Agro-industrial parks are essentially a form of industrial parks which focus on the transformation of agricultural and livestock products.

**Key features**

1. Located in regions of high agriculture growth with proximity to urban centre and access to key infrastructure (road, electricity, water, ICT etc).

2. Consist of two distinct yet integrated components
   
   i) The agro-industrial park, which houses a cluster of firms grouped together to share infrastructure, (i.e., roads, power, communication, etc.) with state-of-the-art facilities,

   ii) the primary processing and aggregation centre(s): - as rural or agriculture transformation centres (RTC or ATCs). The RTC is located so as to reduce the distance between the villages/farmer to the parks and also provides other essential agronomic as well as socio-economic services to the farming communities.

**Project design and Implementation**

1. The IAIP projects are designed in line with national objectives related to rural economic development, food security and industrialisation and priorities outlined in the PCP,

2. They are also designed to achieve balance in regional development, while harnessing the natural resource endowment and skill set in different agro-ecological zones, in a sustainable and ecologically friendly manner. Each IAIP will focus on agro commodities of importance in the respective agro-ecological zones

3. UNIDO’s approach provides for various models and sizes, tailored to suit the needs and situation in the country.

4. UNIDO’s intervention is typically delivered in a phased or modular approach from the conceptualization, design and development phases, through to the operationalization and management of the IAIPs/RTCs, to build capacities of institutions which mange and provide technical and regulatory services.

5. The intervention is also delivered together with other service interventions especially those that are identified in the PCP document including: supporting a robust food safety regime, value chain development, TVET, women and youth economic empowerment
and entrepreneurship, as well as investment promotion and energy efficiency etc, as the case maybe.

6. Throughout the implementation, UNIDO facilitates extensive stakeholder engagement as well as through the PCP platform, building of partnership for the development of the IAIPs and attracting investments.

Conclusion

IAIPs are central to the UNIDO’s ISID mandate, in that, it creates value both downstream in the rural farming communities and upstream to the industries. are innovative approach to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrialisation to help drive structural transformation of the economy.