UNIDO Brussels Snapshot

Quarterly updates to EU partners

Foreword

Investments and industries are the powerhouses of the world economic growth, providing more than half a billion jobs directly from manufacturing. And this engine, this powerhouse, is now under great pressure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On investment, we expect global FDI flows to decrease by 40 percent in 2020. This will bring FDIs below $1 trillion for the first time in 15 years, since 2005. The impact will be high on developing countries because they rely more on investments in global value chains. In Africa for example, FDI should fall by 25 to 40% in 2020. On industry, UNIDO estimates a decline of the world manufacturing production of 8,4% in 2020.

Faced with such unique challenges, the international community must more than ever work hands in hands. Here in Brussels, we have concrete examples of partnerships between the EU, UNIDO and other key development partners such as OACPS.

Together, we work to support SMEs and the private sector recover from the crisis.
Together, we work to safeguard the environment, invest in clean technologies, ensure clean and affordable energy to all.
Together, we work to create decent jobs, boost entrepreneurship, and allow an inclusive and sustainable industrial development worldwide.

2021 will surely be a challenging year, but UNIDO and the UN family stands ready to support the EU and partner countries achieve their goals. With ambition and expertise, we are confident we can build greener, more digital, more resilient, and more inclusive economies.

In this update, we are happy to share with you some highlights of our cooperation efforts over the past couple months, a few ongoing EU-UNIDO projects on circular economy and trade competitiveness, most recent publications, and upcoming events. Enjoy the read!

Patrick Gilabert, UNIDO Representative to the European Institutions and the Organization of ACP States
Message from Excellency Klement, EU Permanent Representative to the UN in Vienna

“EU, UN and UNIDO share the same multilateral vision to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development and growth, while supporting the most vulnerable especially Women and Youth. In partnerships with “Team Europe” we are building a better future together!”

Stephan Klement
Head of Delegation - Ambassador
EU Permanent Representative to the UN in Vienna
UNIDO @ EU Industry Week 2021 - Investment and Technology Promotion as driver of sustainable development

4 March 2021 - This event kicked off the three-part session UNIDO series happening during the EU Industry Week 2021. It started with welcoming remarks by Mr. Weixi Gong, UNIDO Chief of the ITP Network and Mr. Patrick Gilabert, UNIDO Representative in Brussels. With the participation of Mr. Escipión Joaquín Oliveira Gómez, Assistant Secretary-General of OACPS, and Mrs. Cécile Billaux, Head of Unit E2 at DG INTPA, this virtual multi-stakeholder dialogue acknowledged the successful collaboration between the EU, UNIDO and OACPS in promoting investments and technology in developing countries. It was also the opportunity to showcase some concrete achievements of the ongoing Programme ACP Business-friendly and the analysis tool COMFAR.

Watch replay

Subscribe to next session

High-level side-event of G5 Summit on private sector development in the Sahel
In the framework of the Sahel Alliance’s Private Sector Group, UNIDO co-organized with INTPA, EIB, AFD, and other development partners, a virtual dialogue to listen to the voices of Sahel entrepreneurs. Concrete solutions to better support the private sector in Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Chad were put forward in regards to youth entrepreneurship, access to finance, and industrial and digital transformation. We are particularly grateful for Ms. Arancha Gonzalez Laya, current President of the Sahel Alliance General Assembly and Spain’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, who brought our proposals to the G5 Summit in N’Djamena on 15 February 2021.

Learn more

Webinar on Industry and the energy challenge - Views from Belgium and Europe
13 January 2021 - UNIDO in partnership with the United Nations Association (APNU) in Belgium organized a webinar on "Industry facing the challenge of the Energy and Climate Transition". This videoconference brought together advisors to the European Commission, policy-makers, scientists, and industrial experts. Mr. Philippe Scholtès, UNIDO Special Advisor to the Director General and Mr. Patrick Nussbaumer, Industrial Development Specialist in UNIDO Energy Department, took part in the discussion to present UNIDO's work on energy in developing countries.

Learn more & Watch replay

UN Family stands ready to support the EU Programming exercise
Together with other UN agencies and under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinators, UNIDO is actively supporting EU Delegations in different countries worldwide in drafting their Multiannual Indicative Programs (MIPs). In the framework of the EU Programming Exercise 2021, the UN family stands ready to identify development priorities, make the best use of its long-lasting relationships with local authorities for better alignment and ownership, and engage in a Team Europe spirit on various consultations.

Get in touch to know more

UNIDO-EU PROJECTS

A new Global Alliance is born: welcome to GACERE!

22 February 2021 – The Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE) was launched in the margins of the first segment of the 5th meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 5). GACERE aims to provide a global impetus to initiatives related to the circular economy transition, resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production patterns, and inclusive and sustainable industrialization.

GACERE has been established by the European Commission and by UNEP, in coordination with UNIDO. 11 countries (Canada, Chile, Colombia, Japan, Kenya, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Rwanda and South Africa) and the EU have joined the Alliance to date.
ECOVERTEC : Program for the transition towards a green and circular economy in Algeria

The development of a circular economy and clean production is one of the major challenges in Algeria today, from an economic, environmental and societal point of view. The development of a green and circular economy constitutes a strategic lever of action towards rural communities, the inclusion of youth, and the assumption of gender equity.

The ECOVERTEC initiative, funded by the EU and implemented by UNIDO and the French Development Agency (AFD), therefore aims to support Algeria in the strategic development of a green and circular economy. ECOVERTEC’s specific objectives include improving the competitiveness of enterprises as well as developing green entrepreneurship and innovative start-ups in the green economy. With an overall budget of $11,000,000, it started in 2020 and is set to be completed by December 2022.
Thanks to the support of the EU, UNIDO has been the first technical partner of many West African States in the field of quality and has also been a pioneer in the setting-up of regional Quality Infrastructure (QI). Since 2001, UNIDO has supported the 15 ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania through designing, establishing, enhancing and promoting quality infrastructure at national and regional level, which has been ensured through four regional Programmes funded by the EU.

Since 2018, this successful and dynamic cooperation between UNIDO and the EU is continuing through UNIDO’s implementation of projects under the West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP) which is a partnership initiative between ECOWAS and the EU with the support of UEMOA. WACOMP is funded through a EUR 116 million contribution from the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) for West Africa (2014 – 2020) under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF).

Learn more about this Program

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
South-South and Triangular cooperation

UNIDO recently released a new publication on South-South and triangular industrial cooperation (SSTIC). This document provides insights on how UNIDO’s work in SSTIC contributes to the achievements of industrial development goals.

The publication showcases 16 projects that have replication and scaling up potential within UNIDO Member States. It also provides an accurate sample of SSTIC activities within UNIDO’s 4 priority areas: creating shared prosperity; advancing economic competitiveness; safeguarding the environment; and strengthening knowledge and institutions.

Read the report

Inovation ecosystem of Moldova

This report, prepared by the Directorate of Digitalization Technology and Agribusiness and the Regional Coordination Division for Europe and Central Asia of UNIDO, presents a preliminary analysis of the research and innovation ecosystem of Moldova. The study aims to inform and fine tune the foreseen actions related to innovation and industrial competitiveness under the Country Programming Framework (CPF) signed between the Republic of Moldova and UNIDO in December 2018.

The study includes mapping of the existing initiatives, programmes, policies and institutions operating in the area of innovation.

Read the report
Local food on local market: that’s what we want, that’s what we do. What about you?

Since 2010, UNIDO has been implementing projects valorising food origin-linked products and shortening food supply chains (SFSC). These projects ensure that Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and farmers within the assisted value chains become the driving force of endogenous process of local development, maximizing the potential of agri-food products. The ultimate goal of this paper is to raise consciousness on the potential of SFSCs initiatives for achieving local development, better market access to smallholders, and higher food quality to consumers, and to discuss how these initiatives may be developed in a sustainable way.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10 March: [EU Industry Week Local event ITPO Italy](#)
- 24 March: [EU Industry Week Local event ITPO Germany](#)
- 4-5 May: [STI Forum](#)
- 31 May - 4 June: [EU Green Week 2021](#), Brussels
- 15-16 June: [European Development Days](#), Brussels
- 22-26 June: [EU Sustainable energy week](#)
- 6-15 July: [High-level political forum on sustainable development (convened under the auspices of ECOSOC)](#)
- 12-15 July: [49th Industrial Development Board](#)
- 20 November: [Africa Industrialization Day](#)
- 29 November-3 December: [General Conference - 19th Session](#)

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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