

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: *Haiti*

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">- We recommend that UNICEF implement additional climate strategies in their CPD, to help reduce the impact of climate change on children and promote climate adaptation efforts and early warning systems.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- How will UNICEF work with the government and partners to establish climate adaptation and resilience goals that affect children and adolescents?- We recommend UNICEF build on investments/gains made in improving WASH through COVID-19 response system (e.g. through the USAID-funded UNICEF COVID-19 activity in Haiti in 2020, over 10,000 handwashing stations were installed in public spaces, benefitting an estimated 2 million people).- Similarly, we recommend that UNICEF ensure that oxygen concentrators distributed to the COVID-19	

public facilities are maintained and wherever feasible made available for critical maternal, newborn and child health care as needed.

- We ask that UNICEF/Haiti continue to share information on its health and WASH activities/funding streams.
- We encourage UNICEF to establish metrics and benchmarks to ensure every child under age six has access to routine vaccinations and receive the recommended doses for diseases including (but not limited to) polio, measles, and DTP.
- Although violence and vulnerability to disasters are highlighted in the problem statement as the main issues, the CPD provides no clear strategic policies and actions to adapt to these challenges.
- We recommend adding a focus on provision and strengthening of children's access to electricity, as electricity plays a key role in education.
- The United States notes that recent compounding crises in Haiti have slowed the processing of intercountry adoption cases.

Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document

(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number, paragraph number, or page of the annexed results and resources framework.

- Under ‘Survive and Thrive’ line 21, UNICEF states that UNICEF Haiti will establish a humanitarian cash transfer system for health and nutrition services. Can UNICEF provide more details entailing their capacity and experience implementing cash transfers for health and nutrition?
- Under ‘Child Protection’ line 29, we encourage UNICEF to consider adding Internally Displaced Populations to the list of vulnerable groups that will be prioritized.
- The United States recommends the inclusion of African Swine Fever education in UNICEF's programs.
- Page 4, point #8: child trafficking is mentioned to be an issue. What are UNICEF’s proposed activities and indicators to reduce child trafficking and the proportion of non-orphan children in orphanages?
 - The United States would also recommend adding in more specific language on child trafficking in the sex tourism industry and sugar plantations in the border regions.
- Haitian government and civil society partners have advised the U.S. Embassy that the use of the term “restavek” is often seen as pejorative. The United States would recommend altering usage in official documents, referring to the “restavek system” or “children in restavek situations.”
- Page 9, paragraph 1: DINEPA oversees WASH in Haiti. UNICEF should focus on including them and support the existing WASH plan for the country, rather than developing new ones with municipalities.

- 28b: In addition to preventing adolescent pregnancy, would there be capacity to provide limited support for adolescents who do become parents? Young women who become pregnant are frequently forced out of traditional education paths and have extremely limited career opportunities. Women's organizations have also highlighted that adolescent parents are underprepared for parenthood and often turn to corporal punishment or other less effective and dangerous parenting strategies.
- 29-30: Paragraph 29 says the programme focuses on "migrants" and "returnees", but could there be a more specific reference to the planned child protection system interventions in border regions somewhere in paragraph 30?