



UNIDO BRUSSELS NEWSLETTER

December 2021

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FOREWORD



At the end of a year marked by major global events: the G20 summit, COP 26, the Paris Peace Forum, the 19th UNIDO General Conference, the objectives are clear. We must increase efforts in favour of multilateralism.

In February 2021, the dialogue between the UN Brussels team with Jutta Urpilainen, Commissioner for International Partnerships, called for a strengthened EU-UN partnership in the context of a threatened but much needed multilateralism that is “fit for purpose”.

On 23 June 2021, the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, reaffirmed the support of the European Union to the United Nations during UN Secretary-General António Guterres' visit to Belgium: "We support you in your tireless work to strengthen multilateralism and to improve the rules-based order, globally, for all the topics we are dealing with together – be it peace and security, or the support for refugees, or overcoming the pandemic, but also fighting climate change."

The next day in a solemn speech addressed to the European Parliament, the Secretary-General thanked the EU for being a “vital partner”. “We live at a time when the strategic partnership between the European Union and the United Nations is more indispensable than ever... We are at a crossroads and the situation can go either way: breakdown or breakthrough. Breakdown and perpetual crisis – or breakthrough leading to a greener, safer and better future for all. I will do everything in my power to push for breakthroughs,” UN Secretary-General said in Brussels.

At the 19th UNIDO General Conference, the EU delegation recalled on 29 November 2021: "These challenges require global solidarity and global solutions that can only be achieved through international cooperation and a strong multilateral approach. We consider the whole UN system, including the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation, to be key players in this regard."

Our work here in Brussels is intensifying as the EU commits to strengthening its action for sustainable and inclusive industrialisation.

The next long-term EU budget, Multiannual financial framework (MFF) 2021-2027, officially adopted in June 2021 will dedicate €79 billion to support partner countries through the NDICI Instrument.

The new EU strategy - Global Gateway - will dedicate €300 billion project to “boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport and strengthen health, education and research systems across the world”.

These are two major partnership opportunities for the UN System, including UNIDO, for 2022 and beyond.

We look forward to turning shared challenges into opportunities and to ensure our common vision efficiently contributes to building a more responsible, inclusive, and resilient world where no one is left behind.

I wish you a pleasant read,

Patrick Gilabert, Head UNIDO Liaison Office in Brussels, Representative to the European Union and the Organization of ACP States (OACPS)

HIGHLIGHTS

EU ANNOUNCES THE GLOBAL GATEWAY, A €300 BILLION PLAN TO BOOST SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIONS AROUND THE WORLD

The Global Gateway aims to mobilise up to €300 billion in investments between 2021 and 2027 to underpin a lasting global recovery, taking into account our partners needs and EU's own interests. The objective is to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport and strengthen health, education and research systems across the world. It stands for sustainable and trusted connections that work for people and the planet, to tackle the most pressing global challenges, from climate change and protecting the environment, to improving health security and boosting competitiveness and global supply chains.

The Global Gateway is about increasing investments, promoting democratic values and high standards, good governance and transparency, equal partnerships, green and clean, secure infrastructures and that catalyse private sector investment. Through a Team Europe approach, Global Gateway will bring together the EU, Member States with their financial and development institutions, including the European Investment Bank (EIB), and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and seek to mobilise the private sector in order to leverage investments for a transformational impact.

Global Gateway draws on the new financial tools in the EU multi-annual financial framework 2021-2027. The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)-Global Europe, the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) III, as well as Interreg, InvestEU and the EU research and innovation programme Horizon Europe; all allow the EU to leverage public and private investments in priority areas,

including connectivity. In particular, the European Fund for Sustainable Development+ (EFSD+), the financial arm of NDICI-Global Europe will make available up to €135 billion for guaranteed investments for infrastructure projects between 2021 and 2027 up to €18 billion will be made available in grant funding from the EU budget and European financial and development finance institutions have up to €145 billion in planned investment volumes.

President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said: "COVID-19 has shown how interconnected the world we live in is. As part of our global recovery, we want to redesign how we connect the world to build forward better. The European model is about investing in both hard and soft infrastructure, in sustainable investments in digital, climate and energy, transport, health, education and research, as well as in an enabling environment guaranteeing a level playing field. We will support smart investments in quality infrastructure, respecting the highest social and environmental standards, in line with the EU's democratic values and international norms and standards. The Global Gateway Strategy is a template for how Europe can build more resilient connections with the world."



Source : <https://www.francetvinfo.fr>

EU INSTITUTIONS

EU COUNCIL

COUNCIL APPROVES 2020 CLIMATE FINANCE FIGURE

In 2020, €23.39 billion in climate finance was committed by the European Union and its 27 member states to support developing countries in reducing their greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change. This figure was approved by the Council, in preparation for the United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), which will take place from 31 October to 12 November in Glasgow. The figure is based on new, more detailed EU climate finance reporting rules.

In 2020, close to 50% of the funding for developing countries was dedicated to either climate adaptation or cross-cutting action (involving both climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives) and close to half of the total funding was committed in the form of grants, according to data compiled by the European Commission.

The EU and its member states are determined to continue scaling up their international climate finance towards the developed countries' collective goal of mobilising USD 100 billion per year, applicable through to 2025. They have recently made concrete pledges to enhance their contributions in the coming years as part of a climate finance 'delivery plan' that donor countries published on 25 October 2021.

International public climate finance plays an important role in helping developing countries to implement the 2015 Paris climate change agreement.

COP 26 - WORLD LEADERS SUMMIT - EUROPEAN UNION STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT CHARLES MICHEL

"We, the human race, have started a war against nature; we, the human race, have caused the climate change that poses a serious threat to our security and the security of future generations. The science is loud and clear. And in Europe and elsewhere, the younger generations have stirred our consciences. Young, committed, informed activists have rightly mobilised, rightly demanded more from us, and it is our duty and our responsibility to meet their expectations. The European Union heeds their call and wishes to be fully involved. First, by setting ambitious targets.

Two years ago, we were the first to affirm the ambition of achieving climate neutrality by 2050. We were the first to strengthen our commitments for 2030, and we decided to put in place legally binding instruments which embed these targets in the legal framework. We must also fully commit to the European Green Deal package, the mobilisation of public funding, and the importance of channelling private funding.

Ladies and gentlemen, this climate transition, this commitment, must not be at the expense of those who are most vulnerable and most fragile. This is true in our societies – we need to put in place accompanying measures to ensure that we take everyone with us, that we all focus on this goal. It is also true at international level, and that is why we are proud, as Europeans, to honour our commitment to provide [USD] 100 billion to those countries that are most in need. And we encourage all our partners in developed countries to follow our example, which we believe is absolutely crucial." *Charles Michel, President of the European Council*

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE – EEAS

ASEM SUMMIT: EUROPE AND ASIA REAFFIRM SHARED PARTNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT TO A STRONGER RECOVERY FROM THE PANDEMIC

During the 13th Asia-Europe (ASEM) Summit on 25-26 November, leaders reaffirmed their shared partnership and engagement in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The EU and its ASEM partners are highly interconnected, with many shared interests and solid ties, from trade and investments to research and development, as well as sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity protection and security.

In her [opening speech](#), President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said: “For more than 25 years, the Asia-Europe Meeting has been the most comprehensive partnership forum between Asia and Europe. It has helped us tackle some of the big challenges of the day. In the years to come, this partnership will be even more important to recover from the pandemic. Together, we need to rebuild a more sustainable and equitable world, and we need to strengthen multilateralism. Because Asia and Europe are closely connected and together, we have significant weight in the world.

EUROPEAN PEACE FACILITY: COUNCIL ADOPTS ASSISTANCE MEASURE WORTH €40 MILLION FOR MOZAMBIQUE

The Council adopted on December 19, a decision establishing a €40 million assistance measure under the European Peace Facility (EPF) in support of the Republic of Mozambique. This assistance measure complements an urgent measure amounting to €4 million approved by the Council under the EPF on 30 July 2021 for the most urgently required equipment.

The assistance measure will, in particular, provide adequate, non-lethal equipment to strengthen the capacities of the first Mozambican army companies scheduled to be the first to benefit from the EUTM Mozambique's training. This includes individual and collective equipment, ground mobility assets, technical tools and a field hospital.

The provision of the assistance will be subject to the compliance of the EUTM-trained units of the Mozambican armed forces with relevant international law, in particular international human rights and international humanitarian law, as well as with relevant legal instruments and best practices based on international and EU rules, standards and policies in the area of the supply of military equipment.

DG INTPA

EUROPEAN UNION LAUNCHES A GREEN TEAM EUROPE INITIATIVE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SOUTH EAST ASIA

On November 18, a Green Team Europe Initiative in partnership with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)/South East Asia, was launched by Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, during the 3rd ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Sustainable Development. The initiative, backed by an initial €30 million grant from the EU budget, will strengthen the EU's partnership with the region in areas including climate action, environmental and biodiversity protection, clean energy transition, disaster resilience, prevention of illegal logging, wildlife trafficking and air pollution.

Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, said: "As strategic partners, the EU and ASEAN share a joint commitment to fostering a fairer, greener, and more sustainable future. Building back better is about supporting our economies and creating decent employment opportunities while also addressing climate change, tackling pollution, and protecting biodiversity. It requires rethinking our approach to development in the context of a rapidly warming and increasingly interconnected planet. Our Green Team Europe Initiative is a ground-breaking step going forward and I am very pleased to take this step with our partners in South-East Asia."

As part of the EU's overall Green Deal diplomacy, this initiative provides the framework for coordinated green action between participating Team Europe partners (Austria, Denmark, France, Germany and Romania, as well as the European Investment Bank) and ASEAN and its Member States, seeking synergies between their respective political frameworks: in particular the European Green Deal and the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.



Source: https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/newsroom/news_en

NEW HELPDESK TO SUPPORT EU SME BUSINESS ON AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

Under the auspices of the EU-African SME Summit 2021 in Rome, a new Helpdesk on African Intellectual Property (IP) matters was launched to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). This online desk, implemented by the EU Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and with support from the Directorate General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) will enable EU businesses to ask their specific questions and to find detailed and practical information on Africa intellectual property matters.

The issue of intellectual property is becoming increasingly relevant as a cornerstone of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA) and the focus on small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) derives from the key drive they give to economic growth in both the EU and in Africa.

The Helpdesk aims to support African IPR policy and its harmonisation and to protect and promote value addition of African products and services, by improving networks and tools and by strengthening capacity building.

DG NEAR

EU-SOUTHERN NEIGHBOURHOOD: MINISTERS REVIEW THE PROGRESS MADE ON THE RENEWED PARTNERSHIP

High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, Josep Borrell, chaired on November 29, the third EU-Southern Neighbourhood Ministerial Meeting in Barcelona, in which Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement, Olivér Várhelyi, also participated. The meeting was an opportunity to review the progress made in the implementation of the [new Agenda for the Mediterranean](#) adopted in February, as well as the Economic and Investment Plan for the region, as part of the strategy for a [Renewed Partnership](#). Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, José Manuel Albares hosted the Ministerial meeting.

The meeting, which brought together Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the EU and the Southern Neighbourhood region, focused on the need to boost sustainable economic and human development and building more inclusive and equal societies to reduce the gaps between both shores of the Mediterranean. Ministers exchanged on the need to create economic opportunities, especially for the young people, and on ways to work together on resolving conflicts in the region and regulating migration. Discussions also focussed on the need to accelerate the green economic transition and to “build back better” in the context of the post-corona recovery and the Glasgow Climate Pact. Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement, Olivér Várhelyi, added: “Last year, we reflected on the lessons learned 25 years after the Barcelona Declaration and laid the foundations for a new Agenda for the Mediterranean. Our common objective: to create a common area of prosperity and stability where people can thrive. The Economic and Investment Plan will help spur long-term socio-

economic recovery, create economic growth and jobs, support investment in human capitals. Now, it is time for implementation.”



Source: https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/news/eu-southern-neighbourhood-ministers-review-progress-made-renewed-partnership-2021-11-29_en

THE EU AND TURKEY DISCUSS HEALTH MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND FUTURE COOPERATION

Serious threats to health, such as those due to infectious disease outbreaks or environmental factors, do not respect borders and require increased cross-border cooperation and coordination at the global level, as recently shown by the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past months, both the EU and Turkey have experienced significant impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their societies and their health systems.

Minister Koca expressed Turkey's readiness, as a candidate country, to cooperate and share best practices and experiences with the European Union. “While we are struggling with the pandemic that has affected the whole world for the last two years, we need to keep alive our commitment to combating global problems such as mental health, chronic diseases and the impact of climate change on health issues as well as their negative effect on economies,” said the Minister and added that he considers the High-Level Health Dialogue between the EU and Turkey as a great opportunity to support cooperation between the parties and Turkey's accession process.

DG TRADE

EU AND WTO MEMBERS STRIKE MAJOR DEAL TO SIMPLIFY TRADE IN SERVICES

A group of 67 World Trade Organization (WTO) members, including the EU, have on December 2 concluded negotiations on a landmark agreement to cut red tape in services trade. The so-called Joint Initiative on Services Domestic Regulation will simplify unnecessarily complicated regulations and ease procedural hurdles faced by SMEs in particular. This agreement will help reduce the costs of global services trade by more than USD 150 billion every year. The agreement will help the EU with regard to the digital agenda, since sectors such as telecommunications, computer services, engineering, and commercial banking stand to benefit from it. It is also the first time a WTO text includes a binding provision on non-discrimination between men and women.”

Executive Vice-President and Commissioner for Trade, Valdis Dombrovskis said: “This is a major achievement. The agreement covers 90% of global trade in services and it will unlock billions of euros of growth thanks to clearer rules, more transparency and less red tape. This will help our SMEs in particular to thrive on the global stage. We have been at the forefront of this initiative, which is also a priority under our renewed EU trade strategy.”

These new commitments will be included in each member's so-called GATS Schedules. Every WTO member has such Schedules submitted to the WTO, which form the complete set of all the commitments WTO members make to allow foreign services suppliers in their markets. The new commitments made as part of this initiative will apply to service suppliers from any other WTO member, based on the so-called most favoured nation principle.

AID FOR TRADE: EUROPEAN UNION REMAINS THE WORLD'S LEADING PROVIDER WITH €17.9 BILLION

EU aid to improve partner countries' trading capacity increased and helped them tackle the COVID-19 pandemic, reveals the newest EU Aid for Trade Progress Report 2021. As part of the new Team Europe approach, EU Aid for Trade supports implementing concrete commitments for a transition towards a more inclusive and greener global economy.

“Trade is the lifeblood of economic activity and every region of the world will rely on trade to support economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Aid for Trade will help our global partners to recover and grow, notably by supporting SMEs and helping authorities to implement trade arrangements. Moreover, this support will help to develop more inclusive and climate conscious economic programming, which will benefit us all in the long run. In this respect, Aid for Trade is a great example of our values-based EU trade agenda,” said Executive Vice President for an Economy That Works for People, and EU Trade Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis.



Source: https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/eu-aid-for-trade-brochure-2021_en.pdf

DG AGRI

COP26: PARTICIPANTS RECOGNISE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS TO ENSURE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY AND ACHIEVE CLIMATE OBJECTIVES

On 5 November 2021, countries participating at the COP26, as part of the discussions on agriculture, agreed on the need for a [transition towards sustainable and climate-resilient food systems](#), taking into consideration the vulnerability of agriculture to the impacts of climate change. They recognised that this transition will be crucial to guarantee food security and ending hunger throughout the globe as well as to achieve climate objectives, such as emission reductions.

More specifically, to achieve this transition, participants acknowledged the key role of:

- Soil and nutrient management practices and the optimal use of nutrients, including organic fertilizer and enhanced manure management
- Sustainably managed livestock systems, such as enhancing animal health and sinks on pasture and grazing lands

Furthermore, they also noted the importance of scaling up support and resources to achieve inclusive, sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural systems.



Source: https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/cop26-participants-recognise-need-sustainable-food-systems-ensure-global-food-security-and-achieve-climate-objectives-2021-nov-09_en

LAUNCH OF THE START-UP VILLAGE FORUM: DELIVERING THE VISION FOR EU'S RURAL AREAS

On November 16, the Commission launched the Start-up Village Forum to gather insights on challenges for and potential of rural start-up companies. As part of the EU's June 2021 long-term vision for rural areas and the Commission Action Plan for Rural areas, the annual Start-up Village Forum contributes to boosting research and innovation in rural communities and help build up a more innovative entrepreneurship that will attract more young and talented people.

The Forum aims at becoming an open space where local, regional, national and European institutions and stakeholders can meet, discuss and shape action for start-up-driven innovation in rural areas. The Forum for rural innovation will connect rural innovation actors across the EU and enhance the development of rural innovation ecosystems. The Start-up Village Forum seeks to provide knowledge on rural innovative start-ups, the types of innovations they are involved in, the gaps in the services that they expect from innovation ecosystems and how these could be strengthened in the future.

Januzs Wojciechowski, Commissioner for Agriculture said: "Today, rural areas offer a wealth of opportunities to seize, as laid out in the long-term vision for rural areas. Fostering rural innovation should largely contribute to the green and digital transition, benefiting our rural communities, our farmers and society as a whole. The Start-up Village Forum plays an important role, by connecting start-ups, rural actors and public authorities to share knowledge and experiences. I look forward to this year's discussions and upcoming editions."

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS: THE EU SHOULD SECURE ITS OWN SUPPLY

To boost an autonomous and sustainable EU supply of materials needed to produce key technologies, MEPs call for diversification, more recycling and domestic sourcing. [Critical raw materials](#) (CRMs) are crucial for producing a broad range of goods and technologies. The transition towards digital, highly energy-efficient and climate-neutral European economies will lead to a significantly higher demand for CRMs. The technologies requiring them, such as batteries and electric engines, will be key to achieving the goals under the Paris Agreement.

Parliament calls for an EU strategy to boost Europe's strategic autonomy and resilience regarding the supply of CRMs, by creating a secondary market for recycled resources containing these materials. Under the Parliament's proposals, more CRMs will have to be sourced from within the EU and its neighbourhood, sources for these materials will need to be diversified, and more research should focus on sustainable alternatives to these scarce materials. MEPs say that, in the short- to mid-term, focusing on recycling will not be enough on its own to meet the increasing demand for CRMs. They call for sustainable sourcing possibilities to be explored in CRM-rich member states. Parliament urges member states to make their authorisation processes for prospecting and sourcing projects more time-efficient and transparent, without lowering environmental and social standards.

CRM projects should also get better funding opportunities under the National Recovery Plans and the Taxonomy Regulation. Member states' efforts should be pooled via an Important Project of Common Interest (IPCEI), MEPs stress. Waste recycling is crucial, MEPs say, given the significant presence of CRMs in electrical and electronic equipment. The Commission and

member states should improve their efforts to properly collect and recycle end-of-life products with CRMs instead of stockpiling them in households and landfills, or incinerating them. Stronger controls of EU exports of key CRM waste products are needed, according to MEPs. A new task force should be set up to coordinate national CRMs activities. They call on EU member states to consider the strategic stockpiling of CRMs in order to secure their supplies, and say that future EU free trade and partnership agreements should include specific provisions on CRMs.

"We have a consistent and ambitious package that tackles the urgency of stable and sustainable critical raw materials supply chains while at the same time ensuring Europe's competitiveness and jobs", said lead MEP [Hildegard Bentele](#) (EPP, DE). "All forecasts predict a higher demand for critical raw materials due to the twin transition. We therefore pledge to enhance our efforts to make full use of the circular economy. However, research shows that these efforts will not be enough, at least in the short- to mid-term. We must therefore build the political framework to enable sustainable mining in Europe and in non-EU countries", she said.



Source: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20211118IPR17620/critical-raw-materials-the-eu-should-secure-its-own-supply>

OACPS

CLIMSA'21: CLIMATE SERVICES STAKEHOLDERS FROM THE TRI-CONTINENTAL OACPS REGIONS COME TOGETHER AT THE CLIMSA PROGRAMME INAUGURAL FORUM

Over 400 participants from the Members of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the Europe Union (EU) gathered to take part in the inaugural ClimSA'21 Forum from 15,16 and 18 November 2021. This fully-virtual event, with the theme of "Connecting suppliers and users of climate information in ACP regions", was hosted by the Government of the Republic of Kenya.

The ClimSA'21 Forum is an activity of the Intra-ACP Climate Services and related applications programme (ClimSA), which was launched in March 2021. The Programme, with a budget of € 85 million over six years, is a joint initiative of the OACPS and the EU.

The intra-ACP ClimSA programme was established to support the climate information services value chain in the Members of the OACPS, through providing technical and financial assistance, infrastructure, and capacity-building to improve and widen access to, and use of climate information.

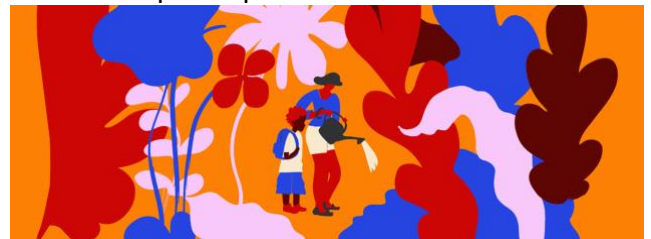


Source: <http://www.acp.int/>

STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OACPS ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

On the occasion of the annual commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November each year, H.E. Mr Georges Rebelo Pinto Chikoti, Secretary-General of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), recalls that violence against women and girls is a violation of human rights that currently knows no borders. He notes that globally, women's rights have experienced significant regression particularly as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic where restrictions to contain the pandemic have increased levels of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls.

Secretary-General Chikoti acknowledges that the increase in the rate of violence against women and girls calls for strong commitment by all to eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, particularly domestic violence and all forms of harassment in the public and private spheres. In this regard, he calls for increased support for ground-breaking initiatives, such as safe cities and safe public places for women and girls, which are aimed towards the prevention of sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence in public places.



Source: <http://www.acp.int/>

STRATEGIC FINANCIAL ACTORS

AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT (AFD) CELEBRATES ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY, A LOOK AT THE ORGANIZATION

Agence Française de Développement has been financing and supporting solidarity actions in the field for and with others throughout the world for almost a century. Through the six programs presented [here](#), AFD Group, together with its private sector subsidiary Proparco and soon Expertise France, illustrates the diversity and complementarity of its action in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals and for a world in common.



Source: <https://www.afdb.org/en>

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP - SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUNDS ARE GAINING GROUND IN AFRICA

Sovereign wealth funds slowly making progress in Africa although urgent financial reforms are needed to boost foreign investment following the Covid-19 pandemic. This is according to economic experts speaking during the second day of the 2021 African Economic Conference in Cabo Verde. Studies presented during one of the sessions on Friday highlighted the progress made in some countries over the past few decades to improve policies. Experts argue that more work is needed to diversify and deepen financial markets so as to expand beyond commercial banks.

Munashe Matambo, Associate Research Scientist at the Zimbabwe-based Scientific and Industrial Research and Development Centre, said there are at least 117 sovereign wealth funds currently operating or in the pipeline around the world, managing \$9.1 trillion – 10% of global GDP. Matambo said currently 24 African countries have established or are considering establishing sovereign wealth funds, but the process is not advanced. He referred to funds established in Botswana and Zimbabwe. According to Matambo's paper, the Pula Fund in Botswana has strong management and is governed well. In Zimbabwe, the sovereign fund was "unable to perform its role" given the existing governance framework.

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GIZ) GmbH 10th ANNIVERSARY

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. Tanja Gönner, Chair of GIZ's Management Board, made the following statement at the federal enterprise's annual press conference: 'The world has changed significantly over these last ten years, and so has our work. The environmental and climate crisis has become a key challenge of our time, there has been an increase in failing states and conflicts, and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are impossible to ignore. The goals of sustainable development are more important today than ever. They are the compass that guides our work in the long term.'

ECHOES FROM THINK-TANKS



CONNECTING AFRICAN MARKETS AND PEOPLE: STREAMLINING REGIONAL TRADE AND FREE MOVEMENT PROTOCOLS

Connecting people and markets within and between African countries and regions is a longstanding aspiration and a core part of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). In this line, the AfCFTA aims to (1) address the challenge of multiple and overlapping regional economic community memberships and speed up regional and continental integration processes, and (2) contribute to the movement of people, which aligns with the African Union Free Movement Protocol (AU-FMP).

This paper discusses these two objectives and looks at how the AfCFTA and the FMP alter state relations on trade and movement of people, and how AfCFTA implementation will interact with existing regional agendas and initiatives. It looks at policy statements and the political economy dynamics likely to shape integration and cooperation efforts, and helps identify policy priorities for African stakeholders at the national, regional and continental levels, as well as their external partners.

We find that rather than streamlining regimes, the coexistence of continental and regional frameworks creates parallel processes. As it stands, the AfCFTA and the FMP will coexist with a regional subset of distinct trade and free movement regimes in negotiations, institutional set-ups and implementation. More coordination between continental and regional processes is therefore needed, possibly complemented by *sui generis* agreements with different regional bodies. Policymakers and their partners should also seek stronger links between the AfCFTA and the FMP and identify where these could help create traction for existing regional processes, as well as where existing regional processes can support AfCFTA and FMP implementation.

CHIPPED AWAY. WHAT DOES THE GLOBAL SEMICONDUCTOR SHORTAGE TEACH US?

ASEAN countries can play an important role in the future of semiconductors and already account for 22% of world exports of electronic components. As mentioned above, Singapore and Malaysia are major players in the sector and could attract new investment from the USA, Taiwan and Korea. Thailand and Vietnam have launched ambitious incentive and investment plans to encourage the growth of the sector in their territory. Although Hanoi should pursue an ambitious plan of infrastructure upgrades and reforms if it wants to attract foreign direct investment. Indonesia is also a promising environment for the development of the semiconductor industry, even if this development is held back by a lack of infrastructure and deep free trade agreements. Even for semiconductors, trade deals will play a crucial role in the development of regional and global supply chains: all ASEAN countries are part of the RCEP agreement and, among them, Singapore and Vietnam already benefit from very close trade ties with the EU.

It is difficult to predict the future of the global semiconductor market. Or rather, where that future will take place. The traditional producer states intend to maintain their central role, while the ASEAN countries, the EU and the USA want to start playing a greater part. The only certain thing is that the sector will attract billions of dollars in private and public investment in the years to come.

LIFE AT UNIDO BRUSSELS

HIGHLIGHT

A PARTNERSHIP OF RESPECT - A PHOTO EXHIBITION BY UNIDO, EU AND UNIDO GOODWILL AMBASSADOR ELISABETTA LATTANZIO ILLY AT EXPO DUBAI 2020

23-25 October: UNIDO and the EU organized the photo exhibition: "The collaboration between EU and UNIDO through the eyes of Elisabetta Lattanzio Illy, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador", at the Dubai World Expo 2020 (UAE) at the Austria Pavilion - Opportunity District - from 23 to 25 October 2021. This event was an innovative way to experience UNIDO-EU partnership for inclusive and sustainable industrial development. The exhibition showcased a selection of success stories from all around the world that illustrate the essence of this collaboration: a "partnership of respect". As the organisers emphasised, "the partnership between UNIDO and the EU is one of hope, respect for local communities, especially women and youth, for the environment, for entrepreneurship and, more broadly, respect for all."



You can find the stories behind the showcased photos in the link in this QR code :



23 October: The opening ceremony took place on the European Union Honour day, a day to highlight European unity, diversity and solidarity through cultural diplomacy. The ceremony was attended by Patrick Gilabert, UNIDO Representative to the European Union, Wolfgang Sobotka, President of the Austrian Parliament, Nasser Maher, UN Commissioner-General for Expo 2020, Stephan Klement, EU Ambassador to UNIDO in Vienna and Elisabetta Lattanzio Illy, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador.

On this occasion Stephan Klement said : "When talking about this partnership, it is important to underline the mutual respect and dignity of our two organisations. The EU has been actively funding UNIDO's work for a long time now. I am proud to see this partnership growing stronger every year."

The success of the event demonstrated the strength of the partnership between UNIDO and the EU and the further consolidation of this cooperation.



EU-UN BRIEFING ON DIGITALIZATION FOR THE SDGS, HYBRID/ UN HOUSE IN BRUSSELS

4th October: UN Brussels Task Force (TF) on Digitalization for the SDGs, co-led by UNESCO, ITU and UNIDO, and the UN Director in Brussels, welcomed partners from the European Commission in the UN House in Brussels for an important meeting. This event intended to identify synergies between the EU and the UN strategies on digital, consider a broader dissemination of the TF on Digitalization for the SDG's papers for better information sharing, and express views on how to concretely collaborate in the coming year. More than 60 people were connected, from the EU and the UN agencies, funds, and programs.



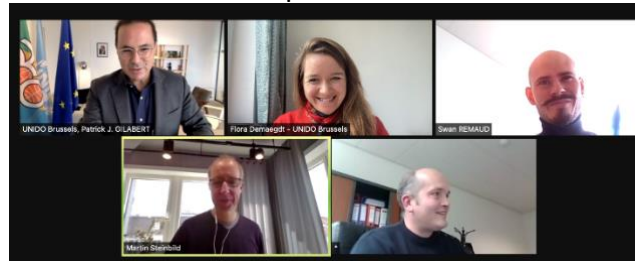
PRESENTATION OF BRO'S COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES OF MENG MENG'S INTERNSHIP

7th October: Mengmeng Luo, intern at BRO, presented to some UNIDO colleagues in Vienna the outcome of her work on communications as a result of her internship. Her presentation focused on the communication techniques implemented by BRO and the novelties she brought. We thank her for her excellent work and wish her all the best for the future !



MEETING WITH THE MANAGERS OF ADIONICS, AN INNOVATIVE FRENCH COMPANY SPECIALISED IN THE DESALINATION SUPPLY CHAIN.

7th October: The UNIDO office in Brussels held a meeting with executives from ADIONICS. The company presented its research on clean lithium extraction and the development of more energy-efficient and environmentally responsible solutions. The company, which is active in Latin America, is developing a number of innovations with industrial uses and may be of potential interest for cooperation with UNIDO.



2nd EDITION OF UNIDO BRUSSELS DIALOGUE ON ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE : THE PRACTICE OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION INTELLIGENCE & ITS IMPACT ON ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE

8th October: The 2nd edition of UNIDO Brussels Dialogue on Economic Intelligence, a virtual dialogue, co-organised by SKEMA Business School and the French Academy of Economic Intelligence was focused on Digital transformation and its great importance to organizational growth. The objective of the webinar was to present and comment on recent studies by Christophe Bisson, Ph.D. Scientific Director at SKEMA Business School. His analysis introduced the concept of digital transformation intelligence (DTI), exploring the practices of DTI in 78 companies. He concluded that the results of DTI practices demonstrate a positive correlation with the levels of agility of an organization. This analysis fuelled an enriching debate between Claude Revel, expert advisor on strategy and influence at Skema Business School, Philippe Clerc, President of the Académie de l'intelligence économique and Henri Dou, Director of Research at the CNRS.



MEETING WITH ROBERT PIPER, UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION (DCO) OF THE UN

18 October: In order to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UN Secretary General proposed changes three years ago to bring the UN's presence and action closer to local needs and contexts. Robert Piper, Under-Secretary-General for Development Coordination (DCO) of the UN, elaborated on the points and advances related to the reform of the UN system in front of UN agency executives.



PARTICIPATION OF BRO AT THE 16TH MEETING OF THE EU-UN FAFA WORKING GROUP

26-28 October: This yearly meeting, hosted this time at the European Commission, gave an opportunity to UN and EU representatives to discuss the overview of the EU-UN relations within the EU and UN regulatory landscape, and the implementation through the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) of the EU and UN regulatory framework (such as pillar assessments) as well as control related issues.

MEETING WITH YOUMANI JÉRÔME LANKOANDÉ, CEO OF YULCOM TECHNOLOGIES AND STÉPHANIE ROBIN, ATTACHÉ, GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC IN BRUSSELS

5 November: Flora Demaegdt and Swan Remaud from UNIDO Brussels Office met Jérôme Lankoandé during his visit in Brussels. Mr. Lankoandé is CEO of YULCOM Technologies, an IT and Artificial Intelligence consulting company. During this meeting, Flora Demaegdt presented the work of UNIDO on Industry 4.0, the UN Task Force on digitalization and expressed the orientations of the European Union in the field of digitalization. As further perspectives, Yulcom technologies and UNIDO could work together on the implementation of targeted projects on the ground, especially in the Sahel.



MEETING WITH H.E. AWAD SAKINE AHMAT, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AFRICAN UNION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

10 November: Patrick Gilabert, UNIDO Representative to the European Union had a fruitful meeting with H.E. Awad Sakine Ahmat, Permanent Representative of the African Union to the European Union. They discussed the organisation of the Africa Industrialization Day 2021 in Brussels, which has been postponed to the first quarter of 2022, due to COVID-19 restrictions.



INTERVENTION OF MOUNA LYOUBI AT THE PARIS PEACE FORUM 2021

12 November: The UNIDO office in Brussels facilitated the intervention of Mouna Lyoubi at the Paris Peace Forum 2021, a flagship international political event. As UNIDO Coordinator for the OYA Program, she was invited to speak on “Working with Youth: Mitigating the Impact of the Crisis on Youth Employment and Education.” Ms. Lyoubi shared her view on youth entrepreneurship and employability in Africa and reaffirmed the importance of strengthening youth access to trainings and opportunities. UNIDO’s contribution to the Paris Peace Forum 2021 opens doors for further engagement at the highest level in the next edition.



STRENGTHENING THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE THE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE (OIF)

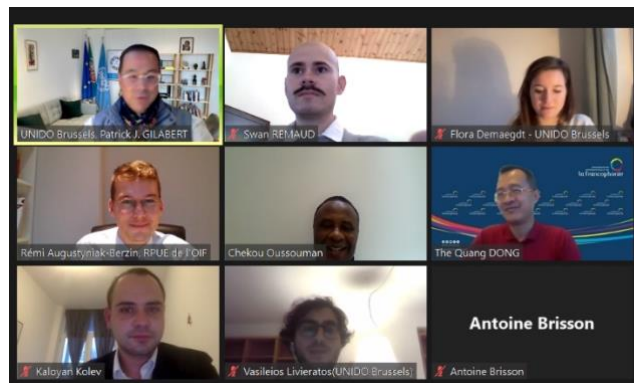
15 November : Patrick Gilabert, former UNIDO representative to Vietnam and now to the European Union, participated in a conference on vocational training jointly organised by the IOF and The Ministry of Labour - Invalids and Social Affairs of Vietnam (MOLISA).



18 November: The UNIDO team in Brussels met with Kaloyan KOLEV, Programme Specialist at the IOF Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific. An overview of the activities of each organisation was made and points of convergence were established. The two organisations committed to strengthening joint work and planning joint events.



19 November : BRO held a meeting with OIF representatives from Vietnam, Dubai, and the EU, to discuss the possibility to join OIF Investment Forum at Expo Dubai in 2022, and various economic missions in Asia and Africa.



24 November: The UNIDO office in Brussels was invited to speak at the opening of Franconomics 2021. The event co-organised by the Institut de la Francophonie pour l'Informatique (IFI), the OIF, the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) took place on 24-25 November 2021.

Flora Demaegdt addressed the challenges of digital transformation for access to essential services in times of Covid-19.



PARTICIPATION OF THE UNIDO BRUSSELS OFFICE IN THE SAHEL ALLIANCE WORKSHOP IN BRUSSELS

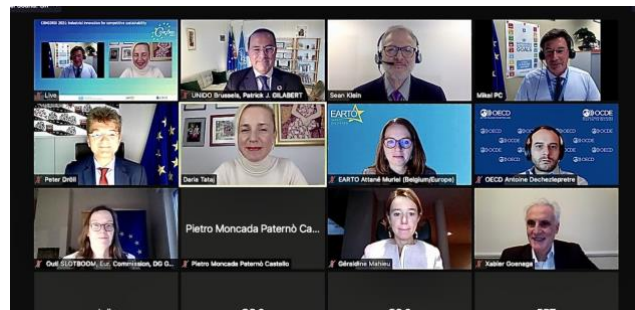
23-24 November : Flora Demaegdt and Swan Remaud from UNIDO Brussels Office participated in the second workshop organised by the Sahel Alliance in Brussels. As members of the thematic group “Private Sector”, they were able to present UNIDO's projects in the region and contribute ideas on how to provide innovative responses to development challenges in the Sahel.

The UNIDO office in Brussels has been part of the private sector working group of the Sahel Alliance since 2020. In this capacity, the office has organised several events aimed at improving the dialogue between the group's stakeholders and at strengthening cooperation on the ground. In June 2021, a technical workshop to discuss the realities and challenges of the cotton industry in Burkina Faso was organised under the leadership of UNIDO Brussels Office and the EU Delegation in Burkina Faso and brought together more than 50 experts from the member institutions of the Sahel Alliance



PARTICIPATION OF THE UNIDO OFFICE IN BRUSSELS IN THE CONCORDi CONFERENCE

25 November: Patrick Gilabert intervened at the closing plenary session for policy makers at CONCORDi 2021 and highlighted the importance of skills intelligence and networks to make an impact in the least developed countries and emerging economies, for a people-centred, digital and green transition. This biennial European conference on business R&D and innovation addressed issues related to the economics and policy of business R&D and innovation. The event was organized by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission in association with the European Association for Research and Technology Organizations (EARTO), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and UNIDO. The event brought together high-level panelists involving important substantive discussions, notably on the issues of post-covid economic recovery in developing countries.



UNIDO'S 9TH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF THE LDCS CO-ORGANIZED BY THE OACPS

26 November: With the support of the UNIDO office in Brussels, OACPS co-organized, For the 1st time the LDCs Ministerial Conference with UNIDO and UNOHRLLS. The Conference served as a platform to foster high-level discussions to address the challenges faced by the least developed countries (LDCs) in the next decade. OACPS presented its priorities in the next years for LDCs : economic development, food security, debt relief, access to Covid-19 vaccines, all serving the main priority of poverty reduction. The conference will pave the way for the LDC5 Conference in Doha in January 2022.



SPEECH BY MR ANTTI KARHUNEN, DG INTPA, AT THE 8TH ISID FORUM

29 November – 3 December : The year 2021 marked an important turning point for the organisation as it held its 19th General Conference. UNIDO reiterated the foundational role that inclusive and sustainable industrial development must play in ensuring a stable economic recovery in the organization's member countries. The General Conference confirmed the mandate of Gerd Müller, former German Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, as the new Director-General of UNIDO. He will succeed Li Yong, who has led the United Nations' specialized agency since 2013.

On this occasion, Mr. Antti Pekka KARHUNEN, Director for Sustainable Finance, Investment and Employment, DG INTPA, European Commission

spoke at the Eighth Forum on Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID). He welcomed the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) as an initiative the EU was proud to be part of, and stressed that “the EU is grateful to have a partner like UNIDO and looks forward to continued cooperation.”



FINALISING THE STATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP 2022

The UNIDO Liaison Office in Brussels is currently finalizing the UNIDO-EU publication: State of the International Partnership 2022, in collaboration with Global Concept Consulting, a communication agency. It will be published early January 2022. In order to document the continuing expansion of UNIDO-EU cooperation, this biannual flagship publication will illustrate policy dialogues and updates on the achievements of EU-funded projects worldwide.

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LATEST EU PUBLICATIONS

CONSOLIDATING THE DONOR ENGAGEMENT ON NUTRITION : DONOR NETWORK IN NIGER

Niger is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking last in the Human Development Index. In such a context, with a drought-stricken population and a highly fragile environment, reducing malnutrition is an enormous challenge. Undernutrition is endemic in the country and can manifest itself in various forms: 2.4 million children under the age of five, almost half of this age group, are affected by chronic malnutrition, which can prevent them from reaching their full physical and cognitive potential. It can cause long-term damage to their health and stop them from leading a productive life. Wasting and anaemia are also serious public health concerns in Niger. This places a heavy social and economic burden on the country. In 2014, the cost of child undernutrition was an estimated 7.1% of gross domestic product (GDP). Combating undernutrition is a crucial step in the country's path to development and in ensuring the wellbeing of its population. Strategies to tackle undernutrition have lasting effects and are cost-effective and far less costly than inaction.



Source : <https://op.europa.eu/>

LATIN AMERICA IP SME HELPDESK: CHILE IP COUNTRY FACTSHEET

Intellectual Property (IP) is a set of legal rules that regulate the exclusive rights related to innovative and creative activity and to commercial activity. IP is usually divided into two branches: Industrial Property, which relates to inventions, designs or signs used in commerce; and Copyright, which relates mainly to literary and artistic works. As exclusive rights, Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) confer a temporary monopoly to the right holders, granting them exclusivity on the use and exploitation of their intellectual creations and also the right to prevent any unauthorized use by third parties. Nowadays, IPR have become a key factor for innovative SMEs seeking to internationalise. IPR will provide market exclusivity, allow to recoup the investment made in R&D, facilitate licence and transfer agreements negotiations related to IPRs allowing them to access third parties technologies. SMEs that are interested and concerned about their intangible assets generally have the chance to find new investors, build a better enterprise image, access new markets and thus increase their value. The IPR system also enables rightholders in the artistic and cultural sphere (such as authors, performers, producers, broadcasters, etc) to improve their visibility and protect their moral and economic interests. The following IP rights are further developed throughout this factsheet, focusing on Chilean features: Copyright, Patents, Industrial Designs, Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Appellations of Origin, and Plant Varieties.

AGENDA 2021

January (TBC): UNIDO and the EU: State of the International Partnership SOTIP 2022, launching of flagship report in EU

23-27 January 2022: 5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) - Doha

8-11 February: EU industry Days 2022

17-18 February: EU - AU Summit 2022

April (TBC): Photography exhibition in front of the European Parliament Brussels

EU Presidency trios 2022-2023: 2022-2023 trios: France (January-June 2022), Czech Republic (July-

December 2022), Sweden (January-June 2023) UNIDO's IDR 2022 launching in EU (Belgium, Luxembourg, France), TBC

UNIDO – OACPS Day and Symposium 2022, Planned



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EPR/BRO Website



UNIDO Brussels Media Bank

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You have an idea? A recommendation? Anything you wish to share with us?

Don't hesitate and reach at Email : p.gilabert@unido.org

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