

UNCTAD's Work on Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Development

*DCED Annual Meeting
Geneva, Switzerland
10-11 July 2014*

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- The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), established in 1964
- Promotes the development friendly integration of developing countries into the world economy
- Three main functions
 - ✓ Forum for intergovernmental deliberations and consensus building
 - ✓ Undertakes research, policy analysis and data collection
 - ✓ Provides technical assistance (\$ 50 million per year, ASYCUDA and DEMFAS, the largest programmes.) UNCTAD also leads the UN Productive Cluster Initiatives.
- From observer status since 2000 to full membership of DCED in 2012



ICTs and Gender at UNCTAD

- ❑ Work on ICTs and women's entrepreneurship
- ❑ Recent publication “Empowering Women Entrepreneurs through Information and Communications Technologies: A Practical Guide”
 - ✓ Collaboration with ILO
 - ✓ Framework tested in East Africa, North Africa and Central Asia
 - ✓ Strong interest in further assessments
- ❑ Work on measuring gender and ICTs with Partnership for Measuring ICT for Development.
- ❑ Strong support from Swedish Sida.



ICTs and Private Sector Development – link to WSIS

- ❑ Lead facilitator of “e-business” (with ITC and UPU).
- ❑ The WSIS+10 Outcome Document (June 2014) committed *inter alia* to:
 - ✓ Make it possible for businesses to use relevant ICTs and to benefit fully from the information economy, including by creating an enabling environment for selling and buying goods or services via ICT networks;
 - ✓ Enhance the entry of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and youth and women entrepreneurs, into all sectors of e-business taking new technological developments into account.
- ❑ Recent areas of UNCTAD work
 - ❑ Public procurement and IT sector development (with BMZ/GIZ)
 - ❑ Mobile money and international remittances
 - ❑ Cloud computing and developing countries
 - ❑ E-commerce and law reform



How can ICTs Empower Women Entrepreneurs?

Effective use of mobile phones, the Internet, social media and other ICTs can support WED by:

- ☐ Improving communication with suppliers and partners
- ☐ Expanding market reach domestically and internationally
- ☐ Enhancing business decision making and productivity
- ☐ Making the entrepreneur better informed about market and business opportunities
- ☐ Facilitating money transfers, payments and savings
- ☐ Enabling networking
- ☐ Improving access to government agencies
- ☐ Making business development support services more effective
- ☐ And more...



Entrepreneurship Programme

3 main areas of work:

- Research and policy analysis
- Policy advice
- Technical Cooperation



- EMPRETEC : UNCTAD's flagship integral entrepreneurship programme helps promising entrepreneurs create sustainable, innovative and internationally competitive SMEs through the development of entrepreneurial behaviours
- Business Linkages between transnational corporations and domestic SMEs



The UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework comprises 6 areas that have a direct impact on entrepreneurial activity

Key components of the UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework



+ ***Guiding Framework for Youth Entrepreneurship***, developed in collaboration with the Commonwealth



Implementation of UNCTAD's EPF in Selected Countries

Since its launch in April 2012, UNCTAD assisted the following countries:



Brazil: The Federal Government with the support of Endeavor Brazil and SEBRAE developed and a draft of a national public policy adapting UNCTAD's EPF.



Ghana: The Government of Ghana is working together with UNCTAD to develop a national Entrepreneurship and SME policy.



Ecuador: The Office of the Vice Presidency of Ecuador is supporting the public-private Alliance for Entrepreneurship and Innovation in developing a National Entrepreneurship Strategy with technical inputs by UNCTAD.



Nigeria: The Nigerian Government revised its National Policy on MSMEs and Entrepreneurship Strategy based on a review process led by the Federal Ministry of Trade and Investment, integrating UNCTAD's recommendations.



Panama: The Entrepreneurship Policy Forum organized by UNCTAD in collaboration with the Latin American Development Bank (CAF), Ciudad del Saber and Empretec Panama in May 2012 resulted in 11 recommendations for entrepreneurship policy covering three key areas.



Zimbabwe: Stakeholders called upon the Ministry of Economic Planning and Investment Promotion to champion the development of entrepreneurship policy, with UNCTAD and Empretec Zimbabwe's.

The 2014 WIF: Investing in Sustainable Development

More than 30 high-profile events, including:

- World Leaders Investment Summit (2 sessions)
 - ✓ To discuss a vision and strategies for ***investing in sustainable development***
- Ministerial Roundtables
 - ✓ To explore ***innovative sources of financing for the SDGs***
 - ✓ To discuss investment-development challenges in ***Landlocked Developing Countries***
- Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative Global Dialogue
 - ✓ To promote ***sustainable development through stock exchanges***
- Dialogue on Investment and Regional Integration
 - ✓ To explore ways to ***promote integration through investment***
- International Investment Agreements Conference
 - ✓ To consider reform options that will ***align the IIA regime with the sustainable development agenda***



**EMPRETEC
Women Business Award
2014: Award Ceremony
15 October 2014, Geneva**



