

From the Managing Director

Welcome to the 6th edition of our newsletter!

We are pleased to share with you selected updates, milestones related to our work in advancing strategic approaches in the context of IDDA III, LLDCs, strategy for post conflict/crisis situations, among others.

Also, in this edition under regions in focus are initiatives in Europe and Central Asia as well as Latin America and the Caribbean, in cooperation with relevant departments.

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

With best regards,

Ciyong Zou

ADVANCING STRATEGIC APPROACHES

MEETING OF HEADS OF CO-ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS OF THE AFRICA UNION SUMMIT



On 7 September 2020, a high-level meeting took place involving the Heads of the co-organizing institutions of the African Union Summit on Industrialization and Economic Diversification. The Minister of Industry of Niger H.E. Mr. Malam Zaneidou Amirou, African Union Commissioner for Trade and Industry Mr. Albert Muchanga, Director General of UNIDO Mr. Li Yong, Executive Secretary of ECA Ms. Vera Songwe, Chief Executive Officer of AUDA-NEPAD Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, and Co-Chair of AfroChampions Initiative Mr. Paulo Gomes attended the meeting, who considered the report of the technical task team on progress made in the preparations of the summit. In his opening remarks, DG Li Yong expressed his gratitude to the AUC for their leadership

in the whole process. UNIDO is expected to play a critical role in the organization of the Summit under the theme of “*Inclusive and Sustainable Industrialisation of Africa in the AfCFTA era*”.



Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The workshop provided a platform to validate the IDDA III Joint Roadmap with its associated M & E framework as well as operationalization of the joint programmes and projects and its associated short-term work plan. The upcoming African Industrialization Summit was also discussed and sparked interest from IDDA III partner institutions to cooperate and ensure its successful implementation.

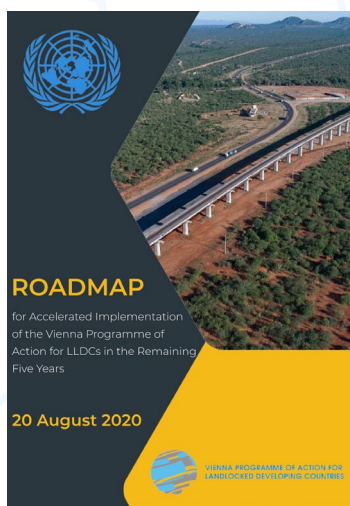
TACKLING PROGRESS AT THE IDDA III FOCAL POINTS WORKSHOP

UNIDO convened the 3rd IDDA III Focal Points workshop on 21 September to deliberate on key areas to support the implementation of the IDDA III. The workshop was attended by 51 participants from various IDDA III Focal Points representing partner institutions including AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, UNECA, ECOWAS, COMESA, ECCAS, AfDB, Afreximbank, UNCTAD, FAO, UNOSAA, UNOHRLS, ECOSOC, UNDESA, WIPO, ITU and the European Commission. The meeting was also attended by URs and UCRs from Brussels, DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Geneva, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria,

UNIDO AT THE ANNUAL MINISTERIAL MEETING OF LLDCs

On 23 September 2020, DG Li Yong delivered a statement at the Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs). At this occasion, Ministers of Foreign Affairs of LLDCs in the virtual sidelines of the UN General Assembly agreed on priorities to be implemented in the remaining five years of the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA). The meeting adopted the Ministerial Declaration and launched the UN Roadmap for Accelerated Implementation of the VPoA. Ministers, high-level officials from transit developing countries and the UN system, and

development partners also discussed the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on LLDCs. DG LI Yong expressed UNIDO's support towards the socio-economic transformation of LLDCs, shared its experience from the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) under different stages of implementation in four LLDCs, namely Ethiopia, Kyrgyzstan, Rwanda and Zambia. Lessons learned from PCPs show that initiatives can have a greater impact to deliver joint-solutions to LLDCs if designed in partnership settings unleashing investments from the private sector and development partners.



PROMULGATION OF THE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR FIELD OFFICES

UNIDO through the Director General's bulletin on 22 September, promulgated the revised terms of reference (TOR) for Field Offices. The revised TOR build on the experience gained by UNIDO since the promulgation of the bulletin (DGB/2019/13) dated 20 June 2019 as well as reflect on the recommendations contained in the 2019 Independent Thematic Evaluation of the UNIDO Field Network. In addition, the increasing importance of country level engagement with Member States, within the UN development system and

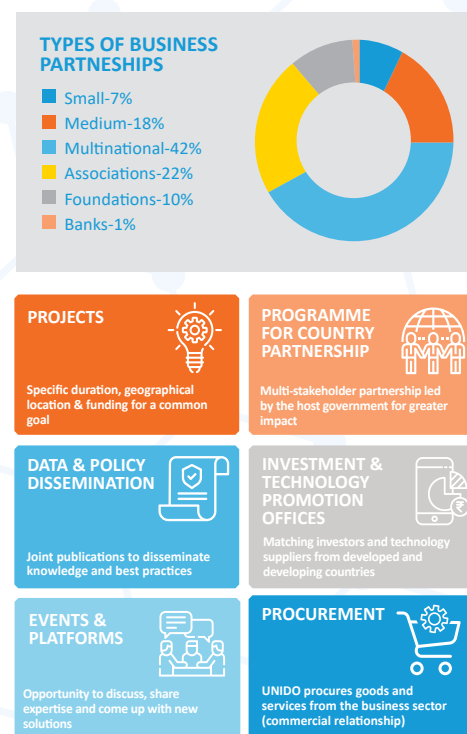
support to the reform are important elements of the revised TOR. The key changes are i) streamlined roles of Field Offices to further enhance effectiveness and efficiency; ii) increased responsibilities of FOs throughout the delivery of UNIDO's services; iii) new functional title of Deputy UNIDO Representative; iv) refined reporting lines of UNIDO Representatives to further enhance integration between field network and Headquarters (HQ); and iv) increased field-HQ communication and coordination. PFC/PPC led the preparation of the revised TOR.

PARTICIPATION AT THE 53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

UNIDO, in its role as an Observer participated at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) that took place virtually from 17-18 September 2020. PFC through PCD and FO Philippines represented UNIDO at the event that convened important stakeholders, including government officials, ADB management, as well as development and industry experts to discuss a range of issues confronting Asia and the Pacific region as it responds to the COVID-19 pandemic. ADB presented the results of their latest survey work, jointly with the ADB Institute, on the challenges micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) face as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. As a way forward, given UNIDO's complementary COVID-19 Enterprise-level Survey across the region, PFC/PPC/PCD, EPR/PRS/RPA, in cooperation with the relevant FOs, will explore concrete cooperation opportunities with the ADB and the ADB Institute based on the work conducted by both institutions.

PROMOTING BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS FOR ISID

Did you know that UNIDO has strategic business partnerships with 100+ entities in 55+ countries and companies and industry is a main stakeholder in 600+ UNIDO projects? The organization procures goods and services yearly from 6,500+ companies. With UNIDO's mandate in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development, the business sector is a natural and long-standing partner of the organization in delivering its mission. PFC through its Partnership Coordination Division has prepared a [leaflet](#) explaining the various ways the business sector can join forces with UNIDO. It lays out concrete opportunities for action to achieve corporate business and sustainability objectives, while promoting UNIDO's mandate and delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals. The info material serves as a tool to promote UNIDO's work with the private sector, with the view to expand cooperation, including within the UN development system, together with various governments at the global, regional and national levels.



UNIDO BRIDGE FOR CITIES 2020 – DRIVING THE DECADE OF ACTION: COVID-19 AND THE FUTURE OF CITIES

This year's edition of the Bridge for Cities event will be held virtually, through the [Hopin platform](https://hopin.com/platform) on 5 October 2020. It will place particular emphasis on green, social and technological innovations to respond and recover from the COVID-19 crisis and act as an accelerator for the SDGs. Given their key role in the recovery process and in fast-tracking the Decade of Action for the SDGs, cities will be in the spotlight, through two Mayors roundtables. Mayors from across the world, both from developed and developing countries, will exchange knowledge, concrete actions and success stories, with the aim to facilitate city-to-city networking and tangible partnerships. The event will also include a townhall interview with Mr. Carlo Ratti, professor at MIT and smart cities expert, who will prepare the ground for discussions by highlighting the opportunities and much-needed innovative urban solutions to respond and recover from the crisis.



PROJECT CONCEPT SUBMISSIONS FOR GEF DECEMBER 2020 WORK PROGRAMME

For the upcoming Global Environment Facility (GEF) December 2020 Work Programme (WP), UNIDO submitted six project concepts, requesting just nearly USD 23 million in project grant financing. Five project concepts for Ethiopia, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Thailand, and additionally one global child project under Financing Agrochemical Reduction and Management Program Framework Document focus on (u)POP-s and mercury reduction and elimination in waste management, elimination of the global use and prevalence of harmful agrochemicals, the promotion of circular economy in the textile sector as well as strengthening the resilience of agricultural communities through energy and water management, fostering cleantech innovation and e-mobility. The WP will be considered during the 59th Council Meeting planned to be held from 8th to 10th December 2020. In addition, September saw the finalisation of the GEF annual reporting exercise. A total of over 150 Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) were collected from Project Managers from the technical departments, reviewed by the GEF Coordination Unit and submitted to the GEF Secretariat.



MAKING HEADWAY ON UNIDO STRATEGY FOR POST-CONFLICT/CRISIS SITUATIONS

At the upcoming Industrial Development Board (IDB) - 48th session in November this year, UNIDO's strategy for post-conflict/crisis situations will be presented to Member States. PFC through its Arab Regional Coordination Division led the preparation of the strategy that integrates both approaches on post-conflict and post-crisis situations. The post-conflict approach introduces a comprehensive phase wise approach identifying micro, meso, and macro policy level interventions across four priority areas namely livelihood stabilization, industrial reconstruction and rehabilitation, resilience building and policy outreach. UNIDO's post-crisis approach, on the other hand was articulated around four priority areas: stabilize livelihoods and support resilience building, coordination and knowledge sharing, analytical support and good governance. With the adoption of this strategy, UNIDO aims to work with governments, UN agencies, private sector, and financial institutions and address some of the economic challenges faced by vulnerable groups.

IRAQ: ENHANCING SELF-RELIANCE THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

UNIDO showcases through this initiative how to operationalize in a post conflict country such as Iraq. From February 2020 to January 2021 this project among other targets, introduces the Entrepreneurship Curriculum Programme (ECP) in secondary vocational schools at the Duhok Governorate. The initiative contributes to the overall goal of strengthening economic resilience (priority area 3 of the strategy) and social stabilization (priority area 1 of the strategy) in the region by providing entrepreneurship education and improving students' chances to enter the job market as employees or self-employed. The Ministry of Education in the Kurdistan region of Iraq (KRI) has approved the proposed Training of Trainers (TOT) on ECP which will be carried out in the next few months. PFC/RFC/ARAB works with DTA/AGR/RJH that is leading the technical implementation of this project.



PRODUCTIVE SECTORS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR SOMALIA (PSDP)

This joint initiative, formulated under UNIDO's leadership in partnership with FAO and ILO operationalizes the UNIDO strategy for post-conflict/crisis situations. The PSDP with a four year implementation period (2020-2024) aimed at promoting interventions at: i) macro level (national policies) in line with priority area 4 of the post-conflict approach; ii) meso level (capacity building) in full alignment with priority area 2 of the approach; and iii) micro level (direct support) encompassing priority areas 2 and 3. UNIDO's specific output to the PSDP is focused on strengthening capacities of public and private productive sectors institutions to deliver on a sustainable and inclusive post-conflict economic agenda. Specific areas of intervention include the design of industrial policies, and special economic/export zones (SEZs) development; the creation of a Somali certification of origin; among others. PFC/RFC/ARAB coordinates with DTA/AGR/AIS that is leading the technical implementation of this programme.



REGIONS IN FOCUS: SELECTED PIPELINE AND ONGOING INITIATIVES

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



PRESIDENT OF ARMENIA AT THE GLOBAL MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIALIZATION SUMMIT (GMIS) 2020

On 5 September 2020, the President of Armenia Armen Sarkissian delivered remarks at the Summit's discussion dedicated to the theme "Restoring Prosperity in a Post-Pandemic World". In his speech, President Sarkissian stressed the importance of the United Nations for the development and recovery process in a post-pandemic period, and highlighted the urge for the reform of multilateral institutions. "Before moving forward on a global scale, we need to think about the new world, need to reassess our main values. I believe the key word here is 'heritage'. From the previous century, we inherited international structures, relations, the UN, for instance," the President said. There is a new world opening for small and smart states, and I want to make Armenia one of them," President Sarkissian said. PFC/RFC/EUR mobilized the participation of high-level speakers from the region in GMIS 2020, jointly organized by UNIDO and the United Arab Emirates.

ROLL-OUT OF THE GLOBAL QUALITY AND STANDARDS PROGRAMME (GQSP)

UNIDO and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) launched a two-year project in Georgia in July 2020 as part of the GQSP that aims to support the country's efforts to improve the international compliance of its fruits and vegetable exports. Key programmatic activities include assessing the compliance needs and challenges along the fruits and vegetable value chain in Georgia, related capacity building for testing laboratories and the creation of a roadmap for the future development of the national laboratory infrastructure. In Ukraine, the ongoing programme helps improve the capacity of national producers to ultimately export wood products to global markets. In Kyrgyzstan, the intervention focuses on improving the compliance capacity of fruits for cross-border trade. PFC/RFC/EUR in partnership with DTA is exploring further cooperation with SECO for reinforcing National Quality Infrastructure Systems of the Western Balkans countries.

ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN THE REGIONAL COORDINATION PROCESSES

PFC/RFC/EUR has been actively participating in the coordination of UNIDO inputs to the new United Nations Industrial Development Frameworks (UNSDCFs) rolling out in 2020 that have replaced UNDAFs in the new cycle. Currently, 11 new UNSDCFs are being developed for the next cycle in the ECA region, namely: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In countries with field presence such as Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey UNIDO plays an active role in the formulation process participating in and/or chairing thematic results groups. The first new UNSDCF in the region signed in August was Kazakhstan, whereas UNIDO is featured as a contributing agency under three outcomes related to inclusive, transparent and accountable institutions; among others. UNIDO will further pursue and streamline its involvement in the repositioning and reforming of the UN development system in the region.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



UNSDCF CUBA: UNIDO POSITIONED AS KEY AGENCY IN THREE PRIORITY AREAS

In August, the Government of Cuba and the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) signed the new UN Sustainable Development Coordination Framework for 2020-2024. The document supports the country's efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recover from COVID-19. UNIDO through the Country Programme Team in Cuba has actively participated in the formulation of the new Cooperation Framework, which has allowed to position UNIDO as a key agency in three out of four UNSDCF priority areas, namely: i) Effective governance; ii) Productive transformation; and iii) Environment and disaster risk management. UNIDO is currently designing a new Country Programme 2021-2024 to support Cuba in developing sustainable and inclusive industry sectors in line with the new UNSDCF.

IAEA-UNIDO EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

UNIDO organized a meeting on 3 September between the Energy Departments of both organizations to explore opportunities for joint activities in energy sector in LAC region. Led by the LAC Regional Coordination Division, the meeting resulted in the identification of concrete steps to engage the IAEA in the planning of the next programme cycle of the centres

for renewable energy and energy efficiency: Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) and Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency of SICA countries (SICREEE). Further cooperation opportunities through the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) webinars and dissemination of the IAEA technology-neutral energy planning tools through the regional project "Accelerating SDG 9 implementation in LAC through South-South and triangular cooperation, networking and partnerships" were also identified. The aforementioned activities, in particular exploring further engagements with IAEA, are in the context of the cooperation agreement signed in June 2020 between UNIDO and IAEA on peaceful uses of nuclear technology for ISID.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO ACCELERATE THE SDG9 IMPLEMENTATION

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the world economy, including the countries of the global North. In this context, South-South and innovative capacity building partnerships are more important than ever to overcome the current development challenges and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In August, UNIDO established partnerships through exchange of letters with the Peruvian Agency for International Cooperation (APCI) and PUM (Programma Uitzending Managers) Senior Experts from the Netherlands in the framework of the regional projects on "Accelerating SDG 9 implementation in LAC through South-South and triangular cooperation, networking and partnerships". The partnership with APCI will allow the countries participating in the project to tap into a vast offer of South South technical cooperation activities, while making Peru a recipient of the cooperation. The agreement with PUM will provide SMEs in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru access to the advice of 1700 senior experts, including through remote coaching to build resilience of businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

EFFORTS ON STRENGTHENING COMMUNICATION CAPACITY OF FIELD OFFICES IN LAC

PFC/RFC/LAC initiated a programme of monthly internal trainings to build communications-related capacity of the staff in Field Offices in collaboration with UNIDO's Advocacy and Media Relations Division. With the efforts towards strengthening capacity of the field offices, topics such as social media, design and translation of advocacy materials as priority. To date, two trainings have been conducted: first training was dedicated to social media, guidelines on UNIDO's corporate identity and the SDG 9 month campaign were presented. The second training, dedicated to graphic design, focused on building capacity of the Field Offices' staff to design advocacy material in line with UNIDO's corporate identity. This innovative initiative is a response to Member States' requests to provide information in all official UN languages. The trainings help FOs equipped with tools to promote UNIDO's work in Spanish and Portuguese while enhancing resource efficiency through the use of key common and tailor-made advocacy messages across the region.

