

Information regarding UNIDO's activities relevant to the role of global food security

Seafood contributes directly to the food security and livelihood of hundreds of millions of people living in coastal areas. Seafood furthermore contributes indirectly to the food security of the global population as an industrially processed factor input e.g. in the form of fish meal into the value added chain of the global food industry.

The sustainable management of global sea food resources is of direct relevance to the achievement of MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger as well as MDG 7: Ensure environmental sustainability.

UNIDO is actively engaged to ascertain that this strategic resource with critical significance for global food security is used sustainably by present generations and will remain available for the benefits of future generations.

In line with the mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to promote inclusive sustainable industrial development as it was re-affirmed by the international community in the Lima Declaration (2013), UNIDO supports the sustainable management and utilization of sea food resources by building capacities for sustainable production, for trade capacity and for sustainable production and industrial resource efficiency.

UNIDO's prime efforts are geared towards maintaining a healthy environment by promoting pollution reduction from industrial processes as well as to the efficient processing and trading of seafood products along the value added chain, from the landing site to the consumer.

UNIDO is implementing several GEF funded projects in Large Marine Ecosystems (Guinea Current and Gulf of Mexico) with pollution reduction and fish and fisheries being key components as well as bilaterally funded projects e.g. in the Republic of the Sudan through the modernization of artisanal fisheries and creation of new market opportunities and providing technical assistance towards the knowledge base for the sustainable use of renewable marine resources in the Red Sea State through artisanal and semi-industrial fisheries.

With green industries as the overarching goal for UNIDO's technical assistance activities, several UNIDO branches cooperate in a synergetic way to contribute to the sustainable management of global sea food resources.

UNIDO's Environmental Management Branch contributes significantly to reduce the degradation of coastal ecosystems and pollution loads by promoting resource efficient cleaner production and the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies to manufacturing industries operating in the catchment areas of transboundary rivers and large marine ecosystems.

UNIDO's Agribusiness Branch provides technical assistance and builds capacities for trade and processing of seafood products along the value added chain of the industrial sea food processing and marketing chain.

Through its Business Partnership Unit UNIDO fosters partnerships with the private sector combining cutting edge private sector expertise with profound know-how in industrial development for the strengthening of local supply chains, greening industries and the joint development of norms and standards.