Communication update on COVID – 19

March 2020 - April 2021

This report covers UNIDO’s intervention in the fight against COVID-19 in Ethiopia from March 2020 to April 2021.

1. UNIDO Echoing COVID-19 Awareness for Ethiopian SMEs

By harnessing its established network composed of development partners, and with the involvement of the government counterparts, UNIDO has leveraged one of its flagship projects, named Upgrading of the Ethiopian Leather and Leather Products Industry, to disseminate awareness-raising audio clips about COVID-19 and related prevention measures in three local languages: Amharic, Oromifa and Tigrinya. The audio recordings, created by Johns Hopkins University Centre for Communication Programs, were played – at workplace level – addressing all SMEs targeted beneficiaries engaged in most of the UNIDO implementing projects. The results of such awareness initiative have positively affected the decisions of the single businesses, particularly with regard to certain tangible management actions promoted to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

2. UNIDO Response against COVID-19 Pandemic in Addis Ababa

24 July 2020 – UNIDO, through the project Phase 2 (Extension) of the Technical Assistance Project for the Upgrading of the Ethiopian Leather and Leather Products Industry and in synergy with the beneficiary EIFCCOS, has distributed 1,180 litres of hand sanitizers to individual businesses that are part of the following macro leather clusters: EIFCCOS, LOMI and Merkato. In addition, FSMMIPA (a Government entity in charge of SMEs in the Country) has benefitted from the intervention.

3. UNIDO Regional Office Hub in Ethiopia Collaborates with the UNCT on the Preparation of the Socio-economic Impact Assessment amid COVID-19

UNIDO Regional Office Hub in Ethiopia has been closely working with FAO, IFAD and ILO under the leadership of UNDP and the RC/HC Office in the preparation of the socio-economic impact assessment in view of the influence COVID-19 will have on the Ethiopian economy. Other UN Agencies have also provided their inputs for the finalization of a comprehensive document that has been finalized by mid-May and highly welcomed by the Government of Ethiopia.
4. UNIDO IAIP Project Hand over COVID-19 PPE to the Government of Ethiopia

Addis Ababa 2 October 2020 - UNIDO, in collaboration with BMZ, donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for protection from COVID-19 to the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MOTI). Materials donated include: face masks, hand sanitizers, water tankers for IAIP and RTCs construction workers; face shields and infrared thermometers for the Federal and Regional IAIP support institutions. The primary aim of the donation is to assist the manufacturing sector to protect from COVID-19 impact. The support worth 200,000USD.

5. UNIDO Provided trainings on COVID-19 Preventive measures in Yiragalem IAIP

UNIDO provided training for trainers of trainees on COVID-19 Prevention and Controlling SoPs for Yirgalem Integrated Agro Industrial Park workers, RTCs and agricultural raw material suppliers. The trainings targets on COVID-19 prevention measures during harvesting, marketing, transportation including the entire processing time.

6. UNIDO Provided PPF to Integrated Agro Industrial Park (IAIP) in Yiragalem

UNIDO under its Integrated Agro Industrial Parks Development project coordinated with BMZ SI COVID – 19 mitigation and job retention intervention – and handed over Personal Protective Equipment material to enterprises working in Yirgalem IAIP.
7. UNIDO – committed to deliver a 5-year Project to promote Sustainable Ethiopian Agro Industrial Development, an EU funded project to be implemented in post COVID – 19.

8. UNIDO under its INOE project targeted Friendship Electromechanical Enterprise located in Hawasa area and provided strategic supports which helped it not only to sustain its operation but also create additional jobs to the neediest.

9. UNIDO LISEC Project distributed 1,061 face masks for women working in the leather Industry