



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



PROJECT TITLE	Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) to accelerate the uptake and investments in innovative cleantech solutions (UNIDO ID: 180258)
GOAL	Drive transformative cleantech solutions for climate action by fostering collaboration, synergy, and connectivity among start-ups and SMEs in partner countries implementing GCIP, promoting innovative cleantech entrepreneurship
THEMATIC AREAS	Climate change mitigation and adaptation, cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship, SME and start-up support, women empowerment, youth engagement
EXAMPLES OF INNOVATION-RELATED OUTPUTS, INCLUDING REGULATORY AND OTHER FRAMEWORKS	<p>Global cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem assessment framework for country analysis</p> <p>Global cleantech capacity building framework and Global cleantech innovation cluster development framework</p> <p>Cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship-related policy recommendations and strategies at national and global levels</p> <p>Global Cleantech Innovation Index</p> <p>State-of-the-art GCIP web platform connecting more than ten projects through an interactive network. Platform features entail enhanced stakeholder engagement instruments, foster proactive know-how spreading and support advanced data analysis with tailored IT tools</p> <p>Methodologies, guidelines, tools and training systems for cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship accelerators</p>
CURRENT PARTNERS	Cleantech Group (CTG) Network of Global Innovation (NGIN) REEEP on behalf of the Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)
TOTAL GCIP BUDGET	~ USD 27 million
DURATION	2022 - 2026



Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP)

Empowering changemakers - Transforming tomorrow



GLOBAL CLEANTECH INNOVATION PROGRAMME (GCIP)

Advancing cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship in emerging markets and developing economies to address climate challenges and foster sustainable development

CONTEXT

Climate change presents an existential threat to humanity. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions continue to increase, posing the risk that temperature rise will surpass 1.5°C as early as in 2030, unless decisive action is taken, including the rapid development, deployment and adoption of innovative low-carbon solutions.

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA) "Net Zero by 2050: A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector"¹ report, major innovation boost must occur until 2030 in order to bring clean technologies to market in time. This includes accelerating R&D, demonstration and deployment of new solutions.

Start-ups and SMEs are the engine of innovation and development, especially in cleantech. Cleantech enterprises can support the transition toward low-carbon and resilient economies and mitigate climate change while creating new green jobs and empowering women and youth.

Despite this potential, start-ups and SMEs often find it difficult to commercialize their solutions. They encounter serious barriers to business and technology development, referred to as "valleys of death", that they have to cross to ensure traction, growth and scale-up, nationally and globally.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), funded through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), induces transformative change and increases the chances for start-ups and SMEs to bridge these "valleys of death".

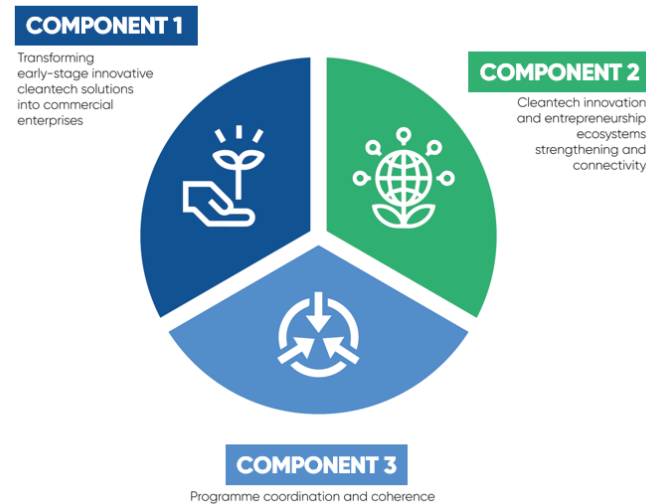
GCIP harnesses the power of home-grown innovations with climate impact stemming from start-ups and SMEs, resulting in carbon reduction as well as SME sector strengthening and green jobs.

INNOVATIVE APPROACH

GCIP accelerates the development and deployment of cleantech solutions in emerging markets and developing economies. GCIP directly supports cleantech start-ups and SMEs through business acceleration training, mentorship, networking and funding facilitation.

GCIP also helps partner countries strengthen their national innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems to create enabling conditions for the cleantech industry to thrive. It builds capacities of national institutions and associations and contributes to the formulation of inclusive and gender-responsive national policy frameworks as well as creates partnerships between stakeholders in the public, private and academic sectors.

As a UNIDO programme, GCIP builds upon its strong normative function to provide policy guidance to UNIDO Member States, within and beyond partner countries. By leveraging UNIDO's thought leadership in sustainable industrial development and its network of partners, GCIP provides tailored support to each country, which allows for smarter resources allocation and the long-term sustainability of interventions.



GCIP facilitates knowledge creation and exchange to promote synergies across ecosystems. It works closely with national industry associations and shares accumulated expertise to help them expand their membership, better communicate industry needs to policymakers, advocate for greater women and youth engagement and strengthen their positions.

To ensure its programmatic coherence, GCIP serves as a coordination platform to aggregate and disseminate knowledge products that support the thinking and decision-making processes around cleantech solutions at national and global levels.

A key component of GCIP is its web platform that facilitates global coordination and building of the GCIP community. The web platform is also a knowledge depository to raise awareness of cleantech potential and latest developments.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

The guiding principle of GCIP is to ensure equal opportunities for women to participate in and benefit from cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship.

GCIP empowers women entrepreneurs to develop businesses and products that support a greener future. It promotes greater involvement of women entrepreneurs in its accelerator programmes not only as direct acceleration beneficiaries but also as mentors, coaches and judges.

GCIP involves women in the mentoring, training and judging to create more role models and design special mentoring programmes targeted at women entrepreneurs. The programme's capacity-building services for the partner countries focus very strongly on supporting gender-responsive policies.

GCIP policy frameworks, guidelines and tools underline the importance of gender mainstreaming to make cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems more inclusive.

Since 2013, GCIP has already demonstrated higher levels of women's participation than other accelerator programmes, with approximately 25% alumni supported being women-led enterprises. For the period between 2022-2026, GCIP aims to increase this number to at least 35%.

WAY FORWARD

GCIP has well-established expertise and a reputation in cleantech and business development. Combining its accelerators with the ecosystem-strengthening approach, normative role and support for women as well as youth support and intergenerational dialogue, GCIP aims to achieve environmental, social and economic benefits. While other programmes with a similar scope focus on some of these components, the unique selling point of the programme is that it combines them all.

Between 2014-2019, GCIP supported more than 1,200 enterprises in 9 countries. For the 2022-2026 phase, the Programme aims to support in total 2100+ start-ups and SMEs in 16 countries, impact 12,000+ direct and indirect beneficiaries and cumulatively mitigate at least 1,719,000 CO₂e directly and 8,595,000 CO₂e indirectly over the next ten years.

BENEFITS FOR PARTNER COUNTRIES



ENABLING ECOSYSTEM CONNECTIVITY & COORDINATION



PROMOTING SOUTH-SOUTH & TRIANGULAR COOPERATION



PROMOTING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN CLEANTECH

BENEFITS FOR INVESTORS & CORPORATES



ACCESS TO CUTTING-EDGE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS



VERIFIED IMPACT OF CLEANTECH SOLUTIONS



CONTACT
gcip@unido.org

¹ International Energy Agency (IEA), <https://www.iea.org/reports/net-zero-by-2050>