



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



Research Network
Sustainable Global
Supply Chains



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Learning and Knowledge
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SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY



LKDF Forum 2023 Programme

Skills for Sustainability in Global Supply Chains

13 - 14 November - Vienna International Centre (VIC)
and online

Partners



German Institute for Global and Area Studies
Leibniz-Institut für Globale und Regionale Studien



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LKDF Forum 2023

Skills for Sustainability in Global Supply Chains

Empowering industrializing countries to meet sustainability requirements

13-14 November 2023
Vienna International Centre (VIC)
Vienna, Austria

13 November: Conference Room CR4, C Building, 7th floor (and [online](#))

14 November (research workshop on Sustainable Supply Chains, for UNIDO staff and invited guests): Room C0739, C Building, 7th floor.

14 November (closed door event): UNIDO Innovation Lab, Meeting Room D1765, D Building, 17th floor

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LKDF FORUM 2023

Skills for Sustainability in Global Supply Chains:

Empowering industrializing countries to meet sustainability requirements

Jointly organized with the Forum on Globalization and Industrialization (FGI)

Context

Participation in global supply chains has been shown to be an important driver of productivity gains and employment creation, but social and environmental conditions in supply chains have, in many cases, improved little. The Forum thus emphasizes the critical role of skills development in achieving sustainable supply chain goals, particularly in light of the increasing number of mandatory due diligence regulations being adopted and implemented in the Global North. The discussions will revolve around how developing and industrializing economies can better position themselves in global supply chains by improving skills and knowledge relevant to sustainable industrialization.

Developing and industrializing economies need to engage in education and training to provide their workforce with the knowledge to adopt eco-friendly technologies, implement sustainable processes, and address environmental and social problems. Consequently, by cultivating a competent workforce that understands sustainability concepts, industrializing economies can attract more investments, establish competitive advantages, and demonstrate commitment to ethical business practices, presenting themselves as leaders in sustainable industrialization.

Objectives of the Forum

The LKDF Forum 2023 aims to:

1. Convene public and private stakeholders for action-oriented debates and for Public-Private Development Partnerships (PPDPs);
2. Propose pragmatic and tangible solutions to enhance the capacities of developing and industrializing economies to participate and contribute in sustainable supply chains;
3. Exchange innovative ideas and learn from best practices to stimulate new partnerships;
4. Generate consensus and continuous engagement of partners on advocating for skills development initiatives towards sustainable supply chain requirements.

Audience

The LKDF Forum will provide a platform for exchange including policy makers, development practitioners, representatives from the private sector (companies, associations, and organizations), experts from academia (universities and research institutions), civil society, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations. It will also provide opportunities for representatives of young leaders and associations to voice their concerns.

Agenda - Day 1

DAY 1 - Monday, 13 November 2023 (Conference room CR4, C Building, 7th floor)	
10:00-10:15	<p>OFFICIAL OPENING</p> <p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><i>Gunther Beger, Managing Director, Directorate for SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation, UNIDO;</i> <i>Alan AtKisson, Assistant Director-General, Sida</i></p>
10:15-11:15	<p>SETTING THE SCENE: Skills for Sustainability in Global Supply Chains</p> <p>An immersive session focused on the vital skills necessary for fostering sustainable supply chains in both industrializing and developing countries.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><i>Joerg Hofstetter, Associate Professor in Supply Chain Management, KEDGE Business School and President of the International Forum on Sustainable Value Chains;</i> <i>Neelam Melwani, ESG Advisory, Senior Manager – Circular Economy and Sustainable Supply Chains, Deloitte UK;</i> <i>Jann Lay, Lead Research Fellow, GIGA;</i> <i>Virpi Stucki, Chief, Division for Fair Production, Sustainability Standards and Trade, UNIDO</i></p>
11:15-12:15	<p>Session 1: Developing Due Diligence Capacities to Enhance Sustainable Supply Chains: Perspectives from Industrializing and Developing Countries</p> <p>This session looks at the capacities needed to enhance the sustainability of production in global supply chains. It emphasizes what is being done and what is needed for industrializing and developing countries to meet an increasing number of mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence regulations.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><i>Maria-Therese Gustafsson, Assistant Professor in Political Science, Stockholm University;</i> <i>Eike Feddersen, Senior Project Manager “Initiative for Global Solidarity, GIZ;</i> <i>Mohamad Anis Agung Nugroho, Program manager, BetterWork;</i> <i>Valentina Bolognesi, Advocacy and Engagement Senior Advisor, Amfori;</i> <i>Akos Koeszegvary, Chief of Public Private Partnership, UNIDO</i></p>
12:15-13:45	Lunch and Networking

13:45-14:55	<p>Session 2: Skillful Solutions: Unlocking Sustainable Supply Chains through Partnerships</p> <p>This session will delve into the challenges and solutions related to developing sustainable supply chain skills, emphasizing the importance of partnerships between the public and private sectors. Besides key challenges and potential solutions, speakers will also discuss how to integrate sustainability into training programs, and how to incentivize private sector investment in skills development within their supply chain operations. This session aims to highlight the potential of collaborations to inspire actionable strategies for a more sustainable future.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><i>Mattias Larsen, Industrial Development Expert, UNIDO;</i> <i>Ulrika Hessling Sjöström, Counsellor, Analyst, Deputy Head of Section, Regional Development Cooperation Africa, Embassy of Sweden, Ethiopia;</i> <i>Fernando Santiago Cajaraville, Project Manager, Buehler Group;</i> <i>Elina Rääsk, Sustainable Operations Manager, Nokia;</i> <i>Gerardo Pataconi, Head of Operations, International Coffee Organization (ICO);</i> <i>Sarah Meinert, Head of Knowledge Management GoTrade, DHL;</i></p>
14:55-15:10	Coffee break + Networking
15:10-16:20	<p>Session 3: Global Efforts in Skills Development for Sustainable Supply Chains</p> <p>This session will serve as a platform for the international community to share their initiatives, challenges and milestones in promoting skills development for sustainability and their contribution to sustainable supply chains, emphasizing the importance of incorporating these skills within supply chains to meet both current challenges and future demands. A dialogue on collaborations and shared goals will be encouraged, focusing on how different international stakeholders can complement each other and synergize their efforts towards more impactful results.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><i>Patrik Stålgren, Head of Unit for Strategic Partnerships, Private sector, Innovation and New methods, Sida</i> <i>Ghada Teima, Lead Financial Sector Specialist, International Finance Corporation (IFC) - World Bank Group and Global SME Finance Forum;</i> <i>Stefanie Weniger, Executive Director of the Global Compact Austria, UN Global Compact;</i> <i>Hae Kyeung Chun, Technical Officer at the Skills and Employability Branch, International Labour Organization (ILO);</i> <i>Rupal Verma, Sustainability Expert, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);</i> <i>Manuela Prina, Head of Skills Identification and Development Unit, European Training Foundation (ETF)</i></p>
16:20-16:30	Closing Session: Call to Action

Agenda - Day 2 (Closed Door Event)

UNIDO Co-creation workshop

Day 2 - Tuesday 14 November 2023 (UNIDO Innovation Lab, D Building, Meeting Room D1765, 17th floor)	
09:30-10:00	INTRODUCTION
10:00-10:30	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
10:30-10:50	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:50-11:50	GROUP DISCUSSION: FEEDBACK AND CO-CREATION
11:50-12:30	PRESENTATION OF GROUP WORK
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13:30-14:30	FISHBOWL DISCUSSION
14:30-15:00	GROUP PEER WORK BASED ON INTEREST MAPPING
15:00-15:30	SUMMARY AND CLOSING
15:30-17:00	NETWORKING

Agenda - Day 2 (Closed Door Event)

Research workshop (Facilitated by GIGA)

Day 2 - Tuesday 14 November 2023 (C Building, Room CO739, 7th Floor)	
09:00-09:30	Coffee welcome
09:30-11:10	<p>Session 1: GVCs and due diligence regulation</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> <i>Jann Lay & Tevin Tafese (GIGA) intro:</i> The rise of mandatory HREDD regulations: reviewing the evidence on perceptions and impacts <i>Joerg Hofstetter (KEDGE Business School):</i> Evaluating the Impact of HREDD on Social Standards in GVCs: A Corporate-Level Perspective <i>Frauke Steglich (IfW):</i> The cumulative effect of due diligence EU legislation on SMEs <i>Jann Lay (GIGA):</i> Limited scope and leakage: Why (European) mandatory HREDD may be less effective than one would hope <i>Johannes Jäger (University of applied science BFI Vienna):</i> Expected economic effects of the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD)</p>
11:10-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	<p>Session 2: GVCs and sustainable industrial clusters</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> <i>Tevin Tafese (GIGA) intro:</i> Industrial clusters and structural transformation on labour markets: Evidence from two developing economies <i>Cecilia Hornok (IfW):</i> Place-based policies and household wealth in Africa <i>Florian Schäfer (King's College London, virtual):</i> Industrial clusters and labor relations - the case of Ethiopia <i>Felix Maile (Universität Wien, virtual):</i> African textile and apparel clusters in light of nearshoring and sustainability trends</p>
13:00	Sandwich Lunch

Speakers



Gunther Beger

The Directorate for SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation, responsible for the development of innovative services in areas of agro-industry, sustainability standards, fair production, and climate-improving technologies, the development of innovative technical cooperation concepts, and the identification of new sources of finance and new partnerships.

Until March 2022, Mr Beger served as Executive Director for Germany at the World Bank Group. From 2013-2021, he served as Director General in Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. From 2000-2013, he held several leadership positions in the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection. From 1995-2000, he served as Head of Division for Agriculture at the German Embassy in Moscow, Russia.



Alan AtKisson

Alan AtKisson serves as Assistant Director-General of Sida, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, and leads Sida's Department of Partnership and Innovation. The department manages grant portfolios and strategic programs related to Sida's work in a broad range of areas, including development finance and financial guarantees, civil society support, academic research cooperation, capacity development programming, private sector collaboration, relationships with other bilateral donors, and engaging other Swedish government agencies. Alan also leads Sida's work with development-related innovation. He has over 35 years of experience in the field of sustainable development, working internationally in a wide variety of leadership and advisory positions, and is the author of several books on sustainability practice, capacity development, and change management.



Joerg Hofstetter

Dr. Joerg S. Hofstetter, an academic expert in circular economy, corporate sustainability, global value chains, and multinational multi-tier supply chains with over 20 years of experience, is Associate Professor in Supply Chain Management at KEDGE Business School Paris, Head of its Lab "Sustainable Supply Chains", President of the International Forum on Sustainable Value Chains (ISVC), Lecturer at the University of St. Gallen, and Fellow of the Center for Organization Research & Design (CORD) at Arizona State University. He consults national government and intergovernmental organizations as well as private and public companies across different industries, and is non-executive board member in the private sector. He is a founding member of the GRONEN Foundation, a co-chair of Future Earth's Working Group on Circular Economy, a member of the Green Growth Knowledge Platform's Trade & Competitiveness Research Committee, and acts as Ambassador of the Sustainable Procurement Pledge. Previously, he served at the University of St. Gallen as Vice Director of its Chair of Logistics Management and Assistant Professor of Management, at Lufthansa Cargo in Singapore and at ITT Automotive in Detroit.

Speakers



Jann Lay

Jann Lay is Head of the Research Programme “Globalization and Development” at the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Hamburg. As adjunct professor, he also teaches development economics at the University of Goettingen. His work is on various facets of economic development in the Global South, in particular in Africa, including on foreign investment and global value chains, employment and labour markets, rural development as well as issues related to energy, climate and development. He is an experienced policy advisor and has worked as a consultant for various multilateral organisations and the German Development Cooperation. He is a founding member of the research network on sustainable supply. He holds a PhD in economics from the University of Goettingen and has previously worked at the Kiel Institute for the World Economy.



Virpi Stucki

Virpi Stucki is the Chief of Skills Development and Fair Production Unit at UNIDO. In that role, she oversees UNIDO’s interventions on improving the income and employment opportunities by empowering people and enterprises with demand-driven skills and by fostering entrepreneurship. Prior to joining UNIDO in 2012, Ms. Stucki worked at the Royal Dutch Shell, the International Union for Conservation for Nature (IUCN) and Aalto University School of Engineering. Virpi Stucki holds a PhD in civil and environmental engineering with a focus on water resources management.



Neelam Melwani

Neelam works across both public and private sectors to shape resource efficiency and circular economy opportunities and strategies; enhance material traceability and supply chain transparency; address scope 3 emissions; and build sustainable and resilient supply chains. Since joining Deloitte, she’s helped clients develop circular economy KPIs; explore opportunities to profitably scale circular opportunities; address critical material risks; and develop stronger customer relationships based on circular economy. Prior to joining Deloitte, Neelam was a diplomat for the Kingdom of the Netherlands focusing on climate risk, adaptation and water, and circular economy. She also worked for the Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, where she led work on the Netherlands’ multilateral environmental policy on circular economy. She was seconded to the World Economic Forum where she worked with business and governments to strengthen public-private partnership to address climate change in hard-to-abate sectors (cement, steel, chemicals) through circular opportunities.

Speakers



**Maria-Therese
Gustafsson**

Maria-Therese Gustafsson holds the position of Associate Professor at the Department of Political Science at Stockholm University. Prominent themes in her research are new supply chain regulations, corporate accountability, public and private governance in agricultural and mineral supply chains, and the participation of marginalized groups in sustainability governance. Gustafsson has extensive field research experience in Latin America. She actively engages in the dissemination of her research and in interacting with and organizing events involving a diverse range of stakeholders. At present, she co-leads a research project focused on environmental and human rights due diligence within global supply chains. Her work has been featured in leading journals, such as *Climate Policy*, *Environmental Politics*, *Global Environmental Politics*, and *World Development*.



Eike Feddersen

Eike Feddersen is a Senior Project Manager at the project "Initiative for Global Solidarity" (IGS), which has been commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to support the implementation of mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence (HREDD). In previous roles, she worked as adviser to the German government on HREDD with a focus on textile supply chains, and managed the country activities of the regional GIZ FABRIC project in Myanmar and Vietnam. Before joining GIZ, Eike worked in not-for-profit organizations on various governance projects, capacity building initiatives and as a policy analyst. Eike holds a Master in International Relations from Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt University Berlin and University of Potsdam and a Bachelor in European Studies from Maastricht University.



**Mohamad Anis Agung
Nugroho**

Anis is The Better Work Bangladesh Program Manager since February 2022 after spending over ten years in Better Work Indonesia in different capacities. Anis joined ILO and IFC's programme Better Work Indonesia in December 2010, as he had shared the programme's vision and mission. He started as an Enterprise Advisor, and as Better Work Indonesia grew, Anis was assigned as Senior Enterprise advisor to manage core services, including assessment, advisory and training. And then since February 2015, Anis has led Better Work Indonesia as National Operations Manager. In 2016, Yayasan Kemitraan Kerja was established as part of the sustainability agenda of Better Work in Indonesia. Anis played an essential role in establishing an initial set-up of the Yayasan Kemitraan Kerja to implement Better Work Core Services in Indonesia. From January 2017 until January 2022, Anis lead the foundation as the foundation's executive director.

Speakers



Valentina Bolognesi

Valentina is Senior Advocacy and Engagement Advisor at amfori where she is responsible for contributing to amfori's advocacy work in the field of social sustainability and supply chain policies with a special focus on human rights due diligence. Prior to joining amfori, Valentina worked on sustainability issues related to the tech sector including responsible sourcing, substance restrictions, energy, material efficiency, waste, repair and refurbishment. Valentina holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in international relations.



Akos Koeszegvary

Akos is Chief of Division of Public Private Partnerships at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) since August 2022. Previously he coordinated UNIDO's partnerships with the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund. Prior to his above functions, Akos has held various positions in UNIDO's technical cooperation programmes and was responsible for some of UNIDO's largest projects in several regions on the implementation of the Montreal Protocol for the phase-out of ozone depleting substances. He holds an M.Sc. degree from the University of Technology of Budapest and an MBE (Master of Business Engineering) from the Steinbeis University of Berlin.



Mattias Larsen

Mattias Larsen is an Industrial Development Expert at UNIDO responsible for the management and coordination of the LKDF. Working in UNIDO's Skills Development and Fair Production Unit with a focus on youth employment and skills development, Mattias builds on his previous experience as a development researcher to promote sustainable skills development training to stimulate youth employment.

Speakers



**Fernando Santiago
Cajaraville**

Fernando Santiago-Cajaraville is an Innovation Project Manager at Buhler Group. He is driven by his passion for using new technologies to enhance the sustainability of food supply chains and the societal impact of innovation. Currently, he leads the scouting bioprocessing activities in the UK. He is also part of the Buhler ACT project, which aims to automatise the carbon footprint quantification in food supply chains. He has developed the Buhler DaSh Network, a blockchain platform designed to improve traceability and transparency in information flow of food value chains. In the past, Fernando worked on a UK Parliament (House of Commons) leading the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Blockchain, a project that studied the implications of blockchain technology on the future economic landscape of the UK and its regulatory implications.



Elina Rääsk

Elina Rääsk works in Nokia's Corporate Affairs ESG team. She is Head of Sustainable Supply overlooking sustainable supply chain and sourcing strategy and implementation. Elina has joined Nokia in 2009, and has been engaged in sourcing, supply chain and quality related sustainability activities since then, including supplier due-diligence, learning and capability building, industry collaboration across broad scope of topics such as labour rights, modern slavery, health and safety, climate, circularity, responsible minerals sourcing etc. Since then her role has evolved into strategic deployment and management of sustainability topics across supply chain.



Sarah Meinert

Sarah is Head of Knowledge Management, (GoTrade) at DHL Group and has been with the Group for 12 years, holding various positions in the fields of Sustainability, HR and Market Research. Before joining Deutsche Post DHL, Sarah worked at the University of Bonn and the Center for Development Research as lecturer and researcher focusing on ethnic and cultural diversity in Southeast Asia. Sarah is a passionate advocate for gender equality and in her role as Head of Knowledge Management supports many initiatives empowering female entrepreneurs, especially in developing and least developed countries. Go Trade draws on Deutsche Post DHL's expertise in global trade and logistics to help developing and least developed countries to implement best-in-class policies and procedures at the border and help local businesses to access the global market.

Speakers



Gerardo Patacconi

Gerardo Patacconi serves as the Head of Operations at International Coffee Organization (ICO). His last position was Director of the Department of Agribusiness Development at UNIDO which also included the mandate on job creation, gender and youth and migration and the responsibility for UNIDO membership in the UN Global Migration Group (GMG). In 2013 Gerardo run the election as Italy/EU candidate and was one of the two shortlisted candidates for the post of Executive-Director of the International Sugar Organization (ISO) (candidature was withdrawn after first round of votes to allow election of the candidate from Latin America). His previous management position was Chief of the UNIDO Unit on industrial clusters and suppliers development and on CSR for market integration. He has successfully developed strategic and operational Public-Private Partnerships and buyers-suppliers integration projects with substantive fund raised.



Patrik Stålgren

Patrik Stålgren is the Head of Unit for Strategic Partnerships, Private sector, Innovation and New methods at the Swedish International Development Cooperation (Sida). Previously, Patrik was the Head of African Operations at Vireo Energy. Additionally, Patrik Stålgren was research fellow in the Department of Political Science at Göteborg University and the Department of Management, social psychology, political science at Stanford University.



Ghada Teima

Ms. Ghada Teima, has been working with the International Finance Corporation, the private sector arm of The World Bank Group, for 20 years, in different technical and managerial capacities. During her tenor at IFC, Ms. Teima managed Access to Finance Advisory Services Operations in Latin America and the Caribbean for and prior to that worked in the Middle East and North Africa region on related topics. As part of the Financial Institutions Group, she has led IFC Small and Medium Enterprise Finance Advisory Practice globally, advising banks on developing their SME Finance business and women banking. Beyond emerging markets private sector development experience, she has engaged on multiple policy and regulatory issues for SME Finance. Ms. Teima has been leading the IFC/ World Bank G20 SME Finance practice within the Financial Inclusion agenda under the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI) since 2010. This included leading the G20 GPFI SME Finance and Digital Financial Services work program for multiple G20 Presidencies, including USA/ Canada, France, Germany, Türkiye, China, Saudi Arabia, Italy and India.

Speakers



Stefanie Weniger

Stefanie Weniger is Executive Director of the Global Compact Network Austria (GCNA), one out of 62 Local Networks that are implementing the vision of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) on national ground. In her function, Ms. Weniger is responsible for executing and overseeing the Network's strategy in Austria, supporting the initiative's ambition to accelerate and scale the global collective impact of business by upholding the Ten Principles and delivering the SDGs. To this end, the UNGC – together with its Local Networks – develops strategies to help companies achieve a sustainable transformation of their supply chains. Prior to joining the Global Compact Network Austria, Ms. Weniger supported the Information & Communication Sector at UNESCO in Namibia and worked for a Non-Governmental Organization in Vienna, assisting young refugees in developing skills to gain an apprenticeship.



Hae Kyeong Chun

Hae Kyeong Chun is a Technical Officer at the Skills and Employability Branch, Employment Policy Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland. Her work area focuses on skills needs anticipation for the future of work, skills for trade and economic diversification, skills for environmental sustainability and climate action, and skills for technological change and digitalization. At the ILO, she coordinated the preparation of the report, "Skills development in the time of COVID-19: Taking stock of initial responses of technical vocational and educational training" in collaboration with the UNESCO and the World Bank. Recently, she edited, updated and finalized the publication, "Changing demand for skills in digital economies and societies: Literature review and case studies from low- and middle-income countries". Currently, she has coordinated developing a practical guidance tool on how to green TVET and skills development.



Rupal Verma

Rupal Verma is a sustainability expert at United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTD). Rupal is an experienced researcher with a demonstrated history of working in the sustainability sector, with a focus on the implementation and integration of private sustainability standards to foster sustainable value chains. Rupal holds a Erasmus Mundus Masters in Environmental Science, Policy, and Management from Central European University, University of the Aegean, University of Manchester, and Lund University.

Speakers



Manuela Prina

Manuela serves as the Head of the Skills Identification and Development Unit within the Knowledge Hub department of the European Training Foundation (ETF). As the Head of the Unit, Manuela is responsible for overseeing ETF's work related to skills relevance and anticipation, skills development and validation. She also leads initiatives for knowledge co-creation and sharing among ETF partner countries, the EU, and the international community. Manuela joined ETF in 2008 and has held various roles during her career, including responsibilities in governance, project implementation for monitoring and assessing VET systems and human capital development policies. She also led the development of the ETF's 2027 strategy. Before joining the ETF, Manuela worked for the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank. She holds a doctorate in International political economy with focus on human capital and development, and has continued her learning throughout her career specialising in foresight, skills anticipation and life-long learning.



Ulrika Hessling Sjöström

Ulrika Hessling Sjöström is Counsellor, Analyst and Deputy Head of Section at the Regional Development Cooperation for Africa at the Embassy of Sweden in Ethiopia. Before that, as a Senior Program Manager and Specialist at Sida HQ, she was responsible for managing and providing technical expertise for a portfolio of development programs that focus on innovation, private sector collaboration, and new methods. Ulrika Hessling Sjöström has extensive experience in international development, having worked in various roles at Sida for over 20 years. Her areas of interest include development finance, international relations, economic development as well as environment and climate change.

Organizers

THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO)

UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations system dedicated to promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development in developing countries and in the economies in transition, and to fostering international industrial cooperation.

UNIDO provides a variety of technical cooperation services, and acts as a global forum for the accumulation, analysis and dissemination of knowledge in the field of industrial development. The Lima Declaration, adopted by UNIDO's Member States at the fifteenth session of the General Conference in December 2013, relaunched the Organization's mandate of inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) on the international stage. With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ISID is a central issue in global development. This is reflected most prominently in Sustainable Development Goal 9 "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation", but also in the targets and indicators underpinning the other sixteen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UNIDO promotes ISID along four strategic priorities in which the Organization has a comparative advantage and expertise: creating shared prosperity, advancing economic competitiveness, safeguarding the environment, and strengthening knowledge and institutions.

THE LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY (LKDF)

The LKDF is a platform that promotes industrial skills development among young people in developing countries. The LKDF supports the establishment and upgrading of industrial training academies to help meet the labour market's increasing demand for skilled employees, ultimately contributing to inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID).

For many developing countries, access to quality educational systems and training programs is not adequate to meet new demands and address technological, social and environmental challenges. Uncoordinated dialogue between governments and national and international private companies affects the development and sustainability of a modern Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) system. While, poor collaboration between the private sector and TVET institutions often narrows the capacity of providing programmes and curricula that meet market needs and future skills requirements. Moreover, limited financial investments and corporate commitment results in an outdated and untrusted TVET system that does not influence the job market. As a result, young people do not see the value of TVET as a driver for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship that promotes inclusive and sustainable growth and supports transitions to digitalized and green economies.

Organizers

UNIDO identifies and collaborates with public, private and development partners (SDG17) to develop and scale-up training centers to fill the skills gap in developing countries. Our training and innovative curricula equip young female and male students with demand-driven skills and future skills requirements to seize the opportunities of technological progress (SDG4, SDG9). To date, UNIDO in collaboration with more than 40 partners has established and or upgraded about 15 training centers with a yearly intake of between 100-500 students and the participation of 20-100 trainers per TVET center. Our TVET projects already achieved 35% female participation in male-dominated sectors, with 60% of the trainees confirming they already found a better job situation.

By establishing Public-Private Development Partnerships (PPDP), UNIDO and partners design, establish, sustain, and upgrade training centers and curricula. The PPDP projects support social and environmental standards, such as gender equality and women empowerment (SDG5) and climate resilience (SDG13). Governments receive assistance to evaluate their TVET system, identify financial and human capacity requirements and existing linkages and gaps with the private sector. TVET centers collect contributions from the public and private sector to offer training services, meeting international standards and market needs. Private companies connect with governments to learn about the local context and inform about skills needs to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and safety of their businesses, and students acquire demand-driven skills, participate in awareness sessions on job content, and work readiness.

To ensure the long-term success of the industrial academies, the LKDF offers a systematic monitoring and evaluation (M&E) methodology that helps to track results and impacts by collecting, storing, and analyzing trainees' data. A key feature of the M&E system is the feedback loop between the LKDF and the participating PPDP projects. The projects LKDF provides a entail a monitoring database with information collected from the projects and, twice-yearly monitoring reports, and mid-term evaluations are produced along with, and ROI. While the LKDF shows project and country baseline reports, field visit reports, and mid-term and final evaluations. Through results-based learning and knowledge development, the LKDF evaluates the immediate impact in terms of sustainability and scale that will contribute to reducing overall youth unemployment in targeted regions. It further provides the policymakers and the donor community with transparent results to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of the programmes and justify their expansion to other countries or sectors.

Organizers

THE FORUM ON GLOBALIZATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION

The Forum on Globalization and Industrialization (FGI) has been a UNIDO flagship event since 2016, jointly organized with the Kiel Institute for the World Economy and the Kiel Centre for Globalization. Yearly, it has been bringing together policymakers, representatives of international organizations, academia, and practitioners from the private sector. Since 2016, the Forum has provided a platform for discovering new avenues for cooperation, highlights areas where stakeholders are already working together, and identifies actionable policies on issues related to industrialization, global trade and investment. It has also enabled UNIDO to strengthen the cooperation with its partners on frontier research and bridging the gap between practitioners and decision makers through evidence-based policymaking.

Since 2021, the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS) have joined the consortium, giving the Forum a stronger focus on sustainability in global supply chains with generous funding from the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ) through the “Research Network Sustainable Global Supply Chains”.

THE FORUM ON GLOBALIZATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION

The Research Network Sustainable Global Supply Chains is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The research network aims to synthesize and process existing knowledge and initiate new research on sustainable global value chains for evidence-based policy recommendations. The project is jointly led by the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS, Bonn), the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA, Hamburg), the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW, Kiel), and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP, Berlin).