

Media Update

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UNIDO

PRESS RELEASE

UNIDO-Cleanteach & ICCI organize Business Clinic for SMEs and start-ups in Pakistan

Islamabad (31.08.2015) UNIDO in collaboration with Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a Business Clinic for providing training to the SMEs and start-up businesses who have qualified as semi-finalists for UNIDO's Call for Awards 2015 of Cleantech competition.

The GEF funded initiative was part of a three years Global Cleantech Innovation Program (GCIP), currently running in many countries including Pakistan and is aimed at developing a sustainable entrepreneurship ecosystem by supporting clean technology innovations in SMEs and start-up businesses so that they could maximize opportunities for achieving sustainable commercial success.

Speaking at the occasion, UNIDO Representative Esam Alqararah, UNIDO Representative thanked ICCI for partnering with his organization to organize Business Clinic of Global Cleantech Innovation Program for SMEs and hoped that cooperation of both organization will help in promoting green industry in the region. He also commended the role of Mentors for providing mentorship to Cleantech teams and hoped that their efforts will help these teams to grow and foster Cleantech innovations in SMEs and new start-ups in Pakistan.

He said UNIDO was involved in promoting Cleantech innovation programs for SMEs around the world in order to promote inclusive and sustainable Industrial Development (ISID) for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability. He said these efforts of UNIDO in Pakistan will go a long way in promoting clean technologies for green growth and green industry in the country.



He assured that UNIDO will keep providing different services to the semifinalists including trainings, incubation service and others that would help them a lot in improving their business prospects and take their Cleantech ideas to new heights.

Addressing the Business Clinic, Muzzamil Hussain Sabri, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry stressed upon the need of providing SMEs and start-up business easy access to solutions, alternatives and new opportunities of funding to innovate, absorb and scale up clean technologies for green growth and green industry. He said government in consultation with stakeholders, should develop a strong policy framework, dedicated funding mechanisms and more public-private partnerships that could strengthen the nexus between entrepreneurs, innovators, R&D institutions, financial institutions and knowledge providers for nurturing innovation ecosystem for SMEs in Pakistan.

He hoped that Business Clinic would equip the aspiring entrepreneurs with much needed knowledge and information and will help them in entrepreneurship ventures. He assured that ICCI would continue to do many projects with UNIDO for the development and support of businesses in the region.
