

COMMENTS ON THE UNFPA DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR MOROCCO

Second regular session 2022

Comments by Belgium	UNFPA country/regional office response to comments
<p>Development partners have not been consulted in the elaboration process of the CPD. The CPD has been written based on different consultations with national partners of UNPA and the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mid-June, UNFPA has suggested to present their new CPD to donors. A meeting will be organized to exchange on the document, but it could not take place before the deadline for comments.</p>	<p>The overall development of the 10th Country Programme 2023-2027 was conducted and coordinated in close partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Morocco. Extensive consultations were also conducted with civil society partners. Further, the UNFPA Country Office kept development partners informed on the Country Programme process. UNFPA also arranged meetings with bilateral donors; while that with Belgium could not yet take place, the country office looks forward to that exchange. In addition, meetings and consultations will continue to be held with all interested development partners as the CPD is implemented through different workplans.</p>
<p>The new CPD is well elaborated, aligned to the main national priorities as well as responding to the main challenges in Morocco. UNFPA sticks to its thematic priorities (sexual reproductive health, population, youth), which is key to ensure coherence and complementarity with other UN agencies present in Morocco. As an example, although ‘socio-economic inclusion’ is included in Output 3, UNPFA Morocco confirmed that the focus in the new program will not be on socio-economic inclusion per se. Indeed, the new program will tackle the barriers (GBV, SRH, gender equality, etc) for women to reach socio-economic inclusion.</p>	<p>This comment is well noted and much appreciated. The new CPD is indeed fully aligned and responsive to the national priorities as defined by Morocco’s New Development Model 2021-2035 and the multisector national strategies, as well as the draft UNSDCF 2023-2027. The CPD also aligns to the new UNFPA Strategic Plan 2022-2025 and its three transformational results. Taking into consideration the demographic context in Morocco, in particular the demographic dividend with 53% of the population below the age of 30 years, the CPD will focus on youth, in particular young girls. Within that context, socio-economic inclusion of the most marginalized and excluded young people is a cross-cutting issue which constitutes a high national priority clearly stated in Morocco’s New Development Model. The new CPD will contribute to that national priority in line with UNFPA’s mandate and priority areas.</p>

<p>The next population and housing census is for sure an important milestone in the coming years. Belgium particularly welcomes the future efforts of UNFPA in supporting MOR to integrate a gender and human rights approach.</p>	<p>This comment is well noted and much appreciated. the census is indeed a priority within the new CPD. The UNFPA Country Office is providing and will continue to provide technical support to the 2024 census, including in terms of integrating a gender and human rights approach.</p>
<p>The question of child marriage could have been clearly indicated in the outputs. It is mentioned in the context but does not appear clearly in the outputs. Considering that the UNFPA – UNICEF global programme to end child marriages does not cover yet Morocco, what is UNFPA planning to do in the matter?</p>	<p>The issue of child marriage is mainstreamed throughout the programme interventions related to the prevention and response to GBV and the harmful practices, including child marriage. Outputs 2, 3 and 4 of the CPD refer to enabling policy and legal frameworks, gender social norms and access to information, education and services and building capacities and resilience of community to tackle harmful practices, including child marriage. Through the CPD, UNFPA will continue partnering with key institutional, bilateral, and civil society stakeholders to eliminate child marriage, including through legal reform, changes in social norms, and access for girls to innovative programmes to fight against child marriage, in partnership with UNICEF.</p>