%20Paper_Final.pdf

- **UNIDO's PCP portfolio brochure** can be accessed at: <https://www.unido.org/programme-country-partnership>

- **UNIDO IFI guidelines** explains the rationale of partnering with Financial Institutions (FIs): Highlight different ways of partnering with FIs, define the essential steps, roles and responsibilities of UNIDO staff in setting-up partnerships with FIs and provide UNIDO staff with learning and promotional materials for your interaction with FIs. This can be accessed at: https://intranet.unido.org/intranet/images/c/c3/IFI_Guidelines_2019_Nov_final-p.pdf

- **International guidelines for Industrial Parks, 2019**

Publication coordinated by PPF with relevant departments can be accessed at: https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2019-11/International_Guidelines_for_Industrial_Parks.pdf

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