Delegation name: European Commission

Draft country programme document: South Africa

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on any of the draft CPDs being presented during the forthcoming Board session.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, country programme documents (CPDs) 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 respective regional office, in close consultation with the country office and the concerned Government.

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| General comments | The overall approach makes sense. We appreciate in particular the importance given to:  
• Child health and well-being – in particular the efforts made relative to the last mile solution and support to the double form of malnutrition  
• Child protection – all of what is what proposed especially on fighting against violence, abuse and neglect against children  
We are not sure to understand what is the Programme effectiveness that will cost 6 303 000 USD. | Thank you for the appreciation.  
We take note of the recommendation on additional resource allocation to Child Protection. However, we would like to share several factors which have informed our decision in budget allocations. First, the government provide significant allocation to social protection including provision of cash grants to poor children and the elderly. To complement this effort, UNICEF reserves much of its resources for provision of high-level advocacy, of technical assistance, mentoring, and sharing of information on best practices. The goal of the UNICEF’s strategy is therefore is to help the South African Government attain greater efficiency and effectiveness with its investments. We think we can achieve this goal with the proposed budget but will revisit the budget allocations at the mid-point of the Country Programme.  
True, Programme Effectiveness may not be clear to all readers. It is a term we use to identify a cluster of related interventions. The list includes (1) Programme Coordination; (2) Communication; (3) Planning, Monitoring and Reporting; (4) Evaluation; (5) Private sector Partnership and Fundraising; (5) Innovation; and (7) Operational support in the office. The budget proposed for these interventions is USD 1.2 million per year. |
| Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document | With regard,  
| --- | --- |
| Child protection | - To the environmental risks of being affected by natural disasters, it seems that UNICEF is missing an opportunity to work on Disaster Risk (DRR) preparedness for instance in schools and with adolescents.  
- To the high level of poverty and exposure to violence, why is UNICEF not working on prevention of child labour and risk of exploitation (especially in GBV). In the context analysis, this thematic is missing and could be better assessed.  
- To the high level of violence affecting children and adolescents, UNICEF is not providing any insights about the situation of children in conflict with the law. The detention component is absent from the reflection, but important in the child protection field. It would be interesting to integrate an analysis of this component.  
- To children out school, on the move, migrant... it would be of interest if UNICEF could focus on a back -to -school programme for this type of vulnerable children. The integrated programming Education and child protection would make sense.  

| Disasters Risk (DRR) preparedness in schools and engagement of adolescents are two of the areas where UNICEF is partnering with UNDP within the context of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. This is critical for effectively leveraging the role of youth adolescents and young.  
Poverty and violence are topics of interest to UNICEF South Africa. This interest extends to evidence generation and monitoring the situation of children including gathering of on child exploitation. In the context of South Africa, the ILO has taken the lead on child labour, and in the spirit of UN Reforms, UNICEF will strengthen collaboration with ILO to achieve better results for children while addressing violence and abuse under the Protection Programme.  
However, we have not given a prominent role to child labour because the topics falls under the mandate of another UN agency, ILO. UNICEF will strengthen collaboration with ILO to achieve better results for children while addressing violence and abuse under the Protection Programme.  
UNICEF South Africa acknowledges the importance of this topic. In 2018, there were 1,267 children deprived of their liberty and 862 detained and awaiting trial. Of those awaiting trial, 15% were in correctional facilities and 85% in child and youth care centres run by the Department of Social Development. UNICEF South Africa’s programmatic focus is on prevention and early intervention of the violence.  
UNICEF South Africa also collaborates with UNHCR and Red Cross to advocate for providing education to children on the move and also plans to be part of the continental initiative to develop digital solutions to provide education to migrant children. |