

**Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board**

**Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents**

**2023 first regular session**

***Draft country programme document commenting period for Cabo Verde common country programme document: 7 to 25 November 2022 [18:00 EST]***

***Draft country programme document commenting period for Algeria; Bolivia (Plurinational State of); Central African Republic; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Haiti; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Lebanon; Nepal; Pacific Islands (multi-country programme); Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine (area programme); Sao Tome and Principe: 15 November to 5 December 2022 [18:00 EST]***

***Draft country programme for Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): TBC***

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: *The Netherlands*

Draft country programme document: *Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine (area programme)*

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.

	<b>Delegation's comments</b>	<b>Response(s)</b>
<b>General comments</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Netherlands appreciates the consultative process regarding the development of this Area Programme. We also appreciate the thorough analysis of the needs, in particular of the vulnerabilities of children in the region.</li></ol>	

	<p>2. We noticed the significant increase in the <i>programme effectiveness budget</i> for the Palestinian Territories. Why is this, and what will these funds be used for?</p>	
<p><b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</b></p>	<p>1. During the consultations in the Palestinian Territories, ‘climate’ was mentioned as a specific priority. This however doesn’t seem to be reflected as such in the document, other than a general reference to ‘adaptation’. What is the reason for this?</p> <p>2. Why are there no WASH interventions in Lebanon?</p> <p>3. On page 6, it is mentioned that “In Lebanon, UNICEF will prioritize improving early childhood education and sustaining equal access to basic education, inclusive learning opportunities and integrated, community-based ECD programmes. The programme will offer adolescents and youth additional skills training, innovation programmes and cash-for work opportunities.” For the youth part, will there be any engagement with other communities?</p>	