



# Strengthening the packaging sector in Cuba

UNIDO ITPO Italy assisted the National Packaging Center of Cuba (CNEE) with the start-up of equipment acquired for the laboratory of packaging certification, which will serve as guiding force for the new packaging policies in the country.

In 2021 UNIDO ITPO Italy conducted an assessment with international experts and acquired laboratory and measuring equipment to strengthen and develop capacities at the National Packaging Center of Cuba (CNEE).

CNEE is part of the Center for Technology and Industrial Quality of OSDE GESIME, which is part of MINDUS - the Cuban executing partner of the project "Capacity Building on Investment for Cuban Government", implemented by UNIDO ITPO Italy with the financial support of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. One of the main outcomes of the project is to improve the local capacities of CNEE to test different packaging materials and technologies for compliance with national and international standards.

Through the project, CNEE received the basic equipment required to test packaging materials and plastic, paper and carton packages. A commissioning online workshop of equipment was provided, and all the equipment was successfully tested. In addition, UNIDO ITPO Italy is organizing a 10-day training course in Cuba dedicated to CNEE staff about responsible packaging, normalization and quality control processes in the packaging sector, with technical assistance to build capacity for local institutions.

The strengthening of CNEE will allow the development and implementation of packaging and packaging policy approved by the Cuban Government to promote innovation and the use of efficient technologies in the country, in order to increase local production and quality in selected sectors, such as agroindustry, to be linked to the global economy so as to reap the benefits of international investments.

