The Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) is UNIDO’s innovative multi-stakeholder partnership model for accelerating inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID). Led by the host government, the PCP builds synergies with ongoing government and partner interventions relevant to industrial development, and facilitates the mobilization of partners and resources to achieve larger development impact.

The model has gained international recognition and hailed as a concrete model for achieving Sustainable Development Goals, in particular 9 and 17. Following Ethiopia, Senegal, Peru, and Kyrgyz Republic, Cambodia is the first country in Southeast Asia adopting the PCP model. Tailored to the national development agenda, the Industrial Development Policy (IDP 2015-2025), the PCP Cambodia has two core components: Agro Value Chain Development, and Industrial Diversification, Innovation and Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Development. The core components are supported by five cross-cutting components: Industrial Policy and Statistics, Quality Infrastructure, Sustainable Energy, Circular Economy, Women Empowerment & Youth Employment.

The aim of quality infrastructure (QI) interventions is to strengthen technical capacity of QI institutions and service providers to provide qualified services to meet the needs of all stakeholders along specific value chains. In addition, its interventions will enhance the capacity of private sector players to comply with foreign technical regulations and standards and to improve access to international markets.

UNIDO can support Cambodia in developing an effective, efficient and internationally recognized National Quality Infrastructure System (NQIS) guided by a National Quality Policy to support regulatory activities (e.g. market surveillance) and provide trustable QI services to private sector and consumers. Moreover, UNIDO has the expertise to support the compliance capacity of private sector players in prioritized value chains, by improving their awareness of standards, technical regulations and other market requirements at domestic and foreign markets and upgrading their capacity of quality management and compliance, thus increasing their competitiveness and improving their access to global markets.

Of particular importance for Cambodia’s further regional economic integration are trade facilitation measures, including the use of common regulatory approaches or harmonized standards and mutual recognition of conformity assessment results. An internationally recognized NQIS could reduce trade costs and support the implementation of the WTO agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and Trade Facilitation (TFA), as well as those respective agreements at regional level.

UNIDO interventions will focus on:

- Supporting Cambodia in developing its NQIS by bridging gaps in standardization, metrology, accreditation and conformity assessment, and developing quality policy for NQI good governance and value chain development;
- Assisting stakeholders of prioritized value chains in their quality assurance, competitiveness, and export expansion to traditional and emerging markets;
- Building capacities for government bodies and public institutions responsible for QI and trade facilitation by applying innovative tools and using of digital technologies, so to improve its ability to implement the multilateral and regional trade agreements and reduce trade costs.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Partnership opportunities exist for multi- and bilateral donors, financial institutions, local and international business entities, industry associations and the civil society. For more information please contact: partnerships@unido.org or visit the UNIDO PCP website.