

**COMMENTS ON THE UNFPA DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR VIET NAM**

*First regular session 2022*

<b>Comments by European Union</b>	<b>UNFPA country and regional office response to comments</b>
<p>The draft UNFPA CPD seems to have some synergies with EU MIP for Vietnam. For example, it refers to the core principle of “leaving no one behind” and somehow plans to tackle disasters; digital transformation; and social protection. From GAP perspective, the CPD wants to address sexual &amp; reproductive health and gender-based violence (especially in emergency settings) – which is also consistent with the GAP’s CLIP for Vietnam.</p>	<p>UNFPA appreciates the comment and looks forward to close collaboration with EU on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV).</p>
<p>However, the design of the CPD can be improved by merging E (output 5) and F (output 6), given its similarity. It might be better also to merge C (output 3) under A (output 1) to highlight the youth focus of the CPD and the role of UNFPA, as the UN Youth Champion.</p>	<p>In the newly approved National Programme on Prevention and Response to GBV, behaviour change communication to address harmful socio-cultural aspects and survivor-centred approaches to integrated service provision through a multi-sectoral response are two distinct areas of focus. This is also the case in the draft revised Law on Domestic Violence. Output 5 and 6 respond respectively to these two areas of focus. During the delivery of CP10, coherence and integration between the two outputs will be ensured.</p> <p>With regard to the issue of Output 1 and Output 3, SRH aspects targeting adolescents and youth are specifically addressed under Output 3 to ensure a comprehensive SRH service provision, while Output 1 covers areas beyond SRH to provide support for the implementation of the newly approved Youth Law, and to be in line with the life-cycle approach.</p>
<p>In terms of the content, the role of men and boys is mentioned only under E (output 5) for fighting GBV – but in fact they should play more visible role in C (output 3) for sexual &amp; reproductive health and rights as well. It’s worth mentioning here also that gender-biased norms and stereotypes, as the root causes of inequality, should be addressed too. For example, gender-</p>	<p>UNFPA takes note of the important point of ensuring the roles of men and boys for SRH, which will be addressed at the implementation phase when detailed activities are agreed upon.</p> <p>Gender-biased sex selection is part of Outputs 5 and 6 as covered under the term of harmful practices.</p>

<p>biased sex selection is the direct cause of imbalance sex-ratio-at-birth in Vietnam (as pointed out in the analysis but remain unaddressed in the proposed interventions).</p>	
<p>Minor but important: We would encourage UNFPA to include Vietnam Women's Union and private sectors as CPD's partners in the Results &amp; Resource Table.</p>	<p>The point is well noted and has now been addressed in the RRF to include the private sector.</p> <p>During programme implementation UNFPA will, in close coordination with the Government and relevant UN partners, consider if and how we may be able to work with the Viet Nam Women's Union to further the implementation of the country programme.</p>