



# Accelerating Africa's Green Industrial Transformation



The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is the UN's specialised agency mandated to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Through policy support, technical cooperation, capacity building, technology transfer and strategic partnerships, UNIDO works with governments and industry to advance economic transformation that is both climate aligned and socially inclusive.

Across Africa and globally, UNIDO is driving the shift towards **green industrialisation** - an approach that links industrial growth with decarbonisation, clean energy transitions and innovation. This global momentum is reflected in the **Belém Declaration on Global Green Industrialisation**, launched at **COP30**, which provides a shared framework to accelerate industrial decarbonisation, foster clean technology innovation, and expand opportunities for emerging and developing economies. UNIDO plays a coordinating role in advancing this agenda, mobilising finance, technology and partnerships to support delivery.

Regionally, UNIDO's work aligns closely with **Africa's priorities**, particularly as the **energy-industry nexus** becomes increasingly central to competitiveness, resilience and job creation. The recent **UNIDO General Conference resolution** led by the Africa Group underscores the need for integrated

solutions that link energy systems, industrial policy and climate objectives.

UNIDO also supports the **Sustainable Industrialisation Hubs Coalition** - a legacy initiative of the 2025 G20 hosted by South Africa that brings together policy, infrastructure, technology and investment to accelerate green industrial transformation. In parallel, UNIDO is spearheading the **CLEVA Africa Programme (Cleantech Value Chains in Africa)**, developed with the African Energy Commission (AFREC) to strengthen regional cooperation, develop integrated cleantech value chains and position Africa as a competitive hub for clean technology manufacturing.

On the ground, UNIDO's work includes strengthening **industrial spaces and hubs** as engines of economic development and significant contributors to national climate goals.

## Examples of Green Industrialisation projects in South Africa:

- **Accelerating South Africa's steel decarbonisation** (currently in Detailed Project Preparation for submission to the Mitigation Action Facility for funding)
- **Low-carbon and positive energy industrial spaces** (funded by the Government of Flanders)
- **Sustainable energy systems for industrial development** (funded by the Global Environment Facility)

Through these efforts, UNIDO continues to support African partners in driving a just, innovative and climate resilient industrial future.