

FIRST WORKSHOP OF UNIDO-CHINA JOINT STUDY ON INDUSTRIAL PARKS



WORKSHOP REPORT

April 2018

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nowadays, it is widely understood that different types of industrial parks have made major contributions to restructuring and developing economies, generating jobs and raising incomes. Some industrial parks are developed in line with sustainability principles while others lack sustainability aspects. To strengthen UNIDO's normative function on industrial parks, UNIDO commits to providing integrated approaches to successful industrial park development with its multidisciplinary and multinational expertise. These integrated approaches also support UNIDO's mandate of promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) in its Member States. A UNIDO cross-divisional taskforce for industrial parks has been established to review UNIDO's experience in the development and upgrading of industrial parks as an initial step.

The project titled "Establishing UNIDO Guiding Framework for Industrial Parks" started after the 17th session of the UNIDO General Conference, during which UNIDO's Director General and China's Vice Minister of Commerce had bilateral discussions to confirm China's support and assistance for the successful implementation of the project. The Guiding Framework will enable UNIDO to systematically assist private and public industrial park developers in the development and operation of industrial parks, in particular under the framework of the Programme for Country Partnership, which is UNIDO's innovative model to accelerate ISID. The project is implemented in partnership with Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC) and brings together all stakeholders to address the issue.

The project began with an in-depth analysis of existing knowledge and country studies to draw lessons and best practices and establish interventions in the context of developing the UNIDO Guiding Framework for the development, operation and management of industrial parks.

One important activity was the Workshop of UNIDO-China Joint Study on Industrial Parks, held in Beijing, China, on 17 April 2018. The workshop was attended by representatives from the Chinese government, business sector, financial and development institutions. The workshop provided an opportunity to share knowledge, best practices and draw lessons from China's experience in the development and management of industrial parks. The following aspects were discussed during the workshop:

- The history, status quo and prospects of industrial parks in China
- Successful experiences and lessons learned in the development, management and operation of industrial parks in China
- China's industrial parks overseas and potential global collaboration on industrial park development
- UNIDO's knowledge of and contribution to industrial park development, particularly the International Framework for Eco-Industrial Parks

The main achievements of the workshop include:

- A consensus that summarizing experiences and best practices of industrial park development in China needs to be considered in the context of China's reform and opening-up process.
- The acknowledged significant contribution of industrial parks to China's economic development, not only in terms of gross domestic product (GDP) growth, but also various other aspects such as institutional innovations and urbanization.
- A strengthened understanding of the importance of codifying experiences, best practices and challenges of industrial park development in China.

A second workshop is planned in the second half of 2018 to present the achievements of the project at the first stage (including the country case studies). Subsequently, the Guiding Framework is expected to be launched in late 2018.

OPENING SESSION



Tianruo WANG, Director, Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce

Collaboration between China and UNIDO has a longstanding history with significant achievements. This collaboration will be further strengthened in the new era of China's development after the 19th General Congress of the Communist Party of China. Industrial park development in China not only accelerated China's reform and opening-up, but also enriched the theory and practice of special economic zones. The joint study will help summarize the experiences and best practices of industrial park development in China, which can contribute to inclusive and sustainable industrial development in other developing countries and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with 'China Intelligence' and 'China Solutions'.



Dejene TEZERA, Director, Department of Agribusiness, United Nations Industrial Development Organisation

UNIDO has considerable experience in providing policy advice and technical assistance to its Member States in the design, management and development of industrial parks. Based on this experience, UNIDO established a cross-divisional taskforce to develop a general framework to guide future development of industrial parks. This workshop will enable the exchange of ideas and enrich the knowledge base to help us develop the industrial park Guiding Framework.



Wei ZHANG, Vice President, Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation

It is an honour for CAITEC to undertake the China case study as part of the UNIDO Guiding Framework. Industrial park development reveals China's successful experience to the gradual reform with initiatives. The rapid development of industrial parks also corresponds to China's industrialization and urbanization. Such experience can also benefit other developing countries. Nowadays, industrial parks in China not only accelerate economic development, but also play important roles in social development. CAITEC is glad to discuss this experience with experts in this workshop, which will contribute to find a global model for industrial park development.

PRESENTATION OF PROJECT

UNIDO Guiding Framework for Industrial Parks



Jie ZHAO

*Industrial
Development Officer*

*Department of
Programmes,
Partnerships and Field
Integration*

UNIDO

The concept of the Guiding Framework stems from the redefinition of UNIDO's mission to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) at the 15th session of the Organization's General Conference. Launched in 2014, the Programmes for Country Partnership (PCPs) include industrial park development as an important element.

There are differences in each country's development levels, social institutions and policy strategies. Such varieties call for a relatively general standard as guidance for industrial park development. In the 1970s, UNIDO developed its own guiding standard for industrial parks, and it is essential to update it accordingly. The year 2018 is the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up. During an interview with the Director General LI Yong this year, it was mentioned that in the early 1980s, with arrangements provided by UNIDO, a delegation from China visited a number of countries to gain global experience in industrial park development. Nowadays, China has a lot of best practices and successful experiences in industrial park development, and can share them with others under the support of UNIDO.

The Guiding Framework will provide a general set of steps and principles to be considered for setting-up and developing industrial parks, and will consider a range of standards to be adopted. As discussed in the internal workshop with CAITEC, specific standards and indicators may vary according to different context.

Various dimensions are considered in the Guiding Framework for Industrial Parks, including the planning stage, the setting-up and management. The methodology for developing this Guiding Framework includes UNIDO internal research based on cross-divisional interdisciplinary knowledge, and also country specific case studies, in which the China case study is one of the most important for providing lessons learned from experiences and best practices.

This Guiding Framework is of course not based only on UNIDO's internal research, but also on the contributions of other partners.

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