



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>UNIDO PARTICIPATES IN THE G20 DIGITAL MINISTERS' MEETING 2021.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>UNIDO LAUNCHES EU-FUNDED VALUE CHAIN INVESTMENT SUPPORT SCHEME FOR POST-HARVEST FISHERY IN CAMBODIA.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>EXPERTS DISCUSSED INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS IN TECHNOLOGICAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF TECHNOPROM-2021....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>THE INTERNATIONAL ECOLOGICAL ARTS FESTIVAL "KRONFEST 2021" HELD IN ST. PETERSBURG.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>OPEN COMPETITION "LEADERS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT": CALL FOR ACTION.....</i>	<i>5</i>

VIENNA, AUGUST 5

UNIDO PARTICIPATES IN THE G20 DIGITAL MINISTERS' MEETING 2021

At the invitation of Italy, which currently holds the presidency of the G20, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has addressed the G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting. The gathering was the culmination of meetings held throughout the year by the G20 Digital Economy Task Force (DETF) in which UNIDO has participated and supported.

During the meeting, Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Managing Director, UNIDO Directorate of Digitalization, Technology and Agri-Business, delivered a statement on behalf of the Director General of UNIDO. He stressed a number of key goals, including bridging the digital divide, boosting digital capacity building, creating robust innovation ecosystems, promoting decarbonization of industry, fostering smart industrial economic policies, and aiding resilience and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The G20 brings together the world's major economies, accounting for more than 80% global GDP, 75% of global trade and 60% of the planet's population. G20 "Working Groups" are part of the decision-making process and lead to in-depth analysis of a range of internationally relevant issues. The members of these groups are experts of the G20 countries and address specific issues linked to the broader G20 agenda, feeding into ministerial segments and the Summit itself. There are currently 13 groups within the "Working Groups" Track, among which is the Digital Economy Task Force (DETF).

UNIDO has participated in selected work streams of the G20 since 2016, under the Chinese presidency. The Organization contributed to one deliverable of the DETF in 2016, and was invited to as a knowledge partner throughout the entire DETF process in the current year, 2021, during the

Italian presidency. This year, UNIDO is also participating in the Development Working Group (DWG), the Energy Transition and Climate Sustainability (EC&TS), the Environment Deputies Meeting (EDM) working group, as well as partnering with the Youth 20 and Think 20 engagement groups.



Source&Credits: <https://www.unido.org>

UNIDO's increased engagement, including with the DETF, has strengthened the Organization's visibility and positioning as a champion of inclusive and sustainable industrial development in global policy discussion, and has resulted in important lessons learnt. The participation in the G20 Digital Ministers Meeting provided an opportunity for UNIDO to continue strengthening its presence within the G20, its normative role and its mandate within digitalization and 4IR issues globally.

In the statement delivered at the Meeting, Calzadilla-Sarmiento said, "UNIDO congratulates the delegations on the important efforts and agreements reached this year, and commits to continue working to support the Italian and the future G20 Presidencies in this important field. As a trusted knowledge partner, we can support the G20 through various initiatives, including our regional multi-stakeholder forums on key issues such as ecosystem and policy strategy for Industry 4.0, to ensure that the digital transformation leads to a sustainable and prosperous future for all."

On 22 July, UNIDO also participated in the G20 Environment Minister Ministerial meeting in Naples. In this meeting, Ministers from the G20

countries discussed a number of environmental issues including sustainable water management; ocean and seas; marine plastic litter and sustainable and circular resource use. UNIDO, represented by Stephan Sicars, Managing Director, Environment and Energy, contributed towards the development of the first G20 vision on circular economy with a focus on sustainable textiles and fashion, circular cities, education and training.

PHNOM PENH, AUGUST 3

UNIDO LAUNCHES EU-FUNDED VALUE CHAIN INVESTMENT SUPPORT SCHEME FOR POST-HARVEST FISHERY IN CAMBODIA

With support of the European Union, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Fisheries Administration (FiA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries have launched a Value Chain Investment Support (VCIS) scheme to support Cambodia's enterprises.

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VCIS is a co-investment scheme for eligible fishery business operators to upgrade their production and to add value to their products through food safety certifications thus improving the competitiveness of their products in national and global market places. VCIS provides financial and non-financial support to Cambodian entrepreneurs, especially women and youth, to help them upgrade their business operation to comply with

food safety standards and market requirements. VCIS is expected to co-invest over US\$5m in at least 100 enterprises along with their associated value chain actors in post-harvest fisheries.

The launch event, presided over by Pourn Sotha, Director General of the FiA, brought together over 100 participants from development partners, NGOs, provincial offices and the private sector. Pourn Sotha highlighted the importance of the competitiveness of post-harvest fishery business operators to promote market access. He said, "The VCIS scheme will benefit enterprises and create sustainable impacts for businesses and society. Our aim is to improve the competitiveness of Cambodian fishery businesses by establishing good practices, infrastructure, technology, and food safety certification to achieve better markets, not only within the country, but also globally."

The Government of Cambodia recognizes fisheries value chains as one of the pillars in the fisheries development, having important roles in contributing to the employment creation, food security and economy growth.

Attending the event virtually, Bryan Fornari, Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation to Cambodia, said that the EU-supported CAPFISH programme sets a long-term strategic plan to support the fishery sector and private sector operators to strengthen and build a vibrant fisheries sector that benefits Cambodian fishery businesses through the generation of employment, food security and supporting livelihoods. VCIS leads to realization of valorizing of fishery resources aiming at better markets globally including the EU.

Speaking on behalf of UNIDO, Narin Sok indicated the important contributions of VCIS to provide better access to and availability of safe, quality and nutritious fishery products. He said "with the support of VCIS, local entrepreneurs in post-harvest sector can build more trust of local products among consumers while building sustainable foods system in the country. The VCIS scheme is becoming increasingly important in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic when fishery

businesses experienced significant impact.” He added, “this will require an urgent transformation of the current agrifood system, and a better awareness of the importance of nutrition and food safety.”

NOVOSIBIRSK, AUGUST 25-28

EXPERTS DISCUSSED INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS IN TECHNOLOGICAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF TECHNOPROM-2021

On August 25-28 the VIII International Forum of Technological Development “Technoprom-2021” was held in Novosibirsk.

Technoprom is one of the largest annual events in the Russian Federation dedicated to the issues of technological leadership in modern conditions. The Forum is held with the participation of representatives of federal executive authorities, scientists and experts who form modern approaches to the study and implementation of breakthrough technologies, including end-to-end technologies, as well as leading Russian and foreign companies.

This year the Forum was focused on the strategic paths to improve competitiveness in Russian science and industry in accordance with the priorities of scientific and technological development. In addition to the business program, Technoprom hosted an exhibition of technological development achievements.

Sergey Korotkov, Director of the UNIDO Center for International Industrial Cooperation in the Russian Federation, moderated the panel session “International Investments in Technological and Infrastructure Projects”.

Among the speakers were:

–Butrimova Elena, head of the Eastern department. Europe and Central Asia International Trade Center (ITC);

–Angel Gonzalez-Sanch, Head of Science, Technology and ICT Division, UNCTAD Technology and Logistics Division;

–Brunoli Enrico, Science Attaché, Embassy of Italy;

–Maxim Chereshev, Chairman of the Board of the Council for the Development of Foreign Trade and International Economic Relations;

–Dr. Shivatanu Pillai, General Director of the Russian-Indian aerospace company BrahMos Aerospace, Vice President of the Indo-Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry;

–Parimanam Tangappan, Secretary General of the Indo-Russian CCI;

–Despot Yakov, Head of the Representative Office of the Croatian Chamber of Commerce in Russia;

–Yankevich Natalia, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the International Competition "The Best Goods and Services - GEMMA".

Experts discussed international investment in knowledge-intensive industries in the context of the sanctions policy, the Russian technology market and the global economy, international technological and foreign economic cooperation as a factor in the stability of the world economy. As a result of the session, a set of recommendations was formed for the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the NSO.



Credits: www.technoprom.ru

ST. PETERSBURG, AUGUST 26-29

THE INTERNATIONAL ECOLOGICAL ARTS FESTIVAL "KRONFEST 2021" HELD IN ST. PETERSBURG

From 26 to 29 August 2021, the XII International Ecological Festival of Arts "KronFest" was held in Kronstadt with the support of the Presidential Grants Fund, the Administration of the Kronstadt District of St. Petersburg, the Committee for Culture of St. Petersburg and the Museum of the History of Kronstadt.

The Center for International Industrial Cooperation UNIDO in the Russian Federation acted as an information partner of the festival.

KronFest was first held in 2008 at the initiative of the Museum of the History of Kronstadt. Initially, the festival was intended to draw the attention of residents and guests of Kronstadt to the problem of pollution of the unique landscape of Kotlin Island and the Gulf of Finland. However, over time, the focus shifted towards artistic understanding of universal environmental problems. The key event in the KronFest program in 2021 - the Art from Garbage exhibition - acquaints visitors with art objects by contemporary artists from Russia and abroad, broadcasting the ideas of recycling "waste", turning to alternative energy sources and forming a respect for nature.

An expert from the UNIDO Center in the Russian Federation made a welcome speech at the opening of the festival and spoke about the UN Sustainable Development Goals to build a better future for the planet and the development of creative industries.

In addition, within the framework of KronFest, sports and environmental marathons were held in the territorial zones of the Gulf of Finland: a bike ride from the east of Kronstadt to the west, cleaning the shores of the Gulf of Finland from garbage, a sports marathon on water fuel-free

modes of transport, as well as master classes for children and adults under the motto "environmentally friendly art" and theatrical musical performances and performances on the theme of ecology.

MOSCOW, AUGUST 31

OPEN COMPETITION "LEADERS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT": CALL FOR ACTION

Strategy Partners and the New Digital agency with the information support of the UNIDO Center for International Industrial Cooperation in the Russian Federation calls for applications in the open competition of best practices and ideas in the field of sustainable development "Leaders of Sustainable Development".

The main objectives of the Competition are to select and popularize the best projects in the field of sustainable development, as well as to increase their environmental, economic and social efficiency.

Companies, corporations, public organizations, representatives of NGOs, scientific and educational institutions, the media, representatives of municipalities, students and young entrepreneurs are invited to participate in the competition. Completed or partially completed projects on the territory of the Russian Federation are submitted to the Competition. Participation is free.

The winners will be awarded at the Sustainable Development Leaders Forum in November 2021. The jury will select the 3 best projects in each of the nominations:

- PLANET: Projects related to resource efficiency and the climate agenda (SDGs 6,7,11,12,13,14,15)
- SOCIETY: Projects aimed at solving social problems (SDGs 1,2,3,4,5)

- WELFARE: Projects supporting inclusive and sustainable growth and reducing inequality in income distribution (SDG 8,9,10)

- GENERATION OF THE FUTURE: Youth projects aimed at realizing the SDG agenda. The nomination is being implemented within the framework of the "University SDG Leaders" program.

To take part in the competition, you must fill out an application and send a project presentation by October 30, 2021 inclusive.

Contact phone for participation in the Competition and obtaining tender documentation: Elena Krinitskaya +7 (985) 905-64-02; e-mail address: sdleaders@mb-solutions.ru.

Detailed information on the website www.platforma-konkurs.ru



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