



From the Managing Director

Welcome to the 3rd edition of our newsletter!

I am pleased to share with you the third issue of PFC (formerly PPF) newsletter keeping you informed about the directorate's key areas of work in cooperation with relevant departments.

In line with UNIDO's commitment to the UNDS reform and with a view to further enhance participation in joint programmes with other UN entities, this edition features a brief update on the status of the organization's submission to the first call of the UN Joint SDG fund as well as on UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund. The regions in focus include initiatives on forging strategic partnerships, showcasing Field Offices' leading role and substantive contribution for regional cooperation and within the UN Country Team context.

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

With best regards,

Ciyong Zou

ADVANCING STRATEGIC APPROACHES

UNIDO RESPONSE TO COVID-19: OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY ON THE GROUND

PFC circulated the UNIDO COVID-19 response framework: "Responding to the Crisis – Building a better future" to broader audience through the Field Network in May this year. The framework highlights partnerships to accelerate the global response, integrated service packages tailored to each Member State's particular situation and needs aimed at supporting countries with comprehensive socio-economic recovery approaches. PFC through its Regional Coordination Divisions made efforts to translate the English version of the position paper to all other UN official languages namely Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish for wider circulation. An encouraging feedback was received from the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) through FO Ethiopia acknowledging the relevance of UNIDO framework in support to the country's response to COVID-19. In addition, key counterpart in South Africa, the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition expressed gratitude to UNIDO for the initiatives developed



under COVID-19 response, in line with the UN Flash appeal launched in April this year. UNIDO COVID-19 response paper can be accessed at https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2020-05/UNIDO_COVID19_External_Position_Paper.pdf

REGIONAL APPROACH AMID COVID-19

PFC through its Department of Regional and Field Coordination (PFC/RFC) has developed regional approach for Arab, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia and the Latin America and the Caribbean. In Africa, UNIDO frames its programmatic interventions in the region

in the context of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA III) which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2016. Under the regional approach, FOs in a given region feed information to the regional coordination division on local priorities, programmatic & operational challenges. The regional coordination division integrates it into a coherent regional approach, in line with the management priorities and directions. The approach developed in aforementioned four regions is currently being updated, incorporating overview of pandemic crisis in the region from an industrial point of view, elaborating focus areas based on the demands, situation of countries and targeted interventions in line with UNIDO response to COVID-19 position paper as published in April 2020: "Responding to the Crisis – Building a better future".

UNDS REFORM: VIRTUAL BRIEFING HELD WITH A NEW UNRC

On 10 June, Mr. Zou, Managing Director of PFC held a virtual meeting with Mr. Sen Pang, the newly appointed UNRC in Namibia. As part of a multi-step process of RC induction and orientation, the meeting provided an opportunity for Mr. Pang to enhance his understanding about UNIDO to support his role as the RC to better leverage its expertise and experience towards achieving SDGs in Namibia. Mr. Zou provided a global, regional and national perspective of the organization. In addition, UNIDO presented focus of work and foreseen priority areas of interventions in Namibia as well as shared its expectations of the RC, emphasizing the space for the promotion of ISID and SDG9, in particular IDDA III underscoring the support from UNIDO to the RC to meet these expectations. Mr. Pang expressed full appreciation for the briefing and commended UNIDO for the successful implementation of the Bush value chain project, which UNFPA will commit US\$ 15 million for the replication of the project in other regions of the country.

Expressing his readiness to promote and find opportunities to utilize UNIDO services, Mr. Pang noted "it's time for UNIDO to expand its presence in the country". Moving forward, UNIDO will systematize briefings to UNRCs to raise awareness on its mandate, expertise and comparative advantage as a specialized agency as part of its engagement towards the UNDS reform at the country level.

PARTNERSHIPS AT THE FOREFRONT OF UNIDO'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19



In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNIDO seeks to help countries prepare and contain, respond and adapt, and recover and transform. Partnerships are at the core of this response at the global, regional and country levels. UNIDO is closely monitoring the COVID-19 response programs of its IFI partners. While the majority of the IFI-financed operations still address the needs of national health sectors, more recent waves of IFI-financed initiatives are looking to support Governments in rehabilitating their productive and manufacturing sectors. The latter being closely linked to UNIDO's mandate, UNIDO is relying on its headquarter and FO networks to explore project-level cooperation opportunities with both the IFIs and its national partners.

As part of the UN family, UNIDO is engaged in inter-agency responses to calls of the UN's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund, and submitted proposals to the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund in the financing call of April 2020 (see following related articles).

FIRST CALL OF THE UN JOINT SDG FUND: SDG FINANCING

The first call on UN Joint SDG Financing, under Component 2: Catalyze strategic investments for SDGs places UNIDO as one of the participating UN entities with the highest number of concept notes submitted. UNIDO's participation in the call was notably high with the Organization ranking fourth in terms of both submissions with 41 proposals (27% of total submissions), 11 of which UNIDO is the lead agency (7% of the total). UNIDO's submissions covered all regions (AFR 13, ARB 5, ASP 8, EUR 5 and LAC 10) and ISID thematic areas (shared prosperity 20, environmental safeguarding 12, and economic competitiveness 9). The submissions including UNIDO focused on a wide range of topics including facilitating investment, innovative financing schemes through PPPs, agri-business and rural development, capacity building for SMEs/MSMEs, green industry/clean technologies, and women's economic empowerment and youth. The results of the Joint SDG Fund call are expected in July 2020.



JOINT PROGRAMMES APPROVED UNDER UN COVID-19 MPTF

Under the UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund, UNIDO joins hands with UNICEF and WHO on reinforcing surveillance and case management/infection prevention control in support to **Madagascar's** National Response plan against COVID 19 by December 2020. **Morocco** collaborates with UNFPA and WHO for a joint programme on ensuring the continuity of essential primary healthcare and hospital services for the most vulnerable and developing prevention



and hygiene measures for essential non-health sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Further, UNIDO is a co-implementing agency along with UNDP and other Sister Institutions in **Armenia** in supporting the Government's efforts to prevent further spread of COVID-19 and enhance local SMEs' resilience in a post-epidemic context. This is being achieved by building local capacities of the textile, garment and shoe-producing SMEs for producing medical gear and other PPEs, as well as related supplies that comply with the highest international standards and the technical requirements set by the Ministry of Health and the Commandant's Office of the Armenian Government.

NEW GEF CEO ANNOUNCED AT 58TH GEF COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, Costa Rican Environment and Energy Minister is the new CEO and Chairperson to lead the GEF for a four-year term. His selection was announced at the GEF's 58th Council virtual meeting from 2 to 3 June 2020. He will be the first Latin American national to lead the GEF when he takes office in August. A Work Programme (WP) amounting to US\$645.4 million in 63 projects and five programmes was approved in various focal areas of the GEF. This included US\$45 million for concepts submitted by UNIDO thereby supporting 15 recipient countries with

their transformational shift towards more sustainable development pathways. The approved concepts will be developed into fully-fledged projects and contributing to UNIDO's active project portfolio as net approvals in 2021/22.

UNIDO PARTICIPATES IN THE LARGEST GATHERING OF CEOs, HEADS OF STATE, AND UN LEADERS

The virtual United Nations Global Compact Leaders Summit gathered over 20,000 participants from across the globe during a 26 hours of the chase-the-sun event. It was organized under the umbrella of recovering better, stronger and together from the three unprecedented interconnected crisis: inequality, health and climate change. During UNIDO's high-level session "Innovative recovery from COVID-19: the power of public-private collaboration", DG LI Yong, together with Elisabeth Moreno, Vice President and Managing Director of Hewlett-Packard (HP) Africa and Hayfa Khalfaoui, UNIDO beneficiary and founder of Lait Espoir (Mashrou3i project) emphasized the need to focus on the many opportunities brought about by the COVID-19 crisis rather than obstacles, in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. During UNIDO's live sessions, UNIDO Representative for Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, UNIDO Country

Representative for Cambodia and UNIDO's Investment and Technology Promotion Offices (ITPOs) in Beijing and Shanghai invited the business sector to further engage with UNIDO on Industry 4.0, PCPs and advancing digitalization.

BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS: DUE DILIGENCE SCREENINGS APPROVED TO DATE

Since the beginning of 2020, UNIDO senior management has approved 15 due diligence screenings undertaken by PFC/PPC/PCD supporting the expansion of UNIDO's business partnership portfolio. The partners represent a wide range of entities from national SMEs to multi-national companies. Citing two examples of approved due diligence screenings are related to Smart Sustainable Cities, 4IR and support to SMEs development. The partnership with Alpin Limited, a technical consulting firm specialized in commissioning, green building consultancy and building information modelling, focuses at the onset on Standards Development with a future collaboration potential on Smart Sustainable Cities and Industry 4.0. DTA/DTI is the lead and initiated the partnership. Another prospective partnership is Bridge for Billions, initiated by DTA/AGR where UNIDO will partner with the entity in designing a cutting-edge digital platform to incubate and accelerate business opportunities for early-stage entrepreneurs and SMEs.

REGIONS IN FOCUS: SELECTED PIPELINE AND ONGOING INITIATIVES

AFRICA

IDDA III: COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW INITIATIVE LAUNCHED

In line with the request made by Member States both at the 46th session of the Industrial Development Board and the 18th session of the General Conference, the mapping exercise was launched in May 2020. Apart from providing stakeholders with information on current initiatives being implemented in favor of Africa's industrialization, the overview will assist in determining existing gaps in ongoing initiatives, identifying additional efforts to be undertaken and will serve as an avenue for the promotion of necessary linkages for joint interventions where possible for increased development impact within the IDDA III Framework. The overview is expected to ultimately contribute to the establishment of a comprehensive database and associated information system for use by various stakeholders. The first edition of the comprehensive overview will be unveiled during the Summit on Africa's Industrialization and Economic Diversification.

PAN-AFRICAN RESPONSE TO SUPPORT MSMEs: A CONTINENTAL PLATFORM IN THE MAKING

UNIDO, in close collaboration with the African Union (AU) through the African Union's Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), Ecobank Group and other technical and financial partners will provide support to the African MSMEs. The shared objective is to quickly and efficiently provide the additional financial and non-financial support that African MSMEs desperately needs to get through the crisis as well as to accelerate the formalization and growth of African MSMEs. UNIDO is proactively participating in a series of workshop towards the design of the continental framework. The continental framework will focus on three interventions: (i) providing direct finance to MSMEs with risk transformation and



price subsidies, (ii) supporting MSMEs with access to new markets and (iii) empowering MSMEs with access to critical capabilities along the proposed solutions comprising supply chain financing, non-cash financial support, multipurpose technology platform and distribution channels.



NEW CP SIGNED IN GUINEA

Approved by the EB in December 2019, the Government of Guinea through H.E. Mr. Tibou Kamara, Minister of Industry and SMEs signed the new Country Programme (CP) with the presence of the UNIDO Country Representative in May. The CP has been expanded from 2020 to 2023 with a forecasted budget of about USD 22M, out of which about USD 8M has already been mobilized. This progress marks the mutual commitment between UNIDO and the Government of Guinea, emphasizing the strategic dimension of ISID in the ongoing preparation of

Guinea's COVID-19 socio-economic response and recovery strategy. UNIDO's current technical cooperation portfolio and approved joint proposal with UNDP under COVID-19 UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) support the implementation of the newly signed CP.

LEADING UN COVID-19 RESPONSE IN SENEGAL

UNIDO Chairs the United Nations Programme Committee in Senegal. FO Senegal led the preparation of the UN COVID-19 Response plan and its alignment with the Economic and Social Resilience Programme launched by the Government. UNIDO presented the USD 200 million plan following the validation made by the Heads of UN Agencies in Senegal, to H.E. Mr. Amadou Hott, Minister of Economy, Planning and Cooperation who in turn praised the UN contribution to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The coordination efforts led by UNIDO also combined a response to the UN Secretary General's request to conduct a review of criticality of the UN Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023 to ensure the continuity of its implementation in the context of COVID-19.

ARAB

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND WOMEN IN JORDAN



A new project in Jordan supporting job creation for youth and women through enhancing the business environment and SMEs competitiveness was launched early this year. UNIDO cooperates with the Ministry of Industry Trade and Supplies (MITS) and the Jordan Chamber of Industry for the implementation of the project. Funded by Italy, the initiative has two-fold objectives: (i) increased efficiency of the MITS on industrial policy formulation, monitoring and implementation and (ii) targeted for private sector, the availability of industrial and market intelligence analysis will facilitate, the identification of opportunities to generate new innovative products and services, that can lead to new businesses and identification of market opportunities. FO in Jordan proactively supports the initiative in close cooperation with DTA/AGR/RJH that leads the technical implementation of the project.

ASSESSING PALESTINE'S ECONOMIC IMPACT TOWARDS A RESPONSE STRATEGY

Building on the established cooperation with the Government of Palestine through its Ministry of National Economy (MNE), UNIDO provided support in developing an "Economic Response Strategy", presenting evidence-based data and estimates of losses resulting from the imposed restrictions to cope with COVID-19. The estimated losses are related to production, employment and financial liquidity in the market, impacting industry, trade and investment in the State of Palestine. Joining hands with MNE, UNIDO contributed to drafting a set of interventions from short to medium terms, with focus on supporting industries capable to provide essentials supply, such as food, PPE, and medicine. PPF through Arab Regional Division, Technical Office in Palestine are working closely with EAE/ENE/ESI, DTA/AGR/AIS on this initiative.



GEARING UP SUPPORT FOR TUNISIA'S CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



The "Creative Tunisia" project funded by the EU with a financial contribution from the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation supports the National Office of Handicrafts to raise sector competitiveness and design across the country. The project aims to support seven Tunisian selected clusters and to provide technical assistance to enhance networking and clustering, among others. During the current pandemic crisis, the project supported the creation of a Centre equipped with 3D printers to produce protective masks supporting Tunisian hospitals in need of PPE, as part of the emergency response. Webinars for young entrepreneurs and handicraft enterprises were also organized in May to focus on the impact of the current pandemic crisis on the handicraft sector, define stimulus strategies and reforms needed to make the handicraft sector sustainable. FO Tunisia works closely with DTA/AGR/AIS on this initiative.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



BUILDING BACK BUSINESS FROM CRISIS (B3C) IN INDIA: MOVING FORWARD

Under the ongoing [B3C initiative](#), FO India finalized its knowledge platform with 12 modules, aimed at assisting micro, small and medium manufacturers to restart, recover and revitalize their business. Tutorials, guidance notes and checklists are already available in English, while Hindi and Bengali versions are under development would be soon available. On 30 May, jointly with the UN India Business Forum, UNIDO hosted a [virtual B3C dialogue](#) on Supply Chain Redevelopment, with participation of Mr. Pratap Chandra Sarangi, Minister of State for Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and MSMEs, Mr. Renata Dessallien, UN Resident Coordinator, and contributions from the private sector (Tata Chemicals and Dalmia Bharat). The dialogue echoed cautious optimism regarding the re-establishment of supply chains with participation of MSMEs.

GLOBAL QUALITY AND STANDARDS PROGRAMME (GQSP): SMART – FISH INDONESIA



The SECO funded GQSP has focused on Quality and Safety Assurance System (QSAS) for fisheries, crafting ten standard operating procedures (SOPs) for selected value chains (such as shrimps, seaweeds, milkfish, catfish and pangasius) and on capacity building activities since COVID-19 measures have been enforced in Indonesia. Under the programme, a concept note was presented for QSAS policy reform to the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and

Fisheries (MMAF). In addition, ten online capacity-building activities were recently organized jointly with MMAF and gathered more than 5400 participants, including government officers, provincial fisheries offices, representatives from the National Standardization Agency (BSN) and seafood processors. FO in Indonesia is cooperating with DTA/DTI/QIS that is leading the technical implementation of the programme.

FIRST IN A SERIES OF WEBINARS ON UNIDO COVID-19 RESPONSE IN PHILIPPINES

On 21 May, FO in Philippines and the Department of Environment hosted the first of a series of webinars on UNIDO COVID-19 Response, focusing on infectious wastes management, an issue that is exerting great pressure over the already strained treatment and disposal capacities of medical facilities. Around 210 participants from government agencies, hospital and healthcare facilities, treatment, storage, Disposal (TSD) facilities, academia, private sector, among others participated the webinar. Key recommendations on policy updating, capacity-building and institutional-strengthening, promotion of Best Environmental Practices (BEP) and Best Available Technologies (BAT), eg. mobile waste treatment systems were part of the outcomes of the webinars. The Philippines National Kidney and Transplant Institute joined the panels well, sharing insights about innovative in-house sterilization methods, quality and environmental management systems, and occupational health and safety management.

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



CP ARMENIA: MAKING HEADWAY

CP programming in Armenia is moving steadily. The CP planned for 2021-2025 will provide tailored solutions to revitalize the country's industrial sector in the post-pandemic period. UNIDO conducted a country diagnostic study focusing on the state of the Armenian industry. It aims to provide a solid analytical foundation for the future formulation of the CP. Results of the study has shown that despite the country's challenges, Armenia has potential for economic expansion, especially in light of the recent Government's reforms focused on ISID. One of the most important findings among others that Armenia is the transportation hub in the region and a transit partner of the European Union (EU), the Eurasian Economic Union EAEU. FO Armenia is coordinating with RFC/EUR and relevant departments at HQs for the CP programming.

SLOVENIA: EMERGING DONOR'S STRONG SUPPORT

Slovenia's strong support to UNIDO includes funding contribution of around Euros 6 million to accelerate ISID agenda. Currently, Slovenia is funding four UNIDO projects in Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt and Kenya. The newly launched project in Azerbaijan support local SMEs on the way to building an innovation ecosystem, skills upgrading and leveraging the opportunities associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). The e-learning toolkits cover topics such as business coaching modules on innovation, excellence management and transformation to 4IR to enhance SME competitiveness and market access. An innovative project in Cuba as a joint response to COVID-19 entitled "Fostering Slovenian-Cuban innovation cluster for biopharma, medical and nanotechnologies sectors", in cooperation with the Slovene Enterprise

Fund (SEF) is planned for 2020-2021. PFC through its RFC/EUR liaises closely with the Slovenia Government on UNIDO programmatic activities.

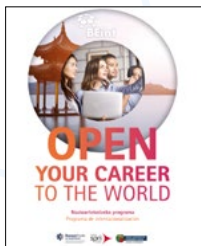


CAPITALIZING ON 4IR: UKRAINE'S PLATFORM TO RESPOND TO COVID-19

UNIDO cooperates with the Ministry for Development of Economy, Trade and Agriculture on the initiatives of the [Industry4Ukraine Platform](#) established as a common collaborative space for industry associations, clusters and other stakeholders in Ukraine. The collaboration resulted in launching the Anti-Crisis Analytical Center (AAC) and co-organization of a series of expert discussions through webinars aimed to improve industry analytical capabilities and provide recommendations on the anti-crisis policies to the national authorities. Based on the outcomes of the webinars, four thematic digests will be prepared with recommendations to the authorities on anti-crisis actions in industry in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Key results will be presented during the Third Ukrainian Industrial Week (UIW-2020), that will be traditionally organized in cooperation with UNIDO. FP Office in Ukraine collaborates with HQs on programmatic activities in the country.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

UNIDO-BEINT COLLABORATION IN LAC



An innovative agreement reached between UNIDO and BEINT program at the end of May to include FOs in LAC Region for internships of their scholars under its Grants Program for young talented graduates, which is an initiative of the Basque Government, a region in the north of Spain. As part of the agreement, UNIDO through FOs in LAC is one of the potential host multilateral organizations of the BEINT scholars given the program's relevance and requirements. In this way, BEINT scholars could enter their last phase

in the program as a UNIDO intern for an eight month-period starting in the month of January 2021. UNIDO's history of good collaborations with BEINT through LAC Regional Coordination Division paved the way to this agreement to support young talented graduates map out their future careers.

PARTNERING WITH NGO TO SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES AMID COVID-19 IN BRAZIL

FO Brazil initiated a partnership in May with Ajude o Pequeno, an NGO that offers small entrepreneurs a free online platform for selling products and services. More than two thousand Brazilian companies have already registered in the onlineplatform. The free virtual marketplace was created to support small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic period. Registered entrepreneurs have access to

a collaborative online environment that links producers, traders and consumers. UNIDO contributes to the initiative with institutional support and resources for its digital advertising. "We want to help the small producer, the small business owner, the local merchant to take their products to the final consumer through digital platforms", explains Wesley Barbosa, creator of the NGO. The platform can be accessed here: <https://ajudeopequeno.com.br/>.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Event: PREPARATIONS OF THE AFRICA INDUSTRIALIZATION SUMMIT GAINS TRACTION

Preparations for the first ever Summit on Africa's Industrialization and Economic Diversification to be held in November 2020 in Niger have continued to gain traction. A task force established in March 2020 comprising of AUC, UNIDO, UNECA, AfroChampions, and AUDA-NEPAD has already held several teleconferences. The Permanent Mission of Niger (Ambassador in Ethiopia) and a representative from the Nigerien agency responsible for conference organization (Agence Nationale de l'Economie des Conférences) have since joined the taskforce. Other key African institutions such as AfDB and Afreximbank are also expected to join the taskforce. Before the end of June, AU Commissioner for Trade and Industry will convene a meeting of Heads of agencies from UNIDO, UNECA, AUDA-NEPAD and AfroChampions signifying the importance being placed on the Summit. The Summit will feature sessions on various thematic areas including on Industry 4.0; Trade; Special Economic Zones; Agro Industries; Energy and Environment; Circular economy; Industrial policy; financing for development, pharmaceuticals etc. A high-level roundtable between African Heads of States and private sector is also foreseen.



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