As part of the preparations for the second ISID Forum, a UNIDO delegation this month visited the capital of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, to hold further discussions with key stakeholders as part of the process of formulating a Programme for Country Partnership (PCP).

Meetings were held with heads and representatives of the Ministries of Industry; Agriculture; and Environmental Protection and Forestry.

In addition, the team also visited the Textile Industry Development Institute (TIDI); the Meat and Dairy Industry Development Institute; the Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA); the Leather Industry Development Institute (LIDI); the Ethiopian Investment Commission; and the Federal Micro and Small Scale Enterprises Development Agency (FeMSEDA).

Watch video about Ethiopia's Leather Industry Development Institute:
http://youtu.be/JotXFGR7Uck

Other meetings were held with the representatives of the World Bank and the EU delegation to Ethiopia; the Italian Development Cooperation; the Swedish International Development Agency; the Chief Country Economist of the African Development Bank; the Director of UN Agencies and Regional Economic Cooperation Directorate of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development; the International Finance Corporation Representative to Ethiopia, Somalia and Djibouti; the General Manager of the Metal and Engineering Corporation; as well as the Economic and Commercial Counsellor’s Office of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China.

Based on the discussions in Addis Ababa, and taking into consideration Ethiopia’s Industrial Development Roadmap (2013-2025) and Industrial Development Strategic Plan (2013-2025), the UNIDO team identified two priority sectors (agro-food processing, and textile and leather) and three cross-cutting interventions (investment and industrial zone development, the environment, and capacity-building) that could form the basis for the PCP. This approach was presented to two State Ministers of Industry, Ato Tadesse Haile and Dr. Mebratu Meles, who voiced their full support for these focus areas, saying that they were aligned with government priorities, and subsequently endorsed these sectors and the cross-cutting thematic areas for the PCP.

The UNIDO team consisted of members of the Programme and Technical Cooperation (PTC) Division: Dejene Tezera; Tidiane Boye; Peng Zhengyou; Manuel Albaladejo; Matilda Muweme; Rami Abdel Malik; Andrea De Marco; and Kjell Sundin; and staff from the UNIDO Regional Office in Ethiopia.

The latest mission built on an earlier UNIDO team visit to Ethiopia by PTC Managing Director, Philippe Scholtès; the Senior Advisor on Partnerships, ZOU Ciyong; and Industrial Development Officers, Tidiane Boye and Bassel Alkhatab. Their visit in June, when they met with key counterparts, including
representatives of the Ministry of Industry, the African Union Commission, the EU delegation, and the World Bank, among others, focused on sensitizing the national authorities to the first ISID Forum, and laid the groundwork for developing an Ethiopia case-study and formulating the Programme for Country Partnership for Ethiopia.

Preparations in full swing for second ISID Forum

Meanwhile, at the UNIDO headquarters in Vienna, regular meetings of a Task Force, headed by ZOU Ciyung, the Senior Advisor on Partnerships, are focusing on progress made in the preparations for the second ISID Forum, as well as remaining tasks, including the finalization of the Programmes for Country Partnership with Ethiopia and Senegal, advocacy and outreach activities, and the financial management and logistics involved.

Sneak preview

Next week’s issue of the newsletter will revisit the first ISID Forum and the reflections of some of the participants.

The ISID Forum Newsletter

This newsletter – published regularly until the second ISID Forum – will provide details about the most salient aspects of the preparation for the event. Upcoming issues will also focus on pilot initiatives for implementing ISID country programmes, and feature updates on confirmed participants, and other relevant and practical information.

For more information on the second Forum, please visit www.unido.org