

Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board
Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents
2023 second regular session

Draft country programme document commenting period: 13 June to 3 July 2023 [18:00 EST]

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on the draft country programme document being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: *Kingdom of the Netherlands*

Draft country programme document: *Chad*

In accordance with Executive Board decision [2014/1](#), draft country programme documents are considered and approved in one session, on a no-objection basis. All comments received by the Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board before the deadline stated above will be posted on the Executive Board website.

	Delegation's comments	Response(s)
General comments		
Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme documents	Regarding MHPSS: How have you drawn attention to the mental health and psychosocial needs of children affected by emergencies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNICEF acknowledges and appreciates the comments on its draft country programme for 2024-26 from the Government of the Netherlands and welcomes the opportunity to provide additional information that could not be adequately covered in a document of 6000 words.• UNICEF recognizes the importance of MHPSS needs of children affected by the humanitarian crisis.• MHPSS is a shared responsibility supported jointly by WHO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, etc. UNICEF is contributing to MHPSS mainly through

	<p>5.14 The evaluation of the Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018–2022 highlighted the need for programmes to be localized.</p> <p>Could it be elaborated how the localization part of the Theory of Change “ensuring that children and their communities are kept at the centre of interventions, particularly through localization” will be implemented, and what else is done regarding localization of programmes?</p>	<p>the provision of psychosocial support to affected children in emergencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-based mental health services and psychosocial support to affected children is provided through social service workers, community-based child protection and through partnership with CSOs/FBOs such as the Chadian Red Cross. • UNICEF appreciates the comment by the Government of the Netherlands on the localization of programmes. • Lessons learned from other Sahel countries have demonstrated the value of the localization approach, notably by increasing the number of partnership cooperation agreements (PCAs) with CSOs/FBOs, strengthening the capacities of local NGOs, and developing community monitoring systems and feedback mechanisms. • UNICEF CO in Chad is increasing the number of PCAs with local NGOs through “Call(s) of expression of interest”, which will expand the scope of NGOs with which the CO is working. UNICEF CO in Chad will promote the establishment of a peer support system between international and local NGOs to exchange skills and capacities to sustain localization.
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	<p>2.3. Could it be elaborated how the Sudan crisis will be affecting the humanitarian situation for children in Chad?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the programmatic shifts of the country programme 2024-2026 is to enhance community approaches and social behaviour change. UNICEF CO in Chad will strengthen Accountability to Affected People (AAP) mechanisms in emergencies through community monitoring systems and feedback mechanisms. • The UNSDCF 2024-2026 has defined convergence geographical areas where UN agencies aim to work together, targeting the same communities with an integrated package of activities, including joint resilience programmes in which localization is one of the key strategies. WFP and UNICEF are already discussing how to strengthen the collaboration and aim to implement a joint resilience programme. • UNICEF agrees on the importance of the impact of the Sudan humanitarian crisis on children in Chad. • The worsening security situation in Sudan is creating significant spillover risks for Chad, owing to the movement of a large number of refugees, including women and children, with a reduced security presence in border regions and worsening humanitarian conditions. The host communities have shown great generosity towards new arrivals; however, the influx of new refugees represents a considerable burden for communities in the region already severely affected by displacement, low levels of development, limited services and infrastructure, climatic shocks, food insecurity and
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		<p>malnutrition. Emergency interventions are needed to save lives and support the resilience of refugees and host communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNICEF CO in Chad is responding to the Sudan crisis with the arrival of about 150,000 refugees in the East of Chad along with other humanitarian actors under the lead of UNHCR. Furthermore, this is being done through the UNHCR Regional Response Plan, in line with the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and the UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC), which are both currently under revision to reflect this new unprecedented humanitarian situation. UNICEF releases weekly flash updates to report on UNICEF's response.• UNICEF's response includes actions addressing the needs of refugees, returnees and the host communities, which is critical given the extreme deprivation and fragile social cohesion in the affected regions.
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