



Edition n°2 - March 2021

# 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



# HIGHLIGHTS

## UNIDO @ EU Industry Week 2021 - Investment and Technology Promotion as driver of sustainable development

**UNIDO** UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

**ITP NETWORK**

### EU INDUSTRY WEEK 2021

Local event organised in partnership with the European Commission.

#EUIndustryWeek

**UNIDO n°1 Session: Vienna Local Event 04/03**  
« Investment Promotion as driver of competitiveness and sustainable development »

**ESCIPIÓN JOAQUÍN OLIVEIRA GÓMEZ**  
Assistant Secretary General of the Department of Structural Economic Transformation & Trade Organisation of African Caribbean & Pacific States (OACPS)

**CECILE BILLAUX**  
Head of Unit E2 – Micro-Economic Analysis, Investment Climate, Private Sector, Trade & Employment, DG INTPA

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Industrial Development Officer, ITP Division, UNIDO

**UMESH MENON**  
UNIDO COMFAR Trainer

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. Escipi3n Joaqu3n Oliveira G3mez, Assistant Secretary-General of **OACPS**, and Mrs. C3cile 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



11 February 2021 - 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](#)

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## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.



[Learn more about this project](#)

### 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.



This project is co-funded by the European Union



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

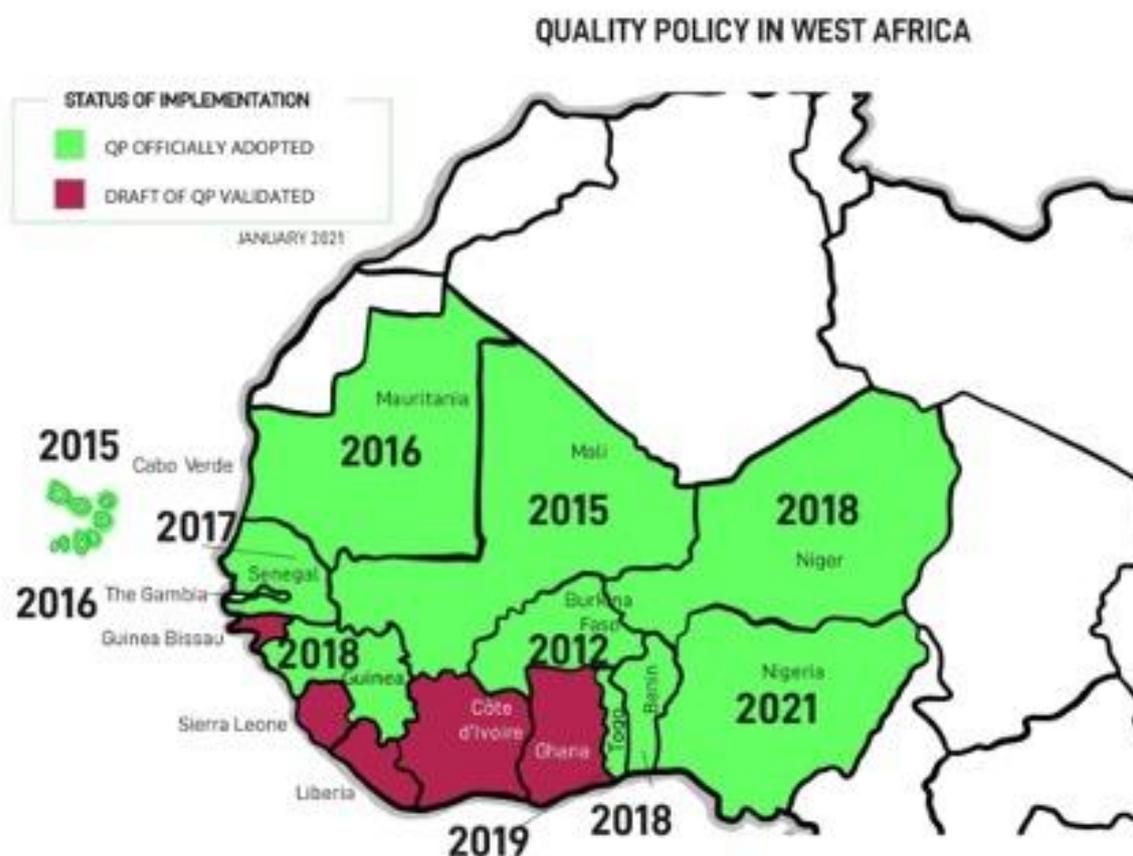


[Learn more about this project](#)

### West Africa Competitiveness Programme WACOMP

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.

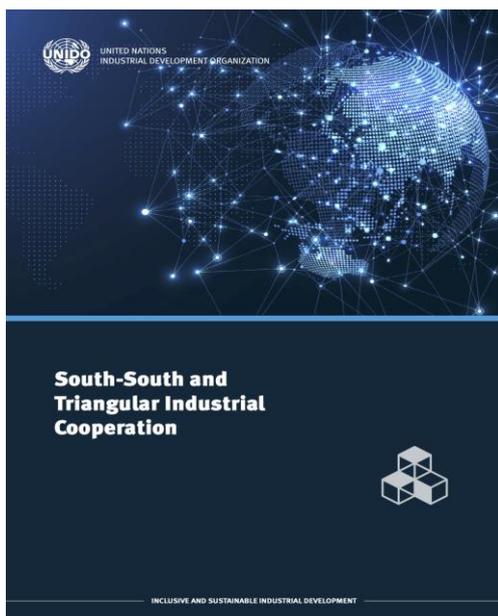
Since 2018, this successful and dynamic cooperation between UNIDO and the EU is continuing through UNIDO's implementation of projects under the [West Africa Competitiveness Programme \(WACOMP\)](#) which is a partnership initiative between ECOWAS and the EU with the support of UEMOA. WACOMP is funded 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](#)

## Innovation ecosystem of Moldova

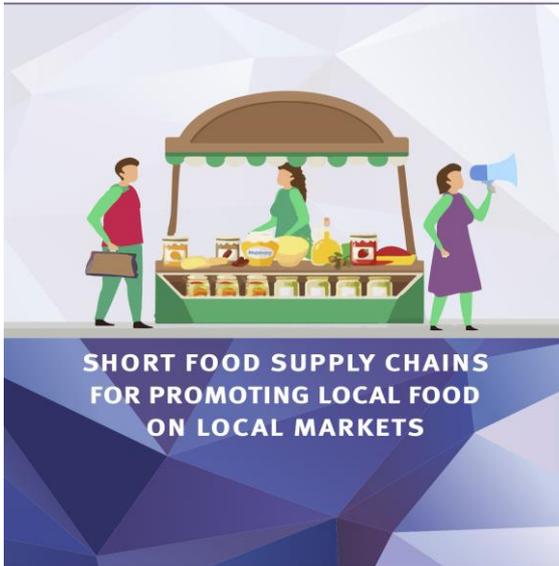
This report, prepared by the Directorate of Digitalization Technology and Agribusiness and the Regional Coordination Division for Europe and Central Asia of UNIDO, presents a preliminary analysis of the **research and innovation ecosystem of Moldova**. The study aims to inform and fine tune the foreseen 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?



INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

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.

[Read Report](#)

## 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.  
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