

Committee: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Issue: Promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones

Student Officer: Zeta Zetou

Position: Deputy President

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Dear Delegates,

My name is Zeta Zetou, I'm 17 years old and I'm currently an IB1 student at Moraitis School. I am very excited to welcome you to this brand-new committee in the MUN world, namely the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The UNIDO is a UN committee that focuses on the industrialization of agriculturally oriented societies and takes its inspiration from the continuous technological advancements our society experiences today.

MUN has been one of the biggest parts of my life for the past 5 years as I have been constantly attending conferences in Greece and I'm truly honored to serve as the Deputy President of this year's UNIDO committee. The theme of this year's conference is "Breaking Barriers" which is unintentionally linked with the purpose of UNIDO which is to overcome any economic and social barriers in order to ensure that all of its Member States are on track to becoming industrialized.

The topic that will be covered in the following Study Guide is the topic "Promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones" which is especially interesting as it talks about industrial parks that are not common the present day. Delegates, you will be tasked to find a variety of solutions pertaining to how this idea can be promoted and how healthy and sustainable industrialization can be achieved in the context of the global community, even through this MUN conference.

On a more personal note, if there was one thing about myself that you should know is that I have a really cold dad joke type sense of humor that you will undoubtedly notice during this two-day conference. Besides MUN, I really enjoy painting and horseback riding.

I'm really looking forward to meeting you all this April! I hope you find this study guide helpful and you come up with smart and detailed clauses so that we can have a fruitful debate. If you by any chance face any difficulties or have any questions while preparing for the conference feel free to email me at: ZeGe120690@moraitis.edu.gr

Best Regards,
Zeta Zetou

TOPIC INTRODUCTION

As the world is evolving, we are slowly trying to find more and more ways to promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization so as to aid transitioning economies and emerging nations in overcoming a number of obstacles to industrialization. These difficulties include poor institutions, restricted access to information, technology, money, infrastructure, and expensive production and transaction costs. To achieve real results and effect, fill in the gaps and remove obstacles to the growth of industrial parks, it is critical to duplicate and scale up successful cases and innovative solutions. All people's living standards may rise quickly and steadily thanks to inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID), which also offers the technological means for industrialization that is ecologically friendly. The basis of attempts to meet environmental goals, such as better resource and energy efficiency, is technological advancement. Industrialization cannot occur without technology and innovation, and development cannot occur without industrialization.¹ Inferred from ISID is that no one is left behind and that all facets of society profit from industrial advancement, which also makes it possible to address pressing social and humanitarian issues. The international community has made great strides in recent years in pushing novel ideas to quicken development and open the door for a more ambitious, inclusive, and universal development framework beyond 2015. While industrialization was not included in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, it is now a key component of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.² ISID promotes and supports economic growth and diversification in a way that is ecologically responsible and socially inclusive, based by four guiding principles:

1. As industry generates the income required to solve pressing social and humanitarian needs, prosperity is shared throughout all spheres of society in all nations, ensuring that no one is left behind in reaping the benefits of industrial expansion.
2. The globalization of markets for industrial goods and services helps every nation reach a better level of industrialization in its economies.
3. A framework that is ecologically sustainable supports broader economic and social advancement.
4. To optimize the development effect of ISID, the unique knowledge and resources of all pertinent development actors are merged.

¹ "UNIDO Launches Global Knowledge Platform to Promote Sustainable Industrial Parks and Special Economic Zones." *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, www.unido.org/news/unido-launches-global-knowledge-platform-promote-sustainable-industrial-parks-and-special-economic-zones.

² "Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development." *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, www.unido.org/inclusive-and-sustainable-industrial-development.

The Organization's programmatic focus is consequently divided into three main fields of activity that each represent a different aspect of ISID in light of the renewed mandates given to UNIDO and the United Nations as a whole: fostering shared prosperity, enhancing economic competitiveness, protecting the environment, and bolstering knowledge and institutions.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Industrial Park

“An industrial park is a tract of land that is developed and zoned for industrial use, typically with buildings and infrastructure to support various businesses”.³

Inclusive Industrial Development

In this context, "inclusive" refers to the need for industrial development to involve all nations and all peoples, as well as the private sector, civil society organizations, multinational development institutions, and all facets of the UN system. It also means that it must provide all stakeholders with equal opportunities and a fair distribution of the advantages of industrialization. The concept of "sustainable" refers to the need to separate industrial prosperity from overconsumption of natural resources and adverse environmental effects.⁴

Special Economic Zones

A special economic zone (SEZ) is a part of a nation that has distinct economic rules than other parts of the same nation. Foreign direct investment is typically encouraged by and drawn to special economic zones (SEZs) due to their Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). By using tax incentives to entice foreign investment and stimulate technical innovation, special economic zones (SEZs) are often established in order to allow rapid economic expansion. Although several nations have established special economic zones (SEZs), China has had the most success using SEZs to bring in global investment.

Eco-Industrial Parks

UNIDO's promotion of eco-industrial parks is one way it contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals. An eco-industrial park is a group of companies that work together to manage environmental and resource challenges in order to improve their performance in terms of the environment, the economy, and society. This is referred to as industrial symbiosis, a strategy used by businesses to achieve a

³ "Industrial Park." *Merriam-Webster*, Merriam-Webster, www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/industrial%20park.

⁴ "Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development." *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, www.unido.org/inclusive-and-sustainable-industrial-development.

competitive edge via the actual interchange of resources including materials, energy, water, and waste products, promoting inclusive and sustainable growth.

Global Value Chains and Economic Competitiveness

The business sector is a potential source for innovation, capital investment, technical advancement, skill upskilling, and the development of respectable jobs. All these elements work together to promote production over time, which can guarantee favorable outcomes for the poor and raise the “quality of life” standards generally in emerging nations. Better local and international market access can also significantly aid the battle against poverty in developing nations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development

All people's living standards may rise quickly and steadily thanks to inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID), which also offers the technological means for industrialization that is ecologically friendly. The basis of attempts to attain environmental goals, such as better resource and energy efficiency, is technological advancement. Industrialization cannot occur without technology and innovation, and development cannot occur without industrialization.

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⁵ "Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development." *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, [www.unido.org/inclusive-and-sustainable-industrial-development#:~:text=Inclusive%20and%20sustainable%20industrial%20development%20\(ISID\)%20is%20the%20primary%20so](http://www.unido.org/inclusive-and-sustainable-industrial-development#:~:text=Inclusive%20and%20sustainable%20industrial%20development%20(ISID)%20is%20the%20primary%20so).

Sustainability and the Safeguarding of the Environment

In particular, among poorer regions, pollution, climate change, habitat destruction, and overexploitation of natural resources like fresh water and fisheries are seriously harming human health, wellbeing, and livelihoods. These factors are also eroding prospects for a resilient and strong economy over the long term. The availability of a reliable supply of inexpensive and clean energy, together with increased resource efficiency, is one of the requirements for industry to grow in a sustainable way.

The hazards of climate change are widely known, and its effects are already having an impact on ecosystems and humans. Industries and organizations, both public and private, must be able to analyze and comprehend climate change, devise and execute appropriate policies, and work toward resource-efficient societies and low emission growth in order to meet the climate challenge. Overcoming the serious issue of rising resource consumption levels requires "decoupling" the use of natural resources and environmental effects from economic growth.

In light of this, UNIDO assists nations in their efforts to control their environmental impact, including the implementation of multilateral environmental accords and the provision of sustainable energy. By establishing national road maps for greening the supply chain, choosing benchmarks and indicators, distributing and exchanging best practices, managing clean technology programs, carrying out various capacity-building activities, and providing the necessary research and expertise to international forums, it aids in the creation of new green industries.

The services provided by UNIDO include building capacity, providing direct technical assistance to businesses, assisting governmental organizations with policy issues related to cleaner production (CP), promoting, adapting, and transferring environmentally friendly technologies, and implementing cutting-edge CP business models like chemical leasing.

UNIDO concentrates on the sustainable use of water resources in the area of water management. This entails developing the industrial sector's capacity to increase water productivity, reuse, and recycling, as well as introducing legislation and educating the public at all levels about the ecosystem approach and the sustainable use of its living resources.

By assisting in the transformation of markets for energy-efficient goods and services, UNIDO emphasizes the necessity of enhancing industrial energy efficiency. The adoption of industrial energy efficiency standards, the development of smart grids based on renewable energy, the use of renewable energy for industrial applications, as well as the promotion of climate resilient industries are just a few examples of how it promotes sustainable energy solutions for making industries more productive and climate resilient, which in turn promotes green jobs and green growth.

The manufacturing and consumption of ozone depleting chemicals (ODSs), which contribute to the ongoing deterioration of human health and the environment, nevertheless need to be phased out urgently. In response to this necessity, the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol were created.

By delivering non-ODS-based technology to Article 5 nations and supporting them to fulfill the established objectives in terms of tonnages of ODS to be eradicated, UNIDO helps governments of developing countries that are signatories to the Montreal Protocol comply with its obligations.

Governments who have ratified the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) have pledged to undertake environmental management measures, including significant technical advancements, in order to abide by the Convention's rules. The ecology and human health are being severely harmed by the manufacture, usage, and presence of POPs in the biosphere. Additionally, UNIDO builds the ability of developing nations to safeguard their populations and their environmental resources against POPs-related pollution. It also helps countries achieve compliance with the Stockholm Convention. The Minamata Convention on Mercury's commitments are supported by UNIDO in addition.⁶

Economic Development and Competitiveness

Why are certain countries or areas wealthier than others? What factors encourage local firms or multinational enterprises to innovate and expand? Many of the fundamental causes at play in the modern global economy are not well explained by traditional economic theories. The only way to increase employment, boost salaries, and enhance living standards is via competition, yet the true definition of competitive advantage is not well recognized.

The industrial sector serves as a breeding ground for company investment, technical advancement, skill upskilling, and the development of respectable jobs. All of these elements help to maintain productivity gains that can guarantee pro-poor results and raise living standards, especially in emerging nations. Additionally, improved access to both local and foreign markets may significantly aid the battle against poverty in emerging nations.

Countries may profit from possibilities afforded by global commerce, including additional jobs, exports, and foreign direct investment, by putting industries at the proper level of global value chains (FDI). Market access can provide the critical funding and technology required for building a powerful, inclusive, transformational economy in addition to improving resilience. A crucial component of every nation's strategic

⁶ "Safeguarding the Environment." *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, www.unido.org/our-focus/safeguarding-environment.

approach to Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development is participation in international commerce (ISID).

Many people live in an agricultural, frequently subsistence-based economy in many developing nations, especially in the Least Developed Countries. Many young people lack the chances to develop industrial and entrepreneurial attitudes and skills as they grow up, which leads to poverty and long-term unemployment or underemployment. Therefore, entrepreneurship is an inclusive process that facilitates social mobility for the bottom billion of people, including men and women, in urban and rural locations. From the individual and grassroots levels, entrepreneurship also alters economies and advances industrial growth in a sustainable and equitable manner.

In light of this, UNIDO supports initiatives aimed at fostering entrepreneurship, SME growth, trade capacity building, and investment and technology promotion.

Assisting in the development of productive capacity, UNIDO offers consultancy services to enhance the business and policy environment for the private sector. With the aid of its programs, businesses, particularly SMEs, may increase their creativity and productivity while gaining systemic competitive advantages. By enhancing synergies between businesses and with support organizations, UNIDO intends to empower SMEs to take advantage of their distinctive dynamism and flexibility by building on a strong global network designed to stimulate investment, technology, and other cooperation possibilities.

By helping developing nations and transitioning economies upgrade their production and processing systems to improve the quality of their domestic products, particularly through the adoption of improved technologies, and help them conform to the standards required by global markets, UNIDO strengthens international trade norms and standards. In addition to benchmarking competitive performance at the sectoral and product levels and supporting the establishment of trade-related databases like inventories of technical barriers to trade (TBT), which are designed to expand exports from the industrial sector, UNIDO builds capacities in both public and private institutions to formulate trade policies and strategies based on economic and statistical analysis.

Through various regional programs and country projects, UNIDO supports standards institutions as well as TBT and sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) measures enquiry points in the area of strengthening the standards, metrology, testing, and conformity assessment infrastructure of its beneficiary countries. In order to help developing countries become more competitive, UNIDO also assists them in tackling the crucial problem of voluntary private standards, with a focus on the adoption of corporate social responsibility (CSR) norms.

In order to foster an environment where entrepreneurial acts are rewarded, UNIDO also promotes the growth of entrepreneurial skills and culture by enhancing the performance of public services for enterprises. UNIDO offers practical entrepreneurship curriculum in secondary and vocational training institutions, focusing on the development of entrepreneurial skills among young people, both girls and boys, before they enter the workforce, using a bottom-up growth approach for poverty reduction. This is enhanced by ICT training components, which combine the fundamentals of entrepreneurship with hands-on exposure to modern technology, preparing young people for important labor market requirements as well as an increasingly networked information society.

Recognizing Competition

Based on productivity, Michael Porter defines competitiveness and focuses on the microeconomic principles of competitive advantage that support productivity in countries, regions, and clusters. The frameworks and important ideas that provide the basis for comprehending competitiveness are introduced on this page.

Economic Development Strategy

Michael Porter's groundbreaking work in corporate strategy served as the foundation for his theories and frameworks on economic growth and competitiveness. For those in positions of leadership in cities, states, regions, and countries, strategy is a crucial tool. In times of austerity or economic adversity, clear economic plans that involve all stakeholders, foster innovation, and ultimately enhance productivity are especially crucial.⁷⁸

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED

People's Republic of China (PRC)

China has been actively involved in combatting the issue raised by the creation and existence of industrial parks. UNIDO and the Chinese Ministry of Commerce jointly organized the Parallel Session of the Fifth Hongqiao International Economic Forum on November 5, 2022, in Beijing, with the theme "Accelerating inclusive and sustainable industrialization through South-South cooperation - exploring the role of industrial parks & special economic zones," as part of the 5th International China Import Expo (CIIE). In support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the session addressed the crucial role that industrial parks and special economic zones play in

⁷ "Advancing Economic Competitiveness." *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, www.unido.org/our-focus/advancing-economic-competitiveness.

⁸ "Competitiveness & Economic Development." *Institute For Strategy And Competitiveness - Harvard Business School*, www.isc.hbs.edu/competitiveness-economic-development/Pages/default.aspx.

promoting growth and the accomplishing SDG9, which is about "industry, innovation and infrastructure".

UNIDO's Director General Gerd Müller recognized the long history of collaboration with China on industrial parks as he opened the meeting. He said, "Industrial parks are an integrated instrument to help sustainable industrialization." The gratitude for UNIDO's contribution to the facilitation of knowledge transfer for industrial parks utilizing the South-South cooperation method was recognized by Li Fei, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Commerce of China. He also discussed the accomplishments China has achieved as a consequence of the growth of industrial parks.

Philippines

The Philippines has made significant efforts to promote sustainable industrial parks within its special economic zones (SEZs). This is because sustainable industrial parks can not only provide economic benefits but also help to mitigate the negative impacts of industrial activities on the environment and communities. The Philippines' government has established several policies to support the development of sustainable industrial parks in SEZs. For example, the Philippine EcoZones Act of 1995 provides a framework for the establishment and operation of ecozones, which are special areas within SEZs that promote environmentally responsible and sustainable industrial development. Furthermore, the government of the Philippines has also established partnerships with international organizations to promote sustainable industrial park development in SEZs. For example, it has worked with UNIDO to promote sustainable industrial park development and to provide technical assistance to companies operating within SEZs.

India

India has been actively involved in promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones (SEZs) to attract foreign investment, create jobs, and boost economic growth. The government has implemented several initiatives to make these industrial parks eco-friendly and energy efficient. India has been promoting green infrastructure in its SEZs, which includes parks, lakes, and green belts. This not only helps to mitigate the effects of climate change but also provides a cleaner and greener environment for workers and local communities. India has also implemented water management plans in its SEZs, which include the collection, treatment, and reuse of water. The government is also promoting the use of rainwater harvesting systems to reduce the dependence on groundwater.

United States of America (USA)

The United States government has been actively involved in promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones (SEZs) through various initiatives and programs. One of the primary ways the US has supported sustainable

industrial parks is through funding and technical assistance. For example, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) has provided funding for SEZs in developing countries to help them improve their infrastructure and promote sustainable industrial growth. The US government has also worked with SEZs to promote sustainable practices through technical assistance. For example, the Department of Energy's Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative provides technical assistance to SEZs to help them implement clean energy solutions, reduce energy costs, and lower their carbon footprint.

The Industrial Upgrading and Modernization Programme (IUMP)

Industrial small and medium companies (SMEs) frequently lack management skills and insufficient understanding of business processes, as well as of operational and production cycles, in emerging nations and economies in transition. Additionally, the use of subpar technology and restricted access to the financing required to increase production capacity frequently compromise their performance. Dealing with legislative and regulatory issues that affect their industry or the business sector in general is also quite tough for individual SMEs. This has the effect of making it difficult for SMEs to compete on both home and foreign markets. By addressing these issues holistically, SMEs will be able to manufacture creative, economical, secure, trustworthy, and high-quality products in sufficient quantities.

By boosting local industries' capacities for value added production, economic diversification, exports, and job creation, the Industrial Upgrading and Modernization Programme (IUMP) seeks to promote economic growth and facilitate regional integration of developing nations and economies in transition. Competitiveness and innovation, according to UNIDO, are the fundamental factors to capitalize on liberalization and spur economic growth.⁹

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) plays a crucial role in promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones (SEZs) through its financing and technical assistance programs. The bank provides loans and grants to developing countries to support the development of SEZs and the establishment of sustainable industrial parks. These parks are designed to promote environmentally friendly production methods and reduce negative environmental impacts. One of the key initiatives of ADB in promoting sustainable industrial parks is its support for the development of green buildings. This includes providing financing for the construction

⁹ "Industrial Upgrading and Modernization Programme (IUMP)." *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, www.unido.org/our-focus-advancing-economic-competitiveness/industrial-upgrading-and-modernization-programme-iump#:~:text=The%20Industrial%20Upgrading%20and%20.

of energy-efficient buildings and helping to develop policies and guidelines to encourage the use of sustainable building practices.

International Labor Organization (ILO)

The International Labor Organization (ILO) is actively involved in promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones (SEZs). This involvement is part of the ILO's commitment to promoting decent work and sustainable economic growth, particularly in developing countries. The ILO raises awareness of the importance of sustainable industrial parks in SEZs and advocates for the adoption of policies and practices that promote sustainable development. Apart from that, it also promotes the adoption of decent work principles in SEZs, including safe and healthy working conditions, social protection, and fair wages and benefits.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Description of event
1990s	The concept of special economic zones (SEZs) was first introduced as a way to spur economic development and attract foreign investment.
2000s	The number of SEZs around the world began to grow rapidly, as more countries adopted this model to drive economic growth.
2005	Concerns began to be raised about the environmental and social impact of SEZs, including pollution, waste generation, and poor working conditions.
2007	The first sustainable industrial park was established in the city of Suzhou, China. The park featured state-of-the-art infrastructure, energy-efficient buildings, and a strong focus on waste management and reduction.
2008	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the International Labor Organization (ILO) launched a joint initiative, called “Green Jobs in Special Economic Zones (SEZs)”, to promote sustainable industrial parks within SEZs.
2010	A number of SEZs began to implement sustainable practices, such as renewable energy generation, waste management systems, and improved working conditions for employees.

June 8, 2010	UNIDO launched its Green Industry initiative to promote environmentally sustainable industrialization.
June 12, 2012	The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) was established, with the goal of promoting sustainable economic growth in SEZs and other areas around the world.
June 20-22, 2012	The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. One of the key outcomes was the agreement by world leaders to promote green economic growth and sustainable industrialization.
2012	The World Bank launched a program to provide technical assistance and funding to SEZs seeking to become more sustainable.
2013	The Chinese government announced plans to establish 100 sustainable industrial parks across the country by 2020.
September 25, 2015	The UN adopted its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which included specific targets for promoting sustainable industrial parks within SEZs.
2018	The International Finance Corporation (IFC) launched a program to finance sustainable industrial parks in SEZs, in order to support the growth of sustainable businesses and create green jobs.
2018	The World Bank launched its "Green Industry Platform" program to support developing countries in creating sustainable industrial parks and promoting green economic growth.
2020	The COVID-19 pandemic led to a renewed focus on the importance of sustainable industrial parks, as companies sought to minimize their impact on the environment and ensure the health and safety of their employees.
2020	The first sustainable special economic zone was established in the city of Shenzhen, China. The zone was designed to attract green technology companies and promote sustainable development in the region.
2022	The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launches its "Green Zones" initiative, aimed at promoting

	sustainable industrialization and green economic growth in special economic zones around the world.
2022	The International Labor Organization (ILO) and UNIDO launched a joint initiative, called “The Sustainable Industrial Park Programme (SIPP)” to promote the adoption of best practices for sustainable industrial parks within SEZs.

RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES AND EVENTS

Director General’s Brochure: “UNIDO - Introduction to Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development”

The Director General’s Brochure “UNIDO - Introduction to Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development” provides an overview of UNIDO’s approach to inclusive and sustainable industrial development. This brochure highlights the importance of promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones as a key component of sustainable development. It also emphasizes the need for sustainable industrial parks to be designed and developed with the goal of minimizing their environmental impact, conserving resources, and promoting sustainable business practices. UNIDO also notes the significance of engaging with local communities and other stakeholders to promote sustainable industrial development and ensure that the benefits of economic growth are shared by all. Through its initiatives, UNIDO works to promote sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones and support the transition to a more sustainable and inclusive global economy.

Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in Africa Region

The “Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in Africa Region” is an initiative aimed at promoting sustainable industrial development in Africa, with a focus on creating inclusive and sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones. In the African region, UNIDO works with governments, private sector organizations, and other stakeholders to promote sustainable industrial parks that are designed and developed with the goal of minimizing their negative impact on the environment, while promoting sustainability. This is achieved through a combination of policy measures, technological advancements, and stakeholder engagement.

Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in Arab Region

The “Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in the Arab Region” is a program aimed at promoting sustainable industrial development in the Arab region. This program is designed to help the countries in the Arab region transition to a more sustainable and inclusive economic growth model. The program also seeks to promote the adoption of sustainable business practices within industrial parks, such as water

conservation and management, green transportation, and eco-friendly building design. By promoting these practices, the program aims to create industrial parks that are not only economically viable but also environmentally and socially responsible.

Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in Europe and Central Asia

The “Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in Europe and Central Asia” is a regional program launched UNIDO to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development in the Europe and Central Asia region. As part of this program, UNIDO is focused on promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones as a way to support sustainable economic growth and development. The program aims to create a business environment that is economically viable, socially responsible, and environmentally sustainable by promoting the development of sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones.

Zero draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda¹⁰

The “Zero draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda” is a document that outlines the proposed goals and targets for the United Nations’ development agenda for the post-2015 period. This document provides a framework for promoting sustainable development and ensuring that the benefits of economic growth are shared by all. With regard to promoting sustainable industrial parks in special economic zones, the Zero draft recognizes the important role that industrial parks can play in supporting the growth and development of industries and creating employment opportunities. However, it also highlights the need for industrial parks to be developed in a sustainable manner that minimizes their environmental impact and promotes resource conservation.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Industrial Park Platform

Industrial Park Platform (IPP) is a worldwide information platform that acts as a resource hub for area development projects including industrial parks (also known as special economic zones, industrial districts, corridors, etc.) across the world. IPP’s goal is to encourage collaboration and partnerships, to connect experts and facilitate matchmaking, to improve data, analysis, tools, and best practices sharing, to speed up dialogues among different actors, to provide capacity-building training, and to encourage industrialization through the creation of sustainable industrial parks while addressing knowledge gaps. One of the most useful instruments for developing nations and transition economies to learn from one another, construct efficient

¹⁰ “Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development.” *UNIDO | United Nations Industrial Development Organization*, www.unido.org/inclusive-and-sustainable-industrial-development.

institutions, improve human potential, and generate sustainable solutions is knowledge exchange. As it aids in the replication and upscaling of effective practices and facilitates technology transfer, South-South cooperation becomes a key tool in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SIPP was created in response to the requirement to promote discussions and actions aimed at boosting Southern solidarity and mutually beneficial alliances in order to achieve sustainable industrialization.¹¹

Mainstreaming Eco-Industrial Parks

Many emerging and advanced-developing countries, such as Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Turkey, and Vietnam, have benefited greatly from the economic expansion of SEZs. These zones offer specialized infrastructure and commercial services, and they have emerged as an effective model for the creation of many jobs, the transfer of knowledge and technology, the diversification of exports, and the advancement of industry under the direction of foreign direct investment. Sustainability and eco-industrial growth will be crucial in the next phase of industrial zone development in order to reduce environmental and social hazards while increasing company profitability. Exploring these models and comprehending the circumstances in which they might address the environmental and ecological problems of our day while maintaining their function as production hubs and development centers are urgently needed. This report presents the most recent ideas on eco-industrial parks, bringing together experiences from various countries and offering a vision on how these initiatives can be scaled up or mainstreamed. It is based primarily on a global conference Eco-Industrial Parks (EIP) 2015, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea in October 2015. It will give decision-makers insight into how to conceptualize EIPs and what many elements need to be taken into account when developing an EIP program. The paper lays the groundwork for future development of principles and detailed procedures on how to create a national program on EIPs.¹²

¹¹ "About Us." *Sustainable Industrial Park Platform | Sustainable Industrial Park Platform*, sipp.unido.org/about.

¹² "Mainstreaming Eco-Industrial Parks." *Open Knowledge Repository*, openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/24921.

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