



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Progress by innovation



UNIDO REGIONAL APPROACH FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Sustainable industries, inclusive future: advancing innovation in Asia-Pacific

VISION AND STRATEGIC APPROACH

UNIDO envisions a continued upgrading of industries across the region to power equitable, green and sustainable economic growth.

Home to almost 60% of the world population, Asia and the Pacific is the largest and most populous global region. Significant differences exist in terms of development status, industrialization level and natural resources among the 56 countries in the region, including high-income economies, LDCs, MICs and SIDS.

Fast-paced economic development has not been even across the region, within and among Asian countries. Persistent poverty, income and gender inequality, natural resource depletion, climate change and environmental degradation remain challenges that must be addressed while ensuring continued sustainable growth.

Asia and the Pacific accounts for more than 40% of global exports and 35% of global imports. Strong and broad-based global growth and trade have supported the region's exports and domestic demand. The region also represented around 53% of global manufacturing value added (MVA) in 2021, more than double that of 1990 when ASP accounted for 26%.

The Approach aims to tackle these challenges and capitalize on opportunities, in alignment with and contributing to regional and sub-regional economic governance mechanisms, such as ASEAN, ESCAP, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, among others. The Approach furthermore accounts for UN-wide development instruments, such as the UNSDCFs, the Doha Programme of Action for LDCs 2022-2031 and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.

UNIDO's OFFER

The Approach aims to advance UNIDO's work in the region across three priority areas:

Supporting structural transformation towards higher-value-added industries, enhancing competitiveness, and fostering sector-specific development;

Harnessing digital technologies, promoting innovation, and creating an enabling environment for digital entrepreneurship;

Mainstreaming climate-neutral industry and circular economy, by reducing carbon footprints, enhancing resource efficiency, promoting renewable energy sources, and facilitating the adoption

of climate-friendly and circular practices.

Through this Approach, UNIDO aims to provide targeted support to different stakeholder groups:

Collaboration with governments: Working closely with governments to identify development trends, define strategic priorities, offer UNIDO's expertise as a key partner, and promote transformative industrial strategies that address the specific needs and challenges of the region.

Engagement with global actors: Establishing strategic partnerships, coordinating with development and funding partners (notably IFIs), scaling up development cooperation activities with relevant intergovernmental organizations and regional economic governance mechanisms.

Mobilizing additional resources for ISID: Embedding ISID as a regional priority, identifying programmatic approaches tailored to donors' priorities, and mobilizing public and private investment.

Support for firms and individuals: Empowering individuals in the region to enter the industrial workforce, enabling firms to adopt innovative and sustainable practices, supporting private-sector engagement, and advancing knowledge and skills development.