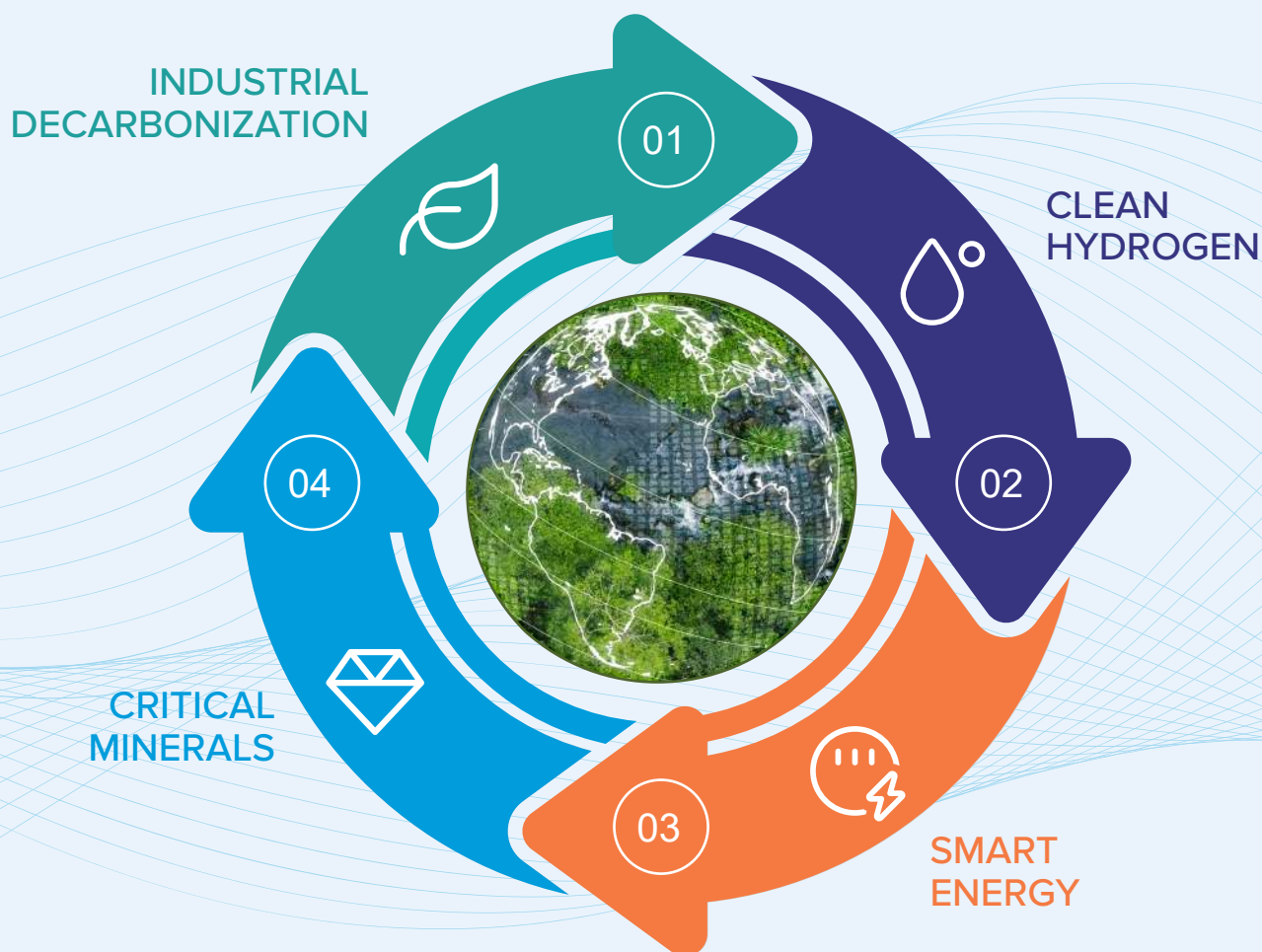




UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Progress by innovation



Accelerate-to-Demonstrate (A2D) Facility

YEAR 3 ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026

Partners



FOREWORD BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL



The Accelerate-to-Demonstrate (A2D) Facility now proudly marks its third year. Through the A2D Facility, with funding from the UK Government Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, UNIDO is supporting scalable, innovative climate solutions and turning them into bankable models which are ready for scaling-up. Success relies on strong partnerships. This milestone has shown that inclusive and sustainable industrial transformation is achievable with the spirit of cooperation and the right innovative approaches and solutions. In line with UNIDO’s “*Vision 2050: The Future of Industries for Development*,” the A2D Facility embodies UNIDO’s commitment to building a world free from poverty and hunger, where industry, innovation and local value addition drive progress and inclusive growth decoupled from emissions and over-exploitation of resources, delivering peace and prosperity for all.

The A2D Facility has delivered great impacts supporting both innovation and resilience in developing countries in critical minerals, clean hydrogen, smart energy, and industrial decarbonization. The projects supported by the Facility are already reducing emissions, building local skills, creating decent jobs, and mobilizing the vital investments needed in developing countries to fully realize their enormous potential.

By supporting innovative climate solutions for industrial development, the A2D Facility is demonstrating that climate action and industrial progress are mutually reinforcing pillars of a prosperous future that leaves no one behind.

Gerd Müller
UNIDO Director General



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

About UNIDO

UNIDO is a specialized agency of the United Nations with a unique mandate to promote, dynamize and accelerate industrial development. Our mandate is reflected in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9: “*Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation*”, but UNIDO’s activities contribute to all the SDGs. UNIDO’s vision is a world without poverty and hunger, where industry drives low-emission economies, improves living standards, and preserves the livable environment for present and future generations, leaving no one behind.



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The Accelerate-to-Demonstrate (A2D) Facility, managed by UNIDO with funding from the UK Government, aims to accelerate the commercialization of innovative, “lighthouse” climate solutions in developing countries.

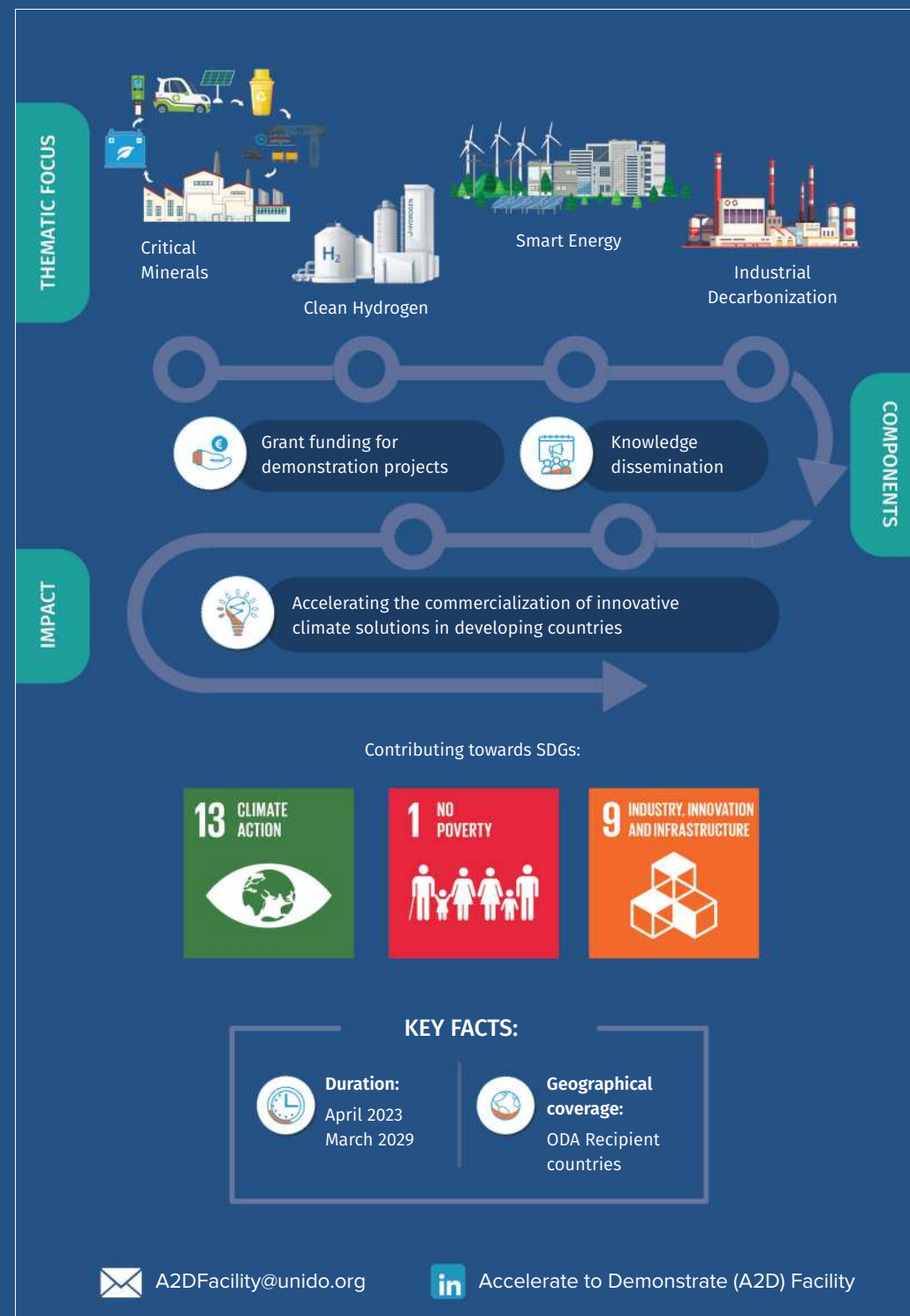




ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

A2D Facility	Accelerate-to-Demonstrate Facility
ACEF	Asia Clean Energy Forum
AI	Artificial Intelligence
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CSS	Compact Syngas Solutions
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
EV	Electric Vehicle
GBP	British Pound
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GESI-ESS	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion & Environmental and Social Safeguards
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
H ₂	Molecular Hydrogen
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
P2P	Peer-to-Peer
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UK	United Kingdom
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
USD	United States Dollar

The Accelerate-to-Demonstrate (A2D) Facility in Brief



Clean Hydrogen

Smart Energy

Industrial Decarbonization

Critical Minerals

1

Introduction

UNIDO's vision is to create a fair global economy in which poverty and hunger are eradicated and where industries create decent jobs, foster innovation and promote prosperity while protecting people and the planet.

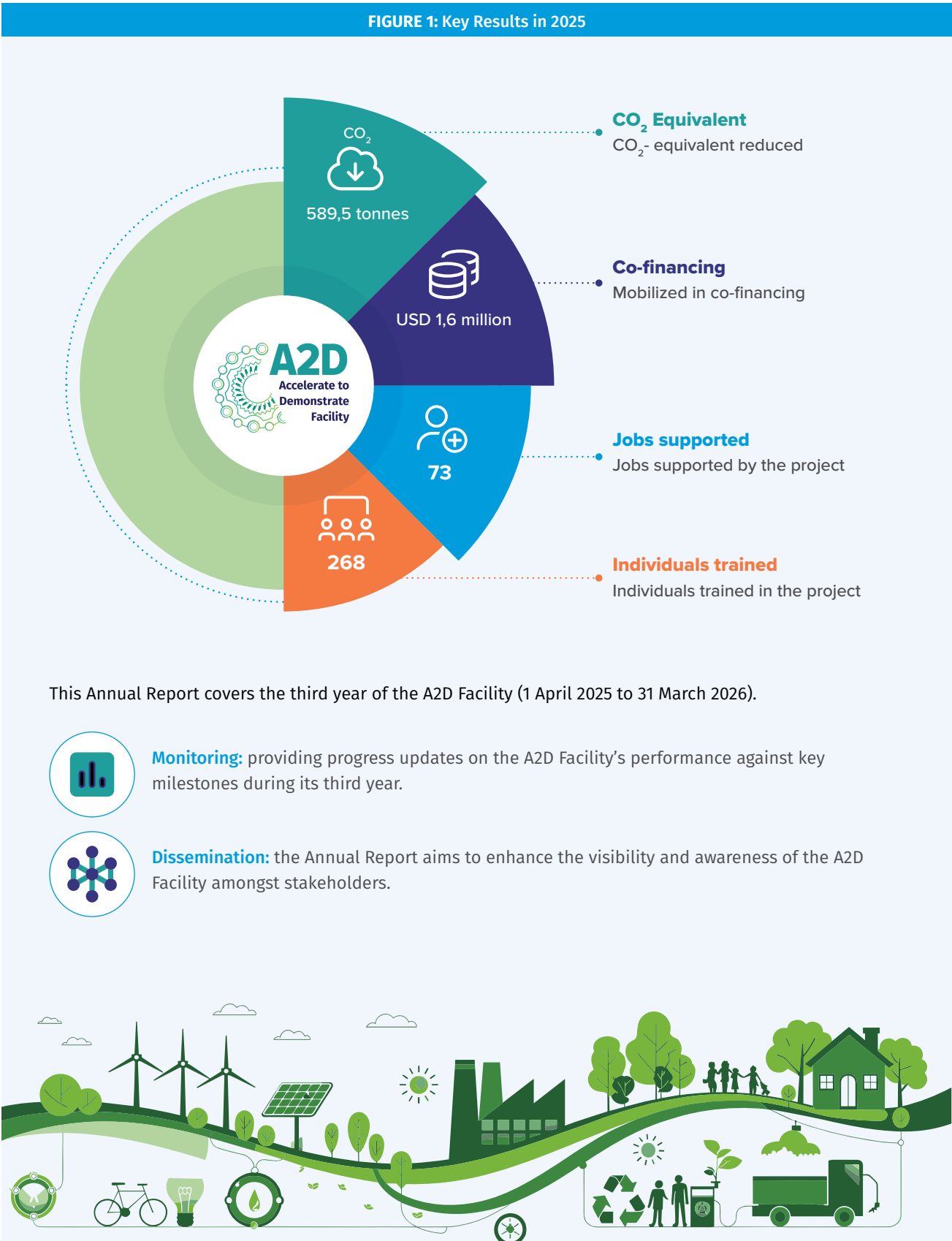


UNIDO is a specialized agency with a unique mandate to promote sustainable industrial development (SDG 9). Aligned with the ‘Industries for Development’ framework, the Organization focuses on fair supply chains, ending hunger through local value addition, and advancing innovative clean solutions, while championing cross-cutting priorities like empowering women and supporting youth.

UNIDO provides support to its 173 Member States through five mandated functions: technical cooperation; action-oriented research and policy-advisory services; normative standards-related activities; fostering partnerships; and its convening function.

In the third year of the A2D Facility, the first cohort of five projects (in Kenya, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria and Tanzania) completed their first-year annual results collection.

Building on this momentum, the A2D Facility’s Second Call for Proposals continued to attract strong global interest, leading to the selection of four new demonstration projects. The second cohort was announced during an event led by the UNIDO Director General and the UK Ambassador in Vienna on 25 February 2026.



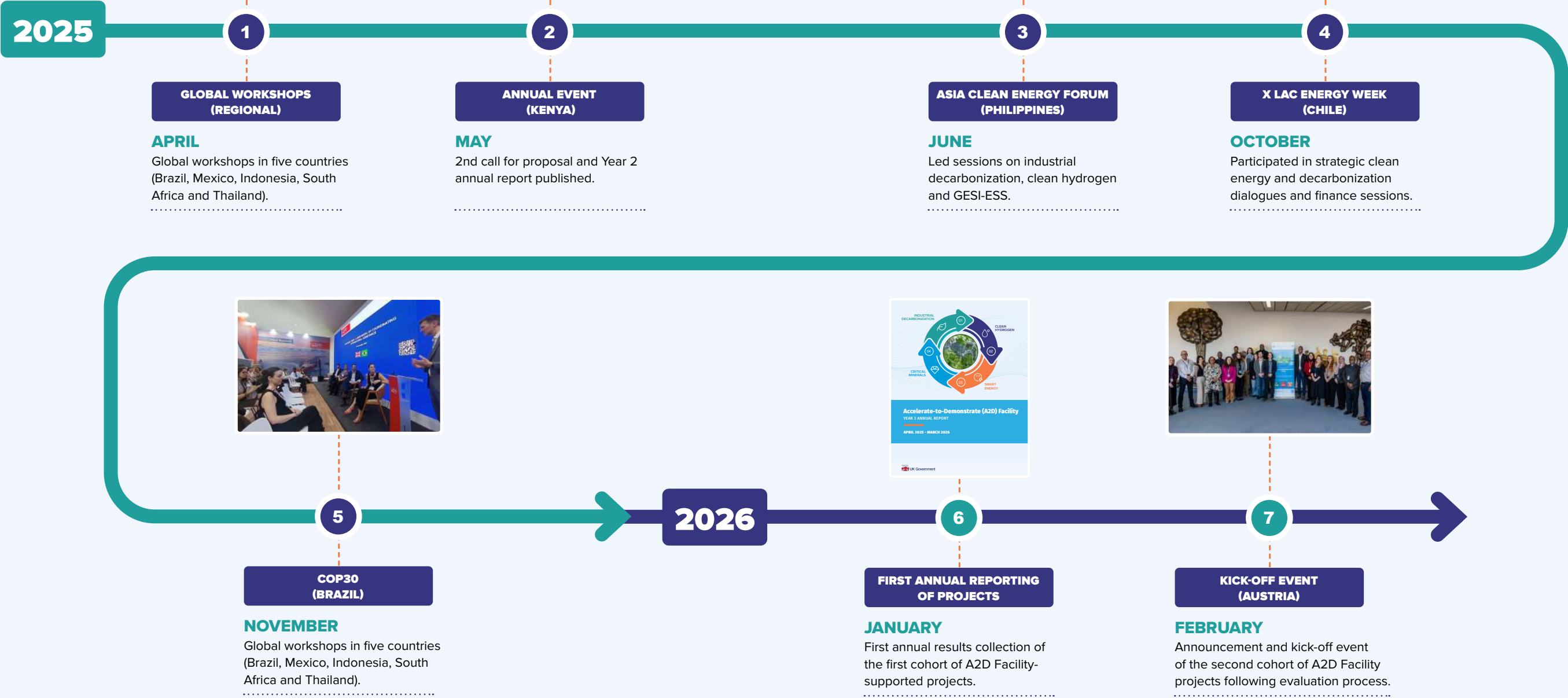
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Milestones in 2025

During its third year, the A2D Facility focused on monitoring the early impacts from the first cohort of supported demonstration projects, enhanced dissemination and outreach, and evaluating and announcing the second cohort of projects.



Summary of year 3 key milestones





The objective of the A2D Facility’s third year was to monitor the early results from the first cohort of demonstration projects over their first year of implementation, launch and complete the evaluation

process for the second call-for-proposals, and enhance the dissemination and outreach of the A2D Facility’s outputs and opportunities.

TABLE 1: Summary of year 3 key milestones			
Date(s)	Milestone / Activity	Description	Key Outcome
APRIL	Global workshops	The A2D Facility hosted a series of global workshops (held in Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia and South Africa in April 2025 and in Thailand in March 2026). The workshops built the capacity of key stakeholders in what makes a good quality demonstration project, strengthened stakeholder engagement and raised the visibility of the A2D Facility.	x5 workshops held (Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia, South Africa and Thailand).
MAY	Annual Event	The A2D Facility held its first annual event, including publishing the second call-for-proposals and the Year 2 Annual Report during the event. The event was held in Kenya.	Successfully organized and held the annual event, published the second call-for-proposals, and published the Year 2 Annual Report.

Date(s)	Milestone / Activity	Description	Key Outcome
JUNE	Asia Clean Energy Forum	The A2D Facility participated in ACEF in the Philippines and led sessions on industrial decarbonization, clean hydro-gen and GESI-ESS.	UNIDO-led sessions and presentations in the forum.
OCTOBER	X LAC Energy Week	The A2D Facility participated in X LAC Energy Week in Chile, presenting in finance sessions and contributed in strategic dialogues on industrial decarbonization and transport decarbonization.	UNIDO interventions and presentations in the conference.
NOVEMBER	COP 30	At the UK Pavilion during COP30 in Brazil, the A2D Facility was featured in an event on industrial hubs in the UK Pavilion.	Raised the visibility of the A2D Facility at a major international event.
JANUARY	Annual Results Collection	The A2D Facility completed the first annual results collection of the first cohort of five projects.	A2D Facility Logframe milestones met.
FEBRUARY	Kick-off Event	The A2D Facility held an announcement event and a kick-off event for the second cohort of supported projects, including three days of training for the projects in Vienna.	Announcement of the second cohort of supported projects and completion of capacity building training on requirements.

3

Year 3 Results

The A2D Facility is demonstrating strong early results, including from the first cohort of supported projects following their first year of implementation.



The A2D Facility achieved important milestones in its third year, including exceeding several key targets. Most notably, the first cohort projects avoided 589.5 tCO₂ in greenhouse gas emissions and achieved a 100% success rate in projects leveraging additional co-financing. Capacity building remained a priority, with UNIDO organizing and delivering 5 in-country global workshops

against a milestone of 4 workshops. The A2D Facility maintained an exemplary commitment to sustainable and inclusive industrial development and risk management, achieving 100% compliance across all Gender Marker (Score 1), inclusivity and UNIDO Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) milestones.

TABLE 2: Results of planned A2D indicators			
Level	Indicator	Planned (2025)	Result (2025)
IMPACT	1: GHG emissions reduced/avoided (tCO2)	0 (baseline)	589.5
	2: Likelihood of transformational change (KPI 15)	3	3.2
OUTCOME	1: Projects increased in maturity/capability	0 (baseline)	0
	2: Co-financing leveraged (proportion of projects)	20%	100%
INT. OUTCOME	1: Proportion of projects generating signifi-cant attention	20%	40%
	2: Community of industry stakeholders developed (proportion of projects)	20%	40%
OUTPUT 1	1.1: Proportion of projects progressing to-ward scalability	0%	0%
	1.2: Steps taken to address barriers (pro-portion of projects)	0% (baseline)	20%
OUTPUT 2	2.1: Number of organization relationships formed	0 (baseline)	1
	2.2: Knowledge sharing/dissemination ac-tivities undertaken	10	15
OUTPUT 3	3.1: In-country capacity building activities	4	5
	3.2: Number of co-benefits generated	0 (baseline)	11
	3.3: OECD-DAC Gender Marker (Score 1) (proportion of projects)	100%	100%
	3.4: Documented measures for disability inclusion and accessibility (proportion of projects)	41%	100%
	3.5: UNIDO ESS Compliance (OS 1-9) (pro-portion of projects)	100%	100%



4

First Cohort of Demonstration Projects

The first cohort of A2D Facility-supported projects achieved strong results during their first year of implementation.



4.1 “GREENER” TEA: CREATING CLEAN HEAT AND POWER WITH BIOMASS RESIDUES IN KENYA

	Thematic area	Industrial Decarbonization
	Country of implementation	Kenya
	Beneficiary Name(s)	Compact Syngas Solutions (CSS)
	Project Duration	January 2025 – March 2028
	Brief Description	To deploy a pioneering modular gasification plant at a Kenyan tea factory, converting agricultural waste into clean heat, power and biochar. The project demonstrates a circular economy solution that replaces fossil fuels in tea drying while regenerating soil health, serving as a scalable model for decarbonizing the wider East African Agri-processing industry.
	Key results	 FINANCIAL MOBILIZATION 100% co-financing secured for the project SAFEGUARD COMPLIANCE 100% ESS compliance maintained throughout the project MEASURABLE INCLUSION 68% female participation in technical training SCALABILITY Validated the Phase 2 expansion model for green fertilizer production MARKET READINESS Completed key demonstration prerequisites for regional industrial replication



4.2 AMMONIUM SULFATE FERTILIZERS FROM RENEWABLE HYDROGEN IN NAMIBIA

	Thematic area	Clean Hydrogen
	Country of implementation	Namibia
	Beneficiary Name(s)	Mondjila Project Advisory and Management
	Project Duration	January 2025 – December 2027
	Brief Description	The project demonstrates the production of ammonium sulfate fertilizer using clean hydrogen. By utilizing solar energy to produce clean hydrogen, which is converted into clean ammonia and fertilizer, the project aims to promote industrial decarbonization while addressing the critical need to reduce emissions from the industrial sector.
	Key results	 FINANCIAL MOBILIZATION 100% co-financing secured for the project SAFEGUARD COMPLIANCE 100% ESS compliance maintained throughout the project MEASURABLE INCLUSION 68% female participation in technical training SCALABILITY Validated the Phase 2 expansion model for green fertilizer production MARKET READINESS Completed key demonstration prerequisites for regional industrial replication



4.3 SMART GRID SCALE-UP IN NIGERIA

	Thematic area	Smart Energy
	Country of implementation	Nigeria
	Beneficiary Name(s)	Greenage Technologies
	Project Duration	January 2025 – March 2028
	Brief Description	To enhance energy access by demonstrating a decentralized, peer-to-peer (P2P) energy-sharing network. The smart grid solution utilizes innovative power electronics and AI-driven software to interconnect individual solar home systems, allowing wasted excess energy to be traded and shared within communities, creating a scalable alternative to fossil-fuel generators.
	Key results	 FINANCIAL MOBILIZATION 100% co-financing secured for the project  SAFEGUARD COMPLIANCE 100% ESS compliance maintained throughout the project  MEASURABLE INCLUSION 55% female professional placement achieved  SCALABILITY Validated the energy-sharing model and commenced standardizing configurations  MARKET READINESS Completed preliminary system standardization prerequisites to inform future modular expansion



4.4 GRID RESILIENCE THROUGH INTELLIGENT PHOTOVOLTAICS AND STORAGE IN NEPAL

	Thematic area	Smart Energy
	Country of implementation	Nepal
	Beneficiary Name(s)	Practical Action
	Project Duration	January 2025 – March 2028
	Brief Description	To accelerate climate innovation by deploying Nepal's largest industrial-scale smart microgrid. The project installs a 924-kW solar PV array integrated with a 2 MW / 4 MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) at the Laxmi Steel factory. It demonstrates that energy-intensive industries can decarbonize and eliminate diesel reliance without compromising operational continuity.
	Key results	 FINANCIAL MOBILIZATION 100% co-financing secured for the project SAFEGUARD COMPLIANCE 100% ESS compliance maintained throughout the project MEASURABLE INCLUSION 68% female participation in technical training SCALABILITY Strategic collaborations initiated to explore regional adoption MARKET READINESS Initial stakeholder engagement and demonstration prerequisites completed



4.5 SCALING LITHIUM-ION TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS IN TANZANIA

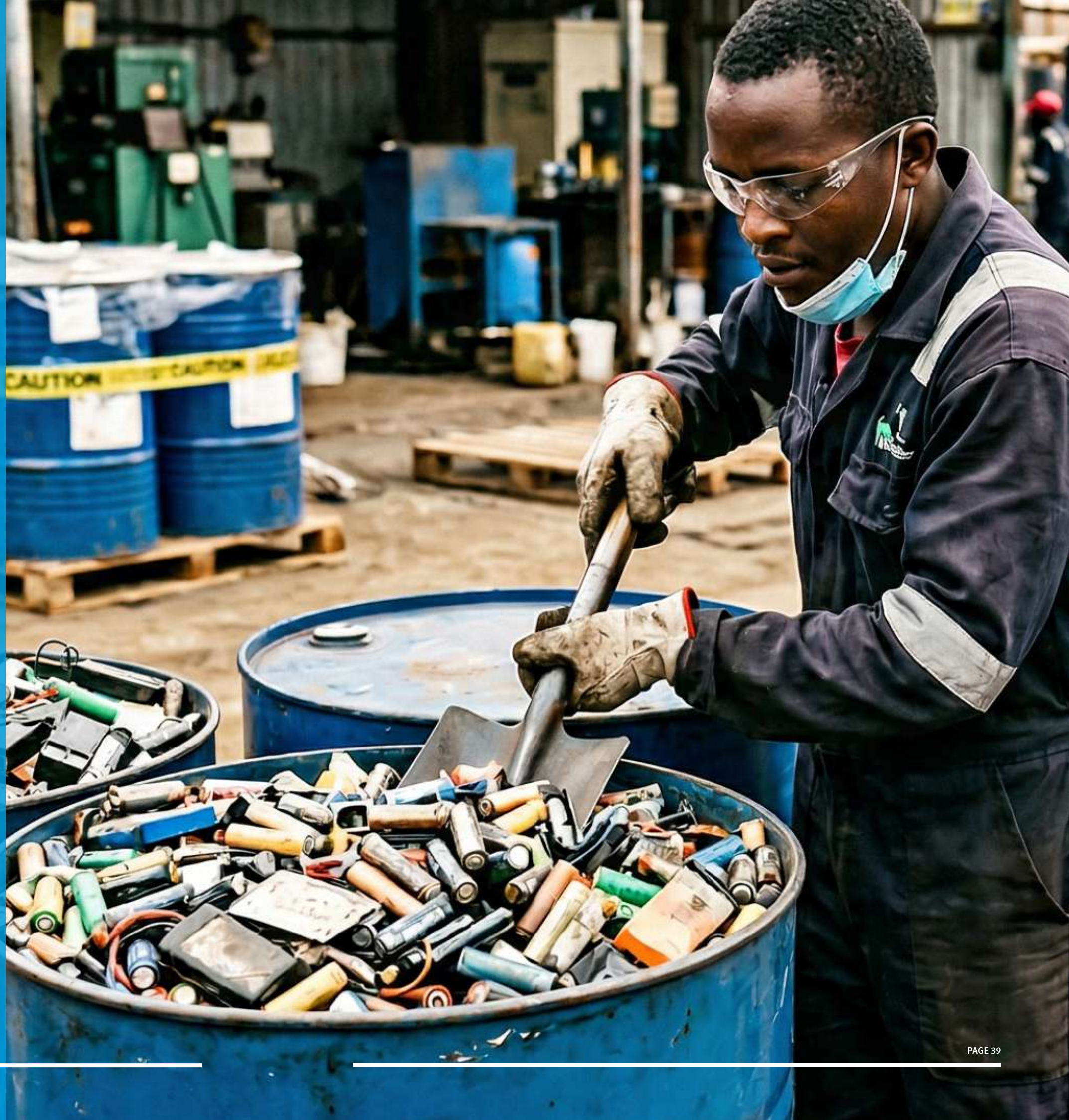
	Thematic area	Critical Minerals
	Country of implementation	Tanzania
	Project Title	Scaling Lithium-Ion Transport Solutions in Tanzania
	Beneficiary Name(s)	Oasis Financial Services LTD
	Project Duration	January 2025 – February 2028
	Brief Description	To establish a vertically integrated electric vehicle (EV) value chain by localizing the manufacturing of lithium-ion batteries and chassis. The project replaces the import-dependent assembly model with local industrial production, demonstrating high-performance electric motorcycles and charging infrastructure to decarbonize the “transport sector”.
	Key results	 FINANCIAL MOBILIZATION 100% co-financing secured for the project  SAFEGUARD COMPLIANCE 100% ESS compliance maintained throughout the project  MEASURABLE INCLUSION Documented inclusion measures active, following OECD-DAC Marker 1 and UNIDO Marker 2  SCALABILITY Established local assembly facilities and mapped regional infrastructure requirements to scale clean mobility solutions  MARKET READINESS Completed initial market awareness and infrastructure scoping prerequisites, setting the stage for broader adoption



5

Second Cohort of Demonstration Projects

The second cohort of A2D Facility-supported projects were selected and announced.



5.1 PRODUCTION OF FERTILIZER AND MEDICAL OXYGEN SUPPLY FROM RENEWABLE HYDROGEN IN KENYA

	Thematic area	Clean Hydrogen
	Country of implementation	Kenya
	Project Title	Production of Fertilizer and Medical Oxygen Supply from Renewable Hydrogen in Kenya
	Beneficiary Name(s)	ADN Hill Farm (Nyeri Hill Farm)
	Project Duration	March 2025 – October 2028
	Brief Description	The project aims to demonstrate a decentralized green hydrogen system that uses solar energy to co-produce green ammonia fertilizer for coffee farming and medical-grade oxygen for local hospitals (as a by-product). This project serves as a demonstration for the use of clean hydrogen technology to simultaneously reduce reliance on fossil-fuel fertilizers and improve rural healthcare access
	Expected results	 CLIMATE RESULTS Avoid 226 tonnes of CO₂-equivalent annually WORKFORCE CREATION Hire new permanent staff to manage the site and build local skills in clean energy MEASURABLE INCLUSION Achieve 30% female participation across all activities and a 30% target for female representation in new long-term employment KNOWLEDGE SHARING Disseminate project learnings through strategic alliances with global sector platforms and academic research groups SCALABILITY Draft a structured growth pathway to supply neighboring farms and eventually manufacture fertilizer for the national market



5.2 PRODUCTION OF GREEN RARE EARTH ELEMENTS AND MINERALS IN NAMIBIA

	Thematic area	Critical Minerals
	Country of implementation	Namibia
	Project Title	Production of Green Rare Earth Elements and Minerals in Namibia
	Beneficiary Name(s)	Ombu Capital (Pty) Ltd
	Project Duration	March 2025 – October 2028
	Brief Description	The project aims to demonstrate Namibia's first green processing plant for critical minerals (Neodymium and Praseodymium) by using an innovative clean hydrogen furnace and off-grid solar power. The project aims to replace carbon-heavy processing methods to secure a sustainable supply chain for minerals.
	Expected results	CLIMATE RESULTS Target a cumulative reduction of 311 tonnes of CO₂-equivalent for each month of project execution WORKFORCE CREATION Generate local employment by prioritizing recruitment from communities within the Kunene Region MEASURABLE INCLUSION Achieve a target of at least 50% female participation in all project training programs KNOWLEDGE SHARING Document and share project execution frameworks to support wider understanding of green mineral processing SCALABILITY Create a foundational framework to replicate this green processing model for rare earth minerals in other locations



5.3 RECYCLING LITHIUM BATTERIES FOR CRITICAL MINERALS IN NIGERIA

	Thematic area	Critical Minerals
	Country of implementation	Nigeria
	Project Title	Recycling Lithium Batteries for Critical Minerals in Nigeria
	Beneficiary Name(s)	Hinckley E-waste Recycling Limited
	Project Duration	March 2025 – October 2028
	Brief Description	The project aims to demonstrate a commercial-scale recycling facility and a network of 20 collection stations in Nigeria to recover critical minerals (Lithium, Cobalt, Nickel) from waste batteries. By processing 5,000 tons of battery waste per year into black mass, the project creates a secondary source of raw materials and critical minerals for batteries.
	Expected results	 CLIMATE RESULTS Recover critical minerals from waste to avoid greenhouse gas emissions WORKFORCE CREATION Create local jobs and provide specialized training to installers MEASURABLE INCLUSION Target female and youth participation and implement fair career advancement policies KNOWLEDGE SHARING Launch a digital platform and publish regional briefs to share project findings SCALABILITY Develop a national framework for battery collection and identify routes for regional expansion



5.4 COAL ZERO BY GREEN STEAM IN SOUTH AFRICA

	Thematic area	Industrial Decarbonization
	Country of implementation	South Africa
	Project Title	Coal Zero by Green Steam in South Africa
	Beneficiary Name(s)	ThermoElectric Conversion Systems Limited
	Project Duration	March 2025 – October 2028
	Brief Description	The project aims to demonstrate a zero-emission steam generation system for the food industry that replaces polluting coal boilers with a combination of solar thermal energy, heat pumps, and waste heat recovery. The project also demonstrates a “Heat-as-a-Service” model to prove that industrial sectors can cost-effectively switch from fossil fuels to clean thermal energy.
	Expected results	 CLIMATE RESULTS Avoid 2 754 tonnes of CO₂ annually WORKFORCE CREATION Generate direct local employment opportunities MEASURABLE INCLUSION Secure 50% female representation on advisory boards and within technical roles KNOWLEDGE SHARING Share clean steam frameworks and project learnings with the broader industrial sector SCALABILITY Replicable framework to expand clean steam model



6

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion & Environmental and Social Safeguards

The A2D Facility operates on the principle that industrial transformation must deliver shared prosperity and environmental integrity to be truly sustainable.



The A2D Facility developed and published two detailed and practical frameworks on best practices in GESI (Gender Equality and Social Inclusion) and ESS (Environmental and Social Safeguards) for good quality demonstration projects and provided training

to all current projects (in the first and second cohorts of supported projects) on how to implement the frameworks at the project-level.

The two frameworks were published at an announcement event led by the UNIDO Director General and the UK Ambassador on 25 February 2026. The frameworks can be found on the A2D Facility website.

In Year 3, the first cohort of five demonstration projects maintained 100% compliance with environmental and social safeguards. Key metrics include:



GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (GESI)

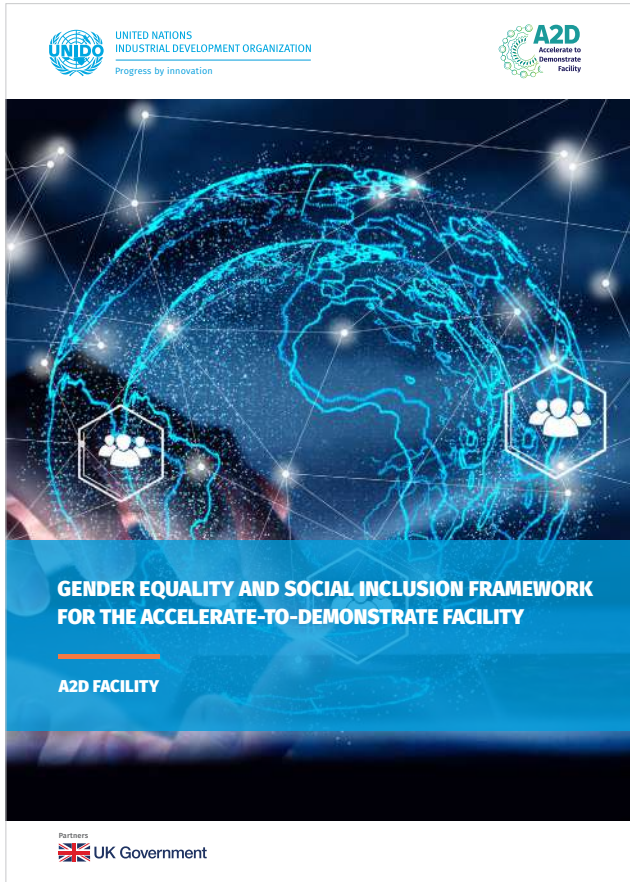
Integrates mandatory gender-disaggregated data and equitable benefit-sharing to empower women, youth and underrepresented groups, supporting UNIDO’s Vision 2050..



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF)

Establishes standardized screening, risk categorization, and mitigation to manage environmental and social impacts.

- ▶ **Gender Markers:** All projects achieved a score of 1 on the OECD-DAC Gender Marker and 2 on the UNIDO Marker, embedding gender equality as a significant objective.
- ▶ **Measurable Inclusion:** Some projects exceeded expected female participation targets, including 68% in the Nepal smart grid project’s technical training and 55% in professional placements in the Nigeria smart grid project. Further, all first cohort projects implemented documented measures, ranging from verified attendance logs to localized inclusion policies, to guarantee continuous safeguard compliance and equitable benefit-sharing
- ▶ **Risk Management:** All projects successfully executed specific risk assessments (such as on habitats, labor, and health and safety) and established localized grievance mechanisms to ensure transparent accountability.



In addition to capacity building activities for supported projects, the A2D Facility included and led sessions on GESI and ESS in all A2D Facility-organized workshops and events, such as in the five in-country global workshops (in Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia, South Africa and Thailand), in the first annual event (in Kenya) and through webinars (such as in March 2026), and through

leading sessions on GESI and ESS in other regional and international events, such as on inclusive safeguards to de-risk private finance into demonstration projects at the Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF) in the Philippines (in June 2025).

7

Communications

In year three, the A2D Facility continued to strengthen the approach to stakeholder engagement, outreach, communications, dissemination and reporting.



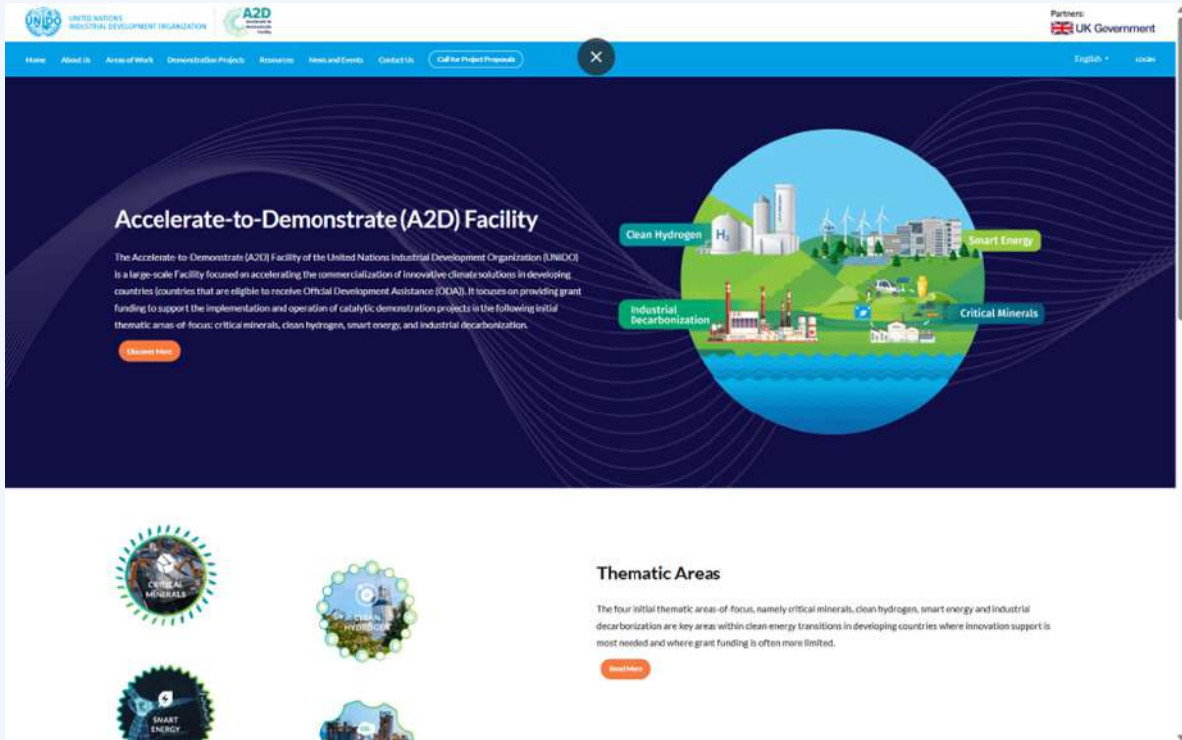
The A2D Facility continued to enhance the approach to amplify the visibility of the A2D Facility's outputs, results, lessons learned and opportunities in year three and used and evaluated the effectiveness of a variety of different communication tools to enhance stakeholder outreach and impact.

During the third year of the A2D Facility:



A2D FACILITY WEBSITE

The A2D Facility continued to strengthen the [website](#), including providing up-to-date information on each of the supported projects and their progress, publishing outputs and results, publishing frameworks (such as on GESI and ESS), and linking with opportunities (such as calls-for-proposals, registering for A2D Facility-organized events and workshops, and procurements), to ensure a single source for comprehensive information on the A2D Facility.



COMMUNICATION TOOLS

The LinkedIn account continued to gain a regular increase in the number of followers, particularly around A2D Facility announcements and events. Regular posts continued throughout year three and the A2D Facility increased the use of videos as a tool to enhance the communication of activities and impacts. The mailing list continued to grow, where fuller updates on the key milestones and the forward look are provided periodically.



DISSEMINATION

As highlighted in section two, the A2D Facility undertook enhanced outreach and stakeholder engagement through various workshops, international and regional events, webinars, and meetings throughout year three.



WEBSITE

Enhancement of the A2D Facility website aligned with UNIDO's goals, featuring outputs, results, opportunities, events, project information and news, a login section for donors, and dashboards.

8

Finance

The A2D Facility continued to ensure robust financial management at the Facility-level and at the project-level.



The A2D Facility’s initial donor funding comes from the UK Government’s Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, which committed GBP 65 million (~USD 85 million).

The UK Government’s funding is part of its international climate finance (Official Development Assistance (ODA)) commitment.

Description	Value (in million USD)
Payments/Encashment to UNIDO	70.36
Allocations	70.36

Encashment	Year	Encashment Date	Encashment Amount £ (USD)
1	2023	April	2.00 (USD 2.71)
2	2023	November	0.14 (USD 0.19)
3	2024	May	1.17 (USD 1.59)
4	2024	November	17.06 (USD 23.12)
5	2024	December	0.10 (USD 0.14)
6	2025	June	1.37 (USD 1.86)
7	2025	October	20.26 (USD 27.45)
8	2025	December	11.46 (USD 15.53)

he A2D Facility continued to ensure robust financial management and procurement management at both the Facility-level and at the supported project-level,

including regular oversight and reporting, due diligence, capacity building training for projects, and robust risk management.



9

Forward Look for Year 4

During the fourth year, the A2D Facility will focus on enhancing outreach, monitoring and disseminating results from the first and second cohorts of supported projects, facilitate discussions on scalability, and launch new opportunities.

Scaling Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Industrial Development A2D Facility Annual Event 2026

13-16 April 2026, Bogotá Colombia

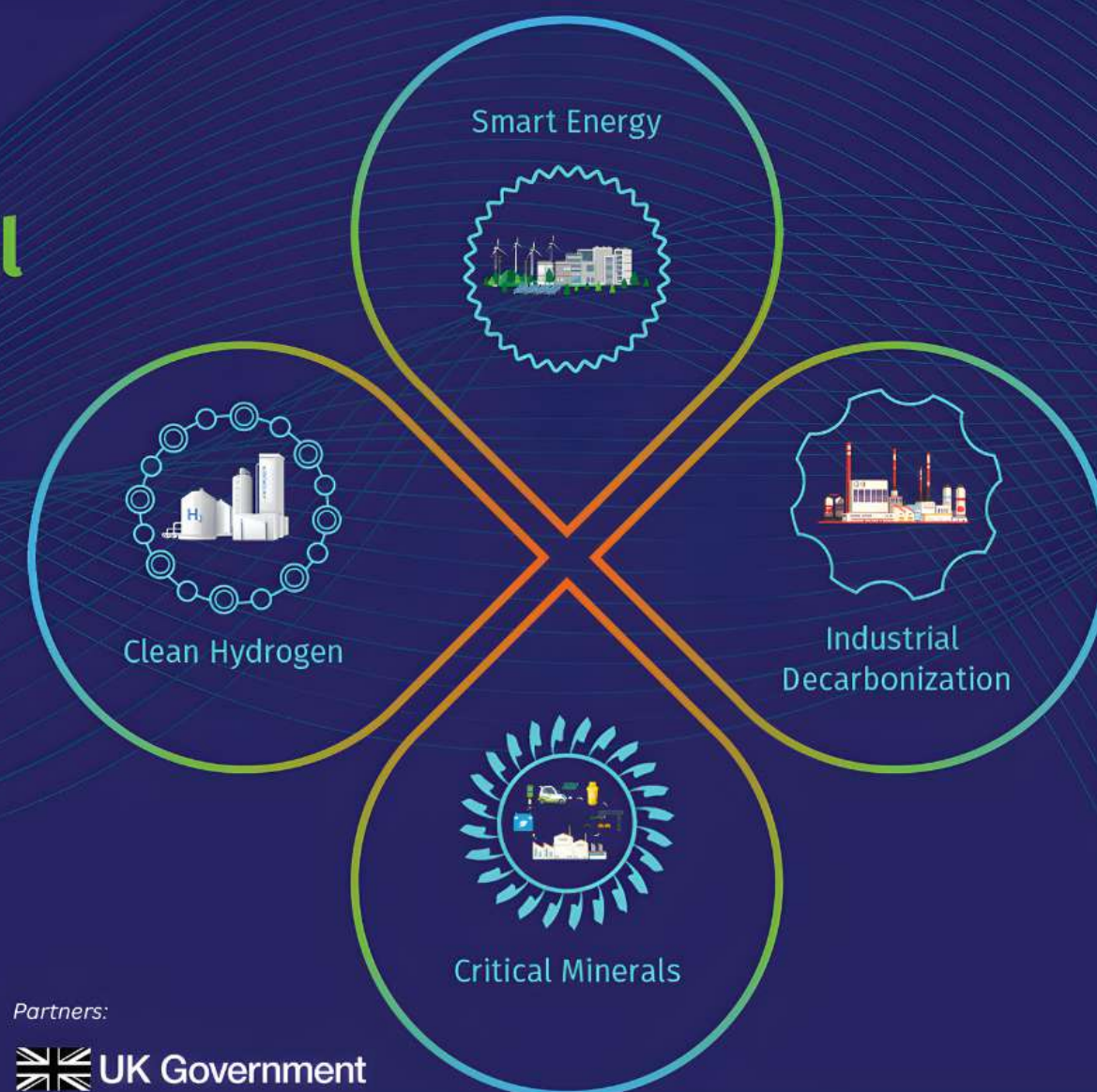
#A2DFacilityAnnualEvent2026
#AcceleratingClimateInnovation



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Outreach

During year four, the A2D Facility will further enhance stakeholder engagement and outreach, sharing lessons learned and results, promoting opportunities, facilitating discussions on scalability, exploring expansion options, and monitoring the progress and results from the first and second cohorts of supported projects.

In April 2026, the A2D Facility holds the second annual event (in Colombia), followed by further in-country global workshops, roundtable and webinars, participation in international and regional events (such as the International Vienna Energy and Climate Forum (in Austria), the Asia Clean Energy Forum (in the Philippines), the OLACDE Energy Week (in the Dominican Republic) and COP31 (in Türkiye)), and monitoring missions to the supported projects.





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