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The first ISID Forum: focus and outcomes

More than 250 participants from 83 countries, including 19 ministers of economy, industry, investment, foreign affairs, environment and trade; and representatives of the academia, private sector, NGOs, international financial institutions and international organizations, took part in the event. They addressed, among other, the following issues:

- ISID as a response to new development challenges.
- Industrial policy and strategies to pursue ISID.
- The critical issues for successful fostering of ISID through strategies, policies and programmes.
- Industrial targeting.
- The role of soft and hard business infrastructure such as industrial parks, zones, cities and districts, as an integral part of strategic and targeted planning.
- The role of the new generation of industrial parks as a concrete and well-circumscribed instrument and an area of rapidly growing demand for UNIDO services.
- The way forward and relevant issues for leveraging the power of partnerships for resource mobilization and the implementation of strategies and policies.



The Forum underlined the need for coherence among different national development policies and plans, for the involvement of different stakeholders in the design and implementation of industrial strategies and instruments, and for the monitoring and evaluation of their impact. Participants looked at performance indicators as an integral part of any successful industrial policy, and debated the nature and scope of State intervention in industrial development. Several interventions from Member States emphasized the role of traditional and non-traditional industrial policy. Participants noted that the implementation of strategies and policies is often weak due to limited financial resources and a lack of government capacity.

Panelists stressed that industrialization based on green industries, technologies, eco-innovation, entrepreneurship and social inclusion is essential for sustainable and inclusive economic and industrial growth.

The Forum heard successful examples of industrial parks in different countries at various levels of development, and looked at common challenges in this respect. It was noted that UNIDO continues to receive numerous requests from Member States for technical cooperation services related to industrial parks.



Last, but not least, participants at the first ISID Forum commended the relevance and timeliness of the Forum, UNIDO's unique convening role and the desirability of replicating it at the regional level.

Work continues on the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) for Senegal

A technical team working on the Programme for Country Partnership for Senegal held its first meeting on 22 September. It was chaired by ZOU Ciyong, Senior Advisor on Partnerships, and attended by representatives of different branches, including Juergen Hierold, Smail Alhilali, Nicola Cantore, Conde Bashir, Rafik Feki, Alois Mhlanga, Meryem Sghir, Raymond Tavares and Tidiane Boye.

The UNIDO technical mission will be in Senegal from 23 September to 3 October with the objective of designing an innovative PCP in close cooperation with the government of Senegal and a range of international partners. The Programme will be then presented at the second ISID Forum in November, and implemented in 2015.



Sneak preview

The next issue of the newsletter will feature further updates on preparations for the November Forum, as well as selected interviews with participants of the first ISID Forum.

Contact details

Forum oversight: Ciyong ZOU
C.Zou@unido.org

Forum coordination: Weixi GONG
W.Gong@unido.org

Advocacy and outreach: Sayaphol SACKDA
S.Sackda@unido.org

Financial management and logistics: Basel ALKHATIB
B.Alkhatib@unido.org

Ethiopia country programme: Dejene TEZERA
D.Tezera@unido.org

Senegal country programme: Tidiane BOYE
T.Boye@unido.org

Participation and external relations: Barbara KREISSLER
B.Kreissler@unido.org

Forum newsletter editor: Mikhail EVSTAFYEV
M.Evstafyev@unido.org

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