United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Introduction

The General Conference (GC) of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) held its 15th session in Lima, Peru, between 2 and 6 December 2013. Prior to this meeting, the Least Developed Countries’ (LDC) Ministerial Conference, a high-level platform provided by UNIDO to LDC Member States and relevant stakeholders, held its fifth session from 30 November to 1 December 2013. This update will review the decisions and outcomes reached at the most recent session. Additionally, in order to advance understanding on the implementation of resolutions, the update will review the ways in which UNIDO measures and carries out the implementation of its decisions.

Recent Activities

Since becoming a Specialized Agency in 1985, the General Conference has convened away from UNIDO’s headquarters in Vienna only twice. In convening the 15th session of the GC in Lima, UNIDO underscored the importance of its presence in the region and to those Member States which are developing or in transition. The session saw the adoption of six resolutions. The topics for consideration included UNIDO’s role with respect to the post-2015 UN development agenda negotiations (GC.15/Res.2), partnership towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development (GC.15/Res.3), UNIDO activities in energy and environment (GC.15/Res.4), and industrial development in middle-income countries (GC.15/Res.5). The most important outcome of the session, however, was the Lima Declaration: Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, which charts UNIDO’s development priorities, focusing on sustainable and inclusive growth, for the coming years, specifically the post-2015 development agenda.

Prior to the 15th session of the General Conference, the fifth session of the LDC Ministerial Conference was held in Lima as well. The outcome document of this conference, a Ministerial Declaration entitled From the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) to the World We Want in 2015 and beyond: Implementing the UNIDO LDC Operational Strategy, This was reaffirmed by the General Conference in its resolution GC.15/Res.8, and linked back to UNIDO’s objectives for LDCs including trade capacity-building, private sector development, and productive energy projects. Also at the GC, the body approved the outcome document of the Informal Working Group of the Industrial Development Board (IDB) in accordance with the recommendations of decision IDB.41/Dec.24 of the IDB. This document is entitled the "Strategic Guidance Document." The document serves as the basis for the formulation and implementation of the medium-term program frameworks, program and budgets, and other operational programs of UNIDO. This document supersedes all previous strategic plans, including the strategic long-term vision statement of 2005 (GC.11/Res.4).

Recent Policy Outcomes

In the Lima Declaration, Member States renewed their commitment to inclusive and sustainable industrial development as a basis for sustained economic growth. Pursuant to the Strategic Guideline Document (IDB.41/24), the Declaration further reaffirms UNIDO’s unique mandate to promote industrial development within the UN.

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1 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session [Website].
2 UNIDO, LDC Ministerial Conference 2013 [Website].
3 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session [Website].
4 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
5 Ibid
6 Ibid
7 UNIDO, Industrial Development Board, 41st session, Informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO (IDB.41/24) [Report], 2013.
8 Ibid
9 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
10 UNIDO, Industrial Development Board, 41st session, Informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO (IDB.41/24) [Report], 2013; UNIDO, General Conference, 11th session, Strategic long-term vision statement (GC.11/Res.4) [Resolution], 2005, pp. 9-12.
11 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
system and calls upon the Organization to focus on three thematic priorities in which it is said to have a comparative advantage and expertise: productive capacity-building, trade capacity-building, and sustainable production and industrial resource efficiency. Additionally, the Declaration narrows the focus of industrial development to inclusive and sustainable goals in consideration of the post-2015 development agenda and stresses the relevance of social inclusion through job creation, and the pivotal role of industrial development in facilitating this process. The Strategic Guidance Document (IDB.41/24) calls on UNIDO’s Secretariat and its Member States to streamline all activities towards an efficient, results-based management approach which also is to develop key performance indicators that allows for a thorough evaluation of UNIDO programs. During the 2014-2015 biennium, the Secretariat is to report to the Member States about the implementation progress of the document’s recommendations.

The issues discussed in the Lima Declaration provided the thematic framework for the resolutions that were adopted during the 15th session of the General Conference. The key themes emerging from the resolutions included: 1) A renewed commitment to inclusive and sustainable industrial development, as a basis for enhanced productive capacity and sustained economic growth; 2) the reaffirmation of UNIDO’s special mandate and expertise on the field of industrial management as well as implementation; 3) UNIDO’s important role in regards to the creation of the post-2015 UN development agenda; 4) the call to strengthen existing partnerships and forge new partnerships with all relevant stakeholders, within the UN system as well the private sector; and, 5) to enhance regional and cross-regional cooperation, so as to achieve increased coherence in the efforts towards sustainable and inclusive industrial development.

On the topic of energy and environment, special emphasis was placed on the importance of strengthening existing partnerships including the successful participation in partnerships with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Green Industry Platform, and the Global Mercury Partnership (GC.15/Res.4). On the issue of LDCs, resolution GC.15/8 called for adequate funding to fully implement the Organization’s Operational Strategy towards the achievement of industrial development in the LDCs and further highlighted support for the Accelerated Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative (3ADI) in creating inclusive and sustainable growth in these states. Overall, the Lima Declaration and the Strategic Guidance Document call for a reaffirmation of the original mandate of UNIDO and add clarity and definition to the thematic priorities of the Organization.

Policy Implementation

Within the UN system, the entity responsible for supporting UNIDO’s work is the Division for Sustainable Development (DSD), which in turn is part of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UN – DESA). The DSD coordinates and promotes the implementation of the full spectrum of the UN sustainable development agenda. Since the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), the DSD has been tasked with providing Member States with a high-level forum for sustainable development to foster an intergovernmental process towards the elaboration of the post-2015 UN development agenda. This intergovernmental process has been explicitly endorsed by UNIDO.

UNIDO has contributed significantly to the post-2015 development process as a member of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals as well as the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda. The work of UNIDO within these bodies is aimed at streamlining a post-2015 agenda in its own

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12 UNIDO, Industrial Development Board, 41st session, Informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO (IDB.41/24) [Report], 2013, pp. 5-6.; UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
13 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
14 UNIDO, Industrial Development Board, 41st session, Informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO (IDB.41/24) [Report], 2013, pp. 6.
15 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
16 Ibid
17 UNIDO, UNIDO Activities in support of lease developed countries (GC.15/8) [Resolution], 2013.
18 UN DESA, Organigram of DESA [Website].
19 UN Development Policy and Analysis Division, UN Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda [Website].
activities, as well as mainstreaming an industrial development perspective within the agenda. In relation to the topics facing this committee session, UNIDO’s approach to the post-2015 agenda is measurable sustainability with respect to energy and private sector industrial investment, as well as expanding the role of sustainable development into the rights based framework, specifically human security. In addition, UNIDO also maintains several key inter-agency partnerships with relevant UN-agencies such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), UNEP, or the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), in order to increase the impact of its technical and vocational programs within developing countries, as well as to promote major issues related to industrial development.

UNIDO additionally collaborates on different inter-agency projects, specifically in developing countries, such as the 3ADI, the Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) program, and the Sustainable Energy for All program.

In terms of implementation of UNIDO outcomes at the national level, the Organization seeks to provide Member States with technical cooperation, including vocational programs, training and capacity-building for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs), and creating investment and partnership structures with private sector actors, Emerging from the Lima Declaration, UNIDO emphasized the role of measurability, transparency, and evaluation of implantation for its technical programs, UNIDO’s technical cooperation activities are informed by the organization’s own research and analysis mechanisms. Other mechanisms include research and policy advice, which are tailored at providing Member States with tools and know-how to find and shape industrial strategies and policies appropriate to regional or national requirements.

**Conclusion**

UNIDO remains one of the more effective and active UN agencies. With the adoption of the 2013 Lima Declaration: Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, the Organization has renewed and reaffirmed its initial commitment as a UN body with special expertise and mandate for economic productivity through industrial development, as laid down in the original Lima Declaration of 1975. The 2013 Declaration also accounts for the rapid structural changes and developments, which took place in the past decades, and the challenges that lie ahead. By acknowledging both the crucial importance of its original mandate, as well as the need for adjustment in the future, the Lima Declaration sets the stage for a new and creative way of charting different perspectives of industrial development in the future. This creates the opportunity for delegates to embrace new possibilities – be it in regard to an innovative post-2015 industrial development perspective, or the forging of new inter-agency or public-private partnerships.

**The United Nations Industrial Development Organization at NMUN•NY 2014**

NMUN-NY 2014 is simulating the UNIDO Industrial Development Board (IDB) at Venue A, and the UNIDO General Conference at Venue B.

**Format:** UNIDO is a resolution writing committee.

**Voting:** Each Member State present may vote on procedural and substantive matters. Matters are decided by a majority vote.

**Membership:** The General Conference (Venue B only) is comprised of 171 Member States. Membership is effective once the Constitution of UNIDO comes into force in said Member State.

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20 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
21 UNIDO, Partnerships with international development organizations [Website].
22 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th session, Information Note No. 96, 2013.
23 UNIDO, Technical Cooperation [Website].
24 UNIDO, Analytical and policy advisory services [Website].
The IDB (Venue A only) is comprised of 53 Member States. Membership is as follows:

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The Website of the Division for Sustainable Development provides a host of resources to better understand the efforts undertaken by the UN system towards a post-2015 development agenda. The information on this Website delineates a comprehensive picture of the inter-agency work on sustainable development, as well as the role of specific UN bodies, including UNIDO, within this process. It also highlights how the different development-related agencies aim to streamline their efforts to address cross-cutting issues by providing the system with their special expertise on certain thematic issues.


This is the Long-Term Strategic Plan drafted by the UNIDO Secretariat under advice from Member States and other policy organs in the UNIDO. This document gives a comprehensive overview over the Organization’s plan in accomplishing its goals of industrial development. It has served as the guiding framework under which solutions in the committee should be developed. However, delegates have to be aware that with the Strategic Guidance Document adopted, the Long-Term Strategic Plan is no longer the sole strategic plan governing and shaping the substantive program of the Organization.


The Annotated Provisional Agenda will give delegates comprehensive insight into the very practical workings of a General Conference. It provides delegates with deep knowledge of the actual procedures and agendas of the regular sessions of the General Conference. It also highlights how many of the thematic issues are brought before the General Conference prior to an actual adoption of outcome documents.


This Information Note is an advanced copy of all recent decision and resolutions, including the Lima Declaration, adopted by the General Conference at its 15th session. The official document, once published, will be made available under the symbol GC.15/INF/4. This document provides an outline of the stance and direction of UNIDO reaffirmed in the 2013 Lima Declaration. Further, the Note contextualizes the Declaration with respect to the resolution documents from the 15th session, focusing on implementable policy recommendations.


This report gives a comprehensive overview of the Organization’s latest efforts to adjust its strategic framework towards the future. The Strategic Guidance Document will serve as the primary instrument of guidance in the elaboration of programmatic and budgetary frameworks by the Organization. It clarifies the shared understanding of Member States of the mandate of UNIDO and provides the outline of programmatic activities within which this mandate will be exercised. The document has already been endorsed by the General Conference and is said to supersede other previous strategic plans, including the strategic long-term vision statement. Nevertheless, the strategic long-term vision statement remains an important document of reference for the work of the Organization.

Bibliography


I. Sustainable Production of Biofuels in Developing Countries

Recent Developments

The issue of how to produce and consume biofuels in a sustainable manner remains of great importance in the international debate on energy policy. Even though the international community’s efforts to agree on ambitious and binding policy goals against climate change, the significance of renewable energy production is high on the agenda of policy-makers and businesses worldwide. UNIDO tries to approach this topic from the perspective of developing countries, emphasizing the potential for economic growth and prosperity due to biofuel production. At the core of the debate, however, remains the issue of how to secure a sustainable method of production – in particular with a focus on land use, food security, environmental protection and social justice in the distribution of income. The following paragraphs outline recent key events and provide perspective on the current political debate.

15th General Conference of UNIDO

The 15th General Conference of UNIDO convened in December of 2013 in Lima, Peru where many topics were discussed, one of them being green industry and energy.26 In regards to energy, UNIDO noted successes in two of its projects that relate to bio-energy.27 The two projects mentioned are in Zambia and Cuba which both use biomass as a means for power, with Cuba having success in biomass production as well.28 Both of these initiatives have been part of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) work by UNIDO and United Nations Environment Program to provide funding, development guidance, technical information and more to developing states to establish renewable energy projects.29 The success in both of these projects shows that not only should the UNIDO continue with these projecting to help developing states, but that the business models and use of biomass as an energy source can be successful in developing states.

UNIDO is currently expanding its biomass and renewable energy projects. One of these projects includes a biomass gasifier in Ndola, Zambia, which is an expansion upon the already existing GEF projects in the country.30 In relation to projects such as those in Zambia, in UNIDO’s GC.15/Res.4, they note several development areas that in need of improvement including the need for increased efficiency and implementation in UNIDO’s co-financed by GEF, and the need for the transfer of knowledge and environmentally friendly technology.31 UNIDO is already making great effort in promoting the development of biomass and other renewable energies, but understands that significant work still must be done, much of this outlined in GC.15/Res.4.32

The EU as a consumer of biofuel

In a rather critical perspective, non-governmental organizations (NGO) continue to warn against an unregulated growth of biofuel production in developing countries.33 In a recent report GRAIN, a Barcelona-based NGO that aims to support small-scale farming and sustainable agriculture, criticizes the European Union’s (EU) biofuel policy as “displacing communities and starving the planet”.34 In particular, the authors accuse the EU’s target to substantially increase the consumption of biofuels to 5% of the total consumption.35 Since the EU is one of the biggest consumers of biofuels and a large share of biofuels is imported, this policy would serve as a “driver of land grabs”, meaning the displacement of existing farming with large-scale industrial production of biofuels, and result in “choosing fuel over food”.36 GRAIN bases its findings on an international survey that summarizes the claimed land grabs. The European Union, on the other hand, proposed its renewed energy and climate objectives until 2030 in January 2014. In this proposal, the emphasis on biofuels is significantly reduced, saying “that first generation biofuels have a limited role in decarbonising the transport sector” and “food-based biofuels should not receive

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26 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th Session [Website], 2013.
27 Ibid
28 Ibid
30 UNIDO, UNIDO activities in support of least developed countries: Report by the Director General (GC.15/5), 2013.
31 Ibid
32 Ibid
34 GRAIN, Land Grabbing for Biofuels Must Stop, 2014.
35 European Commission, A policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030, 2014.
36 GRAIN, Land Grabbing for Biofuels Must Stop, 2014, p. 10.
public support after 2020. As this proposal is still being debated, the EU’s role in the international production and consumption of biofuels is yet to be determined.

Conclusion

The ongoing debate within the UN System on biofuels – particularly at UNIDO and UNEP – shows that the potentials and challenges of sustainable biofuel production in developing countries remains a topic of importance. Policymakers at the UN and national levels have to be aware of the consequences of increasing biofuel production for society, economy, and the environment. If regulated and guided wisely, sustainable biofuel production may help global climate policy, increase job opportunities and incomes for workers in the agricultural sector, and promote the long-term stability of energy production and transportation world-wide. In setting the priorities and outlining the right directions, UNIDO is at the core of this debate.

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Annotated Bibliography


In February 2014, the European Commission submitted a proposal for the EU’s climate and energy policy beyond the existing framework until 2020. The key goals until 2030 are to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide by 40%, to strengthen the emissions trading scheme, and to increase the use of renewables to 27% of its overall energy consumption. The proposals presents the steps needed to achieve a new 2030 climate and energy framework for the EU, and stresses the importance of the existing international scenario for the development of such a framework. The EU is set to agree on a binding policy after the negotiations about this proposal have concluded.


The report presents detailed information on the implementation of Resolution GC-14/Res 6 on the Vienna Ministerial Declaration for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and analyses the actions undertaken within this framework. The document highlights UNIDO LDCs Strategy and Operational Plan, 2012-2020 as a significant commitment to LDCs development, providing clear mechanisms for achieving sustainable development and the transformation of the LDC’s economies. Also, the report calls attention to the Accelerated Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative (3 ADI) and the importance of agro-business and agro-industries as key alternatives of inclusive growth for the LDCs. Other sections of the report address topics such as trade capacity-building and investment programs, private sector development, projects related to energy for productive use and environmental issues.


This document reports on the progress achieved in industrial energy efficiency, renewable energy, and global clean technology since the forty-first session of the Industrial Development Board held in Vienna in June 2013. The paper stresses that energy productivity and its impact on society, the economy and the environment are main issues facing sustainable industrialization, especially in developing countries. In this regard, the report argues that the organization’s key efforts should be directed to endorsing the application of energy management in industry, promoting capacity-building, and assisting enterprises to embrace energy management best practices, beyond others. Finally, the document presents a brief description of the UNIDO-GEF global clean technology program and the Third Vienna Energy Forum held in May 2013.


This document reproduces the decisions and resolutions adopted by the UNIDO’s General Conference at its fifteenth regular session that took place in Lima in December 2013. The paper includes the session’s agenda and an annex on the Documents Submitted to the General Conference. It is an essential source for delegates since it provides information on the outcomes of the session and official documents related to UNIDO’s recent work on a wide range of issues.

Bibliography


II. Human Security and Post-Crisis Rehabilitation

Introduction

The act of protecting human security is one that may take multiple roles. States in armed conflict, economic crisis, and peace time all face issues of human security that cannot be addressed in the same manner as the other. In its Human Development Report 2013, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recognizes the human potential may not only be viewed in regards to the single individual, but of the society as a whole which is influenced by social institutions. The challenges facing states in regards to economic insecurity can be fully be addressed when states understand that the same idea of economic insecurity affects the developed state’s unemployed youth and a developing state’s lack of decent livelihood for their farmers.

Problems associated with human security are widely varied and differ from each state, which ultimately causes difficulty in finding solutions that are universal. A concern states should address are efforts that aim to improve human security, but ultimately do the opposite. While many states are currently looking towards green industries to promote employment and poverty reduction, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has noted that such efforts provide only a small benefit to the state and, in some instances, can hold down other areas of a state’s economy by taking on more workers and investment.

The 15th session of the UNIDO General Conference met in December of 2013 where it discussed and adopted policy for the organization. Of particular note that applies to the discussion of human security, the Forum on Industrial Development Issues in its issues paper (GC.15/4) remarks that economic growth and social inclusion are intrinsically linked. Further, it is noted that social inclusion and economic growth together have a transformative impact on a society which may lead to technological development, employment, greater food security, entrepreneurship, and more.

Recent Developments

Human Security in Latin America

Ongoing, armed conflict related to insurgencies and civil wars are not the only contributing factors to human insecurity, but the role of crime is one that affects both developing and developed states. In Citizen Security with a Human Face: Evidence and Proposals for Latin America, a report by the United Nations Development Programme released in November 2013, an emphasis is placed on the relation between human security and development. A primary highlight of the report is its examination of six primary factors that affect human security: street crime; violence and crime by and against youth; gender-based violence; corruption; violence committed by the state; and organized crime. The identification of these problem areas for South America is important to acknowledge so that they may be properly addressed by states and organizations. The importance of this is compounded by the fact that these problem areas are universal in nature and affect all states. The UNDP notes that comprehensive policies are needed that take into account local needs with community participation as a means to address the complex nature of human security.

This knowledge, when taken into account by UNIDO, may enable smart application of its programs to target these areas. The UNIDO’s emphasis on assistance to micro and small enterprises (MSEs) and training in addressing human security plays an important role. The UNDP, detailed in its report, found that training and investment that

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39 Ibid
41 UNIDO, General Conference, 15th Session [Website], 2013.
42 UNIDO, Forum on Industrial Development Issues: Issues Paper by the Secretariat (GC.15/4) [Report], 2013.
43 Forum on Industrial Development Issues: Issues Paper by the Secretariat (GC.15/4) [Report], 2013.
46 Ibid, p. 11-12.
47 UNIDO, Human Security and Post-Crisis Rehabilitation [Website], 2013.
specifically targets youth in urban centers would lead to a decline in youth crime.\textsuperscript{48} The attainment of human security via the reduction of crime and violence is linked to economic development and poverty reduction, all within the scope of UNIDO’s scope. UNIDO’s programs already assist in this area, but could improve significantly if the UNIDO takes action to modify them to specifically target the reduction of crime and violence via poverty reduction.

**Post-Conflict Remittances**

The global flow and trade of remittances from migrants account for a significant portion of income to developing states. According to the World Bank, remittances in 2013 reached upwards to $540 billion worldwide and are projected to reach over $700 billion in 2016.\textsuperscript{49} It has been found that remittances have a positive role in reducing poverty and help to fund public services including hospitals and schools.\textsuperscript{50} These aspects are among the factors researchers at Boston University take into account in their recent report Remittance Flows to Post-Conflict States: Perspectives on Human Security and Development. The report identifies remittances as a possible source of significant funding for reconstruction efforts following a conflict. Despite the role they may already play, the report identifies problem areas facing the full utilization of remittance, specifically in the area of state policies regarding remittances.\textsuperscript{51}

One of the primary concerns regarding remittances currently is the cost of sending them. Although international efforts have been made to reduce the costs of sending remittances, currently the average cost for sending $200 is 8 to 9\%.\textsuperscript{52} While World Bank accepts a high average cost of 8 to 9\%, it promotes measures to reduce these costs, particularly towards the G20’s objective to reduce the costs to 5 percent in 5 years.\textsuperscript{53} Of greater concern by the World Bank is the increasing use of fees. Also referred to as “lifting fees,” the World Bank has found that the use of these extra fees by banks can almost double the cost of sending remittances.\textsuperscript{54} To address this, the World Bank stresses the need for transparency mechanisms in the pricing of remittances.\textsuperscript{55}

It is within UNIDO’s interest to address the large and wide reaching influence that remittances plays in human security, post-crisis rehabilitation, and MSE development. The influence of remittances has been shown to even play a role to lessen the destabilizing effects of natural disasters.\textsuperscript{56} A particular policy recommendation that UNIDO should bear in mind is implementing measures to restore financial networks as a means to receive remittances has stabilizing effects.\textsuperscript{57} UNIDO may find merit in pursuing policies to address this effect in other post-crisis situations.

**Conclusion**

UNIDO’s challenge in human security is finding programs and methods within its scope that can properly to address human security and post-crisis rehabilitation. Within UNIDO’s approach to human security and post-crisis rehabilitation focus based on the development of MSEs, there is still much that has yet to be attempted to help in their development. This requires member states of the UNIDO to take a specialized approach to respond to the needs of these enterprises, which differs from that of the state and large corporations. Remittances, as previously shown, can provide significant benefits in providing investment, but currently there is a lack of concentrated effort to take full advantage of this source of income. UNIDO’s position enables it to address these issues and provide guidance on how states may effectively use remittances, investment, training and available resources to states on how to improve management of their human security and post-crisis stability.


\textsuperscript{50} Frederick S. Pardee Center, *Remittance Flows to Post-Conflict States: Perspectives on Human Security and Development*, p. 4.

\textsuperscript{51} Ibid, p. 13.


\textsuperscript{53} Ibid, p. 6.

\textsuperscript{54} Ibid, p. 7.

\textsuperscript{55} Ibid, p. 7.

\textsuperscript{56} Ebeke & Combes, *Do remittances dampen the effect of natural disasters on output growth volatility in developing countries?*, 2013, p. 2251.

\textsuperscript{57} Ibid, p. 2251.
Annotated Bibliography


Remittances are acknowledged as an important source of income to many developing states. Little research or attention has been given to their role in post-conflict states. This report does exactly that and identifies that remittances play a pivotal role in post-conflict states. This report provides vital information to developing states on how to address remittances, specifically in post-conflict states.


This report from the UNDP provides an insightful analysis and presentation of the issues of human security in Latin America. Due to the lengths that the report takes to document the problems, it is an essential read to understand the problems that arise from human insecurity. The importance of the document comes from that while the report focuses on Latin America, the problems that the region faces is shared by other regions as well.


One of the largest problems facing human security and post-conflict rehabilitation is unemployment. In one of UNIDO’s latest reports, employment is discussed at length. A large portion of the report remarks on structural issues and how policy by states can improve current methods. The report’s analysis and information about employment make it crucial for any discussion of human security.


This brief from the World Bank is a must read for both those representing developing and developed states due to the wide ranging activities of remittances. While the flow of remittances is usually from developed to developing states, the actual flow and policies that affects these are important for both kinds of states to know. As remittances account for a significant portion of income in developing states, this brief is essential to further understanding the current trends.


States in the global south face some of the greatest challenges when addressing human security and receive most of the attention when discussing the human security due to this. The Human Development Report by the UNDP details a lot of the challenges that developing states currently face. While many of these issues including poverty and food security are often addressed individually, the inclusion of many of them culminates in the idea of human security. Particular attention should be paid to Chapter 1’s section on human security.

Bibliography


III. Increasing Corporate Social Responsibility in Developing Countries and Economies in Transition

Introduction

Sustainable development is key in the success of developing and transition economies. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) embodies sustainable development in its principles and priorities, and encourages responsible investment and management by corporations and business.\(^{58}\) The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) supports the CSR framework through its programs, by promoting its role in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) within developing economies.\(^{59}\) Within the United Nations (UN), CSR is further promoted in several different committees and programs including the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Global Compact (UNGC) and the International Labor Organization (ILO). In the 2013 Global Corporate Sustainability Report, published in September 2013 the UNGC identified a gap between policy development and policy implementation by business.\(^{60}\)

The topic of CSR and responsible business engagement has been discussed recently within the UN system; most recently it was discussed at the Leaders Summit hosted by the UNGC in September 2013. Specifically, the event focused on scaling up the progress of corporate efforts in sustainability and engaging in “incremental progress to transformative impact on markets and societies.”\(^{61}\) The theme of CSR was also present in the sixth session of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on the right to development as a key component of the post-2015 framework, and recognizing the need for strengthened human and social rights policies, alongside development and economic infrastructure policies.\(^{62}\) This link will be most immediately recognized through corporate and business growth in developing countries, specifically focused on transparency and accountability, and was emphasized in the meeting notes outcome document from the sixth session.\(^{63}\)

The UNGC Ten Principles continue to be one of the key frameworks in establishing CSR policies, specifically within business.\(^{64}\) Additionally, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Vision 2050 is increasingly playing a role in long-term planning, specifically focusing on incorporating the costs of externalities, and integrated sustainability.\(^{65}\) The ILO Tripartite declaration of principles concerning multinational enterprises and social policy (MNE Declaration) and the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights of Work remain as the fundamental labor principles of CSR, and continue to help build the link between human rights, the right to development, and responsible business policy. Specifically, the three documents are used as groundwork to inform the initiatives and programs put forth by various UN bodies including UNIDO, UNEP, and the UNGC.

Outside of the UN framework, CSR has been an issue for consideration in several other organizations, both international and private in nature. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) most recently considered CSR in relation to their existing structure for transnational business organizations.\(^{66}\) Further, the topic was once again touched on in late 2013, by the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), a partnership of international investors, supported by the UN, the European Commission, the International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN), and the European Federation of Financial Analysts Societies (EFFAS).\(^{67}\)

58 UNIDO, *What is CSR?*[Website], 2013.
59 UNIDO, *Corporate social responsibility for market integration* [Website], 2013.
63 Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, *Co-Chairs Summary meetings with the Major Groups and other Stakeholders, 2013*.
64 UN Global Compact, *The Ten Principles* [Website], 2013.
65 WBCSD, *Vision to Action: Vision 2050* [Website].
Recent Developments

Sustained and Inclusive Growth

The 2013 General Conference (GC) Session of UNIDO, held December 2-6 2013, focused heavily on sustainable and inclusive growth, with a renewed commitment to the Lima Declaration. With respect to CSR, this places an emphasis on the linkage between poverty eradication and industrial growth, which encompasses social, environmental, and rights based policies and goals. Further, the Declaration recalls a commitment to transparency and accountability, fitting in with trends of corporate sustainability disclosure, and the role it plays in improving business operations. The Declaration calls for strengthened partnerships at the global, regional, and subregional level, providing an opportunity for UNIDO to engage with groups such as the WBSCD and OECD to better implement micro-level CSR projects. Lastly, the GC called for a more robust monitoring and evaluation system on the progress of sustainable development, which focuses more specifically in results and reporting.

Transparency

The Proposed Business Engagement Architecture emerged as an outcome document from the September Leaders Summit. The Architecture encourages investor engagement with the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and encourages an emphasis on transparency through certification and reporting schemes. Also discussed was the importance of addressing sustainability in the global supply chain, specifically with respect to developing economies focusing on safe working conditions and wage fairness; gender equality was also highlighted as a key goal for achieving CSR. In a Technical Service Team Issue Brief entitled Means of Implementation: Global Partnership for achieving sustainable development, referenced at the sixth session of the OWG on Sustainable Development Goals, the brief stresses an alignment of private financing with public goals, specifically with respect to environment, labor, and human rights standards. Further, the brief emphasizes the need for private sector transparency and accountability in actions related to financing in developing state countries.

International Framework

In December 2013, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published their Annual Report on the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises 2013, focusing on “Responsible Business Conduct in Action.” The guidelines are presently adhered to by all 34 OECD countries, plus 11 non-OECD countries, and the OECD works in partnership with several organizations including the ILO, the UNGC, the UN Finance Initiative and the Global Reporting Initiative. The report highlights several regional roundtables held in Latin America and the EU on the link between business and human rights, and integrating the guidelines into business operations. Further, the report noted increased cooperation between emerging economies in Latin America and experienced economies in the EU. One key goal was noted for 2013-2014, namely better communication of the guidelines to SMEs in developing states and high-risk industries.

In late 2013, PRI renewed their focus on the role that stock exchanges could play in enhancing corporate sustainability. In an October 2013 report released by Corporate Knights Capital, it was noted that corporate sustainability disclosure played an important role in enhancing the implementation of responsible business policy.

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68 UNIDO, Lima Declaration, decisions and resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its fifteenth session [Note], 2013.  
69 Ibid.  
70 Ibid.  
71 Ibid.  
72 Ibid.  
74 Ibid, p. 17.  
75 Open Working Group on Sustainable Development, TST: Means of Implementation; Global Partnership for achieving sustainable development [Issue Brief], 2013, p. 4.  
76 Ibid, p. 4.  
78 Ibid, p. 10.  
79 Ibid, p. 10.  
81 Ibid, p. 17.  
82 Principles for Responsible Investment, Stock exchanges play increasing role in enhancing corporate sustainability.
and served to provide a more complete picture of social and environmental impacts.\textsuperscript{83} Emerging market stock exchanges were reported to overtake developed markets with respect to disclosure of their first generation sustainability indicators (employee turnover, energy, GHGs, lost time injury rate, payroll, waste, water), giving these markets a head-start on their sustainable reporting.\textsuperscript{84} The report identified that corporate sustainability disclosure is currently a trend primarily amongst large corporations, highlighting an opportunity for SMEs to become more involved in reporting mechanisms.\textsuperscript{85} For UNIDO, this indicates an opportunity to fill the gap in SMEs, specifically in informing and shaping their reporting abilities, with a focus on transparency and accountability.

\textit{Conclusion}

The topic of CSR and its role in developing countries is cross-cutting and touches several different organizations and operations within the international system. UNIDO has successfully built several programs, incorporating industrial development and SMEs, into the wider CSR framework, but there remains opportunity for greater collaboration with partner organizations and expansion into new issues touching on the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals. Specifically, UNIDO has an opportunity to expand its reporting and monitoring mechanisms, focusing on the outcomes of policy implementation, and the success of programs such as PRI and the National Cleaner Production Centers. Recommendations on this topic will draw from a number of different sources, and will constitute an integrative approach.

\textsuperscript{83} Corporate Knights Capital, \textit{Trends in Sustainability Disclosure: Benchmarking the World’s Stock Exchanges}, 2013, p. 3.
\textsuperscript{84} Ibid, p. 4.
Annotated Bibliography


This report is a follow-up to the PRI published by a private capital investment research arm. CK Capital launched the first sustainable smart beta equity strategy, and has been a part of PRI’s Sustainable Stock Exchange Initiative, which has focused on CSR within the stock market. This report provides an overview for delegates on specific reporting measures for corporate sustainability, and allows a comparison between developed and emerging markets, which is the key consideration in this topic.


This report is the annual follow-up to the OECD Guidelines For Multinational Enterprises. This report specifically highlights the progress and opportunities from 2013, and notes specific responses to failures in 2013 including the textile factory collapse in Bangladesh. Delegates will find this useful as a way to evaluate the progress of CSR implementation, and note where UNIDO and OECD may work together for improved programs, and where the guidelines may help focus international CSR goals.


This summary report from the Leaders Summit, provides an overview of the Business Engagement Architecture, a new initiative from the UNGC, which focuses on responsible business policies, and renewed initiatives from the corporate sector on taking policy development to policy implementation. On CSR, the report highlights different options for implementation from local sustainability to private sustainability, and identifies the opportunities for sustainable policies within each. Delegates may find this report useful as a tool to identify the different positions of those present at the summit, and understand better the policy approach being advocated for at the international level.


This file is a summary of the resolutions adopted at the 15th session of UNIDO’s General Conference. For consideration on this topic, the annex to the Lima Declaration stands as the most useful item for delegates. Specifically, the annex discusses the commitment of Member States to sustained and inclusive industrial growth, which delegates can extrapolate from to formulate policies on CSR and business operations. Delegates may wish to focus on the recommendations provided in the document, calling for better international cooperation and renewed monitoring systems.


This web portal links to the WBCSD Vision 2050 report, which identifies key goals for corporations including costing for economic externalities, better sustainable infrastructure, and improved environmental efficiency. The WBCSD will be useful for delegates exploring ways to expand UNIDO’s involvement in the corporate agenda, and for expanding into new partnerships on the topic of CSR. Additionally, Vision 2050 sets measurable goals and requirements, which may provide an opportunity for a reporting and monitoring component to UNIDO’s objectives.

Bibliography


