

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: *European Union*

Draft country programme document: Nicaragua

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The four prioritised programme components are important and appropriate for the Nicaraguan context. The targeted areas, namely the Caribbean Coast and the Dry Corridor, are also in our view the most vulnerable, multi-affected areas.▪ Collaboration and coordination with other UN agencies could be further developed, especially for the health, nutrition and child development components, where stronger links with WFP, WHO and FAO could be built.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ UNICEF appreciates the comments made by the European Union on the Nicaragua country programme document (CPD).▪ The UN System coordination in Nicaragua is carried out on a rotational basis (every 2.5 months) between the Representatives of UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, WHO, FAO and WFP. Strategic and technical coordination is ensured through different interagency groups: Communications (co-led by UNICEF), SDGs (led by UNICEF), Gender and UNETE. UNICEF also participates in an ad hoc group

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We encourage improving a multi-sectorial approach in the different components, and to integrate WASH in the health and nutrition programme component too. Likewise, protection should not only be a stand-alone activity but should also be integrated in the health and education programme components, and in any disaster preparedness programme. A strong risk analysis should include protection-related risks in any programme component. ▪ Tools and methodologies should be promoted and used to ensure continuity of education during emergencies. Even when the Nicaraguan legal framework establishes that schools should only be used as shelter “as a last resort”, they are routinely being used in any emergency. Advocacy at national, local and community level should ensure they become a true last resort. ▪ Complementarities and synergies should be sought with other humanitarian and development stakeholders, as well as donors 	<p>created with WFP, WHO and FAO to reduce malnutrition. In the coming CDP, UNICEF will further strengthen the partnerships with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in order to achieve its planned results (see paragraph 25 CPD).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNICEF will ensure a multi-sectoral approach to the different components of its new CPD. To this end, it has defined cross-cutting themes (inclusion, social and behavioural change, gender and T4D) and will integrate into its response multi-sectoral strategies such as WASH, nutritional surveillance and violence prevention in schools. The Country Program Management Plan and Annual Work Plans will be designed to ensure the operationalization of the intersectoral strategies. ▪ UNICEF will strengthen national capacity to ensure continuity of education in emergencies and advocate for the use of schools as shelters as a last resource and their progressive phasing out. ▪ UNICEF actively participates in the Emergency (UNETE) and SDG interagency groups to ensure complementarity and synergies with other UN entities present in the
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	<p>to ensure coherence, avoiding duplications and to reinforce the nexus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any humanitarian activity in Nicaragua should try to broaden the humanitarian space. UNICEF could reinforce this role for, at least, its implementing partners. 	<p>country. The dialogue that the CO has with the main donors with presence in Nicaragua (including the EU, USAID and CIDA) will be strengthened and coordination with key NGOs will be maintained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNICEF will advocate for expanding the humanitarian space and strengthening the nexus between emergency response and development. To this end, it will continue to support the presence of its non-governmental partners on the ground and promote their coordination with the activities of public institutions, focusing on strengthening resilience to climate change in all its programme components (see paragraph 18 of the CPD).
<p>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme documents</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>	