



Edition n°3 - June 2021

UNIDO Brussels Snapshot

Quarterly updates to EU partners

Foreword

For the past few months, UNIDO has worked hard to support **developing economies recover from COVID-19**. You will see from our [Annual Report 2020](#) that our continuous efforts to provide technical assistance for sustainable and inclusive industrial development truly contributed to **building back better**.

In 2020, the EU remained the **biggest donor of UNIDO** which has as the main goal to maintain strong partnerships to achieve the eradication of poverty through inclusive, sustainable, and resilient economic growth and industrial development in Europe and around the globe.

It's always a thrill to see how visions from **UN agendas and EU strategies are aligned**. The [Digital Compass 2030](#) for example, which is the new European strategy to "Lead the Digital Decade", fits quite nicely in the framework of the Decade of Action and Agenda 2030 instituted by the UN. We share similar ambitions to bridge the digital divide, similar human-centric approaches, and similar interests for strong International Digital Partnerships. No surprise, the United Nations and the European Union are "**natural allies**" as coined in the EU [Joint Communication](#) on Multilateralism.

Speaking of visions, UNIDO is currently entering a critical phase for its renewal: our 170 member states will elect the **new Director-General** for a period of four years. In the [Forum for Candidates held in Vienna on 28 May](#), the 3 nominees Bernardo Calzadilla Sarmiento of Bolivia, Arkebe Oqubay of Ethiopia, and Gerd Müller of Germany shared their strategic visions for a UNIDO that delivers better. Recommendations of a candidate for the post of Director-General will be held at the 49th session of the Industrial Development Board on 12 to 15 July, and his election will be done at the 19th session of the General Conference (29 November - 3 December), in Vienna.

Looking ahead, [the European Development Days](#) are just around the corner. UNIDO is glad to organize 3 sessions on **circular economy, green and gender-inclusive skills, and water**

issues in partner countries. We hope to connect with many of you there!

I wish you a pleasant read,

Patrick Gilabert, Ph.D

UNIDO Representative to the European Institutions and the Organization of ACP States

HIGHLIGHTS

UNIDO DG bilateral meeting with OACPS SG



11 May – UNIDO Director-General Li Yong and [the Secretary-General of the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States \(OACPS\)](#), H. E. Georges Rebelo Chikoti, held a bilateral meeting to **strengthen their cooperation** in the context of the new **EU/ACP Partnership Agreement (Post-Cotonou)** and **COVID-19 recovery**.

[Learn More](#)

A glimmer of hope for the white gold sector in Burkina Faso



Atelier technique sur la transformation du coton au Burkina Faso

20 Mai 2021

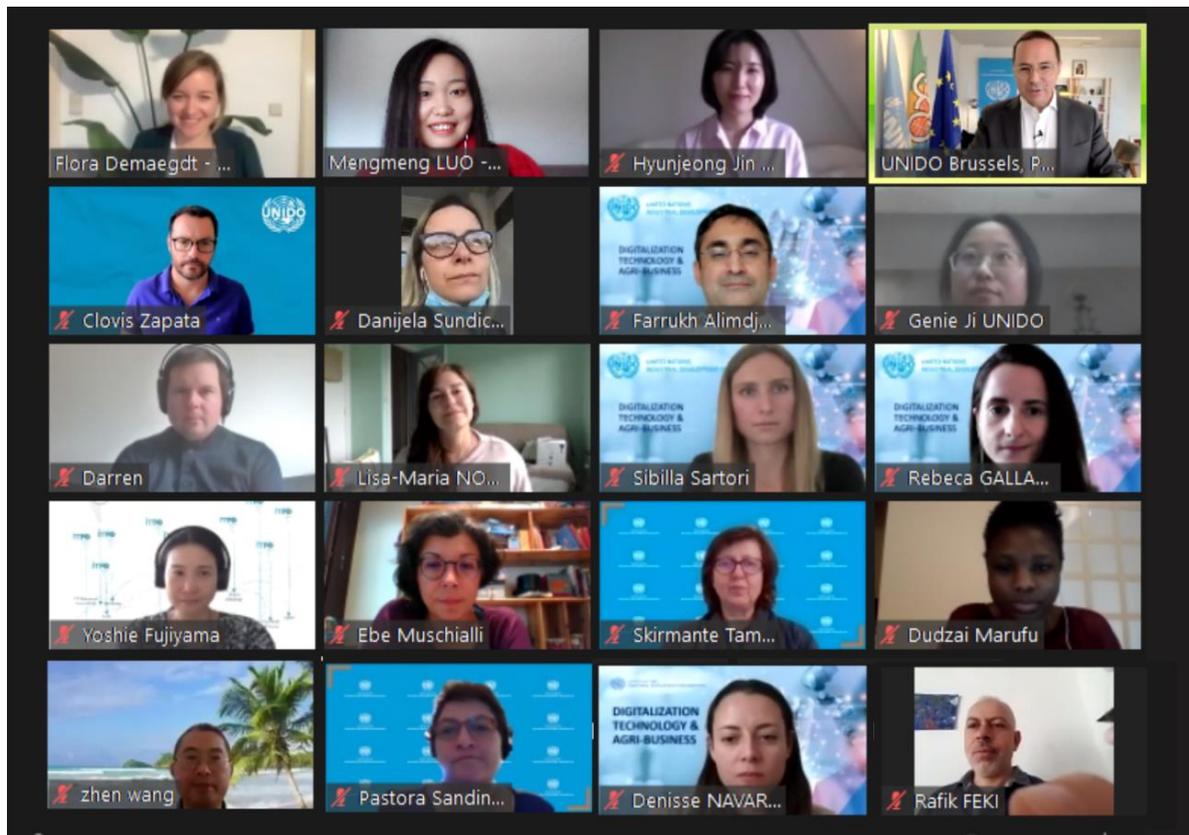


Dans le cadre du groupe Secteur Privé de l'Alliance Sahel

20 May - The Private Sector working group of the Sahel Alliance organized a technical workshop to discuss the realities and challenges of the cotton industry in Burkina Faso and to create synergies and formulate useful recommendations for this sector. This online event, organized under the leadership of UNIDO Brussels Office and the EU Delegation in Burkina, brought together more than 50 experts from the member institutions of [the Sahel Alliance](#) including development stakeholders (private, public) active in the cotton sector in the Sahel region. This interactive discussion will **lead to the formulation of operational recommendations to stimulate concrete actions** on the ground.

Learn more

Internal briefing on Europe - & a world? - Fit for the Digital Age



29-30 April - To share **recent updates on the activities and priorities of the EU** in the field of Digital, the UNIDO Brussels Office organized two internal virtual sessions on **“Europe fit for Digital Age”**. These briefings also explored the different channels of engagement for UNIDO to share its expertise, support the current work of the EU, and create synergies for a greater impact of digital transformations on sustainable development in the EU and beyond.

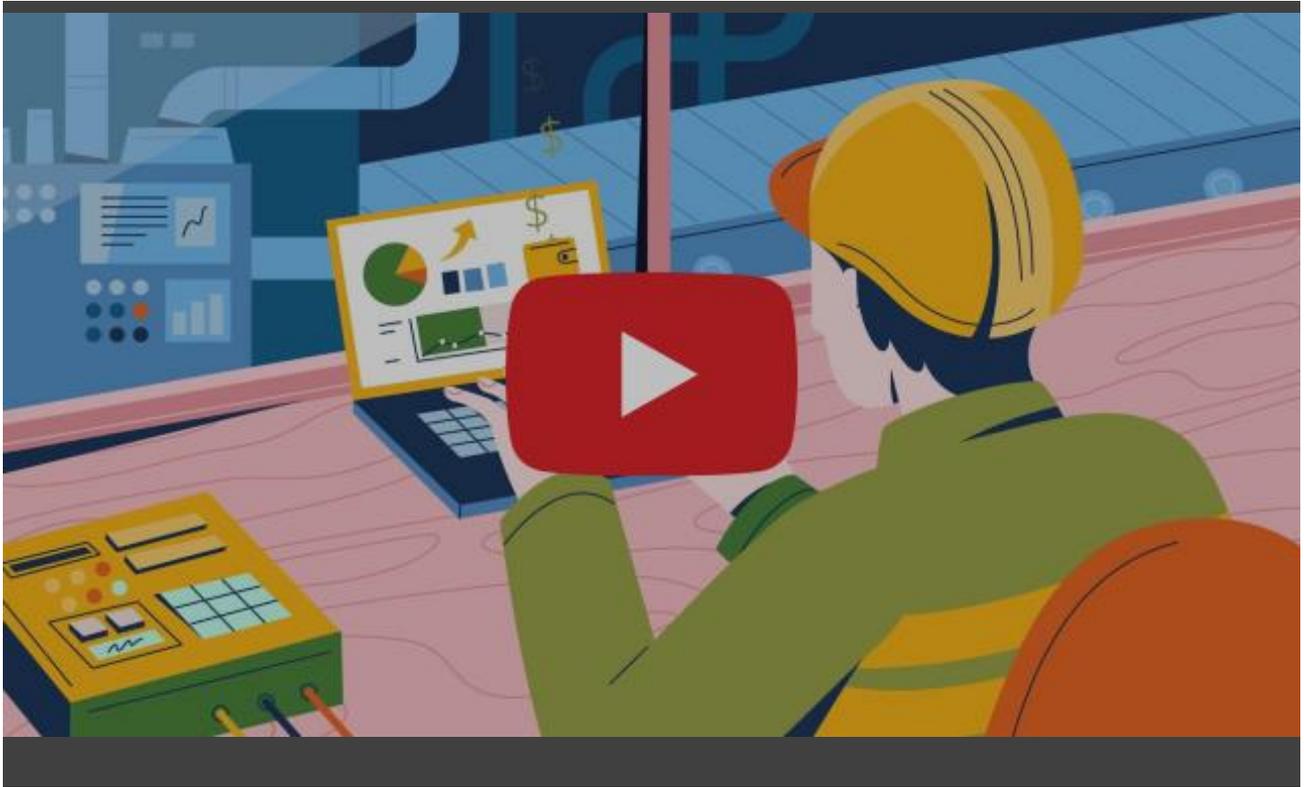
[Read the Report](#)

UNIDO-EU PROJECTS

MOUSTADAMA Programme: clean energy solutions for Palestinian enterprises

One of the few energy projects in Palestine to have a specific focus on small and medium-sized industrial enterprises, the **MOUSTADAMA** – Arabic equivalent for “sustainable” – is a 4-year Programme launched by UNIDO and the EU Representation in Jerusalem, in partnership with the Ministry of National Economy in the State of Palestine.

MOUSTADAMA helps **Palestinian enterprises to improve their energy efficiency and use of renewable energy technologies**, while strengthening policies and regulations in those sustainable energy arenas. It also provides trainings to a new generation of certified sustainable energy experts and supports the implementation of green energy solutions on pilot industrial projects.



MOUSTADAMA is now launching the **Palestine CleanTech Innovation Program**: a platform for cleantech startups and entrepreneurs to develop locally driven energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions that will increase industrial competitiveness, create jobs and contribute to a sustainable environment and the reduction of gas emissions, through:

- A network of three physical **CleanTech Hubs** located in West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza Strip
- A **Competition** for new cleantech energy projects - awarding up to 25,000 € the three most promising solutions in its first edition 2021
- Bespoke **market exposure** activities

A perfect example of strategic technological innovation in clean energies for a sustainable future!



[Learn more about Moustadama](#)

Cambodia Programme for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in the Fisheries Sector: CAPFish Capture

The Cambodia Programme for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in the Fisheries Sector (CAPFish programme), funded by EU, contributes to the achievement of the Government of Cambodia's long-term vision of social and economic development, food security, and poverty reduction. Its component “CAPFISH Capture”, implemented by UNIDO, aims at **inclusive post-harvest fisheries value chain development**.

It focuses on strengthening the **institutional capacity** of competent authorities for establishing official control systems and supporting the development of postharvest fisheries, through capacity building, skills development, food safety system implementation, and building business support mechanisms with ultimate aim of Cambodia fish products reaching the regional and global market places, including EU.



[Learn more about CAPFish](#)

SUCCESS STORIES

Tunisia's entrepreneurs swing into action against COVID-19

13 May - When Createx, a Tunisian company specializing in **manufacturing clothes** for export, lost its main client during the coronavirus crisis, it was the trigger to restructure.

"2020 brought us new challenges: to succeed in the transition from sub-contracting to our own production, with the support of the Mashrou3i project", explained Rouached, the manager of Createx.

Mashrou3i ('my project' in Arabic) is a joint project implemented by UNIDO, USAID, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), and the HP Foundation, providing **technical assistance for entrepreneurship training and business coaching** to enhance competitiveness and create jobs in Tunisia's interior regions.



[Read The Story](#)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

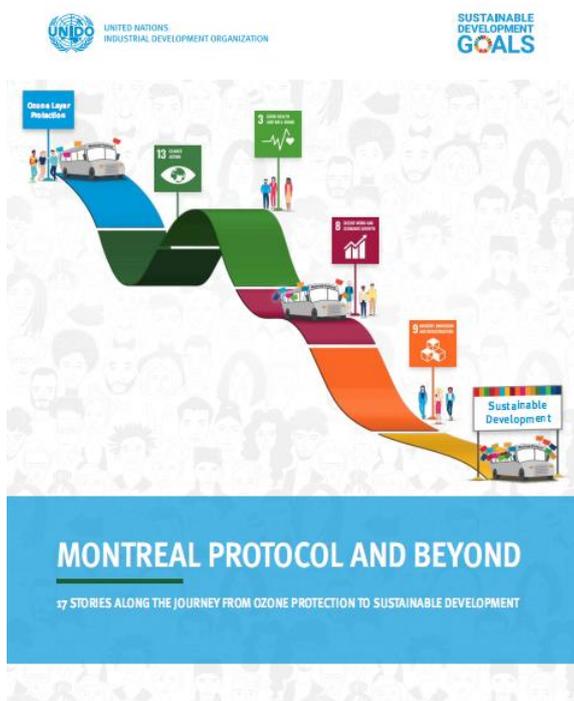
UNIDO Annual Report 2020

The statement that the year under review was a special one has never been truer than for 2020. The achievements outlined in this report have only been possible through the generous contributions and close cooperation of the Member States and partners. This support for UNIDO will be critical, particularly in the near future, as we seek to overcome the ravages of COVID-19 and steer the world onto **an environmentally sustainable, carbon-neutral path**. This is our chance to get things right for the future.



Read the report

Montreal Protocol and beyond: 17 stories along the journey from ozone layer protection to sustainable development



UNIDO's Montreal Protocol Division was born out of a global call for action to **address the threat of ODS emissions** from industrial activities. This publication celebrates the **changing role of industry in response to global calls for action** and the bold and transformative measures we have seen in each of the countries we work in, condensed into one story for each SDG. The stories are based on **real-world experiences**: the challenges that needed to be overcome, the advances that were made, and the drivers behind each project.

Read the report

UNIDO at EU industry Week 2021

UNIDO organized **3 sessions** at the EU Industry Week 2021, Europe's flagship annual event on the future of industry. In a series of **multistakeholder dialogues** with representatives from the private sector, international organizations, academic institutions and other relevant stakeholders, our roundtables successfully provided a platform to highlight **investment and technology promotion** as an essential element to achieve an inclusive and sustainable future.



UNIDO BRUSSELS **Report**

UNIDO side events to the EU Industry Week 2021
- March 2021 -

Strategic partnerships for Investment & Technology Promotion



Photo credit: UNIDO
May 2021

Read the report

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 15 - 16 June: [European Development Days](#), Brussels
- 15 June (13:00 to 13:45 CEST): UNIDO's session I @EDDs "[Building new partnerships to globally support EU priorities on the circular economy : The SWITCH to Green experience with SMEs establishing circular business models](#)", Brussels
- 15 June (16:20 to 17:05 CEST): UNIDO's session II @EDDs "[Can the Future of Skills Be Green and Gender-Inclusive? How the public and private sectors are teaming up to empower young female champions in technical and vocational trades in Africa](#)", Brussels
- 15 June (17:20 to 18:05 CEST): UNIDO's session III @EDDs "[To Solve Water Scarcity, Every Drop of Knowledge Matters : Innovative, Sustainable, and Scalable Solutions in the MENA Region](#)", Brussels
- 5 - 7 July: [Vienna Energy Forum 2021](#), Vienna
- 6 - 15 July: [High-level political forum on sustainable development \(convened under the auspices of ECOSOC\)](#)
- 12 - 15 July: [49th Industrial Development Board](#), Vienna

GET IN TOUCH !

The Brussels Office Team would be delighted to answer your questions and further our collaboration.

Join us on [Social Media](#) or contact Flora Demaegdt:f.demaegdt@unido.org

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