ANNUAL REPORT 2022
UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO) Nigeria
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Dear Esteemed Colleagues and Distinguished Stakeholders,

I am pleased to present the notable accomplishments and significant contributions of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization’s Investment and Technology Promotion Office, Nigeria (UNIDO ITPO Nigeria) during the calendar year 2022. This period has been characterized by substantial advancement and achievements as we diligently pursued our core objective of facilitating inclusive and sustainable industrial development and progress within Nigeria and the fellow Member States of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Throughout the year, we actively engaged in strategic events and initiatives that have propelled us forward in our mission and driven us closer to achieving our goal.

Some notable highlights include:

- Our participation in the West African Clean Energy and Environment Trade Fair and Conference (WACEE’22) in Lagos, where we collaborated with ITPO Germany to support SMEs in the clean energy, water, and circular economy sectors.
- Our active engagement and participation in the African Union Commission - AEZO Annual Event on Special Economic Zones, the Nigeria Climate and Innovation Centre Roundtable Meeting, and many other such conferences and meetings where we fostered valuable collaborations and partnerships for sustainable industrial development.
- Our continued commitment to promoting gender equality and supporting women entrepreneurs in the cleantech sector was exemplified by our virtual Women in Cleantech Stakeholders engagement. We worked to mobilize support and overcome the challenges faced by women-owned cleantech SMEs, aiming to increase their footprint in the industry.
- Our dedication to promoting sustainable practices and innovation in various industries as demonstrated in our involvement in the Circular Exchange - The New Economy event and the Global Cleantech Innovation Program (GCIP) demonstrated our.

Our engagement in key international events including the US-Africa Leaders' Summit, the Africa Investment Forum (AIF) and the Africa Industrialization week provided excellent opportunities to showcase Nigeria’s industrial potential and explore investment opportunities with global stakeholders.

Throughout the year, we continued to engage with government officials, industry leaders, and development partners, aiming to create an enabling environment for investments and technology transfer in Nigeria and the region.

None of these remarkable achievements could have been realized without the resolute efforts and devotion exhibited by our esteemed team at UNIDO ITPO Nigeria. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each member, whose unwavering dedication has been pivotal in advancing our shared vision.

Furthermore, I wish to convey my deep appreciation to our esteemed sponsor and donor, the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investment (FMITI) in Nigeria, alongside all our partners and collaborators. Their unwavering contributions have been instrumental in propelling our journey towards the pursuit of sustainable industrial development.
As we move forward, we remain committed to fostering meaningful partnerships and collaborations that will drive progress towards the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG9—Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure.

I invite you to explore this annual report and witness the inspiring stories of progress and transformation which reflect the spirit of UNIDO ITPO Nigeria. Together, we shall continue to shape a prosperous and sustainable future for all.

Thank you for your unending support and belief in the mission of UNIDO ITPO-Nigeria.

Sincerely,

Abimbola Olufore Wycliffe

Head, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria
1.1 Progress by Innovation

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is the specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to promoting industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization, and environmental sustainability. With 168 member countries, UNIDO is headquartered in Vienna and operates a field network comprising 47 regional and country offices around the world.

UNIDO’s core mission centers on providing technical assistance, policy advice, capacity-building, and knowledge-sharing to its member countries. The organization actively supports developing countries and economies in transition by strengthening their industrial capacities and capabilities. By fostering inclusive and sustainable industrial development, UNIDO aims to benefit all segments of society while mitigating unfavorable environmental impacts.

UNIDO’s guiding motto, “Progress by Innovation,” coined by the Director-General, underscores the organization’s commitment to advancing innovation, technology transfer, and industrial modernization across various sectors. By embracing the principles of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 9 on sustainable industrialization, UNIDO endeavors to spearhead positive change and facilitate collaborative efforts among governments, businesses, civil society, and international partners.

1.2 UNIDO Priorities

UNIDO’s key priorities are:

- **Ensuring Food Security:** UNIDO strives to reduce hunger and increase food security through knowledge and technology sharing. By implementing innovative agricultural practices and reducing post-harvest losses, UNIDO helps countries improve food production and distribution. Concurrently, the organization facilitates the cultivation of agribusiness prospects, thereby generating employment opportunities for young people within the sector.

- **Mitigating Climate Change:** UNIDO is committed to tackling the climate change crisis by promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency measures in industries. By reducing greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable practices and technologies, UNIDO assists countries in the transition towards low-carbon economies. This approach not only mitigates climate change but also fosters the creation of millions of new green job opportunities.

- **Supporting Sustainable Supply Chains:** UNIDO acknowledges the significance of equitable and sustainable supply chains for producers within emerging nations. Through the establishment of environmental and social standards and the facilitation of knowledge and technology exchange, UNIDO contributes to elevating the quality and value of goods in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals outlined by the United Nations. This strategy safeguards limited resources and fosters responsible and ethical business conduct.

- **Promoting Innovation and Technology:** UNIDO places a strong emphasis on promoting innovation and technology adoption in industries. By supporting research and development, fostering innovation ecosystems, and facilitating technology transfer, UNIDO enables countries to enhance their industrial capabilities. This not only boosts productivity and competitiveness but also leads to more sustainable and inclusive industrial development.
Industrialization: Inclusive and sustainable industrialization creates employment, generates income and is thus key to economic development and sustainably increasing living standards. The 2030 Agenda aims to raise the industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product. It strives to expand access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services and their integration into value chains and markets. It calls on the member states to retrofit industries to make them sustainable, and to increase resource-use efficiency and stronger adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes.

Infrastructure: Quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure creates inclusiveness as it connects people, reduces spatial disparities and empowers people worldwide to participate in trade and investment, supporting economic development and human well-being. SDG 9 strives to facilitate infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support. It calls for an upgraded infrastructure with increased resource-use efficiency and stronger adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies.

Innovation: Innovation is the foundation for not only economic but also environmental sustainability. Innovative technologies boost resource efficiency, low-carbon and energy-efficient production and circular economies. SDG 9 calls for the support of domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries. This includes ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and adding value to commodities. Furthermore, scientific research should be enhanced and technological capabilities of industrial sectors upgraded to encourage innovation.
2.1 Background & Mandate

In 1986, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) introduced its first Investment Promotion Services, later evolving into the Investment and Technology Promotion Offices (ITPOs). Over the years, these ITPOs have played a crucial role in mitigating development imbalances by facilitating investments and technology transfer between developed, developing, and economies in transition countries. Today, the Investment and Technology Promotion Network (ITP Network) consists of nine ITPOs, guided by the ITP Network Secretariat at UNIDO Headquarters, under the UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Division within the Department of Global Partnership and External Relations.

The primary objective of the ITP Network is to contribute to the industrial development and economic growth of developing countries and those with economies in transition. This is achieved through the identification and mobilization of technical, financial, managerial, and other essential resources needed for the successful implementation of industrial investment and technology promotion projects, in collaboration with local partners. Acting as impartial advisors and facilitators, the ITPOs support the entire investment promotion and technology transfer process. Meanwhile, the ITP Network Secretariat fosters effective networking, information exchange, and knowledge sharing among the ITPOs.

Moreover, the ITP Network ensures seamless coordination between the work of individual ITPOs and UNIDO’s programs, projects, and field operations.

This alignment:
- Facilitates investment promotion,
- Fosters responsible business partnerships,
- Promotes the adoption of innovative and Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies and,
- Enhances development impact.

Presently, the ITP Network encompasses nine ITPOs operating across the globe: ITPO Nigeria, ITPO Germany, ITPO Bahrain, ITPO China (Beijing) & (Shanghai), ITPO Italy, ITPO Japan, ITPO Russian Federation, and ITPO Republic of Korea. Each of these ITPOs serves as a vital conduit for driving industrial growth and fostering economic transformation in their respective regions, in line with UNIDO’s overarching mission.
2.2 UNIDO ITPO Nigeria:

The UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office in Nigeria (UNIDO ITPO Nigeria), operational since 2015 and based in Lagos, aligns its goals with SDG-9 and Nigeria’s current economic policies focused on industrialization, poverty alleviation, women and youth development, FDI generation, and SME growth.

Our services encompass providing policy-related advice to the Nigerian government at all levels, promoting sustainable technologies for enhancing local investment opportunities, organizing trainings, feasibility studies, Project appraisals and fostering strategic partnerships with Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) and other business development organizations.

As strategic partners, we collaborate with key institutions such as the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI), Bank of Industry (BOI), African Development Bank (AFDB), African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat, Small and Medium Enterprises Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), among others.

In addition to our previous mandate, our updated mission includes promoting investment, attracting technology, and diversifying the economy, while facilitating trade and catalyzing strategic intra-Africa and inter-State value chains. Our ultimate objectives are to drive rapid industrial development, create jobs, and expand/diversify the industrial base of AfCFTA States.

SMEs play a crucial role in Nigeria’s economy, contributing 48% of the national GDP, representing 96% of businesses, and providing 84% of employment. Recognizing their significance, ITPO Nigeria actively supports SMEs through its various programs to stimulate SME growth and prosperity, thereby fostering economic and export growth in the country.

To achieve our goals, we conduct various programs, including post-incubation and growth initiatives, an investment matchmaking platform, development of business incubators and technology parks, National Investment and Technology Forums, pitch sessions, enterprise development courses, and an Accelerated Enterprise Development Programme.

2.4 Services of ITPO Nigeria

ITPO Nigeria promotes sustainable investments and technology transfer leveraging the networks of ITPOs and other private and public stakeholders in the following sectors:

- Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Agri-Business
- Environmental Technologies
- Infrastructure
- Modern Manufacturing

2.5 Services for Potential Partners

- Connect SMEs with business partners, business development organizations, and international industry specialists
- Promote sustainable technologies relevant for improving local investment opportunities. Connect investors and technology providers to create synergies and complete solutions for sustainable development
- Advise the Nigerian Government at all levels on policy-related issues.
- Connect companies and investment projects with investors and technology providers
- B2B meetings, trade shows and company site visits to promote investments and technology transfer
- Promote market and investment opportunities in Nigeria through strategic partnerships with Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) and other business development organizations
- Trainings, investment promotion, tradeshows participations and company visits (ITPO Delegate Programme)
ITPO NIGERIA

ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

+80
BUSINESS MEETINGS HELD

39
GLOBAL FORA, WORKSHOPS AND SIDE EVENTS ATTENDED AND ORGANIZED

5
FAIRS & EXHIBITION ATTENDED PHYSICALLY OR ONLINE

15
PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED

7
SME CAPACITY BUILDING EVENTS HELD

10
GREEN INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT PHYSICALLY OR ONLINE

450
SME ACTORS REACHED

- 150 YOUTH
- 180 WOMEN
- 120 OTHERS
4.1 Interaction with ITP Network & Other Agencies

Mission Trip with ITPO Germany
14-18 February 2022, Lagos & Abuja Nigeria

ITPO Germany together with ITPO Nigeria between 14th -18th February engaged a number of public and private organizations in looking at strategies that can be devised to increase economic collaboration between Nigeria and Germany in order to support the industrialization goals of Nigeria. The Head of ITPO Germany Professor Steltemeier, and his colleague Jessica Neumann together with the Head of ITPO Nigeria Ms.Bibi Olufore visited the German Agency for International Cooperation, The German Chambers of Commerce Abroad (AHK), Casanova Chips Factory, Nigeria Export Processing Zone Authority(NEPZA), and Rural Electrification Agency.

Africa Investment Forum (AIF): Catalyzing Investment for Sustainable Industrialization

UNIDO ITPO Nigeria's participation in the Africa Investment Forum is emblematic of its commitment to SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). By showcasing its efforts in enhancing Africa's industrialization, ITPO Nigeria reinforces the notion that sustainable growth is deeply intertwined with collaboration between governments, businesses, and development institutions. This forum stands as a crucial platform for aligning investments with sustainable industrial development, thus creating a blueprint for economic growth that is mindful of the environment and society.
Activities of the year

Participation in "The Future Cleantech Architects (FCA)'s ARC Cleantech Festival in Remscheid and Company Visits

The "The ARC" Cleantech Innovation Festival, organized by Future Cleantech Architects (FCA) in partnership with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization's Investment and Technology Promotion Office (UNIDO ITPO) in Nigeria, brought together cleantech innovators, industry experts, and policymakers to address climate change challenges and explore scalable solutions. The festival, held in Remscheid, Germany, was a follow-up to the successful UNIDO Global Call for Innovative Solutions in Cleantech and Sustainable Land Management in 2021, where Ms. Abimbola Olufore, Head of ITPO Nigeria, participated as a judge, and in mobilizing a few Nigerian start-ups to compete in the Call.

Building on the success of the UNIDO Global Call, "The ARC" festival provided an opportunity for in-person meetings between all involved parties, including UNFCCC and UNIDO ITPO Germany. It showcased innovative cleantech solutions that combat the negative effects of climate change and emphasized the importance of deploying these solutions on a global scale.

The festival featured four stages, each focused on accelerating high-impact ideas across cleantech innovation. Attendees engaged in discussions about effective technologies, policy approaches, and financial ideas to drive down emissions drastically. The event aimed to catalyze collaborative efforts and foster partnerships that advance cleantech innovations.

During the festival, ITPO Nigeria participated in the Exceptional Cleantech Leaders session, sharing the experience in Nigeria around promoting women in cleantech innovation. The engagement with global stakeholders further positioned ITPO Nigeria as a key player in driving sustainable technologies and investments in the Nigerian cleantech ecosystem.

Several company visits allowed ITPO Nigeria to learn from successful European companies and explore potential collaborations that could benefit Nigeria’s cleantech industry.

Green Hydrogen Takes Center Stage: ITPO Nigeria Joins German-Nigerian Symposium

We are excited to announce that Ms. Abimbola Olufore, the Head of ITPO Nigeria, recently participated in the prestigious First German-Nigerian Symposium on Green Hydrogen. The event, held at the Sheraton Hotel ballroom in Abuja, marked a significant milestone in fostering sustainable energy cooperation between Germany and Nigeria.

The symposium was a part of the Global Hydrogen Diplomacy (H2-Diplo) project, a joint initiative by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and financed by the Federal Foreign Office (AA). This project aims to drive the global transition towards green hydrogen and its applications as a clean energy solution.

The Hydrogen Office, established in 2021 to strengthen the activities of the German-Nigerian Energy Partnership, took the spotlight during the event’s official launch in 2022. The office will play a pivotal role in advancing green hydrogen initiatives in the region.

The symposium highlighted the opportunity for Germany and Nigeria to forge a partnership in the crucial pursuit of sustainable energy solutions. ITPO Nigeria’s active involvement in the occasion marks a momentous stride towards actualizing the mutual aspiration for a greener and sustainable energy landscape.

ITPO Nigeria, building on UNIDO’s expertise and dedication to promoting sustainable development, is actively engaging with the Hydrogen Office on joint initiatives to promote technology. This collaboration will foster partnerships with GIZ and other development institutions, aimed at attracting key investments in the green hydrogen sector. The ultimate goal is to create a thriving Green Hydrogen ecosystem that benefits the region and contributes to a more sustainable future.

We eagerly anticipate the outcomes of these collaborative efforts and look forward to witnessing the positive impact of a vibrant Green Hydrogen ecosystem across the region. Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting journey towards a cleaner, greener future!
Fostering Green Innovation: UNIDO ITPO Nigeria Collaborates for Sustainable Development

In its unwavering commitment to advancing sustainable development goals (SDGs) and steering Nigeria towards an eco-friendly future, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria has been taking on a sequence of influential initiatives and gatherings. These ventures not only play a pivotal role in achieving pivotal SDGs but also establish a paradigm for comprehensive advancement and resilience within the country's economic ecosystem.

African Union Commission-AEZO Annual Event On Special Economic Zones

The co-sponsorship and participation in this event reverberate with the essence of SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure). By shedding light on the role of Special Economic Zones in sustainable industrial development, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria amplifies the potential of economic growth that is not only robust but also environmentally conscious. The discussions during this event align with SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action), setting a precedent for a holistic approach to economic advancement.

Boosting Local Food Manufacturers: ITPO Nigeria’s Collaborative Effort with the National Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME)

Nigeria’s local food manufacturing sector is a vibrant and vital component of the country’s economy, offering substantial promise for growth and prosperity. It not only contributes significantly to the nation’s economic development but also serves as a source of livelihood for countless individuals. Nevertheless, the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) operating within this sector grapple with a multitude of challenges, encompassing limited access to critical resources, constrained market reach, and regulatory complexities.

Recognizing the indispensable role played by SMEs in any economy, and inspired by the success stories of major developed economies, the imperative for creating an enabling environment becomes abundantly clear. SMEs are the lifeblood of economic growth, the crucible of innovation, and the nucleus of employment generation.

We are embarking on an ambitious journey to elevate the productivity and prosperity of SMEs in Nigeria. Our vision is to provide the essential

Participation at the Women in ICT roundtable Dialogue Organized by the United State Department of Trade and Development

In recent years, the promotion of women in technology has gained substantial momentum, with organizations and initiatives worldwide recognizing the importance of gender diversity in the tech industry. ITPO Nigeria’s unwavering commitment to this cause was not only recognized but celebrated when they secured a prominent seat at the table during the United States Digital Trade Association’s (USDTA) visit to Nigeria. This report highlights the pivotal roundtable dialogue that took place at the Microsoft office in Lagos, featuring 20 of Nigeria’s most accomplished women in technology.

The Significance of the Dialogue:

The roundtable dialogue held immense significance, serving as a platform for the exchange of ideas, experiences, and strategies aimed at fostering a more inclusive tech ecosystem. ITPO Nigeria’s participation in this dialogue underscored their dedication to empowering women in technology and contributing to Nigeria’s tech industry’s growth and diversity.

The roundtable brought together 20 top women in technology, each recognized for their outstanding contributions to the sector. Their diverse backgrounds and experiences made for a rich and insightful discussion. Notable attendees included tech entrepreneurs, engineers, data scientists, and educators, all united by their passion for advancing women in technology.

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impetus for these enterprises to flourish, thereby creating a ripple effect of positive impact throughout the nation.

Our journey to enhance SME productivity in Nigeria is underway, and we invite all stakeholders, including SMEs, government bodies, financial institutions, and the broader business community, to join hands with us. Together, we can lay the foundation for an economic landscape where SMEs thrive, innovation flourishes, and opportunities abound.

Elevating the productivity of SMEs in Nigeria is not just an aspiration; it is an imperative for the sustainable growth and prosperity of our nation. As we embark on this mission, we are guided by the conviction that a robust SME sector will not only transform individual businesses but also serve as a catalyst for the overall economic development of Nigeria. Our journey is one of collaboration, innovation, and shared success, and together, we shall propel Nigeria towards greater economic vitality and resilience.

Tour of Givo Africa Waste Collection Center

The Head of ITPO Nigeria conducted a visit to one of GIVO Africa’s collection centers situated in Kosofe, Lagos State. The experience was both enlightening and impressive as it provided a comprehensive understanding of the collection, sorting, and processing procedures. Particularly remarkable was the observation of a dynamic female-led team, which included young women actively contributing to various stages of the operation.

GIVO Africa stands out for its innovative approach, harnessing technology to directly gather recyclable materials from individuals, households, and enterprises. Furthermore, they excel in the efficient transformation of these materials into an array of consumer and industrial goods.

All On Embryo Incubation Program Finale: Empowering Clean Energy Innovators

The annual Embryo Incubation Program, a collaboration between All On and the Nigeria Climate Innovation Centre, stands as a testament to the empowerment of renewable energy pioneers. With its focus on early-stage techpreneurs, this program equips participants with the skills and resources needed to develop their ventures from ideation to successful enterprises. The program’s alignment with SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) signifies its contribution to narrowing Nigeria’s energy-access gap and fostering a sustainable energy landscape. Notably, the prominence of women founders/CEOs within the winning pitches underscores the strides being made in achieving gender equality, as envisioned by SDG 5 (Gender Equality).
UNIDO’s global network and knowledge, the organization aimed to enhance the capabilities of these local agencies in attracting industries and investors to Kaduna.

The meeting exemplified the importance of collaboration between public and private sector stakeholders to drive economic growth and attract investments. By pooling their expertise and resources, ITPO Nigeria, KIPA, and NEPZA demonstrated their commitment to unlocking the full potential of Kaduna as an investment destination and contributing to Nigeria’s industrial development.

Global Cleantech Innovation Program (GCIP) and Promoting Cleantech Entrepreneurship

The Global Cleantech Innovation Program (GCIP), a flagship initiative by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), is designed to promote cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship to address urgent environmental challenges. ITPO Nigeria played an instrumental role in supporting and advocating for Nigerian cleantech entrepreneurs by participating in the first National Academy program.

The GCIP National Academy program, brought together 25 SMEs selected from across Nigeria. The program aimed to equip these startups with the necessary skills and knowledge to develop their ventures from ideation to full-fledged enterprises. Through a rigorous selection process and a 6-month incubation program conducted by the Nigeria Climate Innovation Center (NCIC), the 25 ventures had the opportunity to refine their business ideas and develop viable clean energy solutions.

The GCIP National Academy program also emphasized the role of women in driving cleantech entrepreneurship. Notably, four of the eight winning pitches were delivered by women founders/CEOs, highlighting the progress being made by women entrepreneurs in the sector. ITPO Nigeria aims to enhance the participants’ understanding of sustainable business practices and industry trends while exploring opportunities to recommend them to UNIDO’s Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN).

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Nigerian Climate and Innovation Centre (NCIC) Roundtable Meeting:

The partnership between UNIDO ITPO Nigeria and the Nigerian Climate Innovation Centre (NCIC) has emerged as a catalyst for sustainable change. Through an enlightening roundtable meeting, the organizations convened to deliberate on the modalities for implementing green programs in Nigeria. With a keen focus on curbing climate change, the NCIC channels its efforts into developing and deploying solutions to climate challenges by providing venture development, capacity-building support, access to markets, investment, and funding to viable green businesses. These actions underscore their alignment with SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), as they lead the growth of Nigeria’s green economy.

Circular Exchange - The New Economy is an event focused on building opportunities for Circular business and investment in Lagos State. The term “exchange” is used to imagine a future where information about circular business opportunity is easily accessible and trade between circular businesses is well established.

At the event, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria took part in the unveiling of Circular Business Platform (CBP), successful round up of the LOOPLab Incubation Programme and the closing ceremony for the LOOPLab Research Fellowship.

As an investment and technology Promotion organization, the Circular Exchange - The New Economy event provided an engaging environment for strategic conversations, valuable networking sessions and hands-on call to action that will further foster investment and technology promotion for entrepreneurs, startups and organisations in the circular business.
The engagement of UNIDO ITPO Nigeria and ITPO Germany in the PROPAK West Africa exhibition exemplifies the advocacy for SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure). By exploring sustainable packaging solutions and nurturing partnerships, these efforts pave the way for a circular economy that minimizes waste and maximizes resource efficiency. This active involvement not only addresses immediate environmental issues but also aligns with overarching sustainability objectives in the long run.


The visit to the Lafarge Geocycle plant takes the principles of circular economy to the next level, encompassing SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure). By exploring avenues for friendly policies and incentives, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria fosters an environment that champions sustainable production practices. This engagement aligns with SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), underscoring its comprehensive impact on multiple fronts.

The engagement in the Nigerian Sovereign Investment Authority’s innovation event demonstrates UNIDO ITPO Nigeria’s commitment to SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). By advocating for research, commercialization, and domestic investments in the digital ecosystem, ITPO Nigeria contributes to a technologically empowered future in alignment with SDG 9. It showcases the potential of the digital ecosystem while also laying a foundation for a resilient and innovative economy.

4.3 Delegate Mission and Capacity Building

Empowering Women in Cleantech: ITPO Nigeria Pioneer Virtual Stakeholders Engagement

In a significant effort to promote gender equality and sustainability in the cleantech sector, ITPO Nigeria organized a groundbreaking virtual “Women in Cleantech Stakeholders event”. Held with the aim of navigating more sustainable ways to support and amplify the role of women in the industry, the meeting brought together key stakeholders and entrepreneurs for meaningful discussions and collaborations.

The primary objective of the event was to address the challenges faced by women-owned cleantech SMEs and explore opportunities to increase their footprint in the sector. Through open dialogues and interactive sessions, participants shared their experiences and shed light on the various constraints that hinder their operations and growth prospects.

Several inspiring women-owned cleantech SMEs actively participated in the event, lending their voices to the discussions. They provided valuable insights into the unique challenges they face in a predominantly male-dominated industry, ranging from limited access to funding to gender-based biases.

With a commitment to fostering an enabling environment for these enterprising women, ITPO Nigeria pledged its support in overcoming some of the obstacles they currently encounter. One of the key strategies outlined by ITPO Nigeria is the mobilization of investments to empower and uplift women-owned cleantech ventures.

Moreover, underscoring the significance of knowledge and skill enhancement, ITPO Nigeria also reaffirmed its dedication to strengthening institutions within the cleantech realm. By affording women entrepreneurs the means to attain pertinent knowledge, training, and guidance, ITPO Nigeria strives to arm them with the necessary resources and proficiency to excel in the fiercely competitive cleantech arena.

The engagement served as a catalyst for meaningful change, highlighting the importance of women’s contributions in building a sustainable future. ITPO Nigeria’s proactive approach in championing gender equality and sustainability sets a remarkable precedent for the cleantech industry to create a more inclusive and sustainable cleantech ecosystem in Nigeria, reinforcing our dedication to achieving the SDGs.
The High-Level Delegate Programme to Hannover Messe and IFAT 2022, organized by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization’s Investment and Technology Promotion Office (UNIDO ITPO) in Nigeria, provided a unique opportunity for the Minister of State Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investment (FMITI), Amb. Mariam Yalwaji Katagum, and other delegates to explore cutting-edge technologies, innovations, and industrial solutions. The mission consisted of visits to the renowned Hannover Messe and IFAT exhibitions in Germany.

During the visit to Hannover Messe, delegates had the opportunity to explore various pavilions, including the Future Hub, where innovative technologies and work 4.0 concepts were showcased. Engaging with startups and industry leaders allowed the delegates to gain insights into future industrial requirements and identify key solutions that could be applied in Nigeria. A particular focus was placed on the textile and garment industry, with discussions on strategies to revamp the sector in Nigeria.

At Hannover Messe, delegates explored the Qatar Mobility Innovation Center, which highlighted developments in the mobility and transportation sector. The discussions centered on leveraging technology to optimize existing processes and create a more seamless and integrated transportation system in Nigeria.

The meeting of Nigeria’s Minister of State for Industry, Trade and Investment, Amb. Maryam Katagum with the UNIDO Managing Director of Environment and Energy, Mr. Stephan Sicars was a critical aspect of the programme. The delegates discussed pathways for increasing technical cooperation with Nigeria, particularly in the context of transitioning from a Country Programme (CP) to a Program for Country Partnership (PCP). The Managing Director emphasized UNIDO’s commitment to supporting African countries’ environmental themes, such as aqua industries, food security, climate change, and energy crisis. The meeting underscored the importance of collaboration between Nigeria and UNIDO to achieve sustainable industrial development.

The High-Level Delegate Programme to Hannover Messe and IFAT 2022 showcased ITPO Nigeria’s efforts to strengthen partnerships and explore innovative solutions for Nigeria’s industrial development. By exposing delegates to global technologies and best practices, ITPO Nigeria played a crucial role in facilitating knowledge transfer and fostering collaborations for a more sustainable and technologically advanced Nigerian industry.

West African Clean Energy & Environment Trade Fair & Conference (WACEE22)

The 10th West African Clean Energy & Environment Trade Fair & Conference (WACEE22), held in Lagos, Nigeria, brought together industry experts, business leaders, and key decision-makers to discuss sustainable energy supply, clean water, and climate action. UNIDO ITPO Germany and UNIDO ITPO Nigeria collaborated as Gold Sponsors for the event, aiming to support SMEs in the clean energy, water, and circular economy sectors.

WACEE22 was a significant platform for ITPO Nigeria and ITPO Germany to promote clean technologies, foster knowledge exchange, and enable networking among key stakeholders. By hosting an exhibition booth, the organizations provided Nigerian SMEs with opportunities to showcase their brands, increase visibility, and engage with potential investors and partners.

The trade fair and conference highlighted the urgent need to phase out hard-to-recycle and Single Use Plastics (SUP), which have adverse effects on human health and the environment. Notably, The Food and Beverage Recycling Alliance (FBRA) showcased its work in sustainable waste management and responsible disposal of harmful wastes.

ITPO Nigeria’s active involvement in WACEE22 also provided zero cost platforms to entrepreneurs to showcase their products and services, and identify technologies from the exhibitions that may benefit their businesses. The circularity businesses gained insights into viable alternatives to SUP products and sustainable packaging solutions. We achieved our goal to support Nigerian SMEs in uncovering eco-friendly options and innovative technologies that align with circular economy principles.

Looking forward to WACEE23 as WACEE22 gave the partners and delegates a great opportunity to demonstrate the commitment of West Africa, including Nigeria, to transition towards sustainable energy sources and implement effective waste management strategies. As Gold Sponsors, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria and ITPO Germany played essential roles in driving clean energy and circular economy initiatives, fostering partnerships, and promoting technologies that contribute to a greener and more sustainable future for the region.
I-GO ASSISTANT: Empowering SMEs for Sustainable Resource Efficiency

In collaboration with the Green Industry Platform, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria orchestrated a virtual capacity-building workshop that transcends technology adoption—it encapsulates a commitment to sustainable growth. The I-GO Assistant tool empowers SMEs by providing a comprehensive self-assessment and navigation tool to enhance their resource efficiency. By facilitating the growth of participating SMEs, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria directly advances SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). The emphasis on resource efficiency aligns with circular economy principles, fortifying the connection to SDG 12.

Moreover, ITPO Nigeria engaged in discussions with stakeholders about the benefits of IPA advocacy services. The organization highlighted the role of IPAs in promoting investment, facilitating partnerships, and supporting the growth of domestic businesses.

Overall, the World Investment Conference provided a valuable platform for ITPO Nigeria to promote investment opportunities in Nigeria and Africa. By actively participating in the conference’s various sessions and engagements, ITPO Nigeria demonstrated its dedication to fostering economic growth and attracting investments that drive sustainable industrial development in the region.

Africa Industrialization Week (AIW): Promoting Sustainable Industrial Development

The UNIDO ITPO Nigeria’s involvement in the Africa Industrialization Week echoes the aspirations of SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure). By emphasizing the pivotal role of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in sustainable industrial development, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria underscores its commitment to fostering an inclusive and resilient industrial ecosystem. The discussions and dialogues during this week lay the groundwork for not only economic growth but also sustainable development aligned with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).
Cooperation with Partners and Stakeholders
**1. US-Africa Leaders’ Summit: Collaborating for a Resilient Future**

The representation at the US-Africa Leaders’ Summit epitomizes the spirit of SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). By engaging with African leaders, civil society, and businesses, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria not only reaffirms the tenets of SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) but also lays the groundwork for a future that thrives on collaboration and shared prosperity. This summit aligns with SDG 17 and also serves as a testament to UNIDO ITPO Nigeria’s commitment to enabling sustainable development in the African continent.

Through these impactful and far-reaching engagements, UNIDO ITPO Nigeria is fostering an ecosystem of sustainable development that transcends sectors and aligns with the United Nations’ global goals. Each initiative serves as a testament to the organization’s commitment to driving innovation, investment, and technology transfer for a future that is not only economically prosperous but also environmentally conscious and socially inclusive.

**2. EU-Nigeria Business Forum (EUNBF): Promoting Investment and Economic Partnerships**

The EU-Nigeria Business Forum (EUNBF), a two-day event organized by the European Union Council, was held at the Eko Hotels and Suites Grand Ballroom under the theme “Nigeria and the New Economy.” The forum, attended by major stakeholders in the public sector, including European Ambassadors, Ministers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Executive Governor of Lagos State, and representatives of State Governments and MDAs, provided a platform for European Union (EU) and Nigerian businesses to network and explore opportunities for mutual economic growth.

The EUNBF sought to strengthen domestic investments and promote policies that enhance access to the EU market for Nigerian businesses. ITPO Nigeria actively participated in the event, facilitating discussions and interactions between Nigerian entrepreneurs and EU investors. By providing insights into investment opportunities and sustainable business practices, ITPO Nigeria aimed to drive mutually beneficial economic partnerships between Nigeria and EU countries.

During the forum, His Excellency Babajide Sanwo-Olu, the Governor of Lagos State, highlighted some major achievements of his administration, including sustainable development initiatives and plans for the Lekki Deep Sea Port and a Financial Hub. The Governor’s commitment to turning Lagos into a tech hotspot further underscored Nigeria’s commitment and effort to foster an innovation-driven economy.

The EUNBF discussions primarily centered on introducing backward integration into Nigerian production processes and diversifying the economy. By engaging in exhibitions and networking sessions, delegates exchanged contacts and explored potential collaborations to drive economic growth and industrialization.

ITPO Nigeria also held a meeting with Mr. Gerbino, the Trade Commissioner of the Italian Trade Agency (ITA), to discuss the various Leather Industry initiatives planned for Nigeria. The meeting sought to uncover synergetic areas for potential collaboration and partnership, further promoting the growth of Nigeria’s leather industry.

Moreover, the forum witnessed the official launch of the “Green Economy” Team Europe Initiative (TEI) by Ambassador Samuela Isopi of the EU Commission and other TEI members. The initiative aims to promote sustainable economic growth and environmental protection through strategic partnerships and investments.

**3. Stakeholders Review of the Nigerian Investment Policy (NIP)**

The Stakeholders Conference on the Development of Nigerian Investment Policy (NIP), organized by the UNIDO ITPO Nigeria, marked a crucial step in shaping the country’s investment landscape. Held on [date], the conference brought together a diverse range of stakeholders including government officials, private sector representatives, and civil society organizations, to ensure inclusive and comprehensive inputs into the Nigerian Investment Policy.

The conference served as a forum for the exchange of knowledge and the dissemination of effective strategies derived from prosperous investment policies implemented in different nations. Drawing lessons from global encounters, Nigeria sought to strengthen its investment climate and entice a greater influx of both local and foreign investors. In this endeavor, ITPO Nigeria assumed a pivotal role by orchestrating these dialogues and offering perspectives gleaned from UNIDO’s comprehensive experience in promoting and expediting investments.

One of the primary objectives of the conference was to advocate for policies that promote sustainable investments in Nigeria. ITPO Nigeria emphasized the importance of aligning the Nigerian Investment Policy with the country’s development objectives, including industrial growth and the adoption of green technologies. By incorporating sustainable practices into the policy framework, Nigeria aimed to attract investments that drive economic growth while also contributing to environmental conservation.

The technical expertise of ITPO Nigeria was instrumental in drafting specific sections of the Nigerian Investment Policy that focused on industrial development and green technologies. The organization’s in-depth understanding of the global investment landscape and its commitment to promoting sustainable investments positioned it as a key partner in shaping Nigeria’s policy direction.

Through this conference, Nigeria demonstrated its commitment to creating an enabling and investor-friendly environment. By engaging stakeholders from various sectors, the country ensured that the investment policy reflects the needs and aspirations of all stakeholders. With ITPO Nigeria’s support and expertise, the Stakeholders Conference on the Development of Nigerian Investment Policy was a significant step towards achieving Nigeria’s economic and sustainable development goals.
Participation at the Pre-COP27 Meetings

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization’s Investment and Technology Promotion Office (UNIDO ITPO) in Nigeria played a pivotal role in planning Nigeria’s participation at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27). ITPO Nigeria’s presence at the event helped to highlight what areas of focus to be prioritized in Nigeria’s efforts in addressing climate change and promoting sustainable development. This exposure enabled ITPO Nigeria to advocate for increased investments in renewable energy and sustainable technologies, especially in industries with high greenhouse gas emissions.

A key focus of ITPO Nigeria’s engagement was to explore opportunities for technology transfer and capacity-building partnerships. By collaborating with international organizations, governments, and industry leaders, ITPO Nigeria sought to foster knowledge exchange and ensure the adoption of sustainable technologies in Nigeria.

The meeting also provided an avenue for ITPO Nigeria to advocate for policies that support Nigeria’s transition to a low-carbon economy. This was done by engaging with policymakers and also sharing evidence-based insights to influence climate policies that align with Nigeria’s national development objective to build a more resilient and climate-friendly future for Nigeria.
ITPO Nigeria is continuously developing its network of partner institutions and stakeholders. It acts in close cooperation with other organizations that pursue similar mandates and seeks to complement them. Among the partners are:

- Federal Ministry of Industry Trade and Investment
- National Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture
- Bank of Industry
- Nigeria Investment Promotion Agency
- Africa Continental Free Trade Area Agreement Secretariat
- Economic Communities of West African States
- Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN)
- National Association for Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (NASME)
- National Association for Small Scale Industrialist (NASSI)
- Africa Union
- Africa Development Bank
- Nigeria Climate and Innovation Center
- Africa Economic Zone Organization
- Nigeria Export Processing Zone Authority
- Green Growth Knowledge Platform
- Lafarge Geocycle
- Future Cleantech Architects
- Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority
- Kaduna Investment Promotion Agency
- Edo State Investment Promotion Agency
- Imo State Investment Promotion Agency
- Ogun State Investment Promotion Agency
- Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Nigeria (AHK)
Outlook 2023
Outlook into 2023

In 2023, ITPO Nigeria enters into a new project phase that will last until the end of 2027. With a new management at the UNIDO headquarters, a new strategic direction and an organizational structure that fosters new partnerships and synergies both within the organization and with external partners, ITPO Nigeria will continue to leverage its unique position in Nigeria to connect and promote private-sector players and institutional partnerships as well as the transfer of technology and know-how.

The focus will continually be to promote industrial cooperation, investment and technology transfer between Nigeria and industrialized/emerging countries as well as ECOWAS countries and AfCFTA region.

With an experienced team of experts located in Lagos, Nigeria and a network of other 8 ITPOs, ITPO Nigeria will support the inclusive and sustainable industrialization efforts in Nigeria by identifying, attracting, and mobilizing the financial, technological, and other required resources and enhancing investments with development impact. The activities will also focus on capacity building of partners and on supporting SMEs through the mobilization of know-how, expertise, technology and capital from companies and institutions of industrialized countries into Nigeria.

In addition to the core business of promoting investment and technology transfer projects, ITPO Nigeria will continue to offer innovative events and B2B exchanges centered around leading trade shows, the Delegate Programme for private and public sector representatives.

ITPO Nigeria will further expand its network and deepen its cooperation with technical departments and field offices of UNIDO, other UN agencies.

Planned Activities of ITPO Nigeria for 2023 include:

**January:**
- NACCIMA Digital Economy Conference

**February:**
- International Women’s Day 2023
- Nxt Africa Event

**March:**
- UNRC Engagement with Makoko Youth Leader
- Stakeholders’ Conference on the Review of the Nigeria Industrial Revolution Plan
- NASME International Women’s Day
- Engagement with NIPC

**April:**
- Gender Lens Investing Training for Finance Professionals
- Nigeria International Energy Summit

**May:**
- Mission to the AfCFTA Secretariat
- Africa Port Forum

**June:**
- Courtesy visit and strategic engagement with state Investment Promotion Agency
- Engagement with NACCIMA

**July:**
- Tour of African Quality Assurance Centre
- IoT West Africa
- NOG Energy Week

**August:**
- Africa Social Impact Summit
- High Level Investment Promotion Dialogue

**September:**
- United Nations General Assembly

**October:**
- NASME West Africa Exhibition

**November:**
- Africa Investment Forum

**December:**
- Africa Industrialization Week