

## COMMENTS ON THE UNFPA DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR INDIA

*Second regular session 2022*

<b>Comments by United States of America</b>	<b>UNFPA country/regional office response to comments</b>
<p>Overall, we appreciate the comprehensive and clear roadmap that the CPD provides for UNFPA’s priorities in India. We welcome the inclusion of issues such as climate change and disasters, as well as the strong focus on partnerships with all stakeholders, including the private sector.</p>	<p>UNFPA extends appreciation to the US for reviewing the 10th UNFPA country programme for India, which seeks to ensure that every woman and young person fully realizes their sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, across the humanitarian development continuum. Emphasis will be placed on partnerships with all stakeholders, including the private sector.</p>
<p>We would appreciate information about if the UNFPA India programme plans to work with vulnerable groups such as LGBTQI+ youth communities or youth with diverse gender identities, as well as any identified priority States for this work, in order to facilitate coordination with USAID partners.</p>	<p>UNFPA will work with vulnerable groups, including youth with diverse gender identities, in its four focus States (Bihar, Odisha, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh) under the output 3 of the country programme by engaging with civil society organisations and communities. UNFPA looks forward to exploring collaboration with USAID and its partners.</p>
<p>We encourage UNFPA to include mental health and psychosocial support in its youth work, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>UNFPA acknowledges that mental health and psychosocial support is an important element of youth work. Ongoing work on providing mental health and psychosocial counselling services will be scaled up, including in light of COVID-19 response.</p>
<p>Additionally, we encourage UNFPA to continue focusing on expanding the contraceptive method mix. We note that the CPD did not highlight this priority specifically but hope that this is embedded in the programme’s family planning work.</p>	<p>UNFPA agrees that expanding the contraceptive method mix is critical to reducing unmet need for family planning. Under output 1, UNFPA will stress the importance of expanding the basket of contraceptive choices.</p>

<p>We welcome the integration of sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence services into disaster risk reduction and climate adaption preparedness and response plans. As such, we suggest that UNFPA include climate change in the CPD indicators and further elaborate on any plans it has to work at the nexus of climate change/adaptation and family planning.</p>	<p>Thank you for this comment and suggestion. UNFPA will include an indicator and provide more details which reflects the linkages between climate change and sexual and reproductive health in the expanded results framework of the Country Programme Action Plan.</p>
<p>Regarding the Results and Resources Framework, we encourage UNFPA to clarify how its programme will broaden its work with young people to include career development, skill building, and linking to livelihoods, in line with the following UNSDCF outcome: “By 2027, people will benefit from and contribute to sustainable and inclusive growth through higher productivity, competitiveness and diversification in economic activities that create decent work, livelihoods, and income, particularly for youth and women.”</p>	<p>UNFPA will particularly focus on partnering with young people’s organisations and platforms - such as Generation Unlimited (YuWAAH in India) - and working with UNICEF to focus on 21st century skills, work on employment transition and career development. UNFPA will also make the case for greater investment in young people, especially women, through the use of National Transfer Accounts for programmes and policies. One of the key indicators as outlined in the UNSDCF is to track the female labour force participation rate. UNFPA will work with other UN agencies to facilitate gender parity across sectors and safeguard rights in the workplace.</p>