

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: *Zimbabwe*

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>	<p>Overall, the document is comprehensive and coherent in terms of priority sectors and target groups (most vulnerable women, children and adolescents). However, it is a bit generic and unclear how the objectives will be operationalized.</p> <p>Nevertheless, there are clear links to DG ECHO current and upcoming</p>	<p>Thank you for the comments. We are pleased to note that the CPD is aligned to the DG ECHO current and upcoming priorities in Zimbabwe and appreciate the partnership and support of the EU delegation and ECHO. In relation to how the objectives would be operationalized, and building upon the experience from the current country programme and the emerging context in the country, the Country Programme Document (CPD) is designed to be operationalised through the following key windows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Advocacy for increased investment in the social sector through a focus on <u>public financing and social protection</u> by conducting budget analyses and public expenditure reviews and tracking that will inform policy/budget briefs, technical assistance and strategic advocacy on child-sensitive budgeting and allocation. UNICEF will also support national shock-responsive social protection systems that build upon current experience from the Emergency Cash Transfer Programme and other initiatives.</li></ol>

	<p>priorities in Zimbabwe, particular in regard to WASH, Nutrition, child protection, social inclusion and education.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Mainstreaming of humanitarian action into all programme outcome areas to <u>build capacity and systems for resilience, emergency preparedness and humanitarian response</u> in social sector institutions and plans. Building on the learning from the COVID-19 response for example, the CPD is designed to ensure the continuity of basic social services in the face of hazards and shocks.</li> <li>3. <u>Institutional strengthening and adaptation of service delivery platforms</u> and technology through the delivery of integrated services using, for example, platforms such as immunization for integrated outreaches, schools and social welfare systems for mental health and psychosocial support, and building upon the experience from the Result Based Financing to strengthen health system for human resources, health financing and information management. The programme <u>embraces technology and digital platforms</u> like the Learning Passport, U-Report and social media to expand service coverage and improve efficiency.</li> <li>4. Prioritize support to <u>community systems to scale up services</u> in the most deprived geographic locations, which are particularly vulnerable to climate shocks. The CPD will operationalize Primary Health Care using the newly developed community health strategy; expand partnership for child protection case management system; and scale up the school financing policy in the most disadvantaged areas. The programme will <u>engage with adolescents</u> to address HIV prevalence, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and mental health, and promote their voice and participation in decision making.</li> <li>5. Prioritize climate-sensitive interventions to <u>mitigate the risks and impact of climate change</u> across the social sectors. The programme will build capacity of institutions and communities in disaster risk reduction, roll out climate-resilient WASH infrastructure and services, prepare the next generation with the knowledge on climate change through the education system and adolescent engagement and increase the use of solarization to power schools, health facilities and water supply.</li> <li>6. In keeping with the <u>Leave No One Behind principle</u>, the programme will address equity gaps by focusing on deprived population groups and children with disabilities, and address gender norms, including through joint programming with other UN agencies. Gender and disability issues will be mainstreamed in all humanitarian and development programming and greater focus will be placed on girls' education.</li> </ol>
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