

Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents

2022 first regular session

Draft country programme document commenting period: 16 November to 6 December 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: **Canada**

Draft country programme document: **Mozambique**

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, and considered by the requesting country, in close consultation with UNICEF.

	Delegation's comments	Response(s)
General comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNICEF's priorities on child & adolescent health, learning, protection, access to water and social protection are extremely relevant to Mozambique's needs and well aligned with Canada's approach in Mozambique.• We appreciate the clear efforts of UNICEF in adapting the new country program document on the findings of its previous country program evaluation. In particular, we appreciate the continued focus on integrated programming and investment in adolescence. This was noted in the UNICEF country program evaluation as an area of considerable success.• We appreciate the clear focus and commitments with respect to strengthening social protection	<p>UNICEF Mozambique acknowledges the valuable comments provided by Canada on the new CPD 2022-2026 and the strategic partnership in Mozambique. Canada's active engagement and leadership in the policy dialogue on key priority issues related to children at different levels in Mozambique is of utmost importance.</p> <p>The country programme evaluation (CPE) has constituted an important piece in the formulation of the CPD and also contributed to the joint reflection on the lessons learned with other UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes within the broader United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). The exercise was coordinated with the UNDAF 2017-2021 evaluation as well as the CPE of the other ex-com agencies, especially UNFPA. Considering the findings and the context in Mozambique, second decade programming is at the core of the UNSDCF and the CPD across the programme components, emphasising the strong link to gender transformative programming. Meaningful engagement, participation and empowerment</p>

	<p>programming, including the child grant programme, to which Canada provides funds. Long-term joint collaboration and coordination (including both financial support and technical support) by development partners (donors, institutions and civil society), as well as with Government of Mozambique, is needed to create the necessary conditions for success of the social protection system in Mozambique. From Canada’s perspective, UNICEF has an important role to play here and this will be critical for the coming period / duration of the new country programme document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would encourage UNICEF to maintain (and augment) its efforts to adapt to the uncertainty and rapidly changing context in Mozambique, while maintaining strategic focus. While UNICEF Mozambique successfully adapted to the dramatic events of the past few years, including the hidden debt scandal, COVID-19 and conflict in Northern Mozambique, this fluidity remains. UNICEF Mozambique will need to ensure that it retains a strategic focus and builds in measures to adapt to a continually changing context, including responding to school closures, climate change, immunization coverage, displacement, etc. As noted in the evaluation, “in a country where all needs are priority needs, there are no easy answers”... but the importance of balancing the need to maintain strategic programming focus against the ongoing need for adaptability in a volatile context is important. 	<p>of adolescent girls will continue to be central while a more proactive approach working with young men on positive masculinities and positive parenting will be developed. Synergies and collaboration within the UN, especially with UNFPA will be a priority.</p> <p>UNICEF Mozambique acknowledges Canada’s appreciation of the efforts to strengthen inclusive child- and gender sensitive social protection in Mozambique as an important measure to reduce child poverty and improve the overall wellbeing, development and protection of the most vulnerable children and families. Robust evidence has been generated on the impact of the child grant pilot in Nampula which has led to the commitment from the Government to scale-up the integrated model for cash and care in the coming years. In partnership with Canada and other partners of the social action working group, UNICEF has also been able to strengthen shock responsive social protection which will be of increased importance considering the vulnerability of the country to natural disasters, outbreaks, and conflict. The continued support and partnership with Canada will help strengthening the social protection further as a key public policy for poverty reduction, social inclusion, and peacebuilding.</p> <p>UNICEF Mozambique fully agrees on the importance of maintaining flexibility and agility in the programming building on the lessons learned documented in the CPE and real time evaluations of the L3 and L2 emergency responses to the cyclones and complex emergency in the North. The secondary impacts of COVID-19 on children and their families are critical with increased poverty and vulnerabilities. Humanitarian action and the coherence between humanitarian and development programming will therefore be strengthened. Building on the mandate of the organisation, UNICEF will continue to engage strategically in the sector working groups and ensure sustainable cluster leadership for humanitarian action: (a) putting in place mechanisms for stronger partnerships that enable swift response to rising emergency situations; (b) strengthening information management; and (c) enhancing conflict sensitive interventions, protection of children and adolescents from grave violations and finding collective pathways to resilient communities.</p>
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Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document	<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>	
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