

Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

Template for delegations commenting on the country programme documents

2021 second regular session

Country programme document posting period: 16 June to 6 July 2021

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: *EU/ECHO*

Draft country programme document: *Madagascar*

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, 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 will be made public on the Executive Board website, and considered by the requesting country, in close consultation with UNICEF.

General comments	Delegations' comments	Country response
Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document	<p>The document is comprehensive and generally coherent in terms of coverage, addressing the urgent needs. Sectors included are health, nutrition, education, WASH, child protection. Most vulnerable are targeted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- It mentions bringing together humanitarian and development funding, however wording could be strengthened, mentioning also ECHO as it now only refers to the collaboration with the development donors.- On the coordination and division of labour between donors; the document could clarify how will UNICEF work with others and not necessarily address issues directly when they are not in their core area of expertise (e.g. are they really the best	

	<p>placed of UN agencies or external partners to support government on gender budgeting?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add a mention to nexus. - The document could say a bit more on how it will address risks, in particular in a context of endemic corruption, weak intra-government coordination, and generally weak effectiveness of government systems. - Partnership: it is unclear how UNICEF sectoral work would complement other agencies specific mandate, e.g. WHO and Health, WFP and social assistance, etc. In the same logic the collaboration with civil society is not mentioned. - Geographic focus: the document doesn't highlight any specific geographic areas although we do now the geographic distribution of risk and vulnerabilities in Madagascar that may require an adaptation of specific programming focus (e.g. Grand Sud, urban areas, cyclone prone areas, etc.) - Covid 19 and prioritization: it is mentioned in the context but could be interesting to further highlight how the Covid 19 crisis has worsened the quality of care and access. It would be interesting to further highlight what should be the short-term and longer-term priorities for support to the health and other sectors. - Governance and notably Health system accountability and transparency: this is a recurrent issue in Madagascar, but this has been recently documented by the civil society in the health sector. Important to consider the political will to introduce transparency and accountability in health service delivery - Shock responsiveness: a critical missing element is the preparedness and commitment to continuity of service delivery in a context of recurrent hazards and multiple shocks (including drought in Grand Sud, flood and cyclones along the coasts, etc.). All support considered should include a sustainability strategy about (i) improved management and 	
--	--	--

	<p>responsibilities of basic services to avoid shocks or the cessation of essential services; mitigation of the impact of shocks/ stresses and preventing people from falling into the humanitarian case load; (iii) support to people who benefit from humanitarian assistance during their recovery pathways and more generally (iv) consideration of crisis modifiers in resilience building programmes to prevent reversal of resilience outcomes when shocks occur.</p>	
--	--	--