

Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents

2023 first regular session

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: *United States*

Draft country programme document: *Palestinian Children and Women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine*

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How does UNICEF propose to develop private sector relationships—especially in regards to the investment in climate change adaptation?2. We commend UNICEF's proposed risk- and climate-informed humanitarian and development WASH programming in the West Bank and Gaza.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- How will these strategies be applied to ensure the program's sustainability and increased resilience?- Will similar risk and climate-informed WASH programming be applied in the Syrian Arab Republic and Jordan?	<p>UNICEF appreciates the comments made by the US Delegation to the UN and thanks the US for its participation and support throughout the development of the new UNICEF APD and to the UNSDCF.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. On private sector partnerships, UNICEF will build on its current experience with the private sector partnerships on climate change adaptation and mitigation, i.e. on renewable energy, shore protection and flooding mitigation that can be scaled up in the new APD and will advocate and explore new opportunities with local businesses and companies operating in the State of Palestine interested in investing in WASH, climate change, renewable energy and disaster risk reduction, etc to achieve sustainable changes in the lives of children.

2. We also thank the US for their appreciation on the new focus UNICEF is introducing in this new APD on climate change. UNICEF intends to strengthen the sustainability of services to protect children – including before, during and after disasters - while engaging with adolescents and young people to be climate and environment champions and become agents of positive change for their communities. UNICEF’s response at the local and national levels will be focused on assessing the risks, implementing solutions, building capacity, engaging youth and influencing policy, following the global shift to ensure climate resilient WASH interventions. The Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) conducted by UNICEF in some countries like Jordan and about to be finalized in others will provide key recommendations on climate change for UNICEF programmes.

Jordan

In Jordan, UNICEF has been supporting the Government of Jordan in the development of a detailed climate risk assessment and a national vulnerability map for WASH services for the Ministry of Water and Irrigation that includes the socio-economic, physical and climate hazards domains. Such tools will inform the planning and implementation of the relevant WASH activities to be implemented within the next country programme cycle. UNICEF will use such tools to advocate and support Government of Jordan for a more equitable allocation of water, including in Palestinian camps, and partner with the Department of Palestinian Affairs to complement their work and provide support to most vulnerable families to increase their access to WASH services through targeted interventions.

Syria

Given the negative impacts of climate change, UNICEF Syria will explore the use of renewable energies including the possibility of installation of solar panels in schools and boreholes serving

		<p>Palestinian refugee children. This will not only reduce the carbon footprint but also reduce operational costs through reducing reliance on fuel generators and the regular power grid. The WASH Programme will also closely link with the Adolescent Development and Participation Programme to conduct awareness raising on climate change and water conservation, empowering children and young people as agents of change in Palestinian communities.</p>
<p>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</p>	<p><i>(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number, paragraph number, or page of the annexed results and resources framework.</i></p>	