



Edition n°5 - December 2021

# UNIDO Brussels Snapshot

*Quarterly updates to EU partners*

## **Foreword**

Dear readers,

Late 2021 marked an important turning point for UNIDO, as a new Director General was elected: Gerd Müller, former German Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development. His election was confirmed during UNIDO 19th General Conference (GC). He will succeed Li Yong who has led the organization since 2013.

As the EU delegation recalled during UNIDO GC: "The issues we need to address 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 UNIDO, to be key players in this regard." As a German and former Member of the European Parliament, our new DG is surely up to the challenge: intensifying our UNIDO-EU cooperation for concrete actions.

In the past few months, we have celebrated our fruitful partnership through a photography exhibition at the world Expo Dubai 2020 on "A partnership for respect" . This innovative event showcased photos taken by UNIDO Goodwill ambassador, the photographer Elisabetta Illy, who pictured the essence of the UNIDO-EU collaboration, fostering respect for the people and the planet.

In this snapshot edition, we chose to stress UNIDO's commitment to multilateralism and policy dialogues to advance Agenda 2030. You will find our most recent highlights such as the outcomes of the General Conference, our participation to the Paris Peace Forum, COP 26, CONCORDi 2021 and the 9th ministerial conference of the LDCs. We also have for your reading list one of the most important UNIDO publication of the year: the Industrial Development Report 2022.

We wish you a happy, relaxing, & safe holiday season and we look forward to collaborating with you in the new year !

*Patrick Gilabert, Ph.D.*

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

## HIGHLIGHTS

### **UNIDO General Conference confirmed Gerd Müller as new Director-General**





VIENNA, 29 November - 3 December 2021 - The mandate of **Gerd Müller**, former German Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, as **the new Director-General of UNIDO** was confirmed during UNIDO's 19th General Conference. The event took place at a critical juncture following the Secretary-General's call for a "Decade of Action" and in light of the prolonged economic recovery in store for countries all over the world. It was a great opportunity to hear from UNIDO member states and visualise how UNIDO capitalises on its rich expertise to promote and implement inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

On this occasion, Mr. Antti Pekka KARHUNEN, Director for Sustainable Finance, Investment and Employment at DG INTPA, 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."**

**[Learn more](#)**

**UNIDO - EU Photography Exhibition at Expo Dubai 2020**



*Persons in attendance: Stephan Klement, EU Ambassador to UNIDO in Vienna, Nasser Maher, UN Commissioner-General for Expo 2020, Elisabetta Lattanzio Illy, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador, Wolfgang Sobotka, President of the Austrian Parliament, Patrick Gilbert, UNIDO Representative to the European Union, and Helmut Döller, Deputy Commissioner General of the Austria Pavilion*

DUBAI, 23-25 October 2021 - UNIDO and the EU organized the photo exhibition, A partnership of respect: "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. 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** and emphasized that, "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."

**Learn more**

**UNIDO 9th Ministerial Conference of the LDCs co-organized by the OACPS**





VIENNA, 26 November 2021 - OACPS was **for the 1st time**, co-organizer of 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 with pave the way for the LDC5 Conference in Doha in January 2022.

**[Learn more](#)**

**UNIDO at the Paris Peace Forum 2021**



PARIS, 12 November 2021 - The UNIDO/FAO « Opportunities for Youth in Africa » (OYA) program was selected among the 80 impactful governance projects featured at the Paris Peace Forum 2021, a flagship international political event taking place every year in France. As UNIDO Coordinator for the OYA Program, Mouna Lyoubi was invited to speak on the panel **"Right by youth's side: preventing and mitigating the socio-economic vulnerabilities of youth"**. She 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.

[Learn more](#)

[Participation of UNIDO in the Sahel Alliance workshop in Brussels](#)



BRUSSELS, 23-24 November 2021 - UNIDO Brussels Office participated in the in-person 2 days workshop of the Sahel Alliance in Brussels, gathering the European Commission, EU development agencies, financial institutions, development banks, and most major stakeholders active in the G5 Sahel countries. 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.

UNIDO has played an active role in the **private sector working group** of the Sahel Alliance since 2020. One outcome of our engagement to strengthen cooperation for a more effective support to the private sector, was the organization in June 2021 of a technical workshop on the cotton industry in Burkina Faso organised jointly with the EU Delegation in Burkina Faso.

**[Learn more](#)**

**UNIDO co-organized CONCORDi 2021**





BRUSSELS, 25 November 2021 - 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. It brought together high-level panelists involving substantive discussions, notably on the issues of post-covid economic recovery in developing countries. Patrick Gilabert, UNIDO Representative to the European Union, intervened at the closing plenary session for policy makers 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.

**Learn more**

**UNIDO at COP 26**





**UNIDO at the UN Climate Change  
Conference of the Parties (COP26)**  
31 October – 12 November 2021

GLASGOW, 32 October – 12 November 2021 - UNIDO sent a delegation to the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference to deliver important messages about the role of industry in saving the planet and its people from global warming. In an interview with COP26TV, Rana Ghoneim, Chief of UNIDO's Energy systems and Infrastructure Division, highlighted the imperative of shifting to green materials and technologies in order to achieve the Paris Agreement goals and be part of the global response to the climate crisis. On 8 November, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) announced 10 new winners of its Challenge Programme for Adaptation Innovation, a competition that provides seed funding for innovative initiatives designed to help vulnerable countries cope with the worsening climate crisis. UNIDO will be the implementing agency for three of the 10 project selected.

**[Learn More](#)**

---

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Industrial Development report 2022**



For the recovery to take hold, it is critical to understand how the pandemic has affected the industrial sector—and the prospects for the future of industrialization as economies all over the world continue to rebound and recover. The Industrial Development Report 2022 contributes to this discussion by providing evidence at the country, industry and firm level that documents the impacts of the crisis, and by examining the drivers of resilience and vulnerability in those same contexts.

### Read the report

## UNIDO - EU Photography Exhibition at Expo Dubai 2020

This report presents in details the vision of the organisers and the outcomes of the photo exhibition at 2020 Dubai Universal Exhibition organised by UNIDO and the EU.

By telling the stories behind each picture, this guide invites you to embrace ISID through art and story-telling. As Elizabetta Illy says, "In a world undergoing an epochal transformation, we are in dire need of stories to be told. To open our eyes. To inspire our minds. To power our actions. To motivate our commitments."



**Read the report**

## **Sectoral Transformation for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development**



This publication provides an overview of UNIDO's methodological tools for supporting structural transformation as a critical path towards the industrialization goals of developing countries. It is linked to and should be read in conjunction with UNIDO's Medium Term Programme Framework 2022-2025, which emphasizes the importance of sector and value chain transformation in economic development and poverty eradication, for increasing productivity and exports, as well as for employment and income generation.

**Read the report**

---

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



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

Season's Greetings! And best wishes for the New Year.

### 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](mailto:f.demaegdt@unido.org)

*If you enjoyed this update, feel free to share [THIS LINK](#) with your network.*



*Copyright © 2021 UNIDO, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

