

## 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: *Germany*

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	Response
<b>Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document</b>	We welcome the UNICEF Draft Country Programme 2021-2023 for Madagascar and the opportunity to comment on it.	The UNICEF Madagascar CO would like to thank the Government of Germany for its interest and valuable comments on the UNICEF Madagascar CPD, and is pleased to share its responses below.
	The CPD mentions the linking of humanitarian and development programming. Given the prevalence and diversity of humanitarian situations, we would appreciate more information on possible linkages and mentioning of the HD nexus.	UNICEF Madagascar agrees with the comment and has strengthened references to the humanitarian-development linkage, which is core to this country programme, to specifically include a reference to the nexus. Several illustrations of programming along the humanitarian-development nexus include promotion of sustainable WASH systems and promotion of multi-usage of water (small irrigation).
	We particularly welcome the highlighting of the climate crisis as a crucial issue for development. We appreciate the planned climate-resilient programming in the WASH sector. In the spirit of climate change	We thank the Government of Germany for being a strong supporter of climate change action and, as important, environmental degradation prevention and conservation. The CPD proposes a multi-programme approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation, including

	<p>being addressed as a cross-cutting theme, we would like to request additional information on how concretely this will be implemented.</p>	<p>environmental education, youth participation, tree planting in schools, data generation on pollution, solarization of equipment (pumps, fridges) and mitigation of social and environmental impact of mining. In WASH especially, a focus will be put on prevention of over-use of local water resources, monitoring of drought, multi-usage of water (small irrigation), rehabilitation of watersheds and innovations (desalination, sand dams, local chlorination for better use of polluted water). Under the co-chairpersonship of UNDP and UNESCO, UNICEF will contribute to these activities under the UNSDCF pillar 4 on sustainable environmental management.</p>
	<p>Overall, UNICEF is doing very important work in Madagascar in many different areas and in different aspects. We highly appreciate its advocacy, genuine commitment for its core values, and flexible, innovative approaches.</p>	<p>UNICEF is grateful for the feedback and is committed to continue to work with the same spirit in the coming CPD cycle.</p>
	<p>In addition to the existing operations with and through state-entities, we encourage UNICEF to strengthen its partnerships with other actors such as CSOs, private sector, UN and bilateral agencies.</p>	<p>Partnership and alliance building is at the core of our mandate and programming, especially given UNICEF's convening role in WASH, education, nutrition and cash transfer. Strengthening and diversifying our partnerships is emphasized in our CPD. The country programme implementation will place due focus on strong capacity reinforcement of partners, including the Government, NGOs, faith-based organizations, and private sector partners, especially as regards to administrative and financial management and PSEA.</p>
	<p>Given UNICEF's broad engagement in Madagascar, which includes sectors where other UN agencies are in the lead, we encourage increased coordination among agencies under a set of collective outcomes.</p>	<p>The comment is well-noted and appreciated. Among sectoral groups and their joint work planning, UNICEF leads the nutrition, WASH, education and cash transfer working groups. At the same time, UNICEF has been an advocate for a large UNSCDF pillar on social services, which includes sister UN agencies, such as WHO, UNFPA, ILO, IOM, FAO, and UNDP. UNICEF contributes to and complements the efforts of the UNCT, often led by other UN agencies, including in humanitarian response where UNICEF partners with OCHA. Under the umbrella of collective outcomes, the cooperation takes place under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator.</p>