

COMMENTS ON THE UNFPA DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR KAZAKHSTAN (2021-2025)

Second regular session 2020

Comments by NETHERLANDS	UNFPA country/regional office response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netherlands encourages UNFPA to include sexual and reproductive health and rights of all people, including LGBTI-persons, also in regard to the prevention of new HIV-infections. 	<p>UNFPA will continue promoting universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as fundamental to achieving Universal Health coverage. CPD paragraph 25 of the proposed SRH programme includes: “ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health services within universal health coverage, with a focus on family planning, contraceptive security, prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV...”. While UNFPA’s work in Kazakhstan is primarily at the policy/advocacy and technical level (since the country is an upper MIC), UNFPA was able to recently secure some funds to work specifically with key populations and hired for the first time a dedicated HIV officer to work among others on prevention of HIV infection and identify new opportunities for partnership to promote HIV prevention.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netherlands encourages UNFPA to focus also on men and boys in providing modern contraceptive methods and comprehensive sexuality education. 	<p>UNFPA has been advocating for several years for the inclusion of free contraceptives as part of the basic benefit package of health services and will continue doing so in the next Country programme as a priority. Similarly, it has been advocating and working on pilot projects on sexuality education. Thanks to the evidence gathered through these pilots, the Ministry of Education included for the first time a reference to the need to include “projects” on sexuality education in school. This is a good achievement on which UNFPA will continue to build on this, in the next Country programme. Also, in recognition of the need to invest more in changing social norms, UNFPA started developing programmes specifically targeting men and boys and partnering with bloggers, influencers and male role models given the role they can play at all levels – as sons, as future husbands, husbands, fathers, etc. in sharing responsibilities at home, in spending quality time with their children, in combating and advocating against violence against women etc. When describing the pathway to addressing the gender and socio-cultural norms in the country in paragraph 18 of the new CPD, UNFPA also referred to the need to involve men and boys as role models and contributors to gender equality, which is indeed part of the current and next programme cycle.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Netherlands urges UNFPA to leave no one behind in its programmatic interventions, and focus on the most vulnerable people, including migrants that are subject to exploitation and human trafficking, and LGBTI-persons. 	<p>The UN Cooperation Framework integrates human rights and empowerment of all people in Kazakhstan, including those who were identified by the Common Country Analysis as at most risk to be left behind: people with disabilities, including children with disabilities; people who use drugs, people who inject drugs, people living with HIV, sex workers; people in detention; migrants; victims of trafficking; women and children who are victims of gender-based violence; children in institutions or living separately from their parents; adolescents with chronic diseases; women, children, adolescents living in rural and remote and/or economically disadvantaged areas, and other key populations.</p> <p>The UN Country Team is committed to leaving no one behind within their respective mandates and based on expertise, fund availability, etc. UNFPA will focus on several of these groups including – based on evidence – women living in rural areas, adolescents, people with disabilities and the elderly. Furthermore, UNFPA was recently able to secure some seed funding to support prevention and protection programmes for key populations and is planning to continue if it will be able to secure the required funds.</p>
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