



Edition n°4 - September 2021

UNIDO Brussels Snapshot

Quarterly updates to EU partners

Foreword

Dear readers,

We hope you enjoyed a relaxing and well-deserved summer break.

Back to the Brussels-bubble, recent news is hitting us with the pressing need to strengthen multilateralism. We are grateful that the European Union has chosen UNIDO as one of its multilateral partners to overcome global challenges together, in particular through green and digital transitions.

In the next few months, UNIDO will welcome the **Organization's next Director-General: Dr. Gerd Müller from Germany**, currently Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development. The 48th session of the Industrial Development Board's recommendation will be forwarded for approval to the [19th General Conference](#) which will take place in Vienna from 29 November to 3 December 2021. Based on common vision with the EU, his ambition is to become stronger together and to act united for a better future: "*A strong multilateral answer is required to overcome the global crises. I am absolutely convinced that the pandemic that we are witnessing is a wake-up call for us all...Our goal is a fair globalization, a sustainable industrial development as well as job creation and perspectives for a prosperous future for developing countries.*", he said [after receiving the board's recommendation](#).

In response to **Josep Borrell Fontelles's** [tweet](#), we also look forward to deepening EU-UNIDO cooperation in support of a better, greener and smarter recovery.

As usual, this Snapshot will bring to you some highlights of UNIDO life, a selection of EU-UNIDO projects, success stories, as well as recent UNIDO publications to put on your reading list and future events.

Watch out for the upcoming flagship biannual publication: "**UNIDO and the European Union: State of the International Partnership SOTIP 2022**" (following [SOTIP 2020](#)). We will share it with you in the next edition!

Enjoy the reading, and look forward to collaborating with you,

Patrick Gilabert, Ph.D.

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

HIGHLIGHTS

Gerd Müller of Germany chosen as next UNIDO Director General



From left to right: Ambassador Dominika Krois, Permanent Representative of Poland to UNIDO and President of the Industrial Development Board; Gerd Müller, Director General-elect of UNIDO; at the forty-ninth session of the Board on 12 July 2021.

VIENNA, 12 July 2021 – The Industrial Development Board of UNIDO recommended **Dr. Gerd Müller of Germany to be the Organization’s next Director General**. The Board’s recommendation will be forwarded for approval to the General Conference – the Organization’s highest policymaking organ – at its nineteenth session, which will take place from 29 November to 3 December 2021 in Vienna.

[Learn More](#)

UNIDO at the 2021 High-level Political Forum (HLPF)



The High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF) is the core United Nations platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs. UNIDO co-organized two high-level side events on “**Circular economy as a holistic means to accelerate the implementation of SDG 12 and SDG 13**” and “**Inclusive and sustainable industrial recovery through digital transformation and the Circular economy**”.

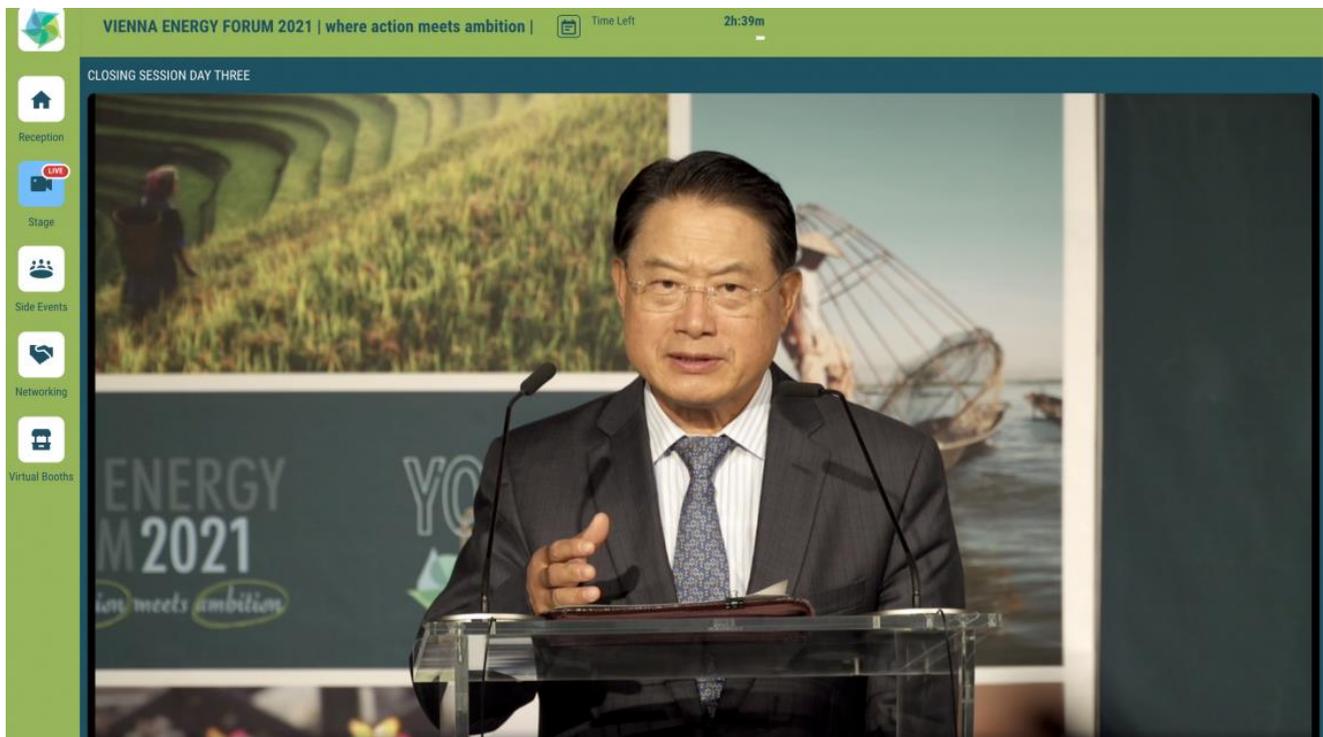
[Learn More About HLPF](#)



[The UN General Assembly on 16 June 2021 \(UNGA para 30\)](#) “welcomes joint actions between the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the framework of the Francophonie economic forums held on the margins of the Summits of la Francophonie, to support economic regeneration initiatives”.

[Learn More About UNGA](#)

Vienna Energy Forum: where action meets ambition



VIENNA, 13 July 2021— The Vienna Energy Forum (VEF) 2021, guided by the motto “**Where action meets ambition,**” convened to deliver action-oriented strategies that drive a green transformation, advance climate commitments and achieve the ambition of tackling climate change in an inclusive manner, leaving no one behind. Held virtually from 5 to 7 July, the VEF 2021 gathered over 300 key panellists, including government representatives, stakeholders and experts; and over 2,000 participants from 146 countries, including government ministers, senior officials from UN agencies and other international and regional organizations, and representatives from the private sector, civil society and academia.

Learn More About Vienna Energy Forum

UNIDO participates in the G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting 2021



TRIESTE, 5 August – At the invitation of Italy, which currently holds the presidency of the G20, UNIDO has addressed the G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting. The gathering was the culmination of meetings held throughout the year by the **G20 Digital Economy Task Force (DETF)** in which UNIDO has actively participated .

Learn More About UNIDO at G20

UNIDO-EU PROJECTS

Enhancing value chain stakeholder's capabilities in Kenya

The EU-EAC Market Access Upgrade Programme (MARKUP) is a €35 million regional development initiative funded by the EU, that provides **support to small and medium-sized**

enterprises (SMEs) in the East African Community (EAC).

It aims to increase exports of agribusiness and horticultural products and promote regional integration and access to the European market across 12 counties of implementation in Kenya. The UNIDO component is being implemented in close coordination with the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Kenya, the EU Delegation to Kenya and other implementing agencies including ITC, and GIZ. Using a bottom-up approach to address **country-specific needs**, it supports **six value chains**: French Beans & Snow Peas; Herbs & Spices; Chillies; Mangoes; Passion Fruit, and Nuts.



[Learn More About MARKUP](#)

SwitchMed II: circular economy in the Mediterranean

Funded by the European Union, the SwitchMed Programme is implemented by UNIDO, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Economy Division and the Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC). The SwitchMed initiative supports **sustainable consumption and production practices for a circular economy in the Mediterranean**.

Capitalizing on the results and lessons learned from phase I, phase II aims to stimulate the creation of green businesses activities and decent employment while reducing the environmental footprint of existing economic activities through the adoption

of **resource-efficient production strategies**, and a more cohesive and enabling policy environment for a **green and circular economy in the southern Mediterranean countries**.



[Learn More About SwitchMed II](#)

SUCCESS STORIES

A young passionate about passion fruit farming

In marking the World Youth Skills Day, EU-funded MARKUP Kenya communication team spent time with Edwin Rono, 32, who has beaten all odds to venture into passion fruits farming. This is especially with the projects, aim to **empower youth and women, across selected value chains in the 12 counties where it is implemented**.

Based in Serenget, along the Eldoret-Moiben road, Rono accompanies his workers, most of whom are youthful, in attending the orchard. Some of them, mostly women, are picking fruits, and pruning the crop, while others, mostly men, are applying top dressing fertilizer...

Rono urges young people to embrace agribusiness as a way of enhancing their talents, earning a living and empowering communities. "Young people are innovative and dynamic,

and should therefore use these attributes to enhance skills even in sectors that are considered informal,” says Rono.

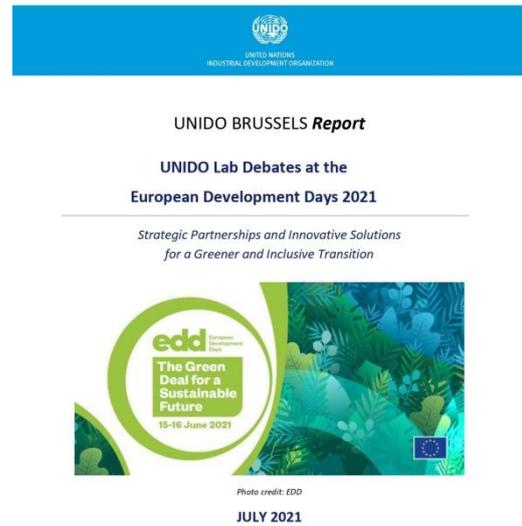


[Read his Story](#)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

UNIDO @ European Development Days

For the 10th consecutive time, UNIDO contributed to the European Development Days (EDD), which took place on 15-16 June 2021 and was fully digital. UNIDO co-organised three lab debates **inspiring new partnerships and innovative solutions to achieve a greener and more inclusive transition** for people's well-being and a healthy planet for the next generations. This report reviews the three Lab Debates agenda, including key notes, pictures, links, etc.



[Read the EDD report](#)

Circular Economy and Agribusiness Development



CIRCULAR ECONOMY and Agribusiness Development



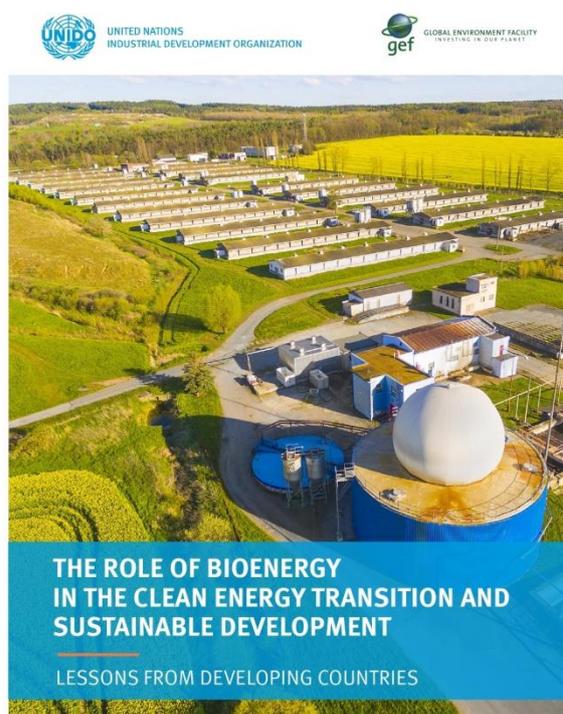
The aim of this publication (July 2021) is to introduce the work of UNIDO's Department of Agribusiness, and how it supports **circular economy development in the context of agroindustries**. The publication highlights ways in which the agribusiness sector can **facilitate the uptake of circular economy** practices, creating shared prosperity, and contributing to improving environmental sustainability and advancing economic competitiveness in developing and middle-income countries.



Read the report

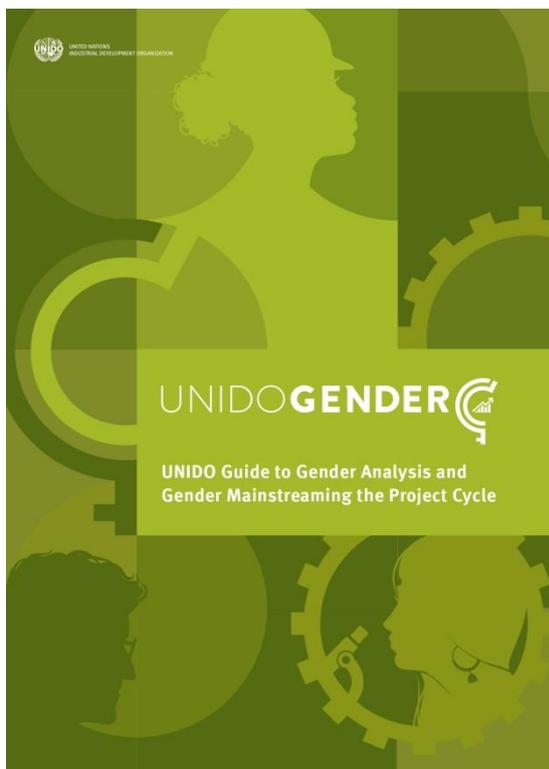
The Role of Bioenergy in the Clean Energy Transition and Sustainable Development

What follows in this report is an **overview of bioenergy projects** from around the world, mostly implemented by UNIDO, with funding from GEF. While the scope, technologies, applications, descriptions and results vary, they are united by the goal to **achieve reliable, safe and affordable clean energy** for people in low income countries, bringing clean energy to some of the world's most vulnerable and under-served people, and helping to reduce dependency on fossil fuels and the associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.



Read the report

New UNIDO Gender Mainstreaming Guide launched



This Gender Mainstreaming Guide and Toolkit **provides guidance, entry points and practical recommendations** for technical personnel and Gender Focal Points working on UNIDO projects and programmes as well as for implementing partners and stakeholders. It aims to facilitate the effective and efficient **integration of gender considerations throughout the entire project/programme cycle**, with a particular focus on gender analysis tools to support the important stage of project design. A must read !

[Read the guide](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 14 September: [Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency \(GACERE\) High-Level Meeting](#)
- 22 September: [Digital Skills for an Inclusive Future, LKDF Forum 2021](#)
- 23 September: High-level side event to UNCTAD15 'Create, Innovate, Recover: digitalizing creative industries for a sustainable recovery in Africa'
- October (TBC): [Partnership for Action on Green Economy \(PAGE\) Conference](#)
- 8 October: 2nd edition of UNIDO Brussels Dialogue on Intelligence Economic in Brussels (in partnership with [Skema Business School](#) and [Académie de l'intelligence économique](#))
- 1 October 2021 - 31 March 2022: [Expo 2020 Dubai in the United Arab Emirates](#)
- November (TBC): UNIDO and the European Union: State of the International Partnership 2021
- 11 - 13 November: [Paris Peace Forum 2021](#) in Paris, France

- 22 - 25 November: [8th Conference on Corporate R&D and Innovation - CONCORDi 2021](#)
- 29 November - 3 December: [19th session of the UNIDO General Conference](#) in Vienna, Austria
- 29 - 30 November: [EU-Africa Business Summit 2021](#) in Marrakesh, Morocco

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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